

How to Make the Forgiveness Flowers Craft

1. **Gather Materials:** You will need construction paper, scissors, glue, markers, and pencils. Prepare a flower template if desired. (See the third page of this printable copy.)
2. **Draw the Flower:** Have the children draw or trace a flower with petals (five to six works well) on a piece of construction paper.
3. **Cut the Flower:** Instruct the children to cut out the flower and the petals carefully.
4. **Write on the Petals:** On each petal, guide the children to write or draw a way they can show forgiveness or seek it from others. Refer to the list below for ideas.
5. **Create Stem and Leaves:** Using green construction paper, have the children cut out a stem and leaves and write a personal commitment to forgiveness on the leaves.
6. **Assemble the Flower:** Guide the children to glue the petals onto the flower, attaching the stem and leaves as well. As they construct the flower, facilitate discussion or reflection on each act of forgiveness.
7. **Decorate:** Allow children to decorate their flowers further if they wish, adding their personal touch.
8. **Group Discussion:** After completing the craft, engage the children in conversation about what they created and how they can apply these acts of forgiveness in their daily lives.
9. **Display or Take Home:** Decide whether to create a collective “Garden of Forgiveness Flowers” in your classroom or send the flowers home with the children as a personal reminder.
10. **Reflect on the Scripture:** Optionally, conclude by revisiting Matthew 18:21-35, reflecting on how the craft ties into the scriptural teaching on forgiveness.

Here’s a list of what might be written on the petals, along with an explanation for each:

1. **Saying “I’m Sorry”:** This acknowledges a mistake and shows the willingness to make amends, a fundamental step in forgiveness.
2. **Listening to Others:** By actively listening to someone’s feelings or grievances, you show empathy and a desire to understand, fostering forgiveness.
3. **Helping Someone in Need:** Assisting someone, especially if you’ve had disagreements, can demonstrate that you’ve moved past those issues.
4. **Giving a Second Chance:** Offering someone another opportunity after a mistake illustrates that you believe in their ability to change.
5. **Writing a Note of Apology:** Taking the time to write and express your feelings can be a sincere way to ask for forgiveness.
6. **Hugging or Shaking Hands:** Physical gestures like a hug or handshake can symbolize that you’ve put any negative feelings behind you.

<https://young-catholics.com/53360/forgiveness-flowers-craft/>

7. **Spending Time Together:** Investing time with someone you've had conflict with shows that you value the relationship more than the disagreement.
8. **Avoiding Gossip:** Committing not to talk negatively about others fosters a positive environment and promotes forgiveness.
9. **Praying for Someone:** In a religious context, praying for a person you need to forgive can be a personal way to release negative feelings.
10. **Reflecting on Your Actions:** Self-reflection about how your actions may have hurt others is a step towards seeking forgiveness and personal growth.
11. **Being Patient:** Offering patience to someone struggling to change a behavior that caused conflict shows understanding and willingness to forgive.
12. **Smiling and Being Friendly:** Even a simple smile can break down barriers, demonstrating openness and forgiveness.

Resources

[Learn how to forgive](#)

[More Youth Ministry Activities](#)

[Modern Day Version of The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant](#)

