

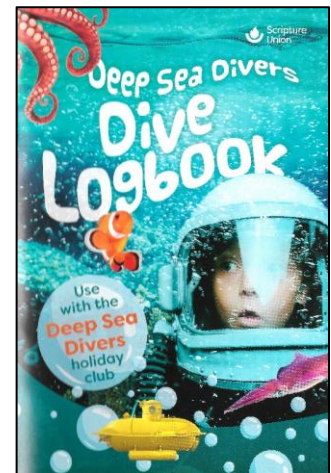
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2024 Holiday “Deep Sea Divers” Bible Club

What a wonderful week we have just had! Building on the success of last year’s “Epic Explorers” Holiday Bible Club we set things up again for a repeat performance.

So, each day this past half-term week (12th-16th February) we have been welcoming children into the church for a few hours of gospel based fun and learning within a new theme of “Deep Sea Divers”.

The church was kitted out in a marine chandlery style with diving and water-sports equipment as the backdrop. Brought along by their parents, over twenty boys and girls aged between school years Reception to Year Four registered into our safe keeping each day.



Coordinated by our seemingly inexhaustible “Dive Master” assistant pastor Steven Driver and his team of intrepid leaders, “Dive Instructors”, the daily mix of activities ran faultlessly. The enthusiasm of the children as they learned the songs and actions was clear to see and their confidence grew as the week went on.



SONGS:- As a warmup the first song of the day was always the Deep Sea Divers theme song, “We’re diving down deep – in the sea so blue; We’re plunging down deep to discover something new.” etc. etc.

Other daily favourites included “Our God is a great big God” and “Father you are King of Heaven and greater than us all” with a very infectious chorus stacked with fun actions.

HUMOUR:- We also had an injection of childlike humour each morning from our resident double-act, “Flotsam and Jetsam” with the roles taken by John Phenix and his daughter Hannah. John had a library of classic marine “dad” jokes, all of which earned a collective groan from the kids even if they were really funny.

DIVE SCHOOLS:- The children were divided into three age-related “Dive Schools” each with at least one leader. The youngsters were the “Terrific Turtles”, the eldest were our “Suave Squids” and the middle group were our “Jumping Jellyfish”. Throughout the week the children would gather in these groups to do activities, eat snacks together and study the Bible together.



MARINE ZOOLOGY:- Each day our resident zoologist Hazel gave the children an illustrated talk on the amazing sea creatures that live in different zones (layers of the ocean). On Monday we started up at the Sunlight Zone and journeyed down through the Twilight, Midnight, Abyssal zones, until we reached the deepest trenches on the ocean floor. They lapped up the knowledge and remembered the names.

SPIRITUAL PROGRAMME:- On each day a different storyteller took a small section from Matthew’s gospel to read and discuss with the complete group. Steven, Sarah, Hazel, Sophie and Jeremy each covered an aspect of Jesus’ life on earth. Over the week the children also committed to memory Matthew Chapter three and verse 17. *‘And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”*



CRAFTWORK:- Each day the children had a different craft task to tackle based on the Bible story they had just heard. Their efforts were very impressive, and they got to take their work home at the end of the week. Christ walking on the water gave rise to some very creative thinking.

THANK YOU:- Our sincere thanks to the entire BBC team who helped make the event the success it undeniably was. The leaders, helpers, caterers, cake makers, craft leaders, story tellers, double acts, our resident zoologist, technicians & sound controllers – you know who you are – so thank you all. Shall we do it again next year? Final Note: What’s the difference between a turtle and a tortoise?