

Sound and communication

God is Patient and Kind / God is a Patient Communicator

Spiritual Awareness: Patience in listening to God

God has provided for human communication through sound waves, which reach and vibrate the ear. God has provided us with a voice for making sound. Good communication requires patience. We need to learn to listen to others with patience, and not to dominate a conversation with our own viewpoint.

God is a personal God who expresses His love by communicating with us. As we open ourselves up to God's love we learn to hear His voice.

Communication with God also requires patience. God speaks to us through the Bible, through wise counselors, through visions, dreams, angels, fleeces, prophetic words, miracles, and of course, through the still small voice. In order to hear God's voice we need to practice our listening skills. Listening for God to speak requires patience. It may mean setting aside time or withdrawing from our busy schedule, to the quiet place where we can hear God speak.

As we learn to hear God's voice we grow in our trust in Him, believing that He hears our prayers and acts upon them in His wisdom, not our own

Our response to 'God is Patient and Kind'

Because God is patient and kind, I will...

- try to be patient with others
- try to be patient with myself
- remember that God will answer my prayers in His time
- finish jobs properly and not take short-cuts
- persevere and not give up when things get difficult
- show self-control
- show kindness and gentleness to others
- learn to listen
- learn to wait
- learn to let others go first
- help people when they are hurting
- be friendly
- be forgiving
- be faithful

Supporting devotional resource

Themes for Christian Studies 2, (Patient): Patience is listening for God to speak to us

Themes for Christian Studies 2, (Love): God is kind - The story of Helen Keller

Themes for Christian Studies 4, (Peace): Barriers to communication can cause fights and wars

Biblical references

Bible stories and passages

John 10:14-15 - The sheep know the shepherd's voice.
Luke 10:38 - Mary and Martha: Mary listened to Jesus.
1 Samuel 3 - The boy Samuel hears God's voice.
Matthew 13:10-16 - The hidden meaning of the parables. We need to listen with 'special ears'.
1 Kings 19 - God spoke to Elijah in a still small voice.
Matthew 14:23 - Jesus went to a quiet place to pray.
Luke 18:10-30 - The two men at the temple. Only one communicated with God.
Genesis 2-5 - God spoke face to face with Adam and Eve.
Genesis 37-40, Daniel 2 - God speaks through dreams.
Numbers 22 - God spoke through Baalam's donkey.
Exodus 19,20 - God spoke to Moses when He gave the Ten Commandments.
Exodus 3-17 - God speaks through signs and wonders.
Samuel 1 & 2 - Jeremiah and other prophets speak God's message.
John 1:6-13 – God sent John the Baptist to communicate the message that Jesus was coming. God sent Jesus to communicate a special message to the world.

Memory verses

Mark 4:9 – He who has ears to hear, let him hear
Psalm 85:8 - I am listening to what the Lord God is saying. (GNB)
Revelation 3: 20 – “Listen! I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come into his house and eat with him, and he will eat with me.” (GNB)
Psalm 100:1 – Sing to the Lord, all the world! Worship the Lord with joy; come before Him with happy songs. (GNB)
Psalm 98:4 – Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; praise Him with songs and shouts of joy!
Psalm 98:5-6 – Sing praises to the Lord! Play music on the harps! Blow trumpets and horns, and shout for joy to the Lord our king. (GNB)

Key Questions

What is a good listener?
How do we hear?
How do we communicate?
How does God communicate with us?
How do we know what God wants us to do?
How can we hear God's voice more clearly?
How does music help us to communicate with God and others?

