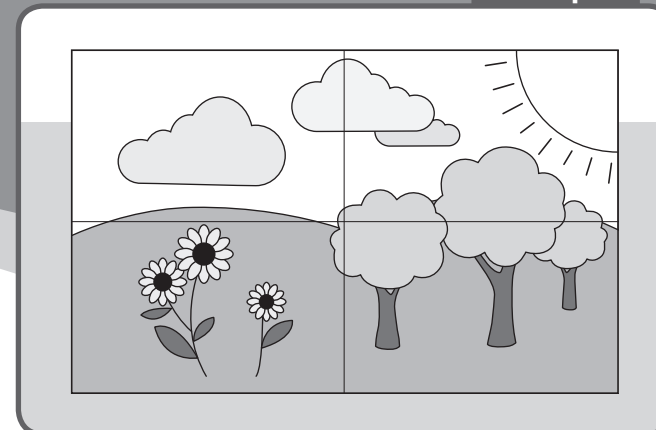


God Creates the Earth and the Sky

Activity: The child makes a puzzle showing that God creates the earth and the sky.



Concept

God creates the earth and the sky.
He creates everything in the world.

What You Need

- ▶ Picture Glossary* image for God
- ▶ window crayons
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ crayons or markers
- ▶ access to a window
- ▶ **Learning Tool: Picture Cards 3, 4, and 8**

*Pages 445–451 of the *Adaptive Finding God Catechist Guide*

At Home

Invite the parents to look out a window at home with their child twice during the week. Encourage them to remind their child that God creates the earth and the sky.

Lesson Steps

1

Opening Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: **Dear God, you are our Creator and Father. You create the earth and the sky. Guide us in remembering that you create the whole world for us.** Pray the Sign of the Cross.

2

Begin with Life Experience

Show the child the image for God from the Picture Glossary. Explain that God creates things because he loves us. Display the Picture Cards. Say: **God creates flowers. Which is a picture of a flower?** Then say: **God creates trees. Which is a picture of a tree?** Next say: **God creates clouds. Which is a picture of clouds?** Tell the child that God also creates the earth and the sky. Say: **The earth is the ground we stand on. The sky is what we see when we look up. God creates both of these.**

