

POSTCARDS

THEMED PROGRAMME



AIM

Postcards are a great way to send a message to loved ones whilst you are away on holiday. Take on our themed programme, centred around postcards, to help get the group excited for the summer holidays.

ACTIVITIES

-  Postcard Delivery Game
-  The Postcard Sorting Room
-  Design a Postcard
-  Postcards to Our BB Friends
-  Stepping Through a Postcard
-  My Holiday Postcard

POSTCARDS

» INTRODUCTION

A postcard is a rectangular piece of paper or card, which is intended to send a short message by post. Usually a postcard is sent without an envelope.

Most postcards have a photo or an image on one side of the card, with the other side containing space for a short message.

Postcards are often used to send a greeting to family and friends whilst away on holiday.

? DID YOU KNOW?

- Postcards have been around since the mid-late 1800s. That's over 150 years!
- Some people like to collect postcards as a hobby. The person with the largest collection has over 15,000 postcards.
- The world record for the largest ever postcard is a massive 57m long. That's one big postcard!
- At one point over 900 million postcards were sent each year in the UK. It's far less today though, as sending postcards isn't as popular.



GET ACTIVE: PLAYING GAMES POSTCARD DELIVERY GAME

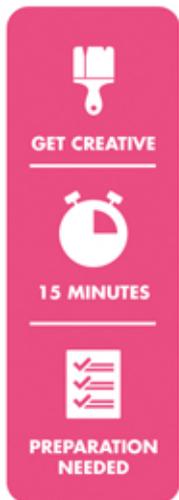
- 1  Download and print the Postcard Delivery Game activity sheets. Cut the postcards and the postbox labels into their individual cards. Spread the postbox labels out around the room.
- 2 Split into two or more teams. Each team will need a set of the postcards.
- 3 On go, one person from the team should take one of the postcards and hunt around the room for the correct postbox to 'post' it in. Once found, the child should leave the postcard next to the postbox and run back to their team, tagging the next person in their team to go.
- 4 Teams should continue to send out one person at a time to post a postcard, before returning to the team.
- 5 The first team to successfully post all of their postcards into the correct postboxes, win.

Take it Further: Use these postcards to play other games, such as 'Postcard Pairs', 'Postcard Find Me' (spreading the postcards out on the floor upside down, calling out one of the places and children racing to find the correct postcard) or a 'Postcard Treasure Hunt'.



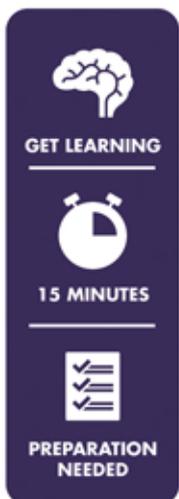
GET ACTIVE: PLAYING GAMES THE POSTCARD SORTING ROOM

- 1 Sit the group in a large circle. Each child should be given the name of a town or city.
- 2 One child should stand in the middle of the circle.
- 3 A leader should call out 'This postcard is going from (town / city) to (town / city). The two place names called out must stand up and try to swap places as quickly as possible. The child in the middle should try and steal one of the places that becomes free.
- 4 The person without a place to sit (either the child who was originally in the middle, or one of the children that were swapping) is now in the middle.
- 5 Continue the game, making sure to call out all the different place names during the game.



GET CREATIVE: ARTY & CRAFTY DESIGN A POSTCARD

- 1  Give each child a blank postcard (using our template or creating your own from white card).
- 2 Explain to the group that they need to design a postcard, that can be sent in the post. You could set the children a category (i.e. their favourite place, a place they want to visit, a picture of them at BB doing activities etc) or you could allow children the freedom to be as creative as they like.
- 3 Children can use colouring pens to create the postcard, or they could instead use other craft materials such as paints, stickers, glitter etc.
- 4 Once designed, encourage children to write a message on the back of the postcard.
- 5 Finally place a stamp and an address on the postcard, allowing children to send their card home, maybe to a parent or carer. Children may wish to place the postcard in an envelope to help keep it free from damage in the post. If you have time, walk to the local postbox as a group to pop the postcards into it.



GET LEARNING: ME & MY WORLD POSTCARDS TO OUR BB FRIENDS

This activity allows children to learn a little bit about other BB groups in the UK & RoI and gives them an opportunity to send a message, via a postcard, to another BB group.

