



Laudato Si' – Care for our Common Home

Volunteer led Workshop for **KS2**




Aims: To introduce the children to Laudato Si' and its key messages and to allow them to think about how their school can answer Pope Francis' call to "Live Wisely, Think Deeply and Love Generously" especially about "Care for our Common Home"




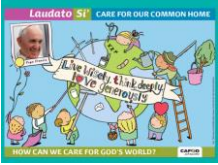
Resources: Powerpoint, stimulus sheets for group work, paper, pens

Equipment: laptop/projector/speakers/screen (or whiteboard) flipchart

Time: about 60 mins

Notes: This session is the start of a project for the class to research more one of the issues it raises and come up with an action plan for the school, by talking to people such as the staff, fellow pupils and governors. The idea is that after a period of time the volunteer returns and they present on what they have found out and decided to do and they are presented with their Laudato Si' challenge certificate

Introduce self and CAFOD	Resource	Time
<p>Hello everyone my name is _____ I come from an organisation called CAFOD.</p> <p>I wonder if anyone can tell me what the letters of CAFOD stand for. I'd like some volunteers to come out and help me holds the letters I have here. [You could also use the animated slide in the presentation with older pupils]</p> <p>Catholic. We are part of the Catholic community. This community is like one big family, with members all around the world. Did you know <i>you</i> are also part of this family? [You may want to point out that they too belong in some way to the Catholic community – point out if their school name has the word Catholic in there].</p> <p>Agency. Do you know what we mean by this? Can anyone think of any different types of agents you get? Travel agents, estate agents? What do they do? Agents work with people to help them. So an estate agent helps people looking to buy and house link with people who want to sell a house. A Travel agent joins people with hotels with people who</p>	 <p>CAFOD A4 letters</p>	<p>5 mins</p>

<p>want to go on holiday. We are an agency, we join people here in England and Wales with communities in the Global South who we are working with to help themselves to have better lives.</p> <p>For Overseas. Yes, we work on projects overseas, and here in the UK we work in education and campaigning. And that's what I am doing with you. I hope by the end of this session you will know more about how we can look after the earth that we live on.</p> <p>Development. Do we all know what development means? We work on long term projects to help people depending on their need. If they lack clean water, we help them to build wells, or install taps nearby. If they have no work, we help to set up small businesses. If people have no homes, then we help them to build houses. And these long term projects help people to have better lives. We also work with people who are finding it difficult to grow food because of the climate and we help them to find new ways of growing their crops.</p>		
<p>Introduce the topic Show the slide of Pope Francis. Ask the children do they know who is this? Explain that in 2015 Pope Francis wrote a special letter to everyone asking them all to work together to "care for our common home" What did he mean when he said "common home" [our planet Earth] Today we are going to think about what caring for our common home means and how we can answer Pope Francis' call.</p>		<p>2 mins</p>
<p>Animation Pope Francis in 2015 wrote a special letter to the whole world (this sort of letter from a Pope is called an encyclical) In the letter called <i>Laudato Si'</i> (which means Praise be to you) he asked everyone to do what they can to help "care for our common home" the Earth. It is a very long letter but this animation will summarise what is in it.</p>		<p>5 mins</p>
<p>Poster Show the children the poster and ask did they spot this image in the animation. Ask the children what is happening in the poster. Discuss that the people in the poster are all doing things to fix the world and make it like God created it again. Point out the person painting, the sticking plaster, the person sewing. Say there are lots of things we can do as individuals and as a school to help take care of our earth.</p> <p>Today you are going to start a process where you will do the three things one the banner across the middle of the world on the poster. Today we are going to think about how you can as a class and school <i>Live Wisely, Think Deeply and Love Generously</i> so that we care for our common home</p>		<p>3 mins</p> <p>5 mins</p>

Pope Francis has come up with some ideas for ways people can do this. Not all of them are easy to do in school but they all can be related to things that are. You are going to split into groups and think deeply together on how you can live wisely as individuals, a class and a school and love generously all the people that we share the planet with both those we know and those we don't, especially those both overseas and the UK who live in poverty.

Each group will be given a topic to think about and then think of ideas of ways to act and record them on the sheets given. These will help you with the work you are going to do AFTER I have gone today towards a special award.



Group Work

Share the sheets out to the groups 1 to each group (For Y3 and Y4 you could concentrate on three of the simpler issues such as water use, recycling and encouraging nature) Tell them to read the questions to each other and then discuss them as a group and note down what they have said. Tell them that they are starting out on a project and this is an opportunity to think about some of the issues which Pope Francis has raised in Laudato Si'

20 mins

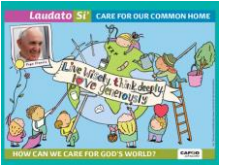
Plenary

Get each group to share their ideas and answers to the questions After they have presented tell the children that you are going to return [In whatever time frame you have arranged] To hear how they have done with their challenge. The challenge is to look at the different topics they have been working on and then together think of one way you can as a class. **[The class needs to complete all three sections before the volunteer returns to get their award]**


Live wisely – Each child makes a pledge for something they are going to do to “care for our common home” for example it might be to make sure all paper in the classroom is used fully and all used paper is recycled not thrown away in the bin or switch off lights when leaving an empty room.