3

Connect

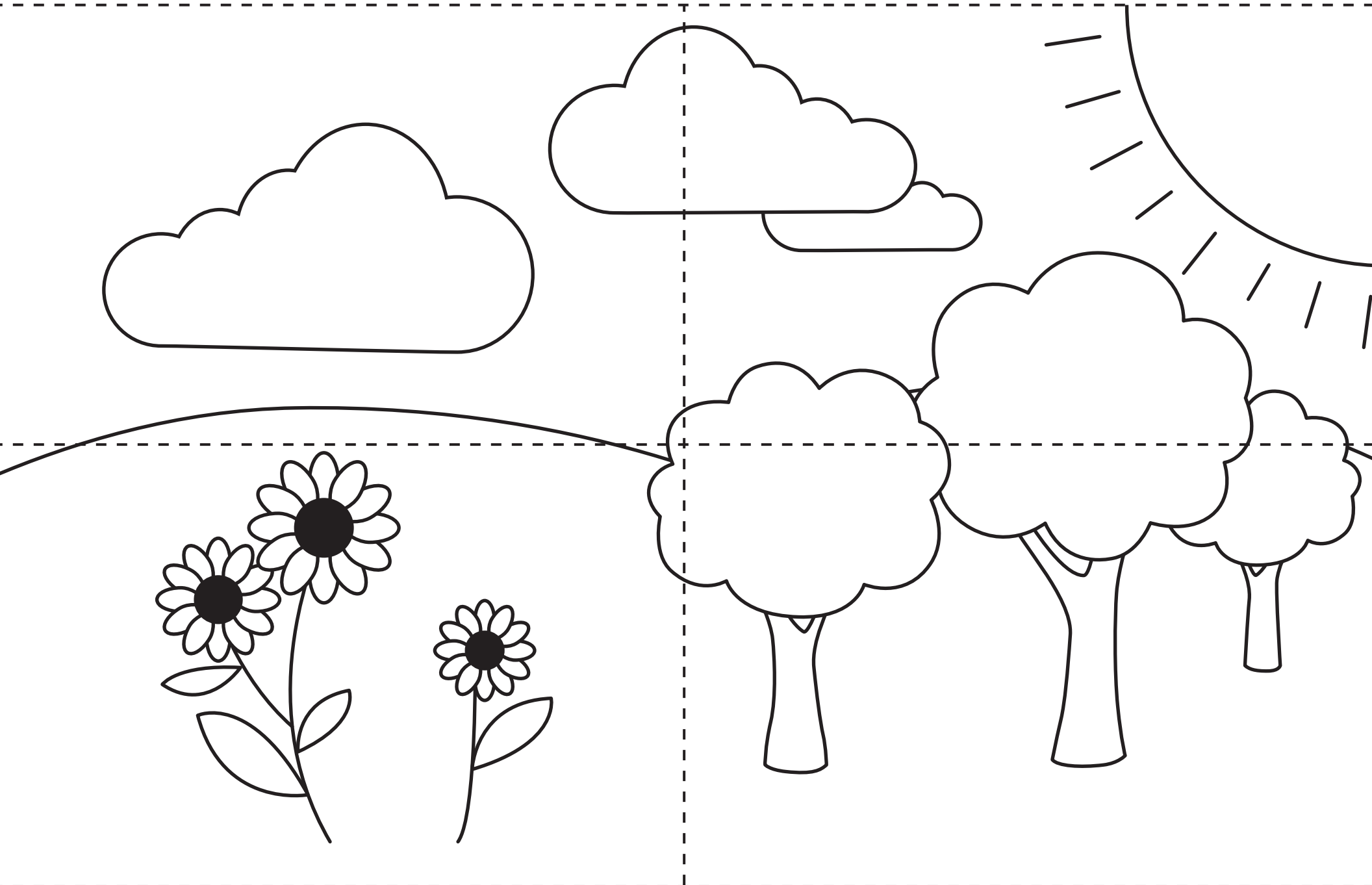
Go to the window. Using window crayons, draw and label what you see or have the child add birds to the sky and trees to the ground. Explain that God creates all these things. Invite the child to identify the earth and sky from the photocopy of Side B of this card. Next, help the child color then cut out the puzzle pieces. Put the puzzle together. Say: **God creates everything we can see when looking out a window. He creates the earth and sky.**

4

Closing Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: **Thank you, God, for creating the earth and the sky.** Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

1A **God Creates the Earth and the Sky**



Jesus Is God's Gift to Us

Activity: The child constructs a gift box to illustrate that God has sent Jesus as a gift to us.

Concept

Jesus is God's gift to us.

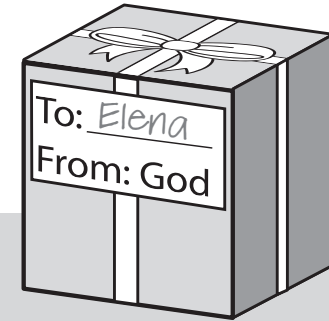
What You Need

- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card with gift box cut out and assembled in advance
- ▶ five Picture Glossary* images for Jesus
- ▶ assembled gift box with "To:/From: God" flap left untaped
- ▶ art supplies
- ▶ pictures from magazines or the Internet that remind the child of Jesus
- ▶ construction paper
- ▶ clear tape

*Pages 445–451 of the *Adaptive Finding God Catechist Guide*.

At Home

Suggest that parents ask their child to show them the symbols he or she placed inside the box. Encourage parents to show their child signs of Jesus' presence in their home, such as the Bible, a cross, or a special medal, reminding the child that Jesus was sent to us by God.



