

Advice to Parents

**God - The Master
Designer.**

The junior programme is built around 6 booklets which share one common theme

The God we love reveals himself to us through the world he has created for us

EACH BOOKLET IS LIKE A PIECE OF JIG-SAW PUZZLE gradually building a picture, an understanding of life and life processes, appropriate to the developing child.

The aim of the children's workbook:

To appreciate the creative mastery of God as depicted in the design of the superbly efficient head of a flower.

Using plants as the focus we explore the basic concept of "producing young".

Building on the knowledge gained through the Infant Programme that all families are made up of male and female members..... here we observe the beautiful process of how male and female parts come together to make seedsnew life. Within this wonderful creation (flowers) every part has a function - a job to do. The head of the flower is so delicate, so attractive and yet so full of purpose. It is a machine which works perfectly.

Who but a special craftsman, a master designer, could create such functional beauty ?

Beyond this, the booklet develops the plant theme considering life cycles, and from this food - a gift given by God to man, and a gift offered by man to God (the fruits of his labour) as he takes care of Gods great work creation. It also develops a greater understanding prayer and our responsibilities to people in need.

Work pattern summary

Cover	Done in class. Discuss at home.
Pages 1 & 2	Started in class. Discuss & complete at home.
Pages 3 & 4	Started in class. Discuss & complete at home.
Pages 5 & 6	Started in class. Discuss & complete at home.
Pages 7 & 8	Started in class. Discuss & complete at home.
Pages 9 & 10	Started in class. Discuss & complete at home.
Pages 11 & 12	Started in class. Discuss & complete at home.
Pages 13 & 14	Started in class. Discuss & complete at home.
Pages 15 & 16	Home. Follow up in class.
Pages 17 to 20	Discuss in class. Discuss and complete at home.
Page 21 to 24	Discuss in class. Discuss and complete at home.
Page 25 & 26	Home. Follow up in class.
Pages 27 & 28	Discuss in class. Discuss and complete at home.
Pages 29 & 30	Home. Follow up / complete in class.
Page 31	Discuss in class. Discuss and complete at home.
Page 32	Home.
Page 33	Home.

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Page 21 to 24

Emphasize the fact that everything we have comes from God and we give Him thanks. We particularly thank Him during mass at the Offertory
ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO LISTEN TO THESE WORDS DURING MASS.

Pages 25 & 26

Discuss the importance of "Communication" (It's good to talk).

Pages 27 & 28

TWO VERY IMPORTANT PAGES.
Continue the theme of "Communication."
HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO EXPLAIN WHY THEY SHOULD NOT WANDER OFF WITHOUT TELLING YOU.
Stranger danger !!!!!!!!!!!

Pages 29 & 30

Opportunity to talk about the importance of actually SHOWING how much we care.
Opportunity to discuss some "big" issues :
~ the homeless ~ the elderly ~ citizenship
~ race relations ~ human rights ~ rights of the unborn child
~ aids (as a blood infection)

Page 31

Can your child remember the life cycle and do they understand it?

Page 32

Help your child to write a meaningful prayer.
The border should be coloured but the prayer is more important.

Page 33

Well isn't He? Talk about God and what we learn of him through this booklet.

Through discussion and work with your child it is hoped he/she will appreciate:-

1. Our beautiful world, as created by God (the Master Designer).
2. The need to take care of this great work.
3. The process of plant reproduction where male & female parts work together to produce new life.
4. The cycle of life as shown through plants.
5. The "miracle" of new life begins at the moment of conception (fertilization ... when pollen meets with ovule).
6. Life as a God-given gift.
7. The importance of God in our daily lives.
8. The importance of COMMUNICATION (with each other and with God).
9. The importance of the Offertory as that part of Mass which brings the whole community together in thanksgiving for the gifts given to us by God.
10. "Life-values" as given to us through Jesus Christ.
11. The importance of building these values into our own lives, and into our relationships with others.

NB. Parents are reminded that any aspect of the children's workbook can be further developed at home to whatever level of understanding you feel to be suitable/ appropriate to your child.

Advice to parents

Junior Book 1 ~ **God - The Master Designer**

General Advice

1. Please avoid the use of felt pens and wax crayons for colouring.
2. Stick type adhesives are better than messy glues.
3. Teachers will indicate which work is to be done at any given time; **please do not go beyond the page(s) set.**
4. Try to encourage the children to take care of the booklet and to take pride in their work.
5. Please return the book to school on time. When the book is completed it will be sent home for you to keep and, so that it might be referred to when necessary.
6. Please try to encourage correct colour schemes (e.g. no pink elephants) and help them to colour neatly.
7. A Work Pattern Summary can be found at the back of this booklet.

The most important piece of advice is to talk to your child about this work making the discussions as wide as you feel appropriate.

Advice related to specific pages

Inner Cover

Discuss the quotation, laying emphasis on the wonderful flowers, trees, etc. that God has made. Take great care in colouring the letter. Choose a colour for the letter that is not used for the background.

Page 2

Discuss both the beauty of plants and how essential they are as food. Discuss the correct use of the word sex as gender, male or female. Encourage use of appropriate colours e.g. no blue stems.

Pages 3 & 4

Encourage your child to read, write and remember the parts of the flower.

Can your child explain what has happened to the stamen, what has happened to the pistil, and what the problem is? (i.e. how does the pollen get from the male part to the female part.?)

Pages 5 & 6

Remind your child of the problem posed on page 3. Can he/she explain how the problem is solved?

The child might be able to find the answers to questions 1 and 2 - (smell and colour) on page 2.

When labelling check that the child is selecting the correct word.

Pages 7 & 8

Can your child tell you the story so far? Study the diagram together and note that although there are 3 grains of pollen on the head of the pistil, only 2 ovules have been fertilised.

Pages 9 & 10

Compare the diagram on page 10 with that on page 8 and note the changes. The energy from the plant is being transferred to the ovary so the flower begins to wither.

Note. This does not happen with humans.

Pages 11 - 14

Discuss what is happening on these pages and go through the whole story again. Relate it to the seasons - Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter.

Pages 15 & 16

The diagram is in a different position and the stalk must not be mistaken for the pistil. The tiny remains of the flower can just be seen. Follow the instructions on page 15.

Pages 17 to 20

Can your child tell you what is happening? Note - the growth is coming from the seed at the centre of the pear (pic. 3). Encourage appropriate colours. (Picture 8 should be a copy of picture 2).