



SUNDAY SCHOOL IDEAS:

#1. MAP OF PIKANGIKUM:

Draw the outline of the Pikangikum region on a firm poster board.

Have the children paint the water blue and the land green.

LINK:

<https://www.google.ca/maps/place/Pikangikum,+ON/@51.8042381,-94.0102175,14z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x5290ddb00d02d205:0xcd213411e9688c9e!8m2!3d51.80424!4d-93.9927079>)

Draw in the local roads (you need not have these absolutely accurate)



Discuss the different rooms in our homes and guide the children towards a discussion on water and how we “use” this gift from God...(quenching thirst, preparing meals, washing our clothes, brushing teeth etc etc)

Before class begins count out 450 dried chickpeas and put them in a smallish clear glass jar/glass.

Have the children remove 35.

Count 35 dried KIDNEY BEANS and put them in the jar and mix them up.

When presenting the jar to the children explain that the CHICKPEAS represent homes that do not have running water at all....(and what that means) and that the KIDNEY BEANS represent the very few homes with running water...

Depending on the age of the children you could then go on to discuss how many members of our churches are supporting the work of helping to upgrade (retrofit) homes so that everyone can live comfortably. Again, depending on the age of the children you can expand the conversation to include the issues of access to electricity etc etc.

Example discussion: The homes may have sinks in the kitchens...but no taps....why?

- Because the community does not have a system like we have at home...People have to go and collect water...or they have big tanks in their homes that they have to keep refilling.

- Review resources on the PWRDF website and/or “Google” Pikangikum for details and photos of the community...noting for example that the average number of people living in any one home is said to be 15+
- Much of the material and information you will find is not age appropriate for young children-yet this is a community where the vast majority are themselves children living (and tragically dying) in this their home.

Have the children glue the chickpeas and kidney beans on to the map....

Have the children SHARE and EXPLAIN what they have learned with the congregation.



#2.

What cup are you drinking from today?

Talk about Pollution.....

Pour out water into 3 glasses...Stir in salt to one and maybe soil/earth into the third. Ask which one they want to drink etc.

- Speak about “The Golden Rule”. Talk about how we also sometimes “pollute” relationships too.



Have the children write down “good behaviour actions/ feelings” and “negative” ones. If you have non-readers/writers have the older children help...

Write “good” words in green and the “negative” words in red...

Discuss which “cup” they should glue the words into....

Have the children explain to the adults that “There are different types of Pollution...and sometimes how we treat each other “pollutes” relationships.

Ask....What cup are you drinking from today?





#3.

GIFT: Have the children **make a gift** for your PWRDF Sunday
....something simple and waterproof -perhaps a bracelet...so some
form of elastic band art...

Ask the adults to wear it for a day and to pay attention to how
they interact with water....and how difficult it might be not to have
easy access to water.

Another suggestion is to invite members to put an elastic band on
their taps so as to remind them not to waste water.

#4.

Read Higgins: A Drop with Dream....ask the children what Jesus would think of Higgins....

HIGGINS: A DROP WITH A DREAM

By Christopher Buice

Once upon a time there was a drop of water named Higgins.

Higgins was no ordinary drop of water. He was a drop with a dream.

Higgins lived in a valley where it had not rained in a very long time, so all the lovely green grass was turning brown, all the beautiful flowers were wilting, and all the trees were starting to droop.

Higgins had a dream that one day the valley would be a beautiful place again. But what could he do? After all, he was only a drop of water.

One day Higgins decided to travel and tell others about his dream. All the other drops listened very politely, but no one believed that his dream would come true. "Higgins," said one, "get your head out of the clouds. You can't spend your whole life dreaming."

Higgins decided that he had to do something to make his dream come true. So he began to think and think and think. One day, as he was walking by a rusty old bucket, he got an idea.

"If enough of us drops of water got together in this bucket," Higgins thought, "there would be enough water to sprinkle on a few flowers to help them grow and become beautiful again!"

Eagerly, Higgins told everyone his great idea. But everyone thought he was being foolish. "That Higgins is nothing but a dreamer," they said.

Higgins decided he had to do something to convince the others that he was right. So he said to them, "I don't know about you, but I'm getting into the bucket! I hope some of you will join me. Then there might be enough water to help at least some flowers grow beautiful again."

So Higgins ran as hard as he could, hopped way up in the air, and landed with a kerplunk in the bottom of the bucket. And there he sat . . . JUST A DROP IN THE BUCKET.

For a long time Higgins was very lonely. It seemed like no one else was going to join him. But after awhile some of the other drops could see that the grass was dying and the flowers were wilting and the trees were drooping. They all agreed that something must be done.

Suddenly, one drop shouted, "I'm going in the bucket with Higgins!" And he leaped through the air and landed— kerplunk —in the bucket.

Then two other drops yelled, "Wait for us!" And they hopped through the air and landed in the bucket. Then ten drops jumped through the air into the bucket. Then thirty. Then fifty! And then hundreds of drops came from all around just to hop in the bucket!

Soon, the bucket was completely full of water. But there were still more drops that wanted to join, so they found another bucket and hopped in. Before long, there were two buckets of water—then three—then four—then ten—and then hundreds—and then thousands of buckets of water!

Along came a powerful breeze that blew over all the buckets, and all the water flowed together to make a mighty stream. Everywhere the water flowed, the grass turned green again and the flowers bloomed and the trees stood tall and straight once more.

All this happened because Higgins had a dream and his dream came true. Because he knew that although he was just a drop in the bucket, enough drops in the bucket make a bucketful, and when there are enough buckets with the wind behind them, then justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

- *(some groups may want to read this to both the adults and children)*

#5.

Talk about WATER as something SACRED....



In our Sunday school group we showed a picture with the words “Drink Something Sacred”One child read this as

s-c-a-r-e-d....

Talk about how you might feel scared if you had limited access to clean water.

With older children you could make lists of things that are SACRED and then things that make you feel scared. The teacher needs to be prepared for difficult discussions. This exercise is also good for adults.

SACRED

SCARED

#6.Sing Head and Shoulders: (use hand gestures)

Head and Shoulders

Knees and toes- Knees and toes- Knees and
toes

Head and Shoulders

Eyes Ears Mouth and Nose



Eyes to see the world around -world around-world around

Eyes to see the world around

God created both the water and the ground

Ears to hear and mouths to sing- mouths to sing- mouths to sing

Ears to hear and mouths to sing

God created EVERYTHING

Hands and Hearts to love and care- to love and care- to love and care

Hands and Hearts to love and care

God is here and EVERYWHERE

#7 Pikangikum Canada Lives Here- Forever Young

Watch :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oyqgrzqhEHL4>

Watch the “Pikangikum Canada Lives Here” video with your Sunday School children. Have the children “make up” names for the children they see on the screen.

Then write your names on hearts or on some craft art paper cut into a seasonal shape and add the “made up” names ...

Give the hearts (or whatever shape you have chosen) to members of the congregation and ask them to pray for both “your” children and those the children have “Christened”.

#8. God Created Water and YOU!

- Pour water into a clear vase (Preferably a cylinder)
- Pour a ¼ inch of oil on top
- Let it settle
- Drop one drop at a time of different coloured food dye into the oil. (it will stay suspended in the oil)
- Pierce the food dye “bubble” with a toothpick and watch the dye drift beautifully into the water...

Talk about the water as being each of us and how the oil represents God always watching over us always. The food dye drops are our souls...

When you pierce the dye drops the colours float down beautifully into the water. Remind the children that God sees this beauty in us all the time...even when we are cranky or sad!

God created us and loves us...

- *Best to practice this at home first!*

