



## 2. Creativity



**Age range:** Primary

**Theme:** We gather as a community for collective worship that is **inspiring, invitational and inclusive**, reflecting the fact that we are a part of a diverse school family and the wider church community. This term, we are focussing on creativity, and the content of an exhibition being hosted in Surrey this term: **Threads Through the Cross**, the work of textile artist Jacqui Parkinson. We are mindful that relatively few schools will be visiting the exhibition, so are bringing it right into your collective worship in a variety of different ways. Whilst it might seem strange to be focussing on the salvation story at this point in the school year, we hope that the endpoint of Advent and Christmas will be more meaningful having understood the journey to the Cross. We will also be linking to many 'Autumn term' themes that are a natural part of school life as children settle in to a new term, getting familiar with routines, school values and key events. **As we begin our new theme for the term this week, we focus on the word 'Creativity' – what this means and how, for Christians, it links with the story of Creation and being made 'in the image of God.'** We recognise that **this idea will not be shared by the whole of your school community, and reference this in the script, acknowledging the many different viewpoints, which you may wish to talk about outside of collective worship!** The concept of God creating the universe, however, is shared by Christian, Jewish and Muslim people.



### How does this link to your school's Christian vision & values?

Each week, there will be a single word that will draw our focus to one particular aspect of either the textile panel or the story linked with it. You should easily be able to link the word to your school's values, but there will also be some suggestions included in the reflective questions as part of each week's materials. This week, we think about **creativity**, so find some opportunities to think about how you encourage this through your school curriculum and in the life of your school community. This, at the very least, links with what it means for helping all pupils to flourish!

### Resources:

- The PowerPoint slides are numbered with a point in the script so you can find your way, and the parts in **bold** show you where to click on to activate the next slide or animation. There are slides to go with today's script, but you could quite easily use some of this collective worship without the PowerPoint if you preferred.
- **You will need to.... Go through the slides and the script, so that you can prepare some examples of different parts of the natural world to help prompt children in the story for this week.**
- We introduce pupils to the work of textile artist Jacqui Parkinson, through her Threads Through Creation sequence of panels. You can find out more about her work here: <https://www.jacqui-textile.com/>
- **There are also some ideas for reflective activities / ideas to ponder for use in your reflective areas for this term, listed at the end of the script along with a handy wall chart to print each week for your reflective area. You can find all these as a separate file in our resources area, which may make it easier for teachers to print and use in their classrooms.**
- **Reflective prayer activity:** creative spirals. Print out copies of the spiral on p6, for your reflective area. Children can decorate creatively – there are suggestions in the section at the end of this script.

### Gathering:

#### Slide 1: Welcome....

**Use your own greeting for this week. We will be learning a new greeting today, to use next week.**



### Engaging:

#### • Slide 2: Creativity

This term, we are beginning a very special series based on the work of artist Jacqui Parkinson – and a very special exhibition that is coming to Guildford Cathedral in just a few weeks. This is her with one of her creations – a very big picture made out of fabric and stitches. I wonder which story you think she's made here?!

We'll come back to her work later during our time together, but first, let's think about what we mean by this word 'Creativity'.

#### • Slide 3: Creativity

Creativity is basically the ability to create something – to make something.

There are many different ways in which our creativity can be expressed. You can see some examples here... *[briefly go through them]*

When we make something out of paint, or Lego, or technology, or our imagination, for example, we are using our creativity. You might want to talk to each other in your classes this week about this big word!



- **Slide 4:** This is one of artist Jacqui Parkinson's creations, featuring a story from the very beginning of the Bible, the holy book for Christians, which tells them how the world had its beginnings. It's a story that Christian, Jewish and Muslim people share.... There are also LOTS of other, different ideas about this, but we'll have to save those for a day when we have a bit more time!!  
This story is one that has inspired Jacqui, so during our retelling of it, we will see her work from time to time!  
There are some places where you can join in with your own ideas as part of this retelling, so be ready. There will be some pictures on the screen to help you. When I leave a space, that means I need some ideas from you, so listen hard and you'll soon get the idea *[you may need to help them initially]*
- **Slides 5-15: And God made....** *[use script on p.3]*
- **Slide 16:** In her textile panels, Jacqui uses the image of a spiral to represent God, who is eternal – like a spiral that could carry on spiralling forever! You can also see it on **every panel** where God is a part of the story....We'll see this a lot more during this term. Earlier, in our story from the Bible of how 'God made', I wonder if you can remember the final thing that 'God made'?....*[allow responses]*  
It was human beings.....us! This story can be found in Genesis chapter 1, and we're going to use some words that God spoke from verse 26, which will help us as we think some more about being creative. This is what God said when he made us: **'Let us make human beings in our image and likeness.'**  
Christians believe that God made us to be like him – as we said in the story, we are **...created to be creative...**
- **Slide 17:** Jacqui herself talks about this too. She says **'If we're made in the image of God, then we were made to be creators.'** I wonder what you think about this idea? *[with older pupils, you might want to allow them time to talk to a partner]*

#### **Slide 18: Responding and words for worship**

Today we've been thinking about creativity – in its many different forms – and that for some people, this comes from God.....



