



THREE IN ONE STIMULUS PICTURES

BACKGROUND

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Holy Trinity - Father, Son and Spirit - One God, three persons. The Holy Spirit has been active from before creation. It was the Holy Spirit who 'hovered over the waters' in Genesis 1:2 and it is the same Spirit of God who worked through the prophets, who came upon Mary at the Annunciation, who spoke aloud when Jesus was baptised and who came upon the disciples at Pentecost.

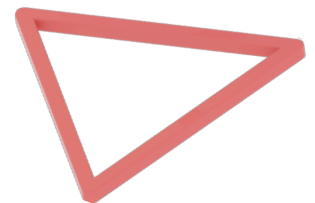
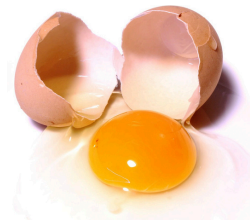
This activity is designed to help children and parents reflect on the mystery of the Holy Trinity. As with all analogies, these are not perfect, but they will prompt discussion about our God who is three-in-one.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Large copies of the stimulus pictures either printed on A3 or displayed using a date projector.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Invite the families to make the Sign of the Cross.
- Explain that the Sign of the Cross is a beautiful prayer that reminds us that God is 'three-in-one'
- This is known as the Holy Trinity and it is a mystery of our faith - God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
- There are some pictures that might help us to ponder this mystery.
- Show the children the images. As you do, discuss how each image reflects the concept of three-in-one.
- Images include:
 - egg - the yolk, the white and the shell - three parts - one egg.
 - apple - the seeds/core, the flesh and the skin. Three parts - one apple.
 - H₂O - water can have three states of matter and may come in three different forms: liquid, solid and gas. Three forms - one element
 - triangle - a triangle has three sides and three corners but is one shape.
 - clover - a clover (or shamrock) has three petals but is one leaf. It is said that St Patrick used the shamrock to teach others about the Holy Trinity.



You may wish to present these using the stimulus pictures provided or use some of the actual items themselves.