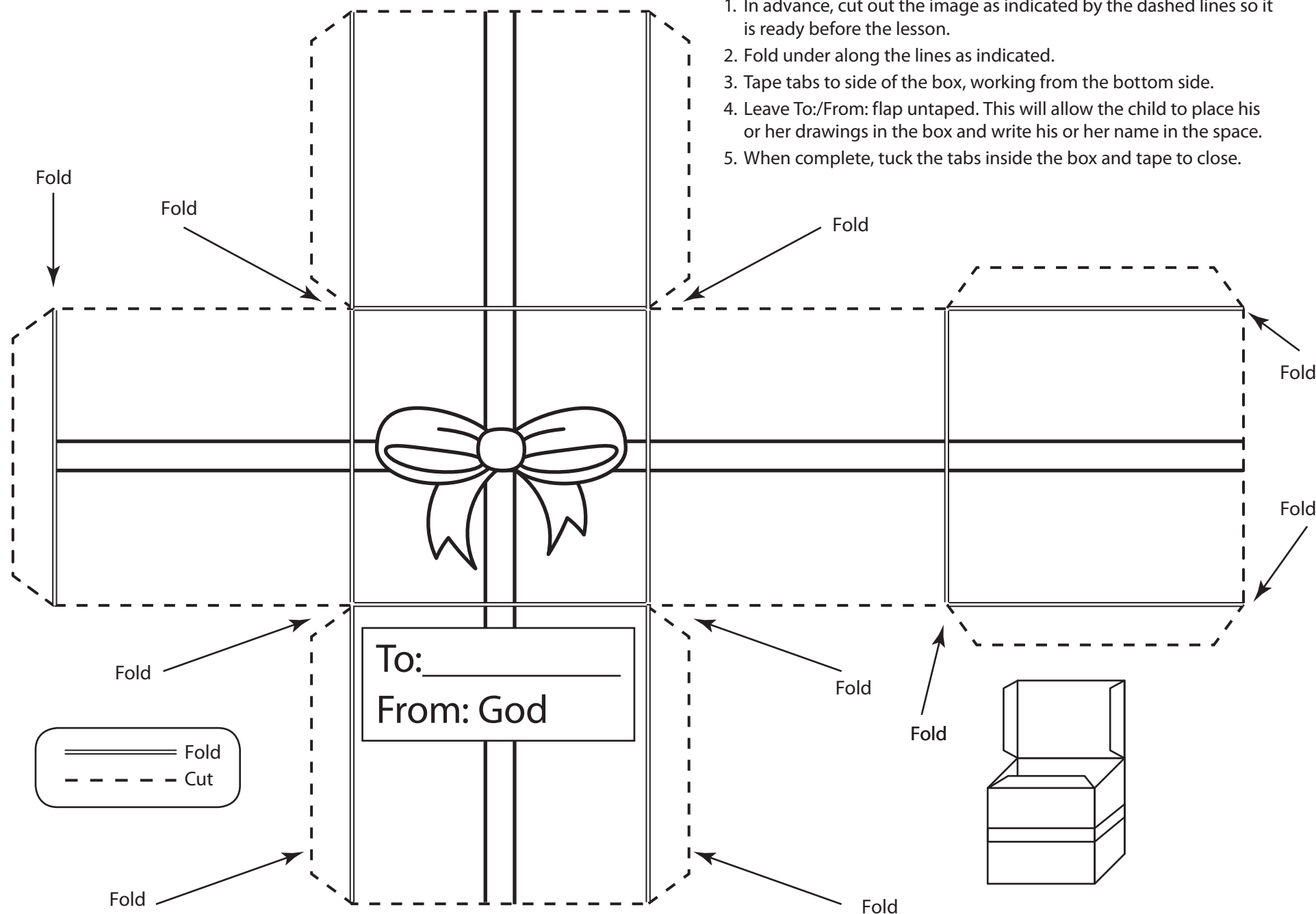
Lesson Steps

- 1 Opening Prayer**
Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: ***Dear God, you love us so much that you gave us the greatest gift of all, your Son, Jesus. Help us grow in our love for him.*** Pray the Sign of the Cross.
- 2 Begin with Life Experience**
Ask the child to tell you in words, signs, or drawings about a special gift he or she received. Hold the gift box in your hands, covering the "To: [child's name]/From: God" flap. Tell the child to look at the gift in your hand. (You may choose to use a box of your own instead of assembling the one from Side B.) Say: ***God gave us the gift of Jesus. Jesus always loves us and is always with us. He is the best gift of all.***
- 3 Connect**
Place the pre-cut gift box on the table so the child can write his or her name on the "To: [child's name]/From: God" flap. Then help the child draw pictures or use images from magazines or the Internet that remind the child of Jesus, such as a Bible, a cross, or a medal. Help the child cut out the images and write the word *Jesus* or glue copies of the image for Jesus from the Picture Glossary on each one. Have the child place the images he or she created inside the gift box, folding the images if necessary. Secure the flap with tape. Together, point to each image placed in the box. For each image, say: ***We use [name of item] to remind us that Jesus is always with us.*** Conclude by saying: ***The greatest of all of God's gifts to us is Jesus.***
- 4 Closing Prayer**
Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: ***Thank you, God, for giving us your Son, Jesus. Of all the gifts in the world, I know that he is the best gift of all.*** Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

