

SOCIAL 1/3

All the Stars



What You Need

- ☐ Parachute
- ☐ Yellow Pom-poms



Inclusive Pro Tips

Allow a child to remain close to the activity and move their body even if they do not want to hold the parachute.

This activity could get loud as children enjoy the movements, offer headphones or a break to any child that might become overwhelmed.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Lay the parachute on the floor in an open area.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to move the parachute as directed then freeze.
2. Add pom-poms to the parachute and encourage children to shake it up and down to make the stars go high in the sky.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"I am so excited! The parachute is out, I love playing with the parachute. Do you want to come join me?"

During the Activity

"Grab the parachute and wait until all our friends have joined us. (PAUSE.) Yay! All our friends are here! We're ready to start. Lift the parachute up! (PAUSE.) Now down. (PAUSE.) Now shake it really fast. (PAUSE.) That was so fun. Now I'm going to add some pom-poms. (HOLD UP A POM-POM.) These remind me of stars. (ADD SOME POM-POMS.) Let's shake them up and down. (PAUSE.) Let's add more stars! (ADD THE REST OF THE POM-POMS.) Wow that is a lot of stars, let's shake and pop the stars up in the sky! (PAUSE.) Look at all the stars! There are so many we can't count them all."

After the Activity

"In our true story from the Bible, we're going to learn about a man named Abraham and his wife, Sarah. God had plans for them. God told Abraham and Sarah they would have more children in their family than stars in the sky. Let's go hear more about it."

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by twinkling like stars all the way to your designated area.

SOCIAL 2/3

Lots and Lots



What You Need

- ☐ Butcher paper
- ☐ Chisel-tip Permanent Marker
- ☐ Washable Markers
- ☐ Masking Tape

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Cover the table with butcher paper and tape to secure.
2. Draw outlines of different size and shape people all around the table with the permanent marker.
3. Place the markers in the middle of the table.

During the Activity

4. Encourage children to decorate and design all the different people shapes on the table.
5. Walk around and look at all the different people and count them as you go.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello, hello friends! It's great to see you today! Come join me at the table."

During the Activity

"Look at all the people shapes on the table! (PAUSE.) Will you help me color and decorate each one? (PAUSE FOR ANSWERS.) Great! Thank you! (PAUSE.) You've done such a great job making sure every person shape is colored in! Let's stand up and walk around the table so we can look at each one. (PAUSE.) Ready? Let's count them as we go. One, two, three... (CONTINUE COUNTING EACH PEOPLE SHAPE AS YOU WALK AROUND THE TABLE.) Wow! We counted [NUMBER] people! That's a lot of people!"

After the Activity

"Today we're going to hear a true story from the Bible when God told a man named Abraham and his wife Sarah that they would have a big, big family with lots of people! Let's go hear all about it!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by asking children to line up by the color they are wearing and as you walk, ask children wearing a specific color **Who has plans for you?** Repeat as desired until you reach your designated area.

GROUPS 1/6

Star Walk



Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Star Walk" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Painter's Tape

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Little People



Inclusive Pro Tips

For a version with less movement, seat children at a table or in a circle on the floor.

Tape stars to the table or floor.

Give each child a Little People toy to use instead of moving themselves.

Children will move their toy along the Star Walk. Adjust the wording in "What You Say" to match this version.

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

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Star Walk" on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
2. Line the stars up in order on the floor and tape to secure.
3. Say and do the motions to the Memory Verse.

During the Activity

1. Invite children to move from star to star, stepping or hopping on them as say the verse together.
2. Repeat several times, adding excitement and movement.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Come stand near the stars with me! Today, we're going to go on a star walk as we say our Memory Verse. But before we start, let's do the motions as we say our verse. "'For I know (TOUCH HEAD WITH FINGERTIPS) the plans I have for you,' (MARCH) says the Lord," (POINT UP) Jeremiah 29:11. (OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK) Wow! Great job everyone!"

