

Communication: Teacher's topic guide

God is Love Year 5

Spiritual Awareness: God communicates with us and wants us to communicate with Him

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.

God speaks to us through the Bible, through wise counselors, through visions, dreams, angels, 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

Values: Our response to 'God is Love'

- **flexibility** when communicating with others, putting the needs of others before our own and listening to the opinions of others
- showing **compassion** and **empathy, patience, kindness** and **friendliness** in our communication with others

Outcomes: Students will

- study the development of inventions that have facilitated communication
- explain how people and animals communicate
- appreciate the importance of communication
- research the history of communication
- compare inventions for communication
- gather data about inventions
- communication using a wide range of methods
- include others and appreciate the needs of the hearing impaired
- appreciate the importance of proper communication between people

Bible stories and passages

Genesis 37 – the life of Joseph: God communicated with Joseph through dreams

John 10:14-15 - The sheep know the shepherd's voice.

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 Balaam'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.

Bible verses

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? (include body language)

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?

Activities

- Describe communication skills of babies, toddlers and pre-school children.
- Investigate Braille and sign language.
- Read the story of Helen Keller
- 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 make a list of components, e.g. news, sport, weather, advertisement
- Discuss ways in which animals communicate with each other and with humans, e.g. dogs and cats
- 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.
- Brainstorm all the different ways in which you could communicate with people around the world.
- Learn some of the rules and shortcuts about text messaging. Write them down and write 5 messages to a friend with translation
- Write one page about why it is important to communicate with other people.
- Find out how to introduce yourself in another language, e.g. “Hello” “How are you?” “My name is...”

Beacon Media student research cards: Communication

Biography: John Flynn, Louis Braille, Martin Luther King

Values education Year 5

God is Love

Forgiveness

God wants us to forgive others as He has forgiven us.

Forgiveness is...

- giving a person another chance, even if they have hurt me
- not wanting to pay someone back for the wrong things they have done to me
- being kind to those who have hurt me
- not reminding myself or the other person of the wrong things they have done to me

Activities

1. When Jesus died, He said, "*Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.*" What wrong things did people do to Jesus?
2. Sometimes we find it hardest to forgive people in our own family, because you see a lot of them and you might get tired of their actions. Why would Jesus want us to keep on forgiving them?
3. Write about a time when you forgave someone in your family.
4. Do you think you should forgive a person even when they don't say sorry? Why?
5. How can it help YOU when you forgive someone?

What does the Bible say about forgiveness?

Ephesians 4:32 Forgive one another as God has forgiven you.

Matthew 18:21-35 The parable of the king's servant.

Luke 15:11-32 The son who left home.

Art Year 5

God is Love

Communication

Biblical connection: God is a Father who loves us and communicates with us. We can share His love with others.

Bible art as a wall display: Caption: "Loving God, loving others"

Illustrated Bible story: the life of Joseph

1. Sharing his dreams from God with his family members
2. Sold as a slave
3. In jail
4. Advisor to the Pharaoh
5. Ruler throughout the land; in charge of food distribution
6. Reunited with family

Communication through art

- Look at works of art and decide what the artist is trying to communicate
- Create works of art that communicate a message or emotion, e.g. excitement, happiness, energy, movement, peace

Painting activities

- Paint a scene that shows movement, e.g. a stormy sea.
- Paint an abstract pattern using free movement with the brush, swirls and dynamic colour.
- Paint to music, transferring the rhythm of the music to your painting.
- Paint a scene showing movement, e.g. fireworks; wind in the trees; a tornado.

Drawing activities

- Use pencil or charcoal to create a scene which shows movement, e.g. the waves of the sea.
- Draw a free moving design with black crayon on newspaper. Paint over the design with a coloured or white wash.

Story: The Two Artists

Two artists were asked to paint a picture that would best show the idea of peace. One artist painted a crystal clear lake in the mountains. There was not a breath of wind, and not a ripple on the lake. The lake, like a mirror, reflected the image of the surrounding trees and mountains.