6A *Jesus Is God's Gift to Us*

Directions

1. In advance, cut out the image as indicated by the dashed lines so it is ready before the lesson.
2. Fold under along the lines as indicated.
3. Tape tabs to side of the box, working from the bottom side.
4. Leave To:/From: flap untaped. This will allow the child to place his or her drawings in the box and write his or her name in the space.
5. When complete, tuck the tabs inside the box and tape to close.



Saint Ignatius

Activity: The child completes a picture web about Saint Ignatius.

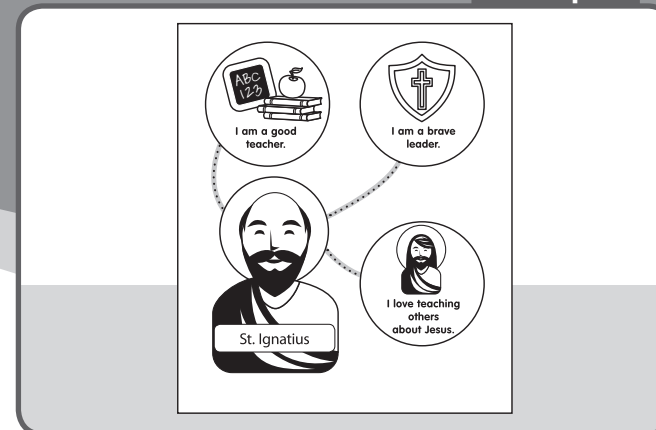


Concept

Saint Ignatius was a great teacher and leader who loved reading stories about Jesus.

What You Need

- ▶ **Learning Tool: Picture Card 63**
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ art supplies
- ▶ images from reliable Internet sources or books showing scenes from Saint Ignatius's life



Lesson Steps

1

Begin with Life Experience

Show the child the Picture Card of Saint Ignatius. Share a time when you had difficulty learning something. Invite the child to do the same. Say: **Ignatius had a lot to learn before he could teach others about Jesus. It wasn't always easy for him to learn the lessons, but he kept trying.**

2

Connect

Show the child images from the life of Saint Ignatius. Explain that nearly 500 years ago, Saint Ignatius and his friends started a group called the Jesuits that is still here today. Together they traveled the world teaching about Jesus. Next, using the photocopy of Side B of this card, guide the child to connect the dots from the image of Saint Ignatius to the other images that characterize his work. If time and the child's attention allows, you may want to tell a brief story about how Saint Ignatius was a good teacher, a brave leader, and loved teaching others about Jesus as the child draws lines to Saint Ignatius's qualities.

