

TO MESSY AND BEYOND

Activity and Craft Ideas

Make a big thing together

Provide a single large outline and people fill it in
For example - a Dove at Pentecost, Hosanna before Easter
Then display

Materials to create scenes on a tray

Dirt, little twigs, branches, stones, flowers, blocks, people, toys

Decorate a Christmas tree

Have several and various decorations

Make a maze

Use Lego, have base boards, lots of Lego and marbles
Various cardboard containers and associated 'bits and pieces'

Make and taste

Pancakes, popcorn, iced biscuits, butter (Thermomix)

Make a tower

How tall can you make a tower with spaghetti and marshmallows?

Make a manager

Have timber already prepared
People can then assemble using hammers, nails, etc.

Prayer station

Use sand, leaves, opening paper flowers, water, stones

Manipulation things

Tangrams, puzzles, knot tying, measuring cups/jugs, etc.

What's in the box?

Boxes or covered containers

People put their hands into a box to feel what's inside
Encourage them to try and explain connection to a theme
For example - carrot, squeaky pig toy, lentils (farming theme)

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Story match/concentration

Use pictures of the Bible story (Easter, Christmas or theme or words)
For example - pancake pan and spatula with pancake shapes with words(love, give, trust, pray, prepare, share)

Thinking station

For example - faces of Jesus (different interpretations of Jesus)
How do they make you feel?
How do you picture Jesus?

Fire pit and damper

Tasting Station

Have lots of different ingredients to taste

Take apart an old electrical appliance

Cloud dough, Play dough

Cloud Dough can sometimes be called Moon Sand.
It is a home made mixture used for sensory play experiences.
The consistency of Cloud Dough can be powdery like flour and also mouldable, a bit like damp sand.
It is perfect for moulding, shaping, squeezing, pressing and sculpting into different shapes
<https://www.learning4kids.net/2014/08/13/make-cloud-dough-recipe/>

Sensory Objects

Provide objects with different textures
Fluffy, spiky, leathery, squishy, etc.

Minute it to win it style challenges

For example - how many hearts can you make out of the cup up pieces in 1 minute (have a sand or egg timer available)

Bounce the ball into containers

This works really well when using table tennis balls (God's generosity)

Different boxes with a theme item in each

People have to shake and guess what is inside
Think why it's related to the theme

Games

Connect 4, jenga, jigsaw puzzle, paper puzzles, hook and ring toss



Join the **Messy Churches in SA** group on Facebook and share your tips, questions and resources



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