

Ideas for spiritual reflection at reflective areas and at home: 'Day 4'

On these pages are ideas for spiritual reflection at reflective areas within classrooms (or other areas of the school site) as well as at home. The ideas within the former draw explicitly upon the research of Joyce Bellous and David Csinos (see pages 6-7 of the Heart for the Earth overview); feel free to adapt or use them as a springboard to think of other ideas for spiritual reflection that the school community will value. The latter provides some newsletter text and ideas you may wish to share with parents/carers to stimulate reflection and practical demonstrations of having a 'Heart for the Earth' at home. These activities will help pupils – and their families – to further reflect upon loving and walking lightly upon the planet we share. In so doing, pupils can become climate champions in a range of contexts^[1]:



[1] O'Dwyer, A. 'Exploring climate change education outside the classroom', In Dolan, A.M. *Teaching Climate Change in Primary Schools: An Interdisciplinary Approach* (London: Routledge, 2022), p.141

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Word

Some people say, 'I've got no control over my carbon footprint'. Are you ok with this?



Emotion

'People will not protect what they have not learnt to love.'

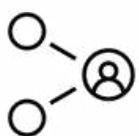
What do you love about the planet? *Write and place your thoughts here.*



Symbol

Scientists call our impact on the environment our 'carbon footprint'.

I wonder what God might be trying to say to you about your 'carbon footprint'?



Action

'Every choice we make is a vote for a world we want to live in'

What choices will you make today?

Heart for the Earth at Home:

newsletter text and practical ideas: Day 4

In our collective worship and across school life, we are exploring what it means to have a 'Heart for the Earth'. We have been thinking about why it is important to look after the planet we share, with a particular focus on our 'carbon footprint'. Our 'carbon footprint' refers to the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere as a result of human activity, such as though food production, clothes production, transportation and heating and powering our home. We are reflecting on how we might make wise choices to look after the earth and prevent global warming.

If you'd like to, below are some ideas to further encourage a heart for the Earth on this theme

- **Spend time outside** with your children this Autumn. The stronger our connection to the earth, the more likely we are to care for it. Why not:
 - Go outside on a sunny day. What shadows can you make? Who can make the smallest shadow? The longest shadow? The funniest shadow? What shadows do you notice in nature? What is the most interesting one you can find?
 - Identify plants which love growing in sunny areas and which ones prefer growing in shade
 - Find three things outside that make you go 'wow!'
- In collective worship, we will consider the following questions. Why not discuss these at home?
 - 'Every choice we make is a vote for a world we want to live in'. What does this make you think about? How does this make you feel?
 - Some people say, 'I've got not control over my carbon footprint'. Are you ok with this?
 - How could we show a heart for the earth through reducing our carbon footprint?