3

Close

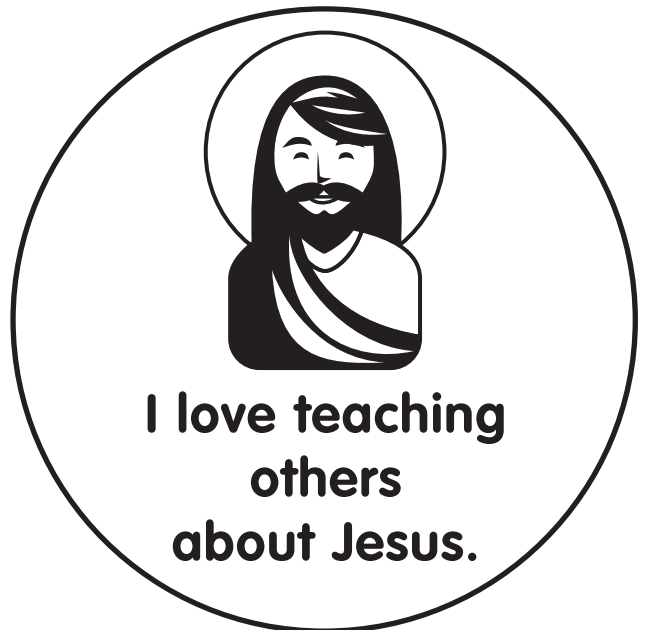
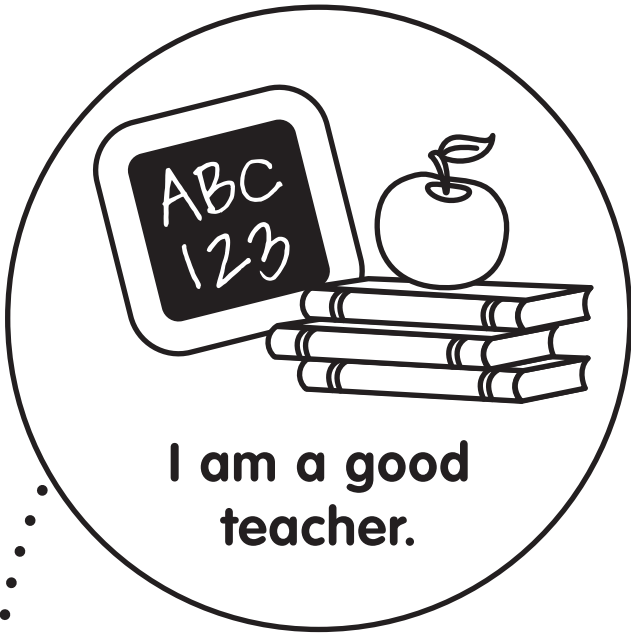
Show the Picture Card of Saint Ignatius again. Say: **Saint Ignatius had an injured leg that never completely healed. Walking was difficult for Saint Ignatius. But he did not let the many difficulties he faced stop him from teaching others about Jesus.**

4

Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross, followed by: **God, Our Father, thank you for Saint Ignatius and all the saints.** Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

Saint Ignatius



Jesus Tells Us About the Holy Spirit

Activity: The child uses a sentence frame to communicate about the Holy Spirit.

Concept

Jesus tells us about the Holy Spirit.

What You Need

- ▶ **Learning Tool: Plush Jesus**
- ▶ child's comfort object
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ art supplies
- ▶ information from the child's parents about what calms the child

At Home

Invite the parents to discuss the Holy Spirit with their child twice before next week.

Picture Script



Lesson Steps

1

Opening Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: ***Dear Jesus, please help us learn about the Holy Spirit.*** Pray the Sign of the Cross.

2

Begin with Life Experience

Show photographs of things the child uses to calm himself or herself when anxious, such as a blanket, a squishy ball, music, etc. Say: ***Jesus tells his friends that the Holy Spirit is here to calm us.*** Explain that the Holy Spirit also gives us comfort.

3

Connect

Role-play using the Plush Jesus doll. In the role of Jesus, say: ***The Holy Spirit is here to calm you.*** Invite the child to use the doll and say or indicate: ***The Holy Spirit is here to calm you.*** You can use the picture script on Side B of this Lesson Card to help the child communicate the concept.

4

Closing Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: ***Jesus, we praise you and give you glory. Thank you for telling us about the Holy Spirit.*** Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

11A *Jesus Tells Us About the Holy Spirit*

Picture Script



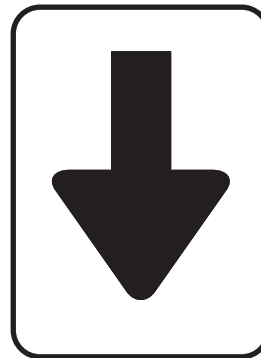
Jesus

says, "The



Holy Spirit

is



here

to



calm

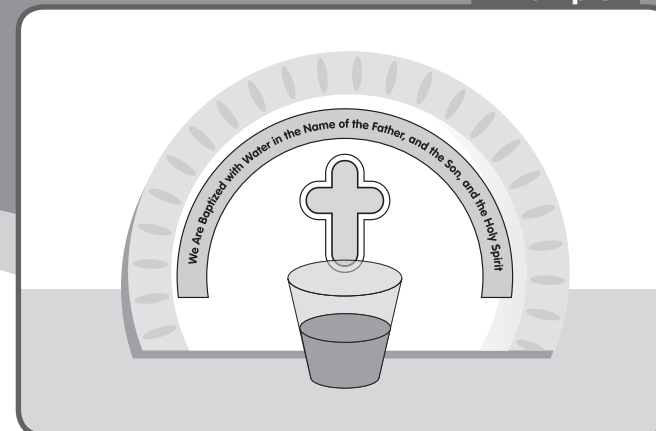


us

."

