

# NEW cOnnect

## CYCLES A to C OVERVIEW

### **CYCLE A Big Idea** To introduce students to God and his word

Students will become familiar with God who made us, who loves us and saves us from the consequences of turning against him. They will learn how God is always faithful to his people, and what it means for people to have faith in God.

#### **A1 – Concentrates on Old Testament (but includes Easter)**

Term 1 – God our creator who loves us and saves us

Term 2 – Trusting God who is faithful—people who learned to trust God

#### **A2 – Concentrates on New Testament**

Term 3 – Jesus teaches about having faith in God

Term 4 – Trusting and following Jesus

### **CYCLE B Big Idea** To explore how God makes and keeps his promises

Students will learn about people who received promises from God, and will come to understand that God's promises can be trusted. They will learn how Jesus fulfils God's promises and why people continue to trust Jesus today.

#### **B1 – Combination of Old Testament and New Testament**

Term 1 – Who is Jesus? (Luke's Gospel)

Term 2 – God's big promises—Abraham to Joseph

#### **B2 – Combination of Old Testament and New Testament**

Term 3 – God keeps his promises—Moses to the Promised Land

Term 4 – God's promises for the whole world—Romans

### **CYCLE C Big Idea** God's kingdom is eternal and because of Jesus we can be part of God's family

Students will learn about God the King and how he calls people to live under his leadership. They will understand that although people reject God's kingship and experience the consequences of their rejection, God's kingdom plan continues. Students will consider how Jesus reveals God's kingdom and how, by trusting Jesus as King, people can be part of God's kingdom forever.

#### **C1 – Term 1 – God's great kingdom plan: Samuel to David**

Term 2 – Remember God is King: Solomon to Nehemiah

#### **C2 – Term 3 – Jesus is the King of God's kingdom: John's Gospel**

Term 4 – Living in God's kingdom

**Bible Timelines** are included at the beginning of each unit to encourage an understanding of where each lesson fits within the flow of the Bible story. Easter is always at end of Term 1, meaning that some themes do backtrack through the Bible. A specific Christmas lesson is also included in each Cycle.

# CYCLE A1

Cycle A introduces God and the people of the Bible.

LESSON	THEME AND LESSON AIM	BIBLE
<b>TERM 1</b>	<b>Knowing God Our Creator</b>	
1	<b>Theme:</b> Knowing God <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that God wants people to know him, and people can know him through his word, the Bible.	INF – Psalm 103 LP – Psalm 119 UP – 2 Timothy 3:16–17; Psalm 25
2	<b>Theme:</b> God’s good creation <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that God is the loving Creator of the world and created the world for a purpose.	Genesis 1:1–25
3	<b>Theme:</b> God’s plan for creation <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand God’s purpose for the people he made: to be like him and to live as his friends.	Genesis 1:26—2:25
4	<b>Theme:</b> Celebrating God’s good creation <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God’s greatness is shown in creation, and how his people respond to him in thanks.	INF and LP – Psalm 8 UP – Psalm 145
5	<b>Theme:</b> Ignoring our Creator <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand from the Bible that the world is not as God intended because people have not loved and trusted him.	Genesis 3
6	<b>Theme:</b> Life away from the garden <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how people’s rejection of God has affected human relationships, and to see how God continues to love his people.	Genesis 4
7	<b>Theme:</b> God’s promise to save (Noah) <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God loves those who trust him, and plans to save them, through the example of Noah.	Genesis 6–9
8	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus seeks the lost (Zacchaeus) <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God sent Jesus to help people to turn back to God and live as his friends, through the example of Zacchaeus.	Luke 19:1–10
9	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus saves the lost <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that Jesus willingly gave his life so that people could be friends with God forever.	Luke 22–23
10	<b>Theme:</b> Living proof <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that Jesus rose from the dead and is alive today, and that people continue to trust him.	Luke 24

