

## LESSON 25: We Are All God's Children



### AIM

To present to learners stories of children from other lands. (7.5, 12.4.2)

### OUTCOME

Learners understand that all people are made and loved by God.

### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 1 Although there are differences among people, there are really more similarities. All people need food, clean water, shelter and clothing. The children **sing and dance** to the tune of *The Farmer's in the Dell*.

*The people round the world (Form a circle & skip)*

*The people round the world*

*Are all a little different (Turn round)*

*And yet they're all the same. (Join hands again.)*

*We all need food, (Stand and clap)*

*We all need clothes (Clap)*

*We're all a little different (Turn round)*

*And yet we're all the same. (Join hands)*

*We all need homes. (Clap)*

*We all work 'n' play (Clap)*

*We're all a little different (Turn around)*

*And yet we're all the same. (Join hands)*

*The people round the world (Skip to the end)*

*The people round the world*

*Say, "Thank you God for making us (Fold hands)*

*The way we are."*

- 2 **From the Bible:** Jesus welcomes the children [Mark 10: 13-16]. People often used to bring children to Jesus and Jesus would bless them.

One day, the friends of Jesus scolded the people and told them not to bring the children. When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Do not stop them." Then Jesus took the children in his arms, placed his hands on each of them, and blessed them.

Jesus loves children and he loves all the children of the world. Say together: "Jesus loves the little children. All the children in the world."

- 3 **Prayer:** Loving God, All the people in the world are precious in your sight. You have made us like a rainbow dancing in the light. Help us to love and care for people everywhere. Amen.

### WHAT YOU NEED

- \* 🎵 *The Farmer's in the Dell* (1)
- \* Bible (2)
- \* Pictures of people and homes round the world (4)
- \* Combs, grease proof paper, drinking straws (5)
- \* Paper squares, thread (6)
- \* Story - *Anansi* (7)

4 **Homes around the World:** We all need a place to live in which we call home. Your home has walls and a roof to protect you from the weather. It is a place where you can be together with your family. It is a place where you eat and sleep.

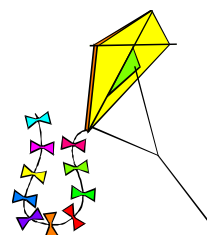
- ♥ My name is **Hamish**. I live in Scotland. My house was built from blocks of stone. The roof is made from slate which is another kind of stone. On special occasions I might wear a kilt. I like oats porridge for breakfast.
- ♥ My name is **Tatiana**. I live in Russia. My house has been built from logs cut from the forests all around the house. My favourite food is borsht which is a soup made from beetroots.
- ♥ My name is **Lucy**. I live in America. My house has been built from wood and bricks. I go to school in a yellow bus. I like hamburgers. At the end of November we celebrate Thanksgiving. We say thank you to God for all that we have.
- ♥ My name is **Marta**. I live in Canada, near the North Pole. My house is called an igloo and it is built from blocks of snow and ice. I have special shoes for walking on the snow. Sometimes I go out with her father in a special canoe called a kayak. My father also has a dog sledge. I like eating meat and fish.
- ♥ My name is **Sancho**. I live in Mexico. Sometimes we wear big hats called sombreros. We like to sing and dance. I like eating meat and beans and a special bread called a tortilla.

The above examples could be presented with pictures from magazines or photographs showing the different types of houses. You could also change the names, countries and descriptions to match the pictures you've managed to collect.

5 **Art and Craft:** Each part of the world has its own kind of music and dancing. You can make your own musical instruments.

- ♥ Make a *kazoo* by putting greaseproof paper round a comb. Put the comb against your mouth and hum.
- ♥ Make a *musical straw* by flattening the end and cutting a V-shaped notch out of it. Blow into the straw.

6 **Kites:** Tell the children that paper folding or origami started in Japan. Use a square piece of paper. Make a diagonal crease down the centre. Fold the two adjacent edges to the centre crease to form a kite. Thread may be attached for a paper streamer.




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## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

7 Tell **stories and fairy tales** from other cultures. Children all round the world like listening to stories. The children in the Caribbean love to hear stories of Anansi the spider. This is the story of

### ANANSI AND THE BANANA BIRD

Anansi the Spider was always eating. He enjoyed eating all the fruits of the jungle, especially the bananas. The Banana Bird also liked eating bananas. He even looked like a banana with his black and yellow feathers.

“Hey,” said Anansi. “If you weren’t moving I might think that you were a banana!”



“I might look like a banana, but I bet I can get to the bananas in the plantation before you!” said the Banana Bird.