- 1 Explain that there are hundreds of BB groups, just like yours, that meet all over the country. Many of them will do very similar activities to what you do in your BB. If possible, show the photo postcards (downloadable PowerPoint) from BB groups across the UK. Can they spot any similarities in the picture to what you do at BB?
- 2 Let the children know that they will be sending a postcard to a BB group, sending a 'hello' from your BB and sharing what some of your favourite activities are.
- 3 Ideally give each child their own postcard. This could be the postcard that children have designed earlier on in the programme, or it could be a shop bought postcard of your town/city. Alternatively consider making your own postcards, with a picture of your BB group on the front.
- 4 Ask children to write on the back a short message. This could be as simple as saying hello and sharing what their favourite activity/game at BB is.
- 5 Once finished, post the postcard to the BB group(s). Ideally each postcard should go to a different group. Before sending the postcards, use a map of the UK to show the children where each of the postcards will be going.

Top Tip: These postcards can go to groups local to you, for which you already have contacts for, you could use the Company Finder on the BB website to find Church addresses, or you could put out a request for groups to receive the postcard on the Leader's Facebook Page.



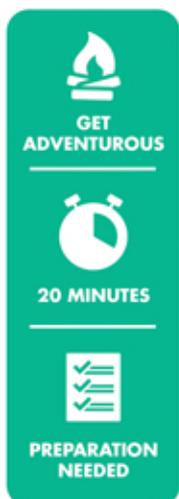


GET INTO THE BIBLE: UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN VALUES STEPPING THROUGH A POSTCARD

- 1 Show the group a postcard or a piece of A5 paper, made to look like a postcard. Explain that it can be easy to get a little bit jealous when we receive a postcard and we might want to 'step through' it and be in the place for real. Sadly, that's just impossible.
- 2 Ask the group how many of them think they would be able to step through the small postcard you are holding? Stepping through a postcard is impossible, it's just too small... or is it?
- 3 Fold the postcard / paper in half lengthways. Cut alternating 'up' and 'down' slits in the paper (i.e one from the top, then one from the bottom). Now cut along the fold of the card/paper, apart from at the two ends. Finally you should now be able to open up the card/paper, to create a giant circle with more than enough room to step through. Let children try stepping through the postcard now it is big enough. (It is recommended that a leader tries this activity first, before running it for real. A video guide to help you learn the trick can be found at <https://youtu.be/5E-Qnfo8ql8>)
- 4 Sometimes in life we can be faced with problems we aren't sure how we can solve. Things that can seem just as impossible as stepping through a postcard. Examples might include dealing with people being nasty to you, learning to ride a bike, solving difficult puzzles at school, getting over a fear, making friends at a new school and so on. Ask the group if they have any examples they would like to share. This would also be a good opportunity for a leader to share a time they faced a seemingly 'impossible' challenge. If appropriate also explain how you may have relied on and trusted in God to help you overcome the challenge.
- 5 The Bible tells us that all things are possible with God – even the things that seem impossible. We should trust that God is there to help us and believe that even with the biggest challenges, God will be there every step of the way. We have a great God who makes the impossible, possible! Remind children that the best way to ask God for help with the 'impossible' things, is through prayer. Finish in prayer, thanking God for helping us with the challenges we face in life.



'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.' Mark 10:27



GET ADVENTUROUS: EXPLORING THE WORLD AROUND ME MY HOLIDAY POSTCARD

- 1 Ask the children what their plans are for the next holiday period. Let children share their plans. This may include a week away on holiday or it could be day visits or activities in the town / city you live in.
- 2 Set the children a challenge. Challenge the children to send your BB group a postcard from their holiday / day trip / activity etc. Explain that after the holidays you'll then all sit down and look through the postcards to see and read about everyone's adventures.
- 3 When looking through the postcards after the holidays, have a map with you. You'll probably need a map of your town / city, one of the UK and one of the world. Let children place markers on the maps to show where each postcard came from.
- 4 You could set a few competitions for the challenge including a prize for the postcard that travels the furthest distance, the postcard with the best image on the front and a prize for the funniest postcard.

Top Tip: Not all children will be going on 'holiday', so make sure you let children know that activities in the local area (i.e. trip to the park, feeding the ducks etc) count too! You'll also need to communicate this challenge to parents / carers and provide them with an address to send postcards to.

POSTCARD



BIRMINGHAM

POSTCARD



LONDON

POSTCARD



EDINBURGH

POSTCARD



CARDIFF

POSTCARD



DUBLIN

POSTCARD



BELFAST

POSTCARD



LEEDS

POSTCARD



GLASGOW

POSTCARD



SWANSEA

POSTCARD



MANCHESTER

POSTCARD



YORK

POSTCARD



ABERDEEN

POSTCARD



LIVERPOOL

POSTCARD



NORWICH

POSTCARD



OXFORD

POSTCARD



DUNDEE

POSTCARD



DOVER

POSTCARD



BRISTOL

POSTBOX

LIVERPOOL

OXFORD

CARDIFF

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GLASGOW

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