Let's take some time now to be quiet and still, and think together. You might like to close your eyes to help you.....

....I wonder how you like to be creative?....or where you think your creativity comes from?....

....I wonder if being creative helps some people to feel closer to God?....

....I wonder how our creativity might help to inspire others?....

#### **Opportunity for reflection / prayer**

I'm going to pray now. If this is something that you feel comfortable doing, then find a way to make the words your own. If you don't want to pray, then use the quiet to be still with your own thoughts.

#### **Slide 19:**

##### **Creator God**

**Thank you for the beautiful world that you created for us to be a part of. Thank you that you made us each to be creative, in the way that we can make and imagine in so many different ways. Help us to use our creativity to be a blessing to others, we pray.**

#### **Slide 20: Amen**

#### **Slide 21: Teach this new greeting, ready for next week.**

This term, we will be using some of artist Jacqui's work to help us to think during our times together – maybe her work might inspire us to be more creative! And so we are going to reflect this in our new greeting, which we will use every week. *[teach BSL signs as well, if using]*

**Leader:** We are a creative community. As we gather together today....

**ALL:** May our thinking, talking and wondering help us to grow.



Here are BSL actions for some of the words:

**Leader's words:**

Creative: <https://www.signdictionary.co.uk/view/creative?q=creative#title>

Community: (we use the word 'gathering' as it's a simpler sign!) <https://www.signbsl.com/sign/gathering>

Gather: <https://www.signbsl.com/sign/gather> (1st video), or use the same sign we use for community as they approximate to the same thing!

**Response:**

Think: <https://www.brightbsl.co.uk/signs/think>

Talk: <https://www.signbsl.com/sign/talk> (1st video)

Wonder: <https://www.signbsl.com/sign/wonder> (1st video)

Grow: <https://www.signbsl.com/sign/grow> (2nd video)

**Sending: Slide 22**

**Leader:** As we leave this place & time and go into the day ahead...

**All: Together, we create a creative community!**



BSL Together: <https://www.signbsl.com/sign/together> (1st video); Create: <https://www.signbsl.com/sign/create> (2nd video) You already have signs for 'creative' and 'community'

**To listen to / sing:**

[Creator God](#) (NBD) or [All together as a family](#) (BBC), or if you want a real earworm, try Lovely Jubbly by Doug Horley!!: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuwoTpaaOM>

**Slide 23: Reflective areas**



**Think:** What does it mean for you to be 'creative'? What do you like to 'create'?

**Talk:** Talk together with others about your ideas – do you all have the same? Why do you think this is?!

**Do:** Take a spiral template. You could...

- create your own pattern or picture
- write inside the spiral ways in which you are creative
- write words inside the spiral to create a tiny poem
- add some musical notes to create a tune
- display your 'creations' together



# And God made.....

*During this story, there are places for children to join in (....), by making suggestions prompted by what they see on the screen, and their own ideas. They could also use a thumbs up sign and join in 'That's good!'*

**Slide 5:** In the beginning, before the dawn of time, God was there. God said "I'll make a world" and he began.

**Slide 6:** God said, "Let there be light" and there it was, a brilliant light that shone brightly in the heavens. The times when the light shone he named ..... DAY, and when it was dark, he called it ..... NIGHT. And God said, "**That's good!**"

**Slide 7:** Then God said, "Let there be sky" and there it was - a beautiful blue expanse of sky that stretched as far as the eye could see. And God said, "**That's good!**"

**Slide 8:** Next God said, "Let there be water", and water appeared - water of all different shapes and sizes .....

**Slide 9:** The places where there was no water, God named ..... LAND – land of all different heights and types..... And God said, "**That's good!**"

**Slide 10:** Then God said, "Let there be plants" and all over the land, they began to grow..... And God said, "**That's good!**"

**Slide 11:** After all that, God said "Let there be lights in the sky for the night and the day." The day-time light God named..... SUN, and the night-time lights he named ..... MOON & STARS. And God said, "**That's good!**"

**Slide 12:** Then God said, "Let's have some fun ! Let there be creatures to live in the waters of the earth" and it was so. There were..... And then God said, "Let there be all sorts of creatures to fill the air" and the air was filled with the sound of beating wings, large and small. There were..... And God said, "**That's good!**"

**Slide 13:** Then God said, "Let there be **animals** of every shape and size to fill the earth" and there they were..... And God said, "**That's good!**"

**Slide 14:** And last of all, God said, "Let there be people, created to be creative, to look after all I have made." When he saw them, God said "**That's good!**"

**Slide 15:** Then God said, "Now let there be rest !" and there was - for a whole day ! And God said, "**That's good!**"





# Creativity



What does it mean for you to be 'creative'? What do you like to 'create'?



Talk together with others about your ideas – do you all have the same? Why do you think this is?!



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Print this spiral template out for your reflective area this week:



