

Resources for Mothering Sunday

CHILDREN

Do

Appreciating mothers

15 mins W

Tell the story of a young monkey searching for his mother

You will need: a copy of *Monkey Puzzle* by Julia Donaldson, (optional) a toy monkey.

- Read aloud *Monkey Puzzle*, using the soft toy to help you.
- Ask the children: How do you think the monkey felt when he couldn't find his Mummy? What do you appreciate most about your Mum/Aunty/Grandma? What would you miss without them? If you were the monkey, how would you feel at the end of the story?
- You could link the story with Jesus' parable of the lost sheep, relating how the shepherd does not give up until he finds his lost sheep. Ask: If God is like a shepherd, how might he feel about each of us as his children?



Make

You deserve a cuppa

10 mins EA

Create a card for someone special

You will need: teacup template (see below), copied onto card, one per child, teabags, one per child, felt tips, scissors, sticky tape.

- Give everyone a teacup template to decorate and cut out.
- Encourage the children to write a thank you message to their Mum/Aunty/Grandma inside the card.
- Give everyone a teabag to attach to the opposite side of the card so the recipient can enjoy a rewarding cup of tea.
- If children are keen to help make the cup of tea, ensure they know that adult supervision is required.



YOUNG PEOPLE

Do

God's heart

10 mins WS

Think about mothers in different situations

You will need: a large red card heart, sticky notes, pens.

- Discuss the diversity of mothers and family situations that people find themselves in, e.g. new mums; mums-to-be; those who desperately want to be mums; step-mums; mums who foster or adopt; mums who are both mums and dads to their children; dads who are both mums and dads; mums who are in prison; mums whose children have died; mums whose children live far away; mums whose children are estranged from them; those whose mums or grandmas are very ill; those whose mums or grandmas are no longer with them.
- Invite the young people to write down on sticky notes each type of mother or family situation mentioned in the discussion.
- Invite them, one by one, to say, 'We pray for ...' and read out what is written on their sticky note, then place it inside the large heart as a symbol that God loves everyone, regardless of their family situation or relationships.
- Leave a few moments' silence between each prayer and finish with a corporate **Amen**.



Pray

Prayer cubes

10 mins S

A fun way to pray for your family

You will need: cube template copied onto card, one per child, felt tips, scissors, glue sticks.

- Give everyone a cube template and ask the young people to decorate each side of their cube with the name of someone in their family.
- They can then cut out and stick the prayer cube together.
- Invite everyone to practise rolling their cube and praying for the person whose name ends up on top.