The second artist painted a picture of a roaring waterfall. Hanging over the waterfall was a great tree branch. Hidden away in a secure part of the limb was a little bird's nest. Inside the nest was a tiny bird, sitting peacefully as the water rushed and swirled below her and the water sprayed around her. Amidst the tremendous roar of the waterfall the little bird sat as if she had not a worry in the world. Her nest was snug and warm, nestled in the strong branch. She knew she was safe.

Discussion

- Which picture do you think gave the best idea of peace?
- How can the second painting be similar to a Christian feeling safe and secure on God's care?

Practical Science Year 5

Communication

Make a telephone

What you'll need:

- 2 paper cups or two empty tin cans
- A sharp pencil or sewing needle to help poke holes, (or hammer and nail if you use cans)
- String (fishing line also works well)

Instructions:

- Cut a long piece of string. You can experiment with different lengths but perhaps 20 metres (66 feet) is a good place to start.
- Poke a small hole in the bottom of each cup.
- Thread the string through each cup and tie knots at each end to stop it pulling through the cup (alternatively you can use a paper clip, washer or similar small object to hold the string in place).
- Move into position with you and a friend holding the cups at a distance that makes the string tight (making sure the string isn't touching anything else).
- One person talks into the cup while the other puts the cup to their ear and listens; can you hear each other?

What's happening?

Speaking into the cup creates sound waves which are converted into vibrations at the bottom of the cup. The vibrations travel along the string and are converted back into sound waves at the other end so your friend can hear what you said. Sound travels through the air but it travels even better through solids such as your cup and string, allowing you to hear sounds that might be too far away when traveling through the air.

John Flynn

Biography

John Flynn believed that God wanted him to become a minister and go the centre of Australia. It was a time when much of the outback was being opened up for sheep and cattle stations. People had to travel hundreds of miles for medical help. There were also hundreds of people in the outback who had not heard the Gospel, because there was no one to tell it.

John began working in the outback of South Australia in 1911. He travelled over the hot, sandy country in a horse and buggy. He often had to act as doctor, dentist, school teacher as well as preacher.

John knew that people in remote places must have better access to medical centres, or many would die. In his time, there were 15 inland hospitals set up, where station people could receive medical help more quickly.

However, this was not the complete answer. One day, John was visiting Adelaide and saw an aeroplane.

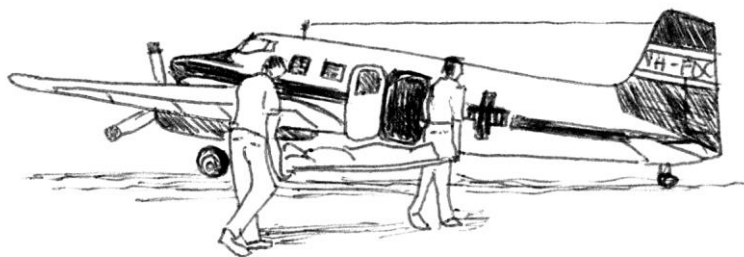
"That's what we need," he said.

John Flynn now ran a mission, and with the help of others worked towards establishing a Flying Doctor service, so that doctors could fly to visit patients, and patients could be flown to hospital. One of the problems in the outback was the sending of messages. With the help of his friend Alfred Traegar, John managed to develop a pedal wireless, which could send and receive messages, if the people worked the pedals as they used it.

The radio receiver was not just used by people in an emergency, but enabled lonely, isolated people talk with others every day.

God has given us all gifts that we can use to help others. We cannot measure God's gifts to people in 'amounts', but we can say that God gives people different KINDS of gifts.

To some He gives a gift of music. To others He gives the gift of caring for people. There are many different ways in which we can serve Him. John Flynn used his gifts to help many people.



The Flying Doctor today

People in Outback Australia use the flying doctor for quick medical help when they live a long way from a doctor or a hospital.

The plane goes to clinics every week for checkups and attends to emergencies as well. Everyone comes for checkups and most of the patients are Australian Aboriginal people. The doctor and people who use the flying doctor use the radio to communicate to each other. They don't often have a phone.

Sometimes the doctor tells people what to do over the radio without even seeing them.

Out stations need special first aid boxes. The boxes have maps of the body so people can say exactly where it hurts and the doctor can help without seeing them. Sometimes they are just too far away and it's not a real emergency.

