



# Exploring and Investigating- The Biggest Rescue 'Beyond You' 2018: What is God like?

## Overview



**Exodus 3:14:** *God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM' has sent me to you."*

**Psalms 9:10:** *Those who know your name put their trust in you.*

**Our one big aim: To give children the opportunity to discover more about God through exploring His names and His story.**

This year we are exploring God's great rescue plan revealed in the Bible. We often introduce the Bible by sharing its big, overarching narrative- the story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them. This year we will be focussing particularly on the rescue and the rescuer: What is it all about? Who is this great rescuer? Why did God rescue his people? Is it really good news? We aim to provide resources and space for children to begin exploring and connect together more of their understanding of key parts of the Christian faith. As previously, it is hoped that each child will be able to seek, question and explore further from whatever their starting place, previous understanding or learning journey so far.

For this session we ask '**What is God like?**' and begin to discover something more about God's rescue plan by considering who God is, what he is like and what he does. By exploring some of the names and descriptions of God in the Bible and shown in Jesus, we hope students can understand more about his character and this rescue plan. We begin by considering our own pictures and ideas about God- what do we imagine God is like? What do we already know? Continuing the role of detectives, students will then be encouraged to go on a thinking journey covering both Old Testament and New Testament clues that reveal something more about what the Bible tells us about God and his rescue plan.

**Some parts of stories are taken from the Jesus Storybook Bible which are based on Old Testament stories recorded in Genesis and Exodus, as well as New Testament stories of Jesus (recorded in the gospels). Other names and descriptions of God used are referenced and aim to again cover both Old and New Testament accounts.**

### Our aims:

- To remind students of, or introduce them to, the one big story told in the Bible: The story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them
- To challenge some pre-conceived ideas with Biblical names and descriptions of God
- To encourage them to use various inquiry skills and to seek, question and explore along the way
- To use different resources to appeal to a varied set of thinking and learning styles (of volunteers and children)
- To provide time and space for children to continue to journey more from whatever their starting place
- To help children piece together their understanding within God's one BIG story: **The story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them**

### Our Learning Outcomes:



**We hope that all** students are given the opportunity to **wonder** about God and about his Great Rescue Plan in Jesus;



**that some will discover** more about God through looking at Biblical names and descriptions and looking at what the Bible tells us about Jesus;



**and others may** make further connections and **respond** individually to the things they discover (even in the form of further questions).