2-4 Year-olds

**Small Group** 

September — Week 1

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## **Small Group Leader Guide**

Preschool Timetable









Today's Bible Story

God has good things for me to do. Adam and Eve

Genesis 1:27-28; 2:15, 19-20

**Key Question** 

Who has plans for you?

**Bottom Line** 

God has plans for me.

Memory Verse

"For I know the plans I have for you,' says the Lord." Jeremiah 29:11 NLT

#### Inclusive Pro Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.





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## **MOVE ACTIVITY**

# Animal Adventure

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Move

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

Animal Stickers



#### Inclusive Pro Tips

For a version with less movement, offer alternatives like clapping, waving, or gently moving their arms to represent the animal instead of physically moving across the room.

If using this version, adjust wording in What You Say section accordingly.

## What You Do

## **Before the Activity**

- 1. Invite children to stand against the wall in your activity area.
- 2. Place an animal sticker on each child's hand.
- 3. Talk about each child's animal.
- 4. Move to the middle of your area, across from the children.

## **During the Activity**

- Encourage children to move to you like the animal on their sticker when you name it.
  - → For example, if you say "elephant," the child with the elephant sticker will stomp to you. If you say "bunny rabbit," that child will hop to you like a bunny.
- 2. Continue until each child has a turn to move like their animal.
- 3. Repeat as desired.

## **After the Activity**

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

## 2 What You Say

## **Before the Activity**

"Hello friends! Gather over here on this wall. I'm going to put a sticker on everyone's hand. Here's one for you, (PAUSE) look! It's a/an [ANIMAL].

And a sticker for you. (PAUSE.) You got a/an [ANIMAL]! (CONTINUE WITH EACH CHILD.) Today, we are going to play a game where I name an animal and if you have that animal sticker, you'll move to me like that animal!"

## **During the Activity**

"Are all my animals ready to play? Great! Listen for your animal. Elephants! Stomp over to me. (PAUSE.) Awesome! Okay, bunny rabbits, hop over to me. (PAUSE.) Fantastic! (CONTINUE UNTIL EACH CHILD MOVES TO YOU LIKE THEIR ANIMAL.) Wow, you all moved just like the animals I named! That was a fun game!"

#### After the Activity

"Wow, that was such a fun activity! Now it's time for our true story from the Bible. In today's Bible story, we'll hear about how God made Adam and Eve and gave them important things to do. God wanted them to take care of the amazing world He created! And you know what? God gives us good things to do too—like being kind and loving, helping our neighbors, and taking care of the things He made. God had plans for Adam and Eve, and God has plans for you and me too! Who has plans for you? [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me!"

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# Memory Verse with Motions

Faith Skills

Hear from God

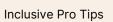
Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ No Supplies Needed



Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.

Set out the picture cutouts made from the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.

If using this version, adjust wording in What You Say section accordingly.





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## **CREATE ACTIVITY**

## Craft Stick Frame



#### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

#### What You Need

- "Craft Stick Frame Label" Activity
  - Page
- Craft sticks
- □ VELCRO® Dots
- Dot Markers
- Stickers
- Baby Wipes
- Permanent Marker

### Inclusive Pro Tips



Assist children, as needed.

Create an example.

Model and encourage children to construct and create their frame.

## What You Do

- 1. Give each child a prepared ziplock bag with 4 craft sticks, one label, and stickers.
- 2. Encourage the children to decorate their craft sticks using dot markers.
- 3. Ask them to place their label on the frame, then connect the craft sticks together to form a frame.
- 4. Help the children add smiley stickers to their finished frame.

## What You Say

## **Before the Activity**

"Hello friends! Come over to the table. Today we are going to construct and create something super neat with these craft sticks."

## **During the Activity**

"I want you to decorate your craft sticks with markers and stickers. (PAUSE.) Wow! These look great! (CLEAN HANDS AS NEEDED.) Now let's put them together. See these dots? (POINT TO THE VELCRO DOTS.) Stick the craft sticks together with these dots. (PAUSE.) Great job! You made a picture frame! Did some of the decorated sides go on the back of your frame? (PAUSE.) That's okay! You can leave them like they are, or you can decorate the plain sides. (GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE TO DECORATE MORE IF DESIRED.) There's one last piece for your frame, add this label on one of the craft sticks. (PAUSE.) It says [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me.

And tells you where you can look in the Bible to find today's story. Great job friends."

### **After the Activity**

"Today we heard a story from the Bible about the very first two people God made. Their names were Adam and Eve, and they lived in a beautiful garden. God gave Adam and Eve very important jobs to do like taking care of the garden and everything in it. That means taking care of the land and the plants and the animals, and growing food in the garden. God even asked Adam to name the animals! God gives us important jobs to do too because God has plans for you and [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me. Who has plans for you? [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me."

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#### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

## **What You Say**

"Dear God, thank You for having plans for each of the children and for me. Please help us to do the good things You have planned for us—like (READ THE LIST THE CHILDREN MADE). You are the best, God, and we love You! In Jesus' name, Amen." September-W1

# SAMPLE







