

Exploration and Navigation 1

Famous journeys: land and sea

God is Wisdom

Spiritual Awareness: God is our guide

God is wisdom, and we need His wisdom for guidance through life. Many of the early explorers trusted God to guide them on their journeys in search for new lands. Christians need to ask God for wisdom for every step they take.

Our response to 'God is Wisdom'

Because God is Wisdom I will...

- Ask God what is the right thing to do, and do it.
- Listen to people who are wiser than me.
- Listen to my parents and teachers.
- Obey God's word.
- Do what Jesus would do.
- Ask Jesus to be the guide throughout my life.
- Treat God's Creation with wisdom.

Supporting devotional resource

Themes 5, (Wise): It is wise to be prepared

Themes 6, (Wise): It is wise to let God be our guide

Biblical references: God is our guide

Bible stories and passages

The book of Exodus - God guided the Israelites on their journey to the Promised Land.

Exodus 13:21-22 Guided by fire and cloud.

Matthew ch 2- The magi were guided by the star and the scriptures; an angel guided Joseph through a dream to make the journey to Egypt, and later, back to Israel.

Proverbs 6:20-23 Do what your father tells you my son, and never forget what your mother taught you. Keep their words with you always, locked in your heart. Their teaching will lead you when you travel, protect you at night, and advise you during the day. Their instructions are a shining light; their corrections can teach you how to live.

Memory verses

Psalm 16:7 I praise the Lord because He guides me. Even at night I feel His leading.

Psalm 119:105 God's word is a lamp to our feet.

Proverbs 13:13 If you refuse good advice, you are asking for trouble; follow it and you are safe.

Proverbs 13:20 Keep company with the wise and you will become wise. It is good to take wise advice.

Key Questions

What is wisdom?

How do we know the right thing to do?

What important decision do we have to make in life?

What is a guide?

When do we need a guide?

Which people do we look to guide us through the important decisions of life?

Who is the best guide through life?

Outcomes

Students will

Knowledge

- describe famous journeys through history.
- work with maps and trace journey routes.
- discover the means of guidance for early explorers.
- understand the preparations involved for journeys.

Skills

- Sequence historical people and events
- Use historical terms
- Pose a range of questions about the past
- Identify sources
- Locate relevant information from sources provided
- Identify different points of view
- Develop texts, particularly narratives
- Use a range of communication forms (oral, graphic, written) and digital technologies

Values

- appreciate the courage of early navigators
- appreciate that God's hand was upon early sea exploration
- understand how God can use sea voyage today to benefit those with less
- trust God to be a guide for the journey of life

Activities

EXPLORERS AND NAVIGATORS (SEA AND LAND))

- Discuss reasons for undertaking journeys, past and present e.g. holidays, to help others, to ask for help, to bring news, exploration, trading.
- Compare modern methods of navigation to earlier ones.
- List different types of journeys e.g. on foot, by sea, road, air.
- Make a list of food that would be suitable to take on: a long journey by foot, a long sea journey.
- Trace the routes of early explorers on a world map. Discuss hazards of the journey and the necessary preparations.
- Research the history of some early navigators and explain how they used stars, the sun, sextants and maps for guidance.
- Research some famous journeys e.g. Scott's expedition to Antarctica.
- Conduct orienteering exercises using maps and compasses.
- Prepare a back-pack of things you would need to go on a two-day hike.

- Compare journeys over different terrains e.g. desert, rainforest, ice.
- Map the route of the longest journey you have ever undertaken. Mark towns / cities, rivers, highways, mountain ranges.

Assessment

1. Write a story or give an oral presentation on the journey of an early navigator/explorer and describe the impact this journey had on the history of your country.
2. What have I learned from the study of explorers...
 - a. about God?
 - b. about doing what God wants me to do?
 - c. about the Bible?

Link with Australian Curriculum

History Year 4: a) The journey(s) of AT LEAST ONE world navigator, explorer or trader up to the late eighteenth century, including their contacts with other societies and any impacts. b) Stories of the First Fleet, including reasons for the journey, who travelled to Australia, and their experiences following arrival.

Learning Connections

English: Read the story of Christopher Columbus from *Themes for Christian Studies 6, (Wise)*; Read other stories of journeys e.g. *The Incredible Journey*; Read the story of the Israelites' journey to the Promised Land; Imagine you were aboard a ship on an early exploration expedition. Write your experiences in the form of a diary.

Science: Study the forces in the Creation that are used by man for moving ships and sledges

Thinking skills: See the *Creative Thinking Skills* section of this website – “*Ships and navigation*” (Middle/Upper Primary).