Outcomes

Students will

Knowledge

- explain the nature and properties of sound waves
- explain how sound waves are made
- explain the mediums through which sound travels
- explain how sound waves are received by the ear
- study the development of inventions that have facilitated communication

- understand the different ways in which musical instruments produce sound
- define what communication is
- explain how people and animals communicate
- appreciate the importance of communication
- research the history of communication

Skills

- test materials to see whether sound will travel through them
- make predictions
- describe patterns and relationships
- observe reactions to sound
- classify types of frequencies of sound
- measure distances over which sounds can be heard
- compare the speed of light with the speed of sound
- compare inventions for communication
- gather data about inventions
- communication using a wide range of methods

Values

- appreciate different types of sounds and music
- curiosity to find out how sounds can change
- appreciate that God made sound and music to worship Him
- trust in God, believing that He hears our prayers
- include others and appreciate the needs of the hearing impaired
- appreciate the importance of proper communication between people
- show kindness in the way we communicate with others

Activities

a) Sound

- Identify sounds in the immediate environment.
- Identify sounds in the home.
- Go for a walk and identify sounds.
- Record sounds.
- Play 'Who am I?' – one child has eyes closed and tries to guess the sound of voices of other children.
- Classify sounds - loud, soft, harsh, musical, banging, tapping, whirring, clattering, buzzing, vibrating
- Make sounds using body parts.
- Make musical instruments from rubber bands (plucked), balloons (escaping air), rulers & containers (drum), jars filled with different levels of water (strike with pen), combs and tissue paper (blow), cardboard cylinders (blow).
- Classify instruments of the orchestra according to the way they make sounds, i.e. pluck, blow, bow etc.
- Listen to sounds of varying frequencies, and measure the distance from which they may be heard.
- Experiment to see whether sound can travel through certain materials.
- Make 'telephones' from tin cans and string.

- Draw a diagram of the ear and the passage of sound waves.
- Find out how the hearing impaired can be assisted by scientific innovations.

b) Communication

- Study the ways in which specific organisms communicate e.g. bees (dance), bats (radar), birds (song).
- Make a list of ways we communicate with our pets.
- Describe communication skills of babies, toddlers and pre-school children.
- Investigate Braille and sign language.
- Read the story of Helen Keller, (*Themes for Christian Studies 2, God is Love*)
- List in chronological order the major developments in communication.
- Research in detail one means of communication, e.g. telephone.
- Research the works of inventors such as Braille, Morse, Bell, Marconi, Edison and Baird.
- Research the work of John Flynn and write about how he used communication to run the Flying Doctor service in outback Australia.
- Make a class newspaper.
- Examine newspapers and list components.
- Gather data from telephone books.
- Practice telephone etiquette.
- Use *Google* to access information.
- Set up a class post office; write and address letters to calls members
- Colour a map of the world according to major language groups.
- Discuss communication problems for immigrants who cannot speak the national language.
- Discuss breakdown in communication when people will not speak to each other because of hurts and grudges.
- Research writing systems in ancient and modern cultures.
- In mathematics, explore the historical development of our number system, computer codes, binary number system, calculators and formulae to describe laws.
- Study the lives of missionaries who have communicated God's word. (See *Peace Child, Themes for Christian Studies 6, God is Peace*).
- Research ways in which we can communicate with God.

Assessment

1. Present a project on the history of communication.
2. Document an experiment on sound.
3. Brainstorm how and why we should communicate with people. Write your ideas.
4. What have I learned from the study of sound and communication...
 - about God?
 - about doing what God wants me to do?
 - about the Bible?

Link with Australian Curriculum

Science Year 4: Science as a human endeavour; nature and development of science

English Year 4: Language as a means of communication

Learning Connections

Mathematics: measurement – how far can sound travel? Use the tin can telephone and measure how long the string needs to be for hearing sound travel. Study relationship between mathematics and the notes of musical scales; historical development of our number system, computer codes, binary number system, calculators and formulae to describe laws.

History: the history of musical instruments and communications such as the telegraph, telephone, fax machine, computer

Social studies: assistance to the hearing impaired; sound pollution; comparison of noise/sound in city and rural areas; communication with those who speak another language

Phys. ed: listening to instructions in playing games

Thinking skills: Invent a new musical instrument

Additional Beacon Media resource

Science & Social Studies Research cards: Sound & hearing; Communication

Student work books: *The Flying Doctor*

Visual Language Units: *Communication; Poetry* – See Science & Social Studies Student Activities