**Pentecost for Kids**

**Intro**

We are talking about a special celebration called Pentecost today. It is coming up in two Sundays and we are going to have a special party at church and do a dance and tell the story!

On Pentecost Sunday we remember the first time someone stood up in public to tell people about Jesus. It was the day when the followers of Jesus were meeting in Jerusalem and the Holy Spirit came upon them all, young and old, men and women and kids and filled them with with joy and all they needed to begin a wonderful new community called the church. So really it is the church’s birthday!

**Happy Birthday Cake** **or Crackles**

Let’s light some candles and sing happy birthday to the church all around the world!

**Snack & Story**

In our bible in the book of Acts, it tells us about this special day when the Holy Spirit came to people and the beginning of the church. Let’s watch that story now.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNiApXVR9go>

**Discussion questions**

**Q.I wonder what the Spirit is?**

*The Holy Spirit is the**part of God that is here with us. When Jesus left earth to go to Heaven he told us that he would not leave us alone, that the Holy Spirit would be given to anyone who asks. The Holy Spirit does not have a human body so the Spirit can be everywhere even inside us.*

**Q.**I wonder how the Holy Spirit comes into our hearts?

*We invite the Holy Spirit into our hearts, like we invite a friend in the door.*

I am going to show you what the Holy Spirit does in us.

(Fill cup with water)

The Holy spirit fills our hearts like a cup is filled with water. The love and power of God comes into us. The spirit grows good things in us, comforts us and helps us to live the best way. We can’t live like Jesus without the Spirit in us.

(Hold up cup of water)

And when we pray the Holy Spirit in us understands our hearts and takes our prayers back to Heaven.

(Pour some water from the cup back into the jug)

and the Spirit brings power, answers and ideas back to our Heart from Heaven.

(Fill the cup with water again.)

The Spirit helps us understand the things that the God wants us to know and feel and do.

**Prayer**

Close your eyes and take some deep breaths as you think about the Holy Spirit filling you.

What pictures or colours or feelings come to you?

Thankyou Holy Spirit for filling us with love and power to live the wonderful life you have for us.

Fill us now we pray.

Amen.

**Activity**

**Make flame sticks for those who want to dance.**

[**https://nurturingjoy.wordpress.com/2012/01/19/diy-ribbon-wands/**](https://nurturingjoy.wordpress.com/2012/01/19/diy-ribbon-wands/)

Dance to ‘Shine Your Way’ by Owl City with flame sticks.

**Make mini fires for those who don’t want to dance.**

<http://buggyandbuddy.com/glowing-campfire-craft/>

**Creche activity – Decorate a ‘Happy Birthday’ Banner.**

[*http://www.printable-party.com/support-files/free-5-inch-swallowtail-white-black-printable-banner-letters-a-z-0-9.pdf*](http://www.printable-party.com/support-files/free-5-inch-swallowtail-white-black-printable-banner-letters-a-z-0-9.pdf)

*Decorate different letters of the banner with texas, crayons, stickers etc.*

**Extra Time activity - Balloon Volley Ball**

***Materials****: Balloon, rope or string tied between two chairs.*

Suspend a piece of string across the room are at approximately head height.

Divide players into two teams and position them on either side of the string.

One team serves by hitting the balloon over the string and the other team must return the balloon without allowing it to fall to the ground.

When the balloon is not returned, the other team scores a point.

First team to reach 10 points wins.

**http://www.kidspot.com.au/things-to-do/activities/balloon-volleyball**