We Are Baptized with Water in the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit

Activity: The child makes a model holy-water font as a reminder that we use holy water in Baptism.



Concept

We celebrate Baptism using water.

What You Need

- ▶ fresh water
- ▶ large bowl
- ▶ **Learning Tool: Picture Card 38**
- ▶ waterproof glue or hot glue
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ art supplies
- ▶ holy water
- ▶ paper plate
- ▶ small plastic cup
- ▶ paper towel

At Home

Invite the parents to use the model holy-water font with their child two times before next week and to discuss with their child his or her Baptism.

Lesson Steps

1

Opening Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: ***Dear God, when we were baptized, you welcomed us into your family. Help us grow in our love for our Church family.*** Pray the Sign of the Cross.

2

Begin with Life Experience

Pour fresh water into the bowl. Encourage the child to interact with it—to pour it, splash it, scoop it, and so on. Say: ***Water is so important to our world. Water is important at church too. We use holy water to bless ourselves and others.*** Model blessing yourself.

3

Connect

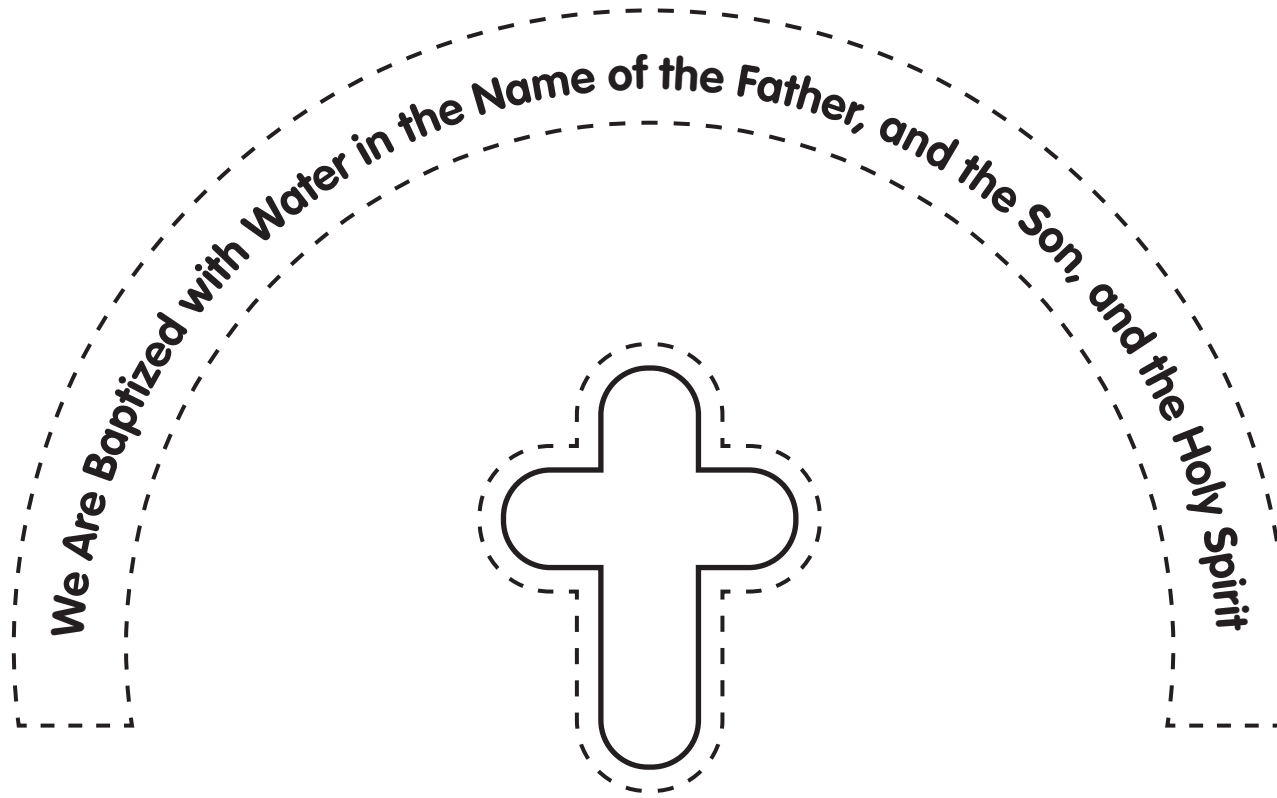
Explain that the priest uses holy water when we are baptized. Show the Picture Card image of holy water. You may wish to demonstrate pouring a little water on your own head. Invite (but don't pressure) the child to feel the sensation of water on his or her head. Then help the child use the figures from the photocopy of Side B of this card to color, cut out, and decorate a paper plate that will be part of a model holy-water font. Glue the cup to the plate. Pour a small amount of holy water into the plastic cup. Model how to dip your fingers into the holy water. Say: ***We remember our Baptism when we pray the Sign of the Cross.*** Then pray the Sign of the Cross slowly, emphasizing the words and hand movements. Say: ***We celebrate Baptism with water.*** Speak with your catechetical leader about what to do with any remaining holy water.