Rev. John Flynn started the flying doctor service in 1928. He had one plane.

Today they have many planes. The flying doctors see about 65,000 patients a year. There is also a flying dentist available.

Activities

1. Why did John want to go to the outback?
2. How did he travel in the early days?
3. How did he *want* to travel?
4. How could an aeroplane help his work?
5. What is the name of the special service he began?
6. How did the people of the outback get messages to John?
7. What were some of the gifts and talents John may have had as a young boy?
8. Why do you think John was so successful?
9. What gifts did John have and how did he use them?
 - a) Write a list of the different gifts that God gives to people. Don't just think of people who are very clever. Think about people who are kind, friendly or patient. They are gifts too!
 - b) Choose one of these things and explain how it could be used for God:
music; helping; art; building; speaking; computers

Copy and fill in the missing words:

How can I be a faithful servant?

I can _____ out what my gifts and talents are.

I can work hard at becoming _____ at using these gifts.

I can say, "Yes, I will help," when God asks me to _____ my gifts for Him.

Missing words: use better find

Martin Luther King

Biography

Martin Luther King was the minister of a Baptist church in Alabama, U.S.A. In 1955, a Negro woman called Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white person. Although not the first incident of its kind, it stirred King and some others into action. King believed that he must take action against injustice in a non-violent way. He called for a boycott of the city's bus services by the whole Negro population. It was decided that on the Monday, no Negroes would ride on buses. That evening a meeting was held in one of the city's churches. Thousands gathered outside. It was decided that the boycott would continue, and a campaign would be launched. King delivered a speech which explained how the campaign would be run.

He told the crowd that love must be their ideal. 'Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, and pray for them that despitefully use you.' He believed that if they failed to do that, their protest would be meaningless, and only bring shame upon themselves. He told the people that in spite of the mistreatment they had received, they must not become bitter, and end up hating white people.

The campaign continued for over a year. As they were met with violence, King continually reminded the people of their non-violent stand. One night King's house was bombed while he was at a meeting. He spoke to the crowd who gathered at the scene. After assuring them that his wife and baby were alright, he told them to go home and put down their weapons. He reminded them that the problem could not be solved through retaliatory violence. Remember the words of Jesus, he said: 'He who lives by the sword will perish by the sword.' King told the people again that they must love their white brothers no matter what they did to the Negroes. He believed that meeting hate with love was the only way.

Just before his death, Martin Luther King said:

*"I still have a dream today,
That one day war will come to an end,
That men will beat their swords into ploughshares
And their spears into pruning hooks...
With this faith we will be able to speed up the day
When there will be peace on earth
And goodwill towards men.
It will be a glorious day
The morning stars will sing together
And the sons of God will shout for joy."*

Shortly before Jesus died, He was arrested. One of His friends reached for his sword, and cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest.

Jesus said: "Put back your sword, for all those who draw the sword will die by the sword." Matthew 26:52

At His death Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:34

Activities – Martin Luther King

1. Who was Martin Luther King?
2. Why was Rosa Parks arrested?
3. What does this tell us about the laws in the U.S.A. at the time?
4. If you were a black person, how would you feel?
5. How did Martin Luther King stand against the injustice without violence?
6. What is a boycott?
7. How did the boycott affect the government?
8. How long did the campaign go on for?
9. Why did Martin Luther King only believe in protesting in a non-violent way?
10. King told his people that they must not hate white people, even though white people had mistreated them. What did Jesus say about this? (Matthew 5:43-48)
11. How should a Christian react when someone does something wrong to them? Choose the correct answer:
 - ignore that person
 - stand up for the truth in a non-violent way
 - fight back with violence
12. How did Jesus put His own words into practice at His crucifixion and the time leading up to it? Read...
 - Luke 23:34
 - Matthew 26: 50-54
13. Find out more about Martin Luther King. Find out how he died.

Louis Braille

Biography

Louis Braille was born on January 4, 1809, in Coupvray, France. An injury to his eye at age three resulted in total loss of vision. When he was ten, he entered the Royal Institute for Blind Youth in Paris, the world's first school for blind children.

