Welcome

Come here all my small trolls: One child is standing in front of the others and shouts: “Come here all my small trolls!” The other children then reply: “How?” And the child answers: “Like birds!” Or like some other animal. All the children then flap their arms along the path. The next child walks ahead and shouts: “Come here all my small trolls!”

Compost charades: Let the children use their bodies to show different things that are possible to compost. If it is too difficult, they can instead describe the item using words. The child who guesses correctly can do the charade. If the child is correct, he/she can do it again and may then choose which one should do the charades instead (someone who has not had the opportunity yet).

Worship

Sing the theme song on which you decided for this term and do the settle down prayer as in session 15.

Word

In the beginning God made everything that we can see like the earth and all the stars in the sky. Gen 1:1-2 tells us how people couldn’t live on the earth because it was dark. God then made the light, water and land, plants and trees. He even made fish, whales, birds and all the animals. God created the human beings the last. God made people very special to do something for Him.

Genesis 1:26-31:

WHAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PEOPLE?

Gen 1:26-31 – Then God said, ‘Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.’ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea
and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.’ Then God said, ‘I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.’ And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.

And just to make the last point ever clearer – Gen 2:15 – “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.” – LIVE, WORK, CARE

What is the problem?

One of the biggest problems in South Africa and over the entire world is the way that we pollute. Plastic for instance, does not break down to go into the soil again and very little is recycled. When we throw plastic into a bin it could instead be recycled or reused. If the plastic is just thrown into a street or field, it could end up in a river and the river could flow into the sea. There is so much plastic in our rivers that the seas are now filling up with plastic which kills the sea life.

(Show the children images of plastic in our rivers and seas. If you want to show them pictures from the internet, make sure to be sensitive what images you show if the children are young.)

Plastic pollution in the sea

We must understand our responsibility that God gave us. Our responsibility is not only to live in the world (God put us here), and to work in the world (to farm and work), but also to take care of it (treat it well). Otherwise we won’t have a world to live in anymore!

(This part could be optional if you don’t do this session on Spring day)

Today we are celebrating a very special day: Spring Day! We celebrate this day to think about everything that God has made and how He gives us new life every year! Flowers and plants start to grow again. If the world is full of rubbish and pollution the plants won’t be able to grow and if our rivers are polluted, we won’t have anything to drink.

What can we do to make a difference?

One of the things that you can do as a Kix group is to perhaps take on a project where you clean a certain area of your town. You could do this along with a school or church. Decide when this will take place. On that day get rubbish/recycling bags and gloves for everyone. Be careful with sharp objects and get adults to help with any dangerous waste.

What do you do now with all the rubbish you have collected?

The easiest might be to just throw it away. There are however recycling items that can be recycled. The best is to take everything that can’t be recycled and turn them into something special called “EcoBricks”

We have taken information about EcoBricks from the web page of the Two Oceans Aquarium. For
more information, visit the following website: https://www.aquarium.co.za/blog/entry/how-to-make-ecobricks-reducing-waste-at-home

What is an EcoBrick?
An EcoBrick is a plastic bottle that has been stuffed full of non-recyclable rubbish. The bottles can then be used as building materials for houses, schools or even furniture.

Making an EcoBrick is easy:
⇒ Collect your clean and dry household waste. We recommend only waste that you cannot recycle (like dog food bags), but you can EcoBrick anything non-biodegradable and dry.
⇒ Twist your waste and insert it into a 2L bottle. Compress it as tightly as you can with a stick.
⇒ Keep doing this - make sure your bottle is unsquishable.
⇒ Think your EcoBrick is done? If you can squeeze it by more than 10% with one hand you should add more waste.
⇒ No longer squishable? It’s done! Celebrate and contribute your EcoBrick to a project.

Making EcoBricks is not about encouraging the production of plastic but rather a temporary means of protecting the environment while us humans figure out a way to cut plastic out of our lives altogether.

EcoBricking is simply a case of forming a habit, rather than throwing your wrapper in the bin. Just stuff it in a 2L cooldrink bottle that you keep next to your sink or bin. The EcoBrick Exchange only uses 2L PET bottles as these are a standardized size that makes large building projects more consistent. You can even make smaller or oddly shaped ones for personal projects.

Even if you don’t habitually recycle this is an easy way to make a small impact.

What can I do with a completed EcoBrick?
There are several drop-off locations across South Africa where you can take your completed EcoBricks.

Work with your friends to create even bigger projects.

The EcoBrick Exchange looks for organisations and existing projects on a community level and challenges them to take part. These projects are supported by the EcoBrick Exchange which will facilitate setting up a drop-off point in these communities and help them to collect enough EcoBricks to complete their projects.

The children now get a chance to reflect on the following:
1. I wonder why God gave us this responsibility.
2. I wonder how we can take good care of the earth.
3. I wonder what we can build with EcoBricks.

WORKING AND PLAYING TIME

✔ Start a recycling project at your church or Kix group.
✔ Make examples of a clean river and a polluted river, either outside in the ground or in a sandbox.
✔ Make flower cards for Spring Day with the bottom ends of bottles dipped into paint and then pressed.

Close with the blessing as in session 16.
ECOBRICK EXCHANGE

HOW TO MAKE AN ECOBRICK

Step 1
Collect clean and dry plastic waste at home

Step 2
Compress waste into plastic 2L bottle with a stick

Step 3
Pack tightly throughout the process to ensure that it's unsquishable

Step 4
Squash with one hand to measure if it's full enough (squish < 10% = complete)

Step 5
Celebrate! Your EcoBrick is ready to be built with