During the Activity

"Okay! Let's walk from star to star and we'll say the verse together. Ready? Here we go! (STEP OR HOP TO EACH STAR AS YOU SAY EACH PART!) 'For I know.' Let's do the next part! 'The plans.' (PAUSE.) I have for you.' (PAUSE.) 'Says the Lord.' (PAUSE.) Jeremiah 29:11. Wow! You did it! You completed our Memory Verse Star Walk! Way to go! Let's do it again!" (REPEAT AS DESIRED.)

After the Activity

"Waiting can be hard, but just like Abraham and Sarah learned, God always keeps His promises. And just like the stars in the sky, God's plans for us are BIG! Who has plans for you? [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me!"

GROUPS 2/6

Count the Stars



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Abraham and Sarah" and "Baby Isaac" Activity Pages
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue Sticks
- ☐ Star Stickers or Self-inking Star Stamps

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Adaptive Scissors



Inclusive Pro Tips

- Provide adaptive scissors.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Abraham and Sarah" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Copy "Baby Isaac" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child.

During the Activity

1. As you review the Bible Story, give each child a copy of "Abraham and Sarah."
2. Next, give each child star stickers or star stamps to put above Abraham and Sarah.
3. Go to each child as they work and count their stars with them.
4. End with giving each child a baby Isaac to glue to their page.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Everyone, come sit at the table with me. We are going to make some story art that will help us remember today's Bible Story!"

During the Activity

"This is a picture of Abraham and Sarah, (GIVE EACH CHILD AN ACTIVITY PAGE.) God had plans for them. God told them they would have as many people in their family as there are stars in the sky! Let's put stars in the sky above Abraham and Sarah. (GIVE EACH CHILD STAR STICKERS OR A SELF-INKING STAR STAMP) Oh...look at all the stars! Let's try and count the stars together. One, two, three..." (SAY THIS WITH EACH CHILD AS THEY WORK.) God's plans for Abraham and Sarah were for them to have more children than stars in the sky. They were so excited about God's plan, and they knew that God always keeps His promises. They waited, and waited, and waited until one day, they had the baby they had waited and waited for! Abraham and Sarah had a little boy, and they named him Isaac. Let's glue this picture of baby Isaac by Abraham and Sarah. (GIVE EACH CHILD A BABY ISAAC.) God kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah, and their family grew... and grew... and grew! There were more people than stars in the sky!"

After the Activity

"Wow! Your pictures look great! Now you can take them home to help you remember that God had plans for Abraham and Sarah, and God has plans for you too! Who has plans for you? [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me!"

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

September — Week 4

GROUPS 4/6

Balancing Stars



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ Star Cutouts

Inclusive Optional Supplies

☐ Star-shaped Sticky Notes



Inclusive Pro Tips

For a version that's a better fit for your group, use star sticky notes in place of the star cutouts.

Assist children, as needed.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

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

During the Activity

2. Challenge children to balance their star on different parts of their body, such as their forehead, elbow, or foot.
3. Encourage them to try different ways and see who can keep their star balanced the longest. If a star falls, they can pick it up and try again.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Abraham and Sarah had to wait a long time for God's plan, and waiting can be hard! Let's see if we can do something that may seem a little hard to do—balancing a star! (POINT TO THE STAR CUTOUTS.)

During the Activity

"Ready? Okay! Can you balance your star on your forehead? (DEMONSTRATE AND PAUSE.) Wait, wait, now how about on your elbow? (DEMONSTRATE AND PAUSE.) Wait, wait, now try balancing it on your foot! (DEMONSTRATE AND PAUSE.) It's a little hard, but you're doing great! Let's try balancing on some other places. (CONTINUE AS LONG AS TIME AND INTEREST ALLOW.) That was a lot of fun!"

After the Activity

"Abraham and Sarah waited a long time for God's plan, but God always keeps His promises! God had plans for Abraham and Sarah, and God has plans for you! Who has plans for you? (BOTTOM LINE) God has plans for me!"