

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 2

SOCIAL 1/3

Move Like a Noodle

What You Need

- ☐ Pool noodle



EveryChild Tips

For a version with less movement, sit with children and do stationary movements.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Encourage children to join you in an open area of the room.

During the Activity

1. Move and bend the pool noodle and encourage children to mimic the movements.
2. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come stand over here with me and let's spread out. We're going to play a movement game with this pool noodle. I'll move the pool noodle and you'll move your body the same way."

During the Activity

"Let's get ready to move! Watch the noodle and do what it does. If I shake the noodle like this, (**SHAKE THE NOODLE BACK AND FORTH**) show me how shake your body. (**PAUSE.**) Great job! Everyone freeze and watch the noodle! (**BEND THE NOODLE.**) Can you bend your body like the noodle? (**PAUSE.**) Way to go! Okay and now freeze! (**CONTINUE WITH DIFFERENT MOVEMENTS.**) That was so much fun moving like the noodle!"

After the Activity

"Today in our true Bible Story, we are going to hear about a man named Daniel and his good friends that prayed and talked to God for him. Let's go hear all about Daniel and his friends!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by asking children to continue to move your body different ways.

Dream Detectives

What You Need

- ☐ "Dream Detectives" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Sticky notes
- ☐ Masking tape



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Dream Detectives" on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
2. Spread each page out on the table and secure with tape.
3. Cover each dream bubble picture with a sticky note.

During the Activity

1. Point to one picture at a time and say, "Shh... this person is sleeping. They're having a dream!"
2. Lift the sticky note and say, "Let's see what they're dreaming about!"
3. Prompt children to name what they see and guess what the dream could mean.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, today we're going to be dream detectives! Some people are sleeping and having dreams. Let's peek and see what they're dreaming about."

During the Activity

"Shh... this friend is sleeping. Let's gently lift the sticky note and find out what they're dreaming about. **(PAUSE.)** What do you see? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.)** Yes, it looks like they're dreaming about **[IMAGE]**! Good job! Let's do some more detective work. **(CONTINUE WITH EACH PICTURE.)** Wow! You all did a great job guessing what our sleeping friends were dreaming about!"

After the Activity

"It was easy for us to see their dreams when we lifted the sticky notes. But in today's true Bible Story, Daniel needed help understanding a dream the king had. Let's listen to the story and find out who helped him!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by tiptoeing like a dream detective!

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November — Week 2

GROUPS 1/6

Sliding Hearts

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Sliding Heart" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Dot markers
- ☐ Two-inch foam hearts
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker

Note

You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

EveryChild Tips

Create an example for children to see.



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Sliding Heart" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
2. Fold each child's paper and glue along the left side and bottom.
3. Slide the insert into each child's paper to cover the writing.
4. Write each child's name on the back of their paper.
5. For each child, cut a foam heart in half.
6. Say the Memory Verse and do the motions together with the children.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to decorate their paper.
2. Help children glue the left heart half at the dot on the slider and the right heart half lined up to the edge of the opening.
3. Pull the slider out to reveal the words and make the heart whole.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come over and let's say our verse together as we do the motions. Ready? 'I will give thanks (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN) to the LORD (POINT UP) with my whole heart,' (TAP HEART TWICE) Psalm 111:1. (OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.) Great job!"

During the Activity

"Let's sit at the table and make a whole heart craft! Use the markers to decorate your paper, front and back. Leave the slider in and you can decorate it too. (PAUSE.) Great job! See the dot on your paper? (POINT.) Glue this half (HAND EACH CHILD THE LEFT HALF OF A HEART AND HELP POSITION IT CORRECTLY) of your heart on top of that dot. (PAUSE.) Now glue this half of the heart right here at this edge. (POINT AND HELP POSITION THE HALF OF THE HEART CORRECTLY.) Pull the tab gently and watch what happens. The two halves of your heart came together to make a whole heart and words appeared! They say: 'I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,' Psalm 111:1. That's our Memory Verse! What a cool whole heart craft!"

After the Activity

"The Bible teaches us that we can thank God for everything with our whole heart! That means family, friends, food, and people who help us! We can thank God for everything! Who can thank God for everything? (BOTTOM LINE) I can thank God for everything."

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 2

GROUPS 2/6

Mirror Me

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

Inclusive Optional Supplies

☐ Story Images



EveryChild Tips

Display and point to Story Images as you retell the story.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Ask children to come and stand in front of you.

During the Activity

1. Encourage the children to mirror your actions as you retell the main points of the Bible Story.
2. Repeat as time and interest allow.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page. →

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What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

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☐ Story Images

USES MINIMAL
SUPPLIES

MADE TO
Move

EveryChild Tips



Display and point to Story
Images as you retell the story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hey, everyone! Come stand in front of me! You are going to be my mirror!"

During the Activity:

"Watch me and do what I do. Then, when I look at you, it will be like I am looking in a mirror. Ready? Do what I do!"

"Daniel loved God. (HUG YOURSELF.)

"Daniel's job was to help the king. (PUT A PRETEND CROWN ON YOUR HEAD.)

"One night, the king had a dream. (PRETEND TO GO TO SLEEP.)

"When the king woke up, he needed help. (WAKE UP AND STRETCH.)

"The king got angry when no one could help him. (MAKE ANGRY FACE.)

"Daniel went to his friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. (WALK IN PLACE.)

"Daniel asked his friends to pray, and they did. (PRAYING HANDS.)

"God helped Daniel know how to help the king. (TAP YOUR POINTER FINGER TO YOUR TEMPLE.)

"Daniel prayed and thanked God for helping him. (PRAYING HANDS.)

"Then, Daniel ran to the king and helped him! (RUN IN PLACE.)

"Yay, God! Yay, friends! (CLAP AND CHEER.)

"Great job, everyone!" (REPEAT AS TIME AND INTEREST ALLOW.)

After the Activity:

"God gave Daniel good friends, and God gives us friends too! We can thank God for our friends, because we can thank God for everything. Who can thank God for everything? [BOTTOM LINE] I can thank God for everything!"

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GROUPS 4/6

Friend Greeting

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Friend Greeting" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Scissors



EveryChild Tips

Allow children to select the greeting they prefer from the pictures.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Friend Greeting" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.

During the Activity

1. Hold up one card at a time and encourage children to go to several friends and greet them according to the card.
2. Continue with each card.
3. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come stand with me over here. I have a fun friend greeting game for us to play. On these cards are different ways you can greet each other. When I hold up the card, you can find a friend to greet that same way."

During the Activity

"Ready? Let's play! (**HOLD UP THE FIST BUMP CARD.**) Oh! This is the fist bump card! Go give someone a fist bump. (**PAUSE.**) Great! Go find another friend to give a fist bump to. (**PAUSE.**) Great job! Let's play another card. (**HOLD UP THE SMILEY FACE CARD.**) Oh! This is the smiley face card! Go give someone a smile. (**PAUSE.**) Find another friend to give a smile to. (**CONTINUE WITH THE OTHER CARDS.**) That was fun, greeting each other all those different ways. What was your favorite? (**PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.**) Wow, you are all such good friends to each other!"

After the Activity

"Today in our Bible Story we learned about a man named Daniel. God gave Daniel really good friends who prayed for him. God gives us friends, too. We can thank God for our friends because we can thank God for everything! Who can thank God for everything? (**BOTTOM LINE**) I can thank God for everything."