



part 2 of 2—

Kindergarten Teaching Ideas

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Invisible Pictures

This activity makes use of the changeable markers available from Crayola. Use one of the white/clear markers to trace or draw a picture. The picture will be invisible until a child colors that side of the page with one of the colored markers. Then a picture will “magically” appear in two colors.

Lesson Connections

- ❖ Trace any animal or object from a Bible visual. Let the children “color” the invisible picture and then move the animal during the Bible story like a prop.
- ❖ Print each letter of a simple sight word on a separate piece of paper. Have the children work together to “color” the letters and assemble them into the word. Some simple sight words to introduce to Kindergartners include *God, Jesus, Bible,* and *church*.
- ❖ Use this idea as a self-check tool. For example, if children are to decide whether photocopied pictures show children obeying or disobeying the Bible, use the white pen to draw happy faces on the backs of the pictures where children are obeying or sad

faces on the backs of pictures where children are disobeying.

Tips

- ❖ Use a dot of color to mark the side of the paper that has the invisible picture.
- ❖ Use only a quarter or smaller sheet of paper so children will not need to color a lot of white space to find a small picture.
- ❖ If you are going to trace a picture, choose a picture with simple, recognizable lines.
- ❖ Some children will want to use a rainbow of colors to make the invisible pictures appear. Great! Let children experiment.

Mud Pudding

Line a clean flowerpot with tin foil or clear plastic wrap. Fill the pot to within two inches of the top with prepared pudding. Crush chocolate sandwich cookies and sprinkle the crumbs on top to look like dirt. Strategically position one or two Gummi worms in the dirt. Serve the pudding as a snack.

Lesson Connections

Use this snack when teaching the story of Creation or the Parable of the Sower.

Tips

- ❖ Keep a little plain pudding in a separate container for students who don't want their cookies and pudding to touch.
- ❖ Buy snack-size pudding and let children make their own mud pudding by sprinkling cookie crumbs on their individual servings and adding their own Gummi worms.

Rebus Sticker Stories

A rebus combines words and pictures to tell a story. Each picture should represent the same word each time it is used in the story. You can write your own story to relate to a Bible lesson by using stickers you purchase and creating a story to go with them. Look at a set of stickers you have available. Decide what lesson-related brief story you could use the stickers in.

Write the story, using stickers to represent some of the words. Remember, a sticker should stand for the same word each time it is used. Make photocopies of the story. Give the children stickers to place over the black and white pictures in their copies of the story. Tell the children the word each sticker represents.

Rhythmic Verses

Connect rhythmic movements with a Bible verse. The rhythms can include patting your legs, clapping your hands, or snapping fingers on one hand and then on the other. Generally, each snap, clap, or pat will correspond with one syllable of the verse.

Tips

- ❖ This kind of activity works best with short verses.
- ❖ Decide before class what kind of movement/rhythm will go with each word or syllable.
- ❖ Practice before class so you can keep the rhythm the same each time. Repeat the verse slowly so children will be able to keep up.
- ❖ Gradually increase the speed to keep the children challenged.
- ❖ Praise their efforts, whether they were able to keep on beat or not.
- ❖ Be sure the children understand the meaning of the verse.

Storytelling Snacks

As much as possible, try to bring a snack that relates to

each week's Bible lesson. Two or three times a month, include the snack in the Bible story.

Lesson Connections

- ❖ Stick pretzels make a good imitation of barley for the story of Ruth.
- ❖ Make marshmallow and pretzel bugs to move during the story of the Egyptian plagues.
- ❖ On the Sunday when Jesus turns water into wine or God changes the water from the Nile into blood, place presweetened, powdered Kool-Aid in an opaque pitcher with a lid. Provide water in a clear pitcher. During the story, pour the clear water into the opaque pitcher. Pour the colored water into small cups for the children to drink.
- ❖ Use story-related snacks, such as animal crackers, shaped canapes, carrot coins, and cotton candy clouds.

Written Prayer Request

As children list prayer requests, write them on a chalkboard, white board, or large piece of paper attached to the wall with tape. Even though the children cannot read their

requests, they are becoming aware that writing is important. By writing their requests, you are sending the message that their needs are important too—to you and to God.

Tips

- ❖ Keep written requests short (e.g., Daddy is sick, a friend is hurt).
- ❖ Ask a youth or adult helper to write the requests while you take them.
- ❖ Use the written list to help pray for each request.
- ❖ Teach the ways God answers our prayers: yes, no, wait.
- ❖ Teach the children to share praise and thanks right along with prayer needs. Write these down too, and include them in the group prayer.
- ❖ Make Prayer Books and glue each child's photograph on an individual page of a notebook or photo album. Each week as children list prayer requests, write each child's request on his page of the notebook. Periodically, review with the child his/her requests in the book. Highlight the answered requests.



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