**GRADE R**

“We’ll see about that!” replied Anansi.

Banana Bird thought this would be easy because he could fly, and we all know that flying is the quickest way to get from place to place. So Banana Bird took his time. He rested on the branch of the mango tree. He pecked at the cocoa tree. He flew down to the sea and he hopped around on the beach. Only then did he start flying to the plantation.

When he got to the plantation of banana trees, he looked down and what did he see? There was Anansi, quietly eating the best and the brightest bananas! “How did you get here before me?” asked the Banana Bird angrily.

“It was easy,” laughed Anansi. “While you were wasting time looking for other fruit and playing on the beach, I spun and spun and wove threads together till I had a big web. I climbed and climbed till I got here.” Then Anansi began to sing his song,

*“Banana Bird,  
You could have been first  
But look, you’re the worst.  
I used my head and I used my feet  
And that’s how I beat you to the treat.”*

Banana Bird did not like this song. He flew high into the air and he went far away. Anansi laughed all the way home.

## LESSON 26: We Are a Rainbow People



### AIM

To expose learners to examples of people from other races and cultures. (12.4.2)

### OUTCOME

Learners show appreciation for people of other races and cultures.

### WHAT YOU NEED

- \* 🎵 *The Farmer's in the Dell* (1)
- \* Story – *Chinese New Year* (5)
- \* Coloured paper, glue, scissors, crayons (7)
- \* Cardboard box (8)
- \* Paper lanterns (9)

### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 8 The children **sing and dance** to the tune of *The Farmer's in the Dell* as in the previous lesson.

*The people round the world (Form a circle & skip)*

*The people round the world*

*Are all a little different (Turn round)*

*And yet they're all the same. (Join hands again.)*

*We all need food, (Stand and clap)*

*We all need clothes (Clap)*

*We're all a little different (Turn round)*

*And yet we're all the same. (Join hands)*

*We all need homes. (Clap)*

*We all work 'n' play (Clap)*

*We're all a little different (Turn around)*

*And yet we're all the same. (Join hands)*

*The people round the world (Skip to the end)*

*The people round the world*

*Say, "Thank you God for making us (Fold hands)*

*The way we are."*

- 9 **Basic needs:** Let the children recall that all people need food, clean water, clothing and shelter. All people like to celebrate special times. People like get together with their families and friends to celebrate. In this respect we are all the same.
- 10 **Celebrations:** Ask the children the following type of questions to prompt them to talk about celebrations:
- Do you sometimes eat out? Who do you go with? On which occasions?
  - Do you sometimes visit relatives/friends? Who do you like to visit? Do people come to visit you?
  - Are there special times when you get new clothes? Who takes you to the shops?
- 11 **Climate:** There are some things that make us each a little different. The climate affects the way we live. For example, in Scandinavia children learn to ski. In Egypt and or in places in South Africa, children can't ski because there is no snow. Climate affects the kinds of homes we live in.

## 12 Chinese New Year

Once upon a time there was a little girl called Su Ling. She lived in China. It was soon to be New Year and there was great excitement everywhere. She helped her mother clean and dust their home. When everything was clean, they started decorating the house vases with pretty blossoms. There were bowls of oranges and naartjies and Su Ling's favourite - eight kinds of dried fruit.

Her mother was busy making her a new dress. It was meant to be surprise. Su Ling hoped the dress would be red because red is a bright happy colour and it is sure to bring her good luck. Everyone tries to wear something new on New Year's Day.

New Year's Eve finally came. At twelve o'clock that night Su Ling's family opened the doors and windows so that the old year could go out. At the same time there was the sound of firecrackers. The firecrackers made the old year run away and everyone welcomed in the New Year.

Su Ling was very happy. She was glad she was not crying or complaining because, if she were, she would be doing that throughout the year.



The next day Su Ling put on her new clothes. Her family and relatives and friends held a Tea Ceremony. It was wonderful to have so many people celebrating together. All the children got gifts of money in little red envelopes. This was for good fortune.

That afternoon they all went out to watch the parade. The best part was the Dragon Dance. There were people beating drums and cymbals and gongs. The dragon was made of very bright materials. There were people inside the dragon to make it move. Everyone clapped and cheered as the long dragon came dancing past. There was also a lion dance, but Su Ling loved the dragon the best.

