

JMA 2010 Session Four - Displacement

This session will teach the children about displacement so that they can understand why the work that is being done by the mission partners in South Africa is so important.

Resources: Big World map, paper, crayons/felt tips, suitcase.

Introduction:

Discussion - Show the children your suitcase and tell them about the last time you used it. Tell them about where you went and what you brought with you. Ask them about what they bring with them when they go on holidays. Ask them to imagine that they are going to a desert island to live - what would they bring with them if they could only bring 5 things? What are the most important 5 things that they own?

Play the memory game I went on holiday and i brought: go around the circle and say one thing you'd take on holiday, the first person says one thing the second person says the first persons item and their own, so the last person must remember everyone else's as well as adding their own onto the end. *this will be very hard for smaller children - try a simplified Kim's Game instead (holiday objects on a tray - 2 mins to look - tray covered and 1 item removed - uncovered, what is missing?)*

Main Body of the Session

Play Trios: Put the children into threes, they should stand still holding hands. A few children should be left over not in threes. Pick one of two to be on and the others to run and be chased. Any child in a three is safe. Other running children can join on to a three (making it a four) as a running child joins on they shout Budge. The child on the other side must run away (because they become the extra 4th person), either to join onto another three, or to move away from the person who is on.

Use this game as a way in to talk about Displacement and forced migration - the children may have had to move in that game when they didn't want to because someone came in and shouted budge to move them. How would they feel if someone came and forced them and their families to move out of their home or their country when they didn't want to. Talk about how this happens in real life and talk about why some people have been forced to move - war, famine, a new leader in the country who doesn't like them. Talk about how they have to walk miles and miles and can't take things with them that they'd want to take. Read the part two of Tavisha's story from the pack (separated from her family and had to be looked after by another.)

Read Matthew 25 v31-45 Talk about how when we help others, it's just like we are helping Jesus. (focus on helping rather than the reward/punishment)

Conclusion

Prayer: God thank you for our homes and our families. Father we think about people who have no homes anymore because they were forced to move out. God we ask that they would know that you love them and that you are with them just the same, no matter where they are. In Jesus' name amen.