

Christianity through the Ages

Making memories: Teacher notes

A variety of making memories have been provided as physical learning experiences for pupils. It is not intended that all these activities should be attempted in a single session and teachers have a choice of having different activities for different groups, or using these activities in other lessons to support the learning in this subject.

The illuminated manuscript activity CTTA14 is an opportunity to decorate a capitol letter and provide border decoration for a piece of writing. There is also space at the bottom for a little picture.

The tapestry panel activity CTTA15 can be combined with the Bishop's mitre and chasuble activity CTTA20. A PowerPoint of slides CTTA22a has been provided to illustrate tapestry and Bishops' garments.

The holy relic activity CTTA16 will need a selection of props. Suitable objects are: Pieces of cloth (particularly tapestry), small slivers of aged wood, smooth round pebbles, bones, feathers, a scallop shell, a piece of pottery, etc... The purpose of this activity is enable children to understand how belief and objects can be connected. Higher attainers could even consider how this could be used and abused in the past and now.

The reliquary/crib activity CTTA17 can be done individually with small boxes, or as a group with a larger box. If a window is cut into the side of the reliquary it can be used to display a relic from CTTA16.

The village church activity CTTA18 is deliberately designed as a large model to ensure that detail and level of decoration can be appreciated. A box model of a church shape will have to be provided at the start so that the activity can concentrate on the decoration.

The priest's vestments activity CTTA19 is an opportunity to become more familiar with the special clothes that were, and still are, worn by priests, by colouring in the garments, cutting them out and gluing them onto the figure. Note that children will need to be careful about the order they dress the figure, as some clothes go under others.

Activity CTTA20 is an extension of the idea of the use of tapestry, but it also reinforces the wealth and authority that the bishops held in the medieval period. The flat pieces can be doubled up and turned into three dimension garments. If they are to be worn, they must be large enough to go round the head, and over the arms and shoulders of a pupil.

The Herbarium activity CTTA21 is a longer term project, and extends the subject into other aspects of medieval life.