LESSON	THEME AND LESSON AIM	BIBLE
TERM 2	Trusting God who is faithful	
11	<b>Theme:</b> Bible overview—Old Testament (People who learned to trust God) <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that God has a plan for his world and his people.	Various
12	<b>Theme:</b> Gideon <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God is patient, and helps people to trust and obey him, through the example of Gideon.	Judges 6–7
13	<b>Theme:</b> Naomi and Ruth <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God loves and protects people and wants them to trust him in difficult times, through the example of Naomi and Ruth.	Ruth 1–2
14	<b>Theme:</b> Ruth and Boaz <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God cares for his people, and how he uses the actions of people to do this, through the example of Ruth and Boaz.	Ruth 3–4
15	<b>Theme:</b> Elisha <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God shows his power and care for people when his people obey him, through the example of Elisha.	2 Kings 2–13
16	<b>Theme:</b> Jonah <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God shows mercy and calls ordinary people to trust and obey him, through the example of Jonah.	Jonah
17	<b>Theme:</b> Isaiah <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God calls people to speak about him and wants people to turn back to him, through the example of Isaiah.	Isaiah (various)
18	<b>Theme:</b> Josiah <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that God wants his people to trust and obey him, through the example of Josiah.	2 Kings 22–23
19	<b>Theme:</b> Esther <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God uses people in his purposes, and how trusting God can mean being courageous, through the example of Esther.	Esther
20	<b>Theme:</b> Lesson on Contemporary Christian <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students appreciate that God gives people skills and talents, which they can use to serve him.	Various
SPECIAL	<b>Theme:</b> Self-Esteem <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that God created them, and that he values and loves them.	Various
ASSEMBLY	<b>Theme:</b> Easter—God’s rescue plan <b>Assembly aim:</b> To help students to understand that God wants all people to hear the good news and to put their trust in Jesus.	Luke 23–24

# CYCLE A2

Cycle A introduces God and the people of the Bible.

LESSON	THEME AND LESSON AIM	BIBLE
<b>TERM 3</b>	<b>Jesus teaches about having faith in God</b>	
1	<b>Theme:</b> Bible Overview—New Testament (Trusting Jesus as Lord) <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how Jesus fits into God’s plan to save his people.	Acts 7
2	<b>Theme:</b> Hearing God’s word (the soils) <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand Jesus’ teaching that God wants people to listen carefully to his word, trust Jesus, and follow his teaching.	INF, LP: Luke 8:4–15 UP: Matthew 13:1–23
3	<b>Theme:</b> Real treasure <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand Jesus’ teaching that loving and trusting him is more important than anything else.	Matthew 13:44–46
4	<b>Theme:</b> The rich fool <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students understand Jesus’ teaching that everything we have comes from God and we can trust him to give us everything we need.	Luke 12:16–31
5	<b>Theme:</b> Loving God, loving others (The good Samaritan) <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand Jesus’ teaching that all who trust Jesus are to show God’s love to others.	Luke 10:25–37
6	<b>Theme:</b> The great party <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand Jesus’ teaching that God invites everyone to have faith in Jesus and to become part of his family.	Luke 14:15–24
7	<b>Theme:</b> Lost and found <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand Jesus’ teaching that God forgives and welcomes those who turn to him, and that everyone needs God’s forgiveness.	Luke 15:11–32
8	<b>Theme:</b> The rich young man <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand Jesus’ teaching that through Jesus, God does the ‘impossible’ when he forgives people and welcomes them into his family.	Luke 18:18–30
9	<b>Theme:</b> Real greatness <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand Jesus’ teaching that greatness in God’s kingdom comes from serving others, rather than from having other people serve us.	Mark 10:35–37,40–45
10	<b>Theme:</b> Matthew: a follower of Jesus <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how Jesus called Matthew to follow him, how all people need Jesus’ forgiveness, and how Jesus continues to invite people to trust him and become part of God’s family.	Matthew 9:9–13

LESSON	THEME AND LESSON AIM	BIBLE
TERM 4	Trusting and following Jesus	
11	<b>Theme:</b> Peter learns about real faith <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand what it means to trust and follow Jesus through the example of Peter.	Matthew 14:22–34; 16:13–17, 26; John 21; Acts 2–5
12	<b>Theme:</b> Philip <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God helps Christians to tell others about Jesus, and how people sometimes respond in faith, through the example of Philip.	Acts 6:1–7; 8:26–40
13	<b>Theme:</b> Saul—Changed by Jesus <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that people can change as a result of knowing and trusting Jesus, through the example of Paul.	Acts 9:1–31; 13:1–3, 46–47
14	<b>Theme:</b> Paul and Barnabas <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God uses people to encourage others and tell people about Jesus, through the example of Paul and Barnabas.	Acts 14:8–20
15	<b>Theme:</b> Lydia <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how people hear about and accept the gospel, and how this is lived out in people’s lives, through the example of Lydia.	Acts 16:11–15
16	<b>Theme:</b> Priscilla and Aquila <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God equips Christians to serve him and how his plan is for Christians to work together in his service, through the example of Priscilla and Aquila.	Acts 18; Romans 16:3–4
17	<b>Theme:</b> Timothy (Lois and Eunice) (Lesson 18 in Upper Primary) <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that God’s Holy Spirit gives his people strength to serve Jesus and to serve others, through the example of Timothy.	Acts 16; 1 and 2 Timothy
18	<b>Theme:</b> Philemon and Onesimus (Lesson 17 in Upper Primary) <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that God wants his people to forgive others as he has forgiven them, through the example of Philemon and Onesimus.	Philemon
19	<b>Theme:</b> Shepherds hear God’s good news for all people <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that the birth of Jesus brings great joy because people have forgiveness through him.	Luke 2
20	<b>Theme:</b> Lesson on Contemporary Christian <b>Lesson aim:</b> To show students an example of how people follow Jesus today, tell others about him and learn more about him.	Various
SPECIAL	<b>Theme:</b> Dealing with grief <b>Lesson aim:</b> To provide a Christian framework for students who are dealing with grief.	Various
ASSEMBLY	<b>Theme:</b> Christmas—Good news for everyone <b>Assembly aim:</b> To help students to understand that Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus because he is the Son of God who has come to be their Saviour and make it possible for people to live in God’s family.	Luke 1–2

