

Key Concept/Message

The second collective worship plan of this 'Heart for the Earth' instalment focuses on electricity. Electricity has become a central part of modern life – we rely upon it, and with it we do so much! This said, it is something to use wisely. Electricity generation – particularly those which use non-renewable fuels – can harm the planet we share. This act of worship gives time to reflect on how we can use our 'heads, hearts and hands' in showing a heart for the earth through our wise use of electricity.

The main question is, 'How can we show a heart for the earth through wise use of electricity?'

Bible Story

Genesis 1:3

'let there be light'



<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/255508978829087704/>

Gather

Follow the school's normal gathering routines, using words of liturgy which are familiar to students and adults

or

Light a candle and offer the following prayer: 'The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you'. Response: and also with you.



In our collective worship, we have thought about what it means to have a 'heart for the earth'. Today, we are going to reflect upon the wise use of electricity.

Q: What would a world that didn't have electricity be like? (Think, pair, share)

Engage

State that electricity is a wonderful thing! With it we can do so much – it has become a really valuable part of modern living. However, producing and using electricity comes at a cost; much of the electricity which is used in this country uses non-renewable sources which pollutes the environment and contributes to climate change.

Show the statements below. Invite the school community to ponder whether they are true or false.

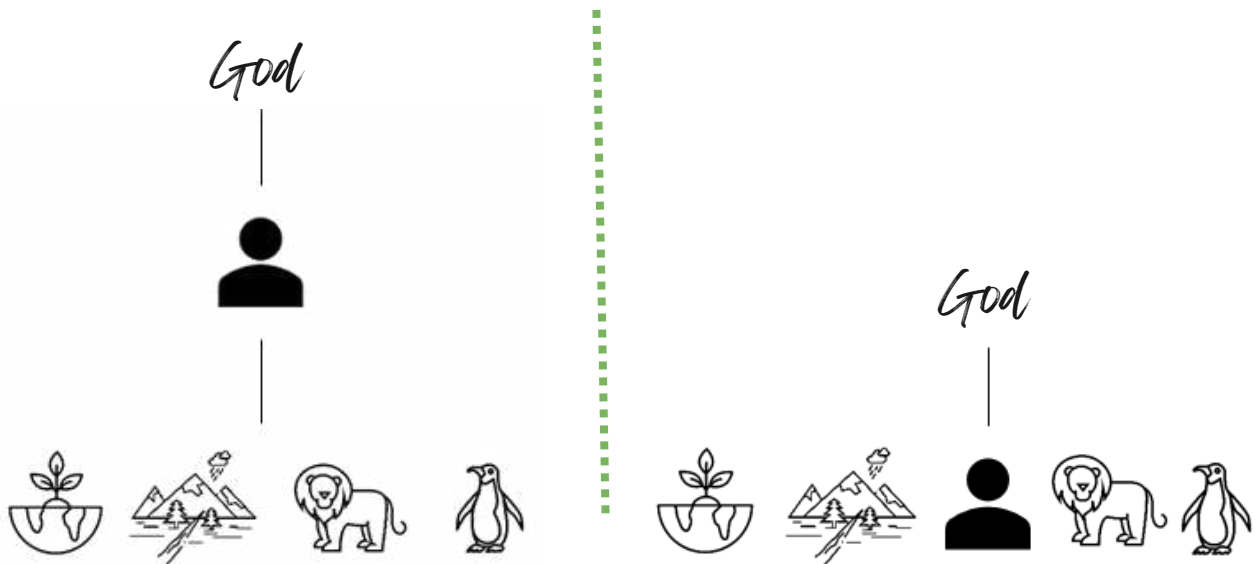
- o Only 5% of the power drawn by a phone charger is used to charge the phone (true)
- o A typical microwave uses more electricity heating food than it does to show its digital clock (false)
- o In the average home, 75% of the electricity used to power electronics is used while the products are turned off (on standby) (true)

- If everyone boiled only the water they needed every time they used the kettle, we could save enough electricity in a year to power the UK's street lights for 3 months (true and more – it's nearly 7 months (www.thegreenage.co.uk/15-surprising-energy-facts))

I wonder if there is anything that surprises you here?

Let's watch this video (0:40-1:49), which focuses on simple things we could do to save energy around the house: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhWLZgEHNKg>. Alternatively, ask the school community to consider and share their own ideas for saving energy around the home and at school.

Let's think back to our first 'Heart for the Earth' collective worship. Here, we thought about (show slide from CW1) two different views:



On the left is the idea of 'dominion': it is a view in which humans see themselves as the most important part of the world, and can use it however they like.

On the right is the idea that we as humans live as a 'community of creation'. All parts of the world here are seen as special and important, and we and humans should care for all things on the planet. We considered how this view from the bible helps many Christians to think really carefully about how they can show a heart for the earth in their actions and living.

It is here that we can go a little bit deeper and think about three things when it comes to showing a heart for the earth – head, hearts and hands.



Heads

I wonder how we see the world and humanity's place within it? What difference might this make?



Hearts

What are we hopeful for? What kind of future do we want to see for us and the planet which we share?



Hands

how might we show a heart for the earth in our own lives? What will we do to show a heart for the planet and all life upon it?

For many Christians, showing a heart for the earth is something they believe God calls them to do. Caring for the planet is a form of worship; it's not a 'bolt-on' or optional extra. Wise use of electricity – as we saw in the video – is part of this.

Each time we choose to flick a switch off that doesn't need to be on, or make a decision which saves electricity, we are doing good to the environment. For many Christians, this also respecting God's creation.

Respond

Show quote from Amanda Khozi Mukwashi, CEO of Christian Aid:

'The scale of the emergency facing our world demands a just response from every one of us...heads, hearts and hands in meeting this crisis. It is only together that we can make a difference'

Pose some questions for the school community to reflect upon:



I wonder how we can show a heart for the earth through wise use of electricity? (Think, pair, share)

I wonder how we might encourage and support one another in this area?

A prayer from AllCreation.org, founded in Austin, Texas
(<http://www.allcreation.org/home/christian-prayers>):

Loving Father and Creator of all we come to you today deeply grateful for your creation. As we look around us we are amazed at the greatness and majesty of all that you have made. Nature around us speaks of your greatness - the vast expanse of the sky, the mountains, trees, lakes and streams speak of your great design. You have given us such beauty in the colors of the rainbow, the beauty of flowers and fields. Words cannot adequately express the magnificence of all you have created...May we show our love and reverence to you, our Lord, by caring for all that you have created. We humbly give you praise and thanks. Amen.

Give a time for silent reflection for the school community to offer any of their own thoughts or commitments to God, or to reflect individually on what has been considered in this act of worship.

Send

Reflect back upon the act of collective worship, showing the following image and quote: 'If not me, then who? If not now, then when?'