- 13 Prayer:** Loving God, Thank you for new beginnings. Thank you for each new day and each New Year. Thank you for our families and friends that make special times special. Amen.
- 14 Art and Crafts:** Make a dragon. Join two strips of paper, each about three centimetres wide, to each other at right angles. Fold the strips over one another repeatedly until you can go no further. Paste the two ends together. You have a kind of paper concertina which forms the dragon's body. Attach a dragon tail to one end and a head to the other. Decorate the head and tail.
- 15 Dance:** The children could co-operate in making a dragon's head from a cardboard box. One child could hold or wear the dragon head. The rest of the children form a line behind the dragon. A colourful blanket or material could be used to cover the dragon's body. The children move to the beat of a drum or tambourine. Vary the tempo. Keeping the correct timing is important to a successful dance. Make this into a fun event as no doubt not all the children will move correctly.

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## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 16** The three days at the end of the New Year festivities are celebrated by a Lantern Festival. Colourful street parties are held. The children carry poles from which hang paper lanterns. The children could make paper lanterns.



## LESSON 27: Care for the Suffering



### WHAT YOU NEED

### AIM

To bring the reality of the poor and suffering to the attention of the learners. (9.1, 12.3.1.)

### OUTCOME

Learners manifest care for the poor in creative and meaningful ways.

- \* Paper plates, pictures of food (1)
- \* Story of Esther (4) (8)
- \* ♪ *Sally Go Round the Moon* (6)
- \* Paper, crayons, glitter (7)

### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 1 **Role-play:** Give paper plates to a group of children. Have some cut-out pictures of food. Hand the pictures out randomly so that some children will have many, some will have a little and a few will have none. Encourage the children to talk about how they feel having nothing, a little, or a lot on their plates. Ask what could be done to make everyone feel happy.
- 2 Let the **children make suggestions** about what we could do if one of our friends comes to school without lunch; someone is feeling sad; we see someone has no one to be their friend.
- 3 **Discuss poor people.** Some have very little to eat. Suggest that the class bring canned foods for the poor. Charity money could be collected and given to a good cause.
- 4 **Tell the story of Esther:**

Esther was Jewish She was very beautiful.

One day the king of the country where Esther lived was looking for a new queen.

*(Shade your eyes and peer this way and that.)*

Many women wanted to be queen. Each day the king would meet a young woman. But none of them were what he was looking for.

*(Shake your head.)*

The king's servants went out and searched far and wide. *(Look everywhere)*

They could not find anyone more beautiful than Esther. She, together with many others, was invited to the palace. The king loved Esther at once. He chose her to be the queen.

Now there was a man called Haman, who lived in the land. He thought he was very important. He liked to have people bowing down to him.

Mordecai, Esther's cousin would not bow down to Haman. *(Shake head to say, 'No.')*

Mordecai would bow down only before God.

Haman became very angry.

*(Clench fists in anger.)*

He decided to get rid of Mordecai and all the Jewish people. He went to the king and he told lies about the Jewish people. He tricked the king. The king signed a law to put Mordecai and all the Jewish people to death.

Mordecai told Esther what Haman had done. Esther was very worried. She wanted to speak to the king but there was a problem. No one was allowed to go to the king without being invited. At first Esther was afraid. But then she thought of all the people who were in danger.

She became brave and trusted God to help her. She went to see the king even though he had not called for her. The king was happy to see her. He smiled.

She invited the king and Haman to a big dinner. The king liked the dinner. He said Esther could have anything she wished for.

Esther asked the king to keep the Jewish people safe. She said, "Haman is planning something bad."

The king loved Esther. He knew she was good and wise. He took back the law that he had made. He punished Haman and rewarded Mordecai.

Everyone was happy with Queen Esther. They all cheered her.

- 5 **Prayer:** Dear God, sometimes I am afraid. Help me to have the courage to do what is right. Thank you for looking after me. Amen.

- 6 **Dance:** The children hold hands and form a circle. They skip round to the tune of *Sally Go Round the Moon*.

Esther was smart and kind

Esther was smart and good

*The children raise their hands and step towards the middle.(line 3)*

The king chose her to be the queen

*The children step back again. (line 4)*

The fairest queen you've ever seen.

The people sang and danced

The people danced and clapped

Esther bravely saved God's people

And Mordecai bowed down to God.

*All bow at the end of the song.*

- 7 **Art and Craft:** The children can draw pictures of Esther the queen. Glitter or other shiny materials may be used to decorate her garments.

## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 8 **Purim** is the Jewish festival which celebrates the story of Esther. The story is read out at the festival and each time Haman's name appears, everyone makes a noise to cover up the name. This might be an activity that Grade R's would enjoy.