4

Closing Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: ***Thank you, God, for the gift of holy water to remind us of our Baptism each time we pray the Sign of the Cross.*** Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

16A *We Are Baptized with Water in the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit*



Jesus Teaches Us How to Live

Activity: The child makes a movable disk showing how Jesus wants us to live.

Concept

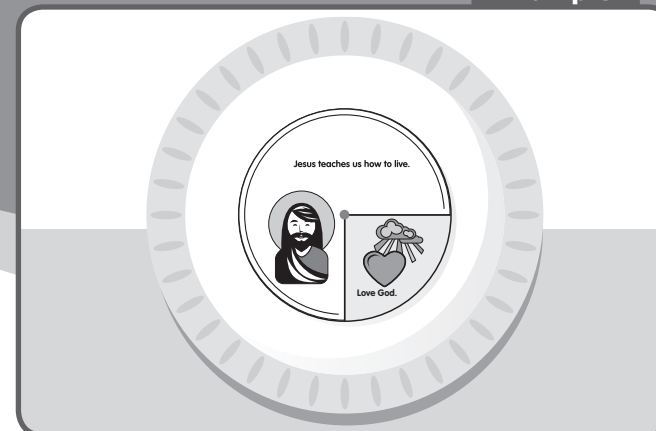
Jesus teaches us how to live.

What You Need

- ▶ children's Bible, such as *The Catholic Children's Bible* (St. Mary's Press)
- ▶ **Learning Tool: Plush Jesus**
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ nine-inch paper plate
- ▶ art supplies
- ▶ brass fastening brad

At Home

Invite the parents to use a children's Bible to tell stories about Jesus' life and explain that Jesus teaches us how to live.



Lesson Steps

1

Opening Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: **Dear Jesus, please help us follow your example of how to live. Help others follow your example too.** Pray the Sign of the Cross.

2

Begin with Life Experience

Show the child a children's Bible. Say: **Many stories in this book are about Jesus.** Hold up the Plush Jesus. Say: **Jesus teaches us how to love others. Jesus shows us how to live our life each day. We want to be like Jesus!** Let the child hold the Plush Jesus.

3

Connect

Guide the child in coloring and cutting out the circles from the photocopy of Side B of this card. Glue the circle with the four images to the inside of the paper plate. Fasten the other circle onto the paper plate using the brad. Move the top circle dial to show ways Jesus teaches us to live. Invite the child to move the dial and describe what is taking place in each scene, using words, signs, or other gestures. Ask leading questions and other supports as needed. Say: **Jesus teaches us how to live.**

4

Closing Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: **Thank you, Jesus, for teaching us how to live by your example.** Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

21A Jesus Teaches Us How to Live