Love generously –You are going to show this by thinking about the millions of people around the world who have been forced from their homes and are now living as refugees because of war, climate change and other things. You will complete the CAFOD Refugee Lampedusa Cross action where you will send a message of hope to refugees with who CAFOD and our partners work

<http://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-schools/Year-of-Mercy>



15 mins

<p>You will also as a class Think Deeply about one issue which you have started to think about today on behalf of the whole school. It might be the schools water use for example. What I want you to do is think the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Decide as a class which issue you are going to look at together on behalf of the school 2) Research what is happening at the moment 3) Decide and what else you could do as a school 4) Talk to people who make decisions such as your Head teacher, school council, the school governors about what you have found out and what you would like to do 5) Write a plan with other people on how you will change things and show that you "care for our common home" <p>When I come back you will share your messages of hope for refugees, your own personal pledge and can present on the issue you researched and what you found out to me and I will present you with your special Laudato Si' award so you can show everyone how you have answered Pope Francis' call to Live wisely, Love generously and Think Deeply.</p>		
<p>Prayer</p> <p>Remind the children that Pope Francis' letter is called <i>Laudato Si'</i> which means We praise you. It is the start of a very famous prayer by St Francis of Assisi who is patron saint of the caring for the Earth. To finish we will by saying together some of the prayer together. You can either join in or listen and think about the words. [Either read the words to the children or get those who can to join in]</p>	 <p>The image shows the CAFOD logo in the top left corner. Below it is a graphic with a teal background and a yellow sun icon. The text reads "St Francis Canticle of the Sun".</p>	<p>5 mins</p>



Avoid the use of plastic and paper

Think Deeply
about... Waste in
your school

Now

How is paper used in school?

What do you already do to avoid wasting paper in school?

What else gets thrown in the bin in your school?

Looking ahead

Are there any ways that less paper could be used? Think about the classroom, the school office ...

What else could be done to avoid wasting paper?

What could be done to cut down what is thrown in the bin in school?

Over the next few weeks you will be thinking more about this topic and what you can do in school to make things even better. You will need to talk to other pupils, staff, your headteacher and other people such as governors. You will also need to do some research into this topic. Then you will need to write an action plan of what you are going to do as a school community.



Reduce Water Consumption

Think Deeply about...
Water use in your school

Now

How is water used in school?

What do you already do to avoid wasting water in school?

Looking ahead

What else could be done to avoid wasting water in school?

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Recycle

Think Deeply about...
Recycling in your school

Now

What is already recycled in school?

How is it collected and kept separate from other rubbish?

How does the school make sure as much as can be recycled is recycled?

Looking ahead

What else could be done to increase the amount which is recycled in school?

Is there anything else which isn't currently recycled which could be?

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Cook only what can
be reasonably
consumed

Think Deeply about... Food waste in your school

Now

What food waste does the school produce?

How is it collected and what happens to it?

Does the school have a compost bin?

Looking ahead

What else could be done to lower the amount of food waste in school?

Is there more that could be composted?

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Show care for
other living
beings

Think Deeply about...
how people are cared for
in your school

Now

What is done to care for members of the school community who are lonely or sad?

What is done in school to show we care for people in need in this country?

What does the school community do to show that it cares for people in need overseas?

Looking ahead

What else could be done to care for people who are lonely or sad in school?

Are there things which can be done in school to show that as a community you care for people in need wherever they live?

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Use public transport or car-pool

Think Deeply about...
Travel in your school

Now

How do people travel to school at the moment?

What is done in school to encourage people to walk, cycle or use public transport to school?

Looking ahead

What else could be done to encourage people to walk, cycle or use public transport to school?

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Plant Trees

Think Deeply about...
Nature in your school

Now

What is done to encourage nature to live in the school grounds?

Does the school have special areas left for nature?

Does the school have plants indoors?

Looking ahead

What could you do as a school community to encourage more animals, birds, insects and plants to live around the school?

How could you find out what wildlife is present in the school grounds?

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Turn off
unnecessary
lights

Think Deeply about... Energy use in your school

Now

Do lights get turned off in rooms in school when there isn't anyone in there?

Does computers and other technology get turned off fully when not in use?

Does the school use any renewable energy such as solar panels or a wind turbine?

Looking ahead

What could you do to make sure everyone turns off lights and technology when not in use?

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