



Here We Come!

Gather some native weeds that have gone to seed and can be used for a demonstration. Include some flowers the children will recognize. As they arrive, let them examine the collection. Put a dark paper down and shake the seeds over it. Let the children examine the seeds with a magnifying glass.

Brush a stalk of weed seeds across a piece of material to see how the seeds grab on and attach themselves. Talk about this method of seed dispersal as part of the way the seeds were created. Why would we want to keep seeds from the weeds out of flower gardens or places where we grow food?

Scripture Words and Worship

We spent some time investigating seeds and learned more about them. But God already knows all about the seeds, because God was their creator. God also knows all about each one of us. Share the simple version of Psalm 139 found in Sense-ations, and then introduce the scripture words.

What Will You Harvest?

God wants us to grow up to be the best we can be.

Scripture Words

God, you know everything about me! That is so wonderful!—Psalm 139:1, 6 adapted

Moving Music

- Wiggle Song (page 24)
- “God Is Right There” (page 18).

Sense-ations

Handle different kinds of seed, including wheat grains. Use a mortar and pestle to grind seeds. Examine a slice of cracked-wheat bread where the grains can be seen in the bread. Try to pick clinging weed seeds off clothing. Talk about pets as a method of seed dispersal when they come back from a run in the park or woods.

Give each child a copy of the psalm from the pattern section. Add stickers or color to make it more interesting.

God, you look for me and you find me.
You know all about me.
You know when I sit down and when I get up.
You know what I am thinking
even when I think you are far away.
You know everything I do and everything I say.
There is no place I can go away from you.
If I go up to the sky, you are there.
If I go down to the ground, you are there.
If I could fly to the sea, you would be there with me.
You are with me in the dark.
You are with me in the light.
You know how I feel and what I think.
If I'm doing anything I shouldn't, help me stop.
Lead me in the way you want me to go.
I love you, God.—adapted from Psalm 139

Live and Learn

Jesus used stories to teach people lessons. One of his stories was about people who do good things and people who do bad things. It was about people who do helpful things and people who do harmful things. The story is recorded in Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43. In it, Jesus talked about plants, seeds, and weeds. Let the children tell you what they know about weeds. When you tell the story, use different tones or inflections when speaking of “wheat” and “weeds,” since they sound similar to the ear.

- Once there was a gardener who wanted to plant a crop of wheat. When the wheat grew and ripened, then the grains of wheat could be picked, crushed into flour, and the flour used to bake bread for the family. It was a wonderful plan.
- The gardener bought the best wheat seed available. The workers got the soil ready and planted the seed.
- Time passed. The rains came. The sun was warm. And the little seeds sprouted and poked their heads up through the soil.
- The gardener smiled at the little green plants. But then one of the workers said, “Look! There is a plant with broad leaves. That doesn’t look like a wheat plant. How did that other plant get in where you planted wheat?”
- The gardener frowned. Only wheat seeds should be coming up in this place.
- “Do you want us to pull up the plants that aren’t wheat?” the workers asked.
- “No,” said the gardener. “If you pull them up now, you may pull up a wheat seed along with the other.”
- “But we should do something,” the workers insisted. “If you let them both grow, one plant will produce wheat grains and the other will produce weed seeds. Weed seeds won’t taste good mixed in with the grain. The bread will taste funny when we eat it.”
- “You’re right,” said the gardener. “We must do something. But we will wait until the time is right. Both the wheat and the weeds will grow together. But when the time comes to harvest the grain, it will be easier.”
- “Sure,” agreed the workers. “We can see the plants and know which to keep. We can take out the weeds before we gather the grain.”
- “Good choice,” said the gardener.

Up and at ‘Em

Go for a walk and observe plants in the area. Examine weeds and talk about why they might be growing there. One definition of a weed is “a plant that grows where it is not wanted.” All weeds are not bad. Some have an important part to play in creation. Rabbits love eating dandelion leaves and the sugary stems!

Story Talking

People do helpful things and harmful things, good things and bad things. Doing these things doesn’t make the person bad or good. But it can cause problems for others. Provide opportunities for children to do some sorting. Mix crayons in with pieces of a puzzle. Children can separate them out into separate containers. Put weed seeds in with cotton balls. Children can pick the seeds off of the cotton balls so they can be used for a later craft. Mix grains of rice and colored popcorn. Provide containers to sort the items for future use such as a rice or popcorn snack.

There We Go

Ask the children to share what they discovered about weeds and seeds with family and friends. If the congregation is using Worship Resources in their worship planning, the connections should continue in the next service. They may hear the psalm they added stickers to, if it is read in the worship.



God, you look for me and you find me.
You know all about me.
You know when I sit down and when I get up.
You know what I am thinking
even when I think you are far away.
You know everything I do and everything I say.



There is no place I can go away from you.
If I go up to the sky, you are there.
If I go down to the ground, you are there.
If I could fly to the sea, you would be there with me.



You are with me in the dark.
You are with me in the light.

You know how I feel and what I think.
If I'm doing anything I shouldn't, help me stop.



Lead me in the way you want me to go.
I love you, God.

—Psalm 13 adapted