# CYCLE B1

Cycle B explores how the Bible shows that God makes and keeps his promises.

LESSON	THEME AND LESSON AIM	BIBLE
TERM 1	Who is Jesus?	
1	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus' birth foretold <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that the Bible teaches that Jesus is the promised Saviour King, the Messiah.	Luke 1—2:38
2	<b>Theme:</b> Growing with God <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that the Bible teaches that Jesus was both human and God's powerful Son.	INF & LP – Luke 2:39–52 UP – Luke 3:1—4:13
3	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus fulfils the Scriptures <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that the Bible teaches that Jesus was God's chosen King who came to save his people.	Luke 4:14–30
4	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus' first disciples <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that Jesus' demonstration of God's power resulted in some people following him.	Luke 5:1–11
5	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus has power to forgive and heal <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand from the Bible that Jesus demonstrated that he is God's Son through his power to forgive and heal.	Luke 5:17–26
6	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus has power over nature <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students recognise that the Bible shows that Jesus, God's Son, demonstrated his power over nature.	Luke 8:22–25
7	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus has power over death <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how the Bible shows that Jesus has God's power and authority.	Luke 7:11–17; 8:40–56
8	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus has power over the future <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand from the Bible that Jesus knew that he had to go through some difficult experiences so that people could be friends with God.	Luke 9:18–22, 44b–45, 51
9	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus has power over life and death <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand from the Bible that Jesus chose to be obedient to God's plan for him.	Luke 22:39–53
10	<b>Theme:</b> Jesus is more powerful than death <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand what the Bible says about how Jesus was able to overcome death because he is God's powerful Son.	Luke 24

LESSON	THEME AND LESSON AIM	BIBLE
TERM 2	God's big promises	
11	<b>Theme:</b> Big problems, big solutions <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand the context of God's big promises to Abraham.	Genesis 1–11 overview
12	<b>Theme:</b> Promises to Abraham <b>Lesson aim:</b> To introduce students to the idea that God keeps his promises.	Genesis 12:1–9
13	<b>Theme:</b> Birth of Isaac <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that the Bible shows that God keeps his promises.	Genesis 15:1—18:15; 21:1–7
14	<b>Theme:</b> God's family grows <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students understand that the Bible shows that God can always be trusted, and that he chooses people to play a special part in his plan.	Genesis 24
15	<b>Theme:</b> God chooses Jacob <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand from the Bible that God's promises to Abraham were fulfilled over time.	Genesis 25:19–34
16	<b>Theme:</b> Jacob vs Esau <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how the Bible shows that people cannot get in the way of God's promises	Genesis 27:1–40
17	<b>Theme:</b> Joseph—Jacob's son <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand from the Bible that even when things go wrong, God keeps his promises.	Genesis 29:31—30:24; 37
18	<b>Theme:</b> Joseph in Egypt <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how God was continuing to work out his plan for the family of Abraham.	Genesis 39–41
19	<b>Theme:</b> God's promises kept! <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand how the Bible shows that God is faithful to his people and always keeps his promises.	Genesis 41–50
20	<b>Theme:</b> Lesson on Contemporary Christian <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students appreciate that God gives people skills and talents, which they can use to serve him.	Various
ASSEMBLY	<b>Theme:</b> Easter <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students understand how the Bible shows that Jesus was able to overcome death because he is God's powerful Son.	INF and UP: John 19–20 LP: Luke 23–24
SPECIAL LESSON	<b>Theme:</b> Coping with change <b>Lesson aim:</b> To help students to understand that it is possible for anyone to put their trust in God.	Various