

SOCIAL 2/3

Emoji Match

What You Need

- ☐ "Emoji Match" Activity Page
- ☐ Avery® Labels #22807 or equivalent
- ☐ 8-ounce paper cups



Inclusive Pro Tips

Pair children up to do the activity together.

Start with the cups sticker side up and play the game by stacking the matches on top of each other.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Emoji Match" on label paper, two sets per Small Group.
2. Place one sticker at the bottom of each cup.
3. Arrange cups in a square formation, bottom side down, on the table.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to turn over two cups at a time to try to make a match.
2. Identify the emotion on each cup.
3. When matches are made, stack them together and move them to the side.
4. Review each emotion once all the cups have been matched.
5. Reset and repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come to the table and let's play a matching game. On the bottom of each of these cups is an emotion sticker. **(TURN A CUP OVER AND SHOW THEM.)** We'll take turns, and you'll get to flip two cups over at a time to try to make a match."

During the Activity

"Let's get started. **[CHILD'S NAME]** flip over two cups. **(PAUSE.)** Great job! This is a **[EMOTION]** face, and this is a **[EMOTION]** face. Are they a match? **(IF THEY ARE A MATCH, YOU CAN STACK THE CUPS AND SET THEM TO THE SIDE. IF NOT, FLIP THE CUPS OVER.)** **[CHILD'S NAME]**, your turn. **(CONTINUE WITH EACH CHILD UNTIL ALL THE EMOTIONS ARE MATCHED. RESET AND REPEAT UNTIL ALL THE CHILDREN HAVE A TURN.)** We made all the matches! Let's look at all the emotions. **(HOLD UP AND IDENTIFY EACH EMOTION.)** Great job!"

After the Activity

"In our Bible Story today, we'll hear about someone who was afraid. **(HOLD UP THE AFRAID FACE CUP.)** His name is Gideon. Let's go hear all about it!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by calling a child and asking them to show you an emotion on their face. **"[CHILD'S NAME], can you make a happy face?"**

GROUPS 1/6

Gideon Says

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Gideon Says" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Craft knife

Note

Use the craft knife before children arrive and store it out of reach in another room.



Inclusive Pro Tips

Pair children up to do the activity together.

Allow children to say the verse without holding the Activity Page up to their face.

① What You Do

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.

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Gideon Says" on cardstock, one per child and the leader.
2. Cut along the dotted lines around the mouth.
3. Say the verse together as you do the motions.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to hold the picture of Gideon up to their face and say the verse.
2. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come over and stand with me. Let's say our verse together as we do the motions. Everyone ready? 'Be strong and courageous. **(MUSCLE ARMS)** Do not be afraid . . . **(CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS)** for the Lord your God **(FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN)** goes with you,' **(MARCH IN PLACE)** Deuteronomy 31:6. **(OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)** Great job, everyone!"

During the Activity

"Look at this picture, it's Gideon, the man from our story! I thought it would be fun to use this to practice our verse. Watch me. **(HOLD ONE OF THE PAPERS UP TO YOUR FACE, MAKING SURE YOUR MOUTH IS VISIBLE THROUGH THE OPENING.)** 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid ... for the Lord your God goes with you,' Deuteronomy 31:6. **(GIVE EACH CHILD A PICTURE OF GIDEON.)** Now let's all hold up our pictures and say the verse together. Let's go! 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid ... for the Lord your God goes with you,' Deuteronomy 31:6. **(REPEAT AS DESIRED.)** Great job, everyone!"

After the Activity

"The Bible teaches us to be strong and courageous and not to be afraid. Gideon was afraid of the Midianites, but God was with Gideon and helped him be brave. God is with you and can help you be brave, too! Who can help you be brave? **(BOTTOM LINE)** God can help me be brave."

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

October — Week 3

GROUPS 2/6

Act Like Gideon

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

USES MINIMAL
SUPPLIES

MADE TO
↓
Play

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Sit together on the floor with children.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to act out the story with you.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Come sit with me, super friends, and let's act out our Bible Story!"

During the Activity

"Our true story begins with a man named Gideon. Gideon was afraid. When the Midianites would come, Gideon and the rest of the Israelites would hide in holes in the mountain. Let's all pretend to hide in a hole. Get really small and cover your head and your arm. (PAUSE.) Gideon was hiding from the Midianites. They were really big. Very strong. And they were mean. Make a mean face. (PAUSE.) Oh, those were mean faces. One day, God sent an angel to tell Gideon, 'The LORD is with you, mighty warrior!' Everyone does a super pose with their hands on their hips like this. (DEMONSTRATE.) Great job! God wanted Gideon to lead an army to defeat the Midianites. Gideon was still afraid, but he did what God said and led God's army.

