Introduction

The WonderZone virtual holiday club resource bank is based on the Scripture Union holiday club of the same name. It is not intended to be sent to families directly but is designed for churches to use to create sessions suitable for their own context. There are a few examples of what you could do further on in this introductory document. The resources are aimed at primary aged children, aged 5-11years. However, we have included a few ideas for older children and young people in each session, and many of the ideas offered could easily be adapted for younger children to do alongside their parents.

There are other WonderZone resources available to buy or to download for free. Visit <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/resource/wonder-zone> for more information. The Lab Book and Fact File are both full of useful activities. If you wanted to buy these, please get in touch as we have a 10% discount code!

There are five session banks, each containing:

An overview of the session

Crafts

Science experiments

Colouring and puzzle sheets

A family friendly Bible study

Ideas for prayer spaces at home

Activities for with older children

There is also a set of worship resources, a bank of games for use on Zoom or other conferencing platform and an example consent form.

Songs

One resource that you might expect to find is missing, songs. Copyright for streaming songs is a minefield! For advice around copyright and licensing you can go to su.org.uk/copyright or alternatively contact CCLI, they will be happy to advise you. If you want to offer songs here are a few thoughts.

iSingWorship is a subscription service that many churches have a membership to. It allows for the streaming of songs under certain circumstances. Go to <https://www.isingworship.org> for more information.

Doug Horley has individual videos of many of his songs available for purchase for around £10 each <https://www.duggiedugdug.org>

Maynards Groovy Bible Tunes is allowing the use of their songs in live streamed events for free <https://www.maynardsgroovytunes.co.uk>

There are lots of videos available on Youtube, which is Public Domain, that have British Sign Language (BSL) or Makaton actions alongside the song. Here are a few examples that you might find useful:

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ih8FL-ijgY>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFNzxn1rZ-k>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNmSqD9_CAg>

You can use these if you are doing a ‘live’ Zoom session. However, if you are pre recording and streaming the session you will need to be very careful that you have permission.

Bible Studies

The group felt that this was a resource designed to be used with families who may not always come to church, if at all. So for this reason we have called the Bible studies ‘Let’s Explore’ We have included the NRSV translation of the Bible stories each day, but there are many different translations and children's Bibles available. Choose one that is suitable for the group you are serving.

Again, if you are pre recording and streaming the sessions you will need to be careful about copyright if you are using a Bible story book, rather than a translation.

Craft activities

A range of craft activities have been suggested so that you can choose which you use. Generally the craft activities involve materials such as paper, pens, pencils, paint & paint brushes, scissors, glue, sticky tape and general “junk” from around the house, such as cereal boxes, yoghurt pots, bottle tops.

Some of the activities may involve gathering together more specific materials beforehand, in addition to those mentioned above. These are listed in each of the sessions, but have also been listed below for those of you who like to plan ahead.

Session 1

* Finger print/ footprints: Tray for paint, large piece of paper
* Volcano: 200ml plastic bottle, small bowl, vinegar, bicarbonate of soda, washing up liquid, water and red food colouring
* Splatter painting: toothbrushes
* Balloon splat: water balloons
* String art universe: paper plate, string/ cord/ wool/ raffia, pom poms buttons

Session 2

* Imprints of natural objects: air drying clay, playdough or oven dry clay (would also need baking tray and foil)
* Wax resist picture: crayons/ candles, dark blue/ black paint

Session 3:

* Rainbow biscuits: plain flour, butter, sugar, food colourings
* Rainbow buns: buns/ plain flat biscuits,icing, sprinkles an colourful sweets
* Woollen rainbows: paper plate, wool in the colours of the rainbow
* Mirror: card, foil, gemstones/ shiny paper/ stickers, glue, lolly stick
* Hanging reflectors: unwanted CDs, yarn/ wool/ ribbon

Session 4:

* Animal faces: paper plates, pasta, googly eyes
* Animals: toilet rolls
* Animal print art: pictures of creatures with different patterned fur, feathers, hide

Session 5:

* Moving figures: split pins, card
* Robot outfit: large piece of cardboard or paper, bottle tops/ buttons/duct tape

Games

Most holiday clubs would include games, usually ones that are (tenuously!) linked to the theme of the day. However, because this is likely to be done via Zoom, or other conferencing app, we have included a document with a variety of games that can be played remotely.

Safeguarding

Working with children and young people via the internet is very different to the type of work many churches have previously undertaken. This means that there are dangers which now need to be considered. The resources section of the Youth and Children's page on the District website has guidelines and documents for you to adapt. There is also a specific WonderZone consent form which simply needs your church details adding before being sent out to parents/carers.

If you have not yet done online sessions then please visit <https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/children-youth-family-ministry/the-well-learning-hub-equipping-and-supporting-workers/resources-from-the-well-to-download/policy-and-practical-help/social-media-guidelines/> for more information. Or <https://www.yorkshirenemethodist.org/district-youth/youth-resources/> for the adaptable forms, guidelines and a risk assessment.

How might you use this pack?

As we said earlier, The pack is not intended to be sent direct to families, parents or carers. We envisage that churches or circuits will take these resources and tailor them to fit their own context.

For example:

* Traditional style holiday club over five days, using Zoom or other conferencing platform. Families would sign up in the usual way and a link then sent out. The children and their parents then join together to participate in the selected activities.
* Themed Sunday, or other weekday sessions for over the summer holidays. Again these could be done ‘live’ with families joining together, participating in whichever activities you have chosen.
* Sessions could be pre recorded and then uploaded to YouTube for families to use at a time that is convenient.
* A combination of the above; pre recorded sessions and then live chats later. If these are done using the YouTube premier feature, this means everyone watches at the same time and can join a chat session immediately afterwards.
* Messy church, the crafts for one day could be used, and the themes from the Bible study explored as everyone does the crafts together.
* Packs containing all the resources for the crafts could be sent out to families along with an invite to join a Zoom session.
* Film volunteers doing the crafts, and upload to a church website, for families to copy.

Hints and tips

* You need parental/carer consent for anything more than simply watching a video.
* Thirty minutes is probably long enough for most children, so don't try and use all the material in the session outlines all at once!
* Zoom has the facility to move into breakout rooms that other platforms don't offer
* If using Zoom, set the chat facility to everyone. This prevents private messages being sent when children and adults are on the same call.
* Most conferencing platforms have a slight delay that means songs with actions may not be very successful.
* Videos play better if you download them first, rather than trying to stream them during a session.
* If you use the Scripture Union videos and then upload to YouTube, you will need to register the video as unlisted.
* When you have decided what your session will look like, make sure you send a running order to parents/carers.
* If you send packs out to families, don't make assumptions about what they may have at home - include everything!
* If you are running a number of sessions you could invite children to send pictures of their crafts, jokes, thoughts from the Bible study to you to be included in the next session. This makes it a little more interactive, especially if you are pre recording the activities.

There are many creative ways you could use the resources. We would love to hear from you about how you used them in your setting. We would love to hear from you about what you have been doing with your churches over the summer. Please get in touch via [victoria@methodistyouth.org.uk](mailto:victoria@methodistyouth.org.uk) and we will put your activities on our facebook page.

Blessings

The WonderZone team

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