

MY PLACE IN SPACE

Stewardship of My Community

- Display today's topic
- Song service
- Opening prayer

Reinforcement Time With Show and Tell Volunteers

What are you learning in our programs?

[Call on volunteers who are prepared to show examples of good stewardship at school -- stewardship of the building, of people, or of brains. You may be able to add some of what they brought to the Stewardship Bulletin Board.]

[Ask for volunteers who will bring something to the next meeting that reminds them of or teaches them about stewardship of

they addressed the first week. Look at the line that names the city and state and/or country, as well as zip code. Place a local map on the board and have everyone find their address. Give help as needed. Mark each home with a colored push pin and attach a string of yarn from the pin out to the side with a name card. Look to see which group members are neighbors.]

In today's program we will discuss what responsibility God has given us for our community.

the community.]

Activity No. 1: *Follow-up on envelopes.*

[Have participants look at the envelopes

Activity No. 2: Stewards of our community.

[Have the group write on the flip chart their ideas for making the community/neighborhood a better place.]

[Sample answers: clean up trash; not leave things lying out in the yard; keep the family car clean; plant flowers, trees; etc.]

[Sample stories:]

--Jan does beautiful landscaping. She plants flowers, trees, and bushes all around the family home, making it a lovely place. She also plants pretty flowers around her children's school. She and her children took on a new project this year. In the town where they live there's a little spot in the middle of the road called a median. Weeds were growing there and trash was everywhere. Jan and her children pulled the weeds and picked up the trash. Then they dug up the soil in the median and planted flowers. Every week they watered them. Now, when folks drive through their little town they enjoy seeing the beautiful flowers growing on the median in the middle of the road. Jan and her children did something that makes their town a better place!

--Michael's class has adopted a road near their school. They wear gloves to protect their hands, and pick up trash and broken glass along the road. Keeping their adopted road looking clean and neat is their way of being good stewards of their community.

Activity 1: envelopes addressed during Program 1; local map; push pines; yarn; small cards for group members to write their names on

Activity 2: flip chart

Activity 3: a small card for each participant; peanut butter; birdseed; thread

Activity 4: items that can be recycled



[Invite the group to choose and plan for a small project they would enjoy that would improve the community.]

Activity No. 3: Stewardship of God's creatures.

God gave Adam and Eve responsibility for the birds and animals as well as the plants in the Garden of Eden. You and I have inherited that responsibility. This means we will do what we can to protect and enjoy God's creation.

Here is a treat you can make for the birds. [You may need to adjust the recipe and use ingredients that are available in your part of the world.]

Bird Treats

1. Have a pinecone or paper cup for each participant.
2. Attach a hook or loop of thread to the pinecone or cup so the bird treat can be hung outside where people may watch the birds enjoy their snack.
3. Spread peanut butter on the pinecones/paper cups.
4. Roll the pinecones/paper cups in sesame seeds or some other kind of birdseed.

5. Have participants take them home, hang them up and enjoy the show as the birds enjoy

Activity 4: *Precycle and Recycle.*

[Research the recycling practices in your country in order to instruct your group.]

Did you know the plastic that people throw away will be sitting around, littering the earth, for hundreds of years at least?

The less plastic we produce and throw away, the cleaner the earth will be. One way you can help is to

Precycle: That means you will try to use materials that can be recycled or are made of materials that have already been recycled.

For example: When you go food shopping with your family, buy food that is packaged in cardboard--not Styrofoam--cartons. Then reuse the cardboard for art projects. When you are ready to throw away the cardboard, recycle it.

Some food boxes are made of recycled cardboard. Here is how you can know: recycled cardboard is gray on the inside.

[Show sample items that can be recycled. Identify the mark on packaging that indicates it can be recycled. Explain that the numbers in the recycle marks provide information for the recycling factories to follow.]

Recycle glass: Glass can be melted down and used over and over again. Recycling glass saves energy for making new glass. The energy saved from recycling *one* glass bottle will light a 100-watt light bulb for four hours.

Make a plan to improve your community by

the feast.

By caring for the birds, we are good stewards of some of God's creatures, and at the same time we beautify the community.

educating people to recycle glass.

1. Find out if your community has a plan for collecting glass to recycle.
2. If not, is there a collection site where you can deliver glass to be recycled?
3. Determine to begin a personal recycling program.
4. Decide on a place to keep a box for collecting glass.
5. Decide how and when you will periodically deliver the glass to the recycling center.
6. If recycling is uncommon in your community, prepare a little notice telling why and how and what to recycle, and take copies to all of your neighbors.



Summary

[Suggested questions to ask: Did you realize before how important you are? God has given you a lot of responsibility. What do you think of first when you hear the word stewardship? What have you decided to change about your life after doing the activities today?]

[Listen carefully to responses, because they will teach you so much about being an effective instructor.]

Reminder to Show and Tell Volunteers

[Call the names of those who volunteered for the next program and hand them written reminders. See the Sample Program for a suggested reminder.]

❑ Closing prayer

[Pray for the local issues affecting your town, and pray for wisdom for your local leaders.]