"Gideon gave the army ... (TOOT A PRETEND HORN) trumpets. Hold your hand up to your mouth and pretend to toot your horn. (PAUSE.) They had jars. Hold your arms out like you are giving a hug. And they had torches. Make a fist with one hand and hold it up in the air. Gideon and the army quietly walked to where the Midianites were, then made a really loud noise by blowing their trumpets and smashing their jars! Then they shouted: 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' Let's say that together. (WITH CHILDREN.) 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' And just like that, the Midianites were so afraid that they ran away! Great job acting out our Bible Story today!"

After the Activity

"When Gideon was afraid, God helped him be brave. God can help you be brave, too! Who can help you be brave? [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave."

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

October — Week 3

GROUPS 4/6

Tip Toe Time



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Party Horns
- ☐ Permanent Marker

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Noise-cancelling headphones

Inclusive Pro Tips



For children with sensitivities to noise, provide them with headphones.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Write each child's name on a party horn.
2. Give each child their party horn.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to tiptoe quietly around the room and blow their horn when you say, "Make a loud noise."
2. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Let's pretend to be Gideon's army. I'll pretend to be Gideon and you'll be the army. I'll give you a party horn to use as a trumpet. But don't blow it yet."

During the Activity

"Okay everyone, we're going to be really quiet and tiptoe around the room. When I say, 'Make a loud noise,' I want you to blow your horns really loud. Ready? Tiptoe with me. (PAUSE.) Shhhh, be super quiet and keep tiptoeing. (PAUSE.) Make a loud noise! (PAUSE.) Wow, great job! The Midianite army was so scared that they ran away. Let's play again! (REPEAT AS DESIRED.) That was so much fun."

After the Activity

"God was with Gideon and helped him be brave. Gideon led God's army with trumpets, jars, and torches, and told the army to follow him quietly. Gideon told the army to blow their trumpets, smash their jars, and shout 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' And just like that, the Midianites were afraid and ran away. God helped Gideon be brave! And God can help you be brave, too! Who can help you be brave? [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave."

GROUPS 5/6

Brave Gideon



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Brave Gideon" Activity Page
- ☐ "Gideon's Torch and Trumpet" Activity Pages
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Washable markers or crayons
- ☐ Metal brads
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Craft knife
- ☐ Permanent marker

Note

→ Use the craft knife before children arrive and store it out of reach in another room.

Inclusive Pro Tips



Create an example for children to follow.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Brave Gideon" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Copy "Gideon's Torch and Trumpet" on cardstock and cut, one set of cutouts per child.
3. Make a slit at each small "x" on their papers.
4. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color their pictures.
2. Help attach Gideon's arms on each child's paper then ask children to use it as you review the Bible Story.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Everyone come sit at the table and let's make some story art to help us remember today's true story from the Bible!"

During the Activity

"Let's start with coloring your picture of Gideon. Look, one of his arms has a trumpet, and the other has a torch. Color those too. **(PAUSE.)** Your pictures look great! Now we can attach his arms to your picture. **(SECURE BOTH ARMS TO GIDEON WITH THE BRADS.)** Now you can use your pictures as we talk about our story. When our story begins, Gideon was in a hole, hiding from the Midianite army. One day God sent an angel to tell Gideon 'The LORD is with you, mighty warrior!' And that God wanted him to lead an army to defeat the Midianites. But Gideon was afraid so the angel told Gideon, 'God will be with you.' Gideon did what God said and led God's army. One night, Gideon gave the army trumpets, jars, and torches and told the army to follow him quietly to where the Midianites were. When Gideon told them to, they made a really loud noise by blowing their trumpets, raise Gideon's arm with the trumpet and make a trumpet sound. **(PAUSE.)** And they smashed their jars, raise Gideon's arm with the torch. Then they shouted: 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' And just like that, the Midianites were so afraid, they ran away."

After the Activity

"Everyone shout with me, 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' **(WITH CHILDREN.)** 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' Way to go super friends! When Gideon was afraid, God helped him be brave. And God can help you be brave too! Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave."