

Lesson 11

Showing Love - Valentine's Day

Objective

Students will understand the need to care for others and that God cares for us.

Supplies

Teachers and/or Coordinators ensure supplies are ready prior to each class.

Print From the Site:

- Ways To Care Activity Sheet (one per student)
- Butterfly Wing Template (two per sheet to be printed on colored paper)
- Attendance Chart
- Stickers (for attendance)
- Songs for Winter Quarter Sheet (to share)
- Bible
- Pens/Pencils/Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Black Sharpie Marker
- Tape
- Glue Sticks
- Ribbon
- Heart Stickers (or any other appropriate shaped stickers to share for both projects)
- Construction Paper (any color, enough for both projects)
- Message In A Bottle Project
 - Clean Plastic Bottles w/ Lids (one per student)
- Butterfly Project
 - Pipe Cleaners (cut in half so everyone has two pieces)
 - Paper towel rolls cut in half or clean toilet paper rolls (one per student)

Optional Supplies

- Snack - Strawberries Slices (cut into heart shapes)
- Bean Bag (or something similar that can be tossed)
- Small Candies (to fit inside Valentine's Day bottles)

Teacher Tips

- ★ See Lesson Plan 1 for tips on how to keep the classroom engaged.

1) Introduction to Lesson

As students enter, welcome them and help them find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance.

Today we are going to make two crafts for Valentine's Day. We are doing this to help us remember that God made our world and we are responsible for taking care of the earth and those in it. So today we are going to make something nice for two people you know - someone in the church and someone in your family. This will show that you care - just like God wants us to do!

Let's sing a song about God and how He cares for us!

God Loves

God loves _____, Yes He does!
 God loves _____, Yes He does!
 God loves _____, just this way
 And He loves (him/her) everyday!

*Fill in the name of each child in the room one at a time.

I'm Very Special to God (Tune: Hickory Dickory Dock)

I'm very special to God.
 He loves me very much.
 He made my hands. He made my feet.
 I'm very special to God!

2) Activity - Message In A Bottle Craft

10-15 minutes

Prep

Before class, clean some plastic bottles with lids. Remove the labels and any leftover residue. Make sure they are completely dry.

Activity

Hand each student half of the construction paper with crayons to draw or write a message of something nice to someone. Remind them this is to go to someone in the church who is not their family. It could be the teacher, friend, preacher, a nice lady they know, etc. Ask them who they will be writing their messages to. When they are done writing their message, help them roll it up (make sure it is tight and tie it so it fits in the bottle and can be removed). Put the lid on the bottle.



Hand out stickers for the students to decorate their bottles. Teacher - using a sharpie, write the students name somewhere on their bottle and tie a bow with ribbon (see picture). Ask all the students to take a moment to pray for the people we are going to give these gifts too. Pray for each person the students have chosen to give their gifts too and thank God for the students here today and that they will always remember to care and love others as God asks us too!

*Optional: You can purchase little candies to place in the bottle as well.

3) Activity - Ways To Care Activity Sheet

10-15 minutes

Hand everyone a “Ways To Care” activity sheet and crayons. Read the instructions aloud and then read each heart - have the students draw a picture of them doing that activity on the space beside the heart. *Example: helping parents with chores - draw a picture helping mom put laundry away.*

Ways To Care

Draw a picture beside each heart that shows how you would do the activity. You have one hour to complete this worksheet.

- Help my parent with a chore
- Help my friend
- Help my teacher
- Help my friend
- Help my parent

After reading each heart and having them draw a picture for each one, talk about what they can do this week and see how many ways to care they can accomplish before the end of the week.

4) Activity - Butterfly Craft

10-15 minutes

Prep

Before class, gather paper towel rolls cut in two or clean toilet paper rolls for each student. Print the butterfly template onto colored cardstock or construction paper then cut them out. Only one set of wings is needed per student. Cut a piece of pipe cleaner in half so everyone has two pieces.



Activity

Hand each student one paper roll with half a piece of construction paper. Show them a picture of the project and explain **that is what we will be making - a butterfly! We will decorate our butterflies and give them to someone in our family we love to show them we care about them - that will make them and God happy!** Have them wrap the paper around the roll and help them glue or tape it together, cutting off any extra around the roll.

Now hand out the wings so the students can decorate them before attaching them. Decorations can be stickers, coloring, scrap ribbon, etc. Tell them you will help them write

their nice caring message to the person they will give the butterfly too using a marker or crayon. Have them draw two eyes and a smiley mouth on the roll.

Now it's time to assemble. Tape the wings to the back of the body (paper roll). Now tape the two pieces of the pipe cleaner inside of the top of the roll to represent the antennae.

See the picture above for assistance.

5) Optional Activity - Caring Words Bean Bag Toss 5-10 minutes

Have the students sit in a circle. Give someone a bean bag to toss nicely to another student. When that student catches the bean bag, they say hello to another student in the circle and say something nice about them as they toss the bean bag to someone else. The game continues until all the students have said hello to another student and one nice thing has been said about everyone.

You may want to start to give them an idea. Ex: Hi _____ I am glad you are in my Sunday School Class!

6) Optional Snack - Strawberries 5-10 minutes

Hand each student a few pieces of strawberries that are cut in half in a heart shape.

Say **“Today we learned that part of being responsible for the earth and people on it is to care for others. Today we made crafts to share and thought of nice things we can do this week to help our friends and family. We are going to have heart shaped snacks to help us remember to be caring to others.”**

After snack, have students clean up.

7) Optional Activity - Sing 5-10 minutes

Practice songs sung earlier or find different songs in Songs for Winter Quarter

8) Closing Prayer

**Before the prayer, make sure the activities/snacks have been cleaned up.

Ask if there are any prayers the students want to share. Say closing prayer remembering to thank God for caring for us and to help us care for others in the same way and for those we made gifts for today.