When Louis was fifteen, he invented a system of reading and writing by means of raised dots.

Louis Braille began experimenting with cut shapes from leather as well as nails and tacks hammered into boards. He finally decided that the best way to go was to create fingertip-size dots based on the twenty-six letters of the alphabet, which could be recognized with a single contact of one finger. By changing the number and placement of dots, he made a code for letters.

With their right hand the blind reader touched raised dots, and with the left hand the person moved on toward the next line. Using this system, blind people were able to read text as smoothly and quickly as sighted readers.

Mr. Braille accepted a full-time teaching position at the Institute when he was nineteen. He was a kind, compassionate teacher and also a good musician. He gave his life in selfless service to his pupils, to his friends, and to continuing to improve his raised dot method, which is known today as Braille.

Louis Braille died at age forty-three, from a contagious disease called tuberculosis. When he died confident that his mission on earth was completed.

Use the "Thinking about biographies" sheet to write a report on Louis Braille

Thinking about biographies

Use the Thinking Hats to write a summary of the biography.

1. The White Hat (The facts)

- What is the name of the person? (Write this as a heading)
- When was the person born and when did they die?
- Where were they born?
- Where did they work?
- What was the main type of work they did?



white

2. The Yellow Hat (The good points)

- How did this person help other people?
- Write about one good point that stands out to you in the biography.
- What were the strengths of this person's character?



yellow

3. The Black Hat (The bad points)

- What difficulties (hardships) did this person experience?
- Write about any sad events that happened in the person's life.
- What difficulties were the people of the country experiencing? What needs did they have?
- Were there any times in this person's life when they acted wrongly or made a wrong decision?



black

4. The Red Hat (Emotions)

- Write about one amazing event in the biography and explain how you felt when you read or heard it.
- Describe some of the emotions of the person and why they felt happy, sad, angry, worried or otherwise.



red

5. The Green Hat (The creative hat)

- What creative ideas did this person think of to solve problems?
- If this person did not choose to carry out the work they were called to do, what might have happened? (How would it have been different for people of that country.)



green

6. The Blue Hat (What we can learn from the biography)

- What did you learn from the life of this person?
- What does it challenge you to do?



blue

Communication 1

Student activities

1. What is communication?

Not long after you were born you began communicating with others. How did you do this?

How do you communicate with your friends now?

Write down all the different ways we can communicate in our world today. Draw some.

When God created people He created them different to the animals. He created them with the ability to communicate with Him. (Genesis 1:26)

How does God communicate with us?

Communication 2

Communication breakdown

What happens to communication when two people argue?

Often people decide not to speak to the person they have had the argument with. This is called a breakdown in communication. How could this breakdown be fixed?

How do communication breakdowns start?

How could we avoid having communication breakdowns?

At one time the whole world spoke the same language, but God decided to change people's languages when they were trying to build the largest tower in the world. It was called the Tower of Babel, (Genesis 11). Instead of one language there were now many different languages. People who spoke the same language joined together and traveled to different parts of the earth. They settled in different places and became different people groups.

Name five different languages and the countries where you would hear these languages spoken.

Speech or language is a very special and important gift from God. We need to make sure that the things we say, and where possible, the things we listen to, bring honour and glory to God.

Bible verses to look up:

Colossians 4:6 What does it mean to have your conversation full of grace?

James 3:9-10 How can we use our tongue for good and for bad?

Communication 3

Learning to speak a language

When you were very young you learned to speak very easily.
How did you learn to speak?

Learning a second language

For some people, understanding a language might be very difficult.

Who do you know who cannot speak these languages?

Fijian, English, Hindi

Imagine that you could speak both Fijian and English. There is a student in the school who can only speak Fijian. How could you help that person?

Find out:

How many different languages are spoken in your classroom?

Communication 4

Using good manners in communication

1. Your best friend has asked you to come and play at their house after school. You have said, "yes". But when you get home you find out that Mum has asked you to help her with the supermarket shopping.

Why should we communicate?

How could we communicate?

2. You have been invited to a birthday party on Saturday but your family is going away for the weekend and you have to go with them.

