

Age range: 5-11

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## Eight Bible-themed Journey Days for Primary Schools

Barbara Meardon and Verity Holloway, Bible Reading Fellowship 2014, 96pp, pbk, £9.99, ISBN 978-0-85746-247-3.

Designed to fit readily into the most agreed syllabus programmes, this practical resource contains a series of eight units through which young children are introduced to the concept of journeys in the Bible. Each unit provides a day's worth of three workshops, including cross-curricular activities that enable pupils to encounter and explore Bible stories and Christianity in a contemporary context. Supporting RE-led integrated learning through reflective storytelling, thinking and questioning, this resource also enables a school and its community relationship through a 'church-based activity day' per unit as well as providing extension material for Foundation Stage and classroom collective worship.

After the introductory day's unit 'Stepping out on the Journey' the children the 'go on' a themed journey travelling with key biblical events or figures: Creation, Abraham and Sarah, Ruth, Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and Following Jesus' Footsteps. Alongside the 10-15 workshop suggestions (per unit) there are notes for worship, group time and individual time, with great opportunities for SMSC development.

It is clear that anyone wishing to use this resource must be prepared to set aside a large amount of time for planning and preparation in terms of organising their school, church, teachers and voluntary helpers. This would need to be a whole school commitment, included in the school development plan, to complement and enhance the RE scheme of work.

**This is good value for money and could be the 'changing moment' for a school community. It might step out of our comfort zone but I suspect that, long term, the benefits could be outstanding.**

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