Why should we communicate?

How could we communicate?

3. You are in a sports team that is playing on Saturday, but you have fallen over and broken your arm.

Why should we communicate?

How could we communicate?

Communication 5

The history of the telephone

On a sheet of paper draw a timeline showing these dates and what happened.

1876 – first phone Alexander Bell

The first telephone was invented by Alexander Graham Bell. The first telephone communication was made when Bell spoke to his assistant Thomas Watson by wire on the 10th of March in 1876.

1888- first pay phone

William Gray created the first pay telephone, which people would use by putting coins into slots.

1947- idea of a mobile phone

A person called Dr. Ring thought of the idea of cell phones, but the technology did not yet exist to be able to make one.

1962- push-button phones

Push button, or touch-tone telephones were first seen and sold.

1973- first mobile phone

This was the year of the first mobile phone, (called a cell phone in the USA).

1983- Mobile phones for the public

The first commercial mobile telephone system was opened.

1992 – first smartphone

Cost \$1000 in the USA

Communication 6

Draw these phones from oldest to newest.

1. How do you use the first phone?
2. What would the winder be used for on the second phone?
3. Why is the cord coiled in the fourth phone?
4. Why do phones 1 to 5 have cords but the mobile phone (no.6) has no cord?
5. How has the mobile phone changed since it was first invented? (What can Smart phones do?)



Communication 7

What is the difference between mobile phones and land-line phones?

Land lines

- carry calls along electrical cables
- The words you speak travel down a wire connected between two handsets.

Mobile phones (cell phones)

- can send and receive calls without wire connections of any kind.
- use radio waves in the air

Write down some good points about a mobile phone.

Write down some bad points about a mobile phone.

Write down some good points about a landline phone.

Write down some bad points about a landline phone.

Communication 8

Communication through writing

People in early times used to communicate through pictures. Chinese writing is made of pictures and is still used today.

Example of Chinese writing:

Here is the Chinese word for a large boat. Notice that it is made of 3 pictures: a vessel (boat), eight and people. This means that the Chinese people knew the story of Noah. In the ark there were eight people: Noah and his three sons and their wives.



Egyptian writing was made up of symbols for objects and simple sounds. It was called hieroglyphics, (hi-ro-glif-ics). The Egyptians invented a type of paper that they made from plants. It was called papyrus. It was a bit like the Fijian tapa which is made from cloth.

The first books were written by hand. Bibles were written by hand. Then in 1440, in Germany, the printing press was invented so that more and more books could be printed. One of the first books printed was the Bible.

How did people in early times communicate?

How were the first Bibles written?

How do we use writing to communicate today?

Communication 9

Communication through music and art

Music

Name a song that communicates a message. What message does it communicate?

Can drums communicate a message? What message can a Lali communicate?

What messages do war cries of sport teams communicate?

Art

Think about signs and symbols. What do they communicate?

We see art work when we go to the supermarket. What does the packaging tell us about the product?

Project

Design a page of symbols that represent you: family, interests, and pets.

Communication 10

Communication by computer

Computers can perform many helpful functions but do not have the intelligence of a human being. Everything that a computer does has to be programmed into it. The 'cleverest' computer that a man can make is really nothing compared with human beings. We are God's special and most wonderful creation.

Use these dot points to explain how we use computers to communicate.

- Ask questions and get answers
- Type text and print it out
- Find pictures to use in our projects
- Send emails

(Write in whole sentences.)

Communication 11

Communication for the disabled: blind and deaf

Some people in our community experience real communication problems because they are blind or deaf.

How would you describe a colour to someone who had been blind from birth?

What would it be like to be blind? How would you find out what things are like? What are some of the things you could not enjoy?

Braille – a language for the blind

In 1824 a Frenchman, Louis Braille developed a reading system for blind people. Each letter is made of dots in patterns punched into thick paper. These dots can be felt. If blind people learn what the Braille letters mean, then they can read books.

How could you help a blind person enjoy a story from a book?

Sign language for the deaf

Many deaf people communicate using a language of facial expressions and hand symbols.

What is another way that many deaf people use to understand what is being said? (clue: lips)