



WEEK
FOUR
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

I shine when I do what Jesus says.

SHINE LIKE THE STARS
PHILIPPIANS 2:14-16

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.

Star Jump
Starry Night Sensory Bag
Light It Up!

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"You Love Me"
Bible Story
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Reach for the Stars
Dancing Stars
Stick the Stars
I CAN Headband

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Memory Verse Card
Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)
Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



1. STAR JUMP

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Stand together with the children in an open space.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Show children how to do a star jump by jumping up in the air, extending your arms and legs outward at the same time, and then bringing them back in as you land. Encourage children to be stars by doing star jumps too. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come spread out around me. I have something fun for us to do today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to show you a movement for us to do. Ready? (*Do a star jump.*) Doesn't that look like fun? What shape did I make with my body? Here, watch me one more time. (*Demonstrate.*) My body made a star! Let's all be stars! Jump with me. (*Pause.*) Great job! Look at all of you shining stars!" (*Repeat as desired.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You are bright, beautiful stars! Today in our Bible Story we are going to hear how we can shine bright when we do what Jesus says! I can't wait! Let's go, shiny stars!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by continuing to do star jumps. When you say, "Shine bright, little star," everyone does a little star jump. When you say, "Shine bright, big star," everyone does a big star jump. Continue doing star jumps as you move to your designated area.

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



2. STARRY NIGHT SENSORY BAG

WHAT YOU NEED: Gallon-size resealable bags, black or dark blue cardstock or construction paper, star foil confetti, glow-in-the-dark stars, clear hair gel, and wide masking or painter's tape

Note: If your gallon-size bag has a brand label on the front, you can use hand sanitizer, a screen wipe, or a Magic Eraser® to remove the label.

BIBLE STORY

I shine when I do what Jesus says.

SHINE LIKE THE STARS
PHILIPPIANS 2:14-16

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Put approximately one-half cup of hair gel in each bag. In half of the bags, add a few foil stars, and in the other half, add a few glow-in-the-dark stars. Tape a piece of black paper to the table at each spot; then lay a bag over each paper and tape to secure.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to explore the gel bags by using their fingers to push the stars around in the night sky.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come find a spot at the table. Two friends can share each bag."

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "What do you see in the bag in front of you? *(Pause.)* Stars! That's right. You can use your fingers to move the stars around in the bag. *(Pause.)* Can you make all the stars go high in the sky? *(Pause.)* Great! Can you move them to the bottom of the sky? *(Pause.)* Can you swirl them in a circle? *(Pause.)* Great job! Now you can move to a bag that has different stars in it and explore as you move them around." *(Repeat as desired.)*

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was so fun! These stars shine brightly in the sky. And WE can shine bright when we do what Jesus says! We'll hear all about it in our Bible Story. Come with me."

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by making stars—twinkle your fingers overhead—as you travel.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts



3. LIGHT IT UP!

WHAT YOU NEED: Clear storage container with clear lid; aluminum foil; clear battery-powered Christmas lights; Magna-Tiles®; white paper; crayons; and clear packing tape

Note: Consider making several lightboxes to reduce wait time.

BIBLE STORY

I shine when I do what Jesus says.

SHINE LIKE THE STARS
PHILIPPIANS 2:14-16

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Create a lightbox by lining the sides and bottom of the container with foil. Place the battery-powered lights inside the lightbox. Turn on the lights, replace the lid, and tape closed. Set the light box on the floor or table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Offer Magna-Tiles® on top of the lightbox for children to explore. Give children white paper and crayons to color on top of the light box. Explore the shadow and light that the box creates.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, gather here with me! Look at this neat box. It has pretty twinkle lights in it. Let's explore!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "What do you think will happen when you put this toy on top of the box? *(Pause.)* Wow, look how the light shines through. Try stacking different colors on top of each other. *(Pause.)* What about coloring on top of the box? *(Put a piece of paper on top of the box and give children crayons to color with.)* Draw a picture on the paper. *(Pause.)* How does it look to color on the box? I love how the light shines and makes the toys look super special!"

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was fun to explore the lightbox with the toys today! We are going to hear a story about how WE can shine too! I can't wait to hear our story today!"

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by singing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



1. REACH FOR THE STARS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Stickers" Activity Page, Avery® Labels #5294 or equivalent, yellow crepe paper streamers, paper star cutouts, and masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Stickers" on label paper, one sticker per child. Hang pieces of yellow crepe paper from the ceiling that extend to about a foot over a preschooler's head, one per child. Place a Memory Verse Sticker on each star cutout, one per child. Tape a star with the Memory Verse Sticker to the end of each piece of crepe paper. Say the Memory Verse together with the motions.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out the stars hanging around the room. Repeat the verse together as the children roam around and reach up to touch the stars. Repeat as time and interest allow. Take the stars off the streamers and give one to each child.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say the Memory Verse one more time with the motions and review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand under the stars with me. Let's do the motions as we say our verse together. Ready? 'Let (move flat hands forward from your hip) your light (palms facing forward) shine!' (twinkling hands moving out). Matthew 5:16 (Open hands like a book) Great job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's walk around and look at the pretty stars as we say the verse together. 'Let your light shine.' Matthew 5:16 (Repeat several times.) Now, I want you to find a star hanging from the sky and reach up to touch it while we say the Memory Verse. 'Let your light shine,' Matthew 5:16. Find a new star and reach up to touch it as we say our verse again. (Take the stars from the streamers and give one to each child.) You are such bright stars!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Memory Verse tells us to 'Let your light shine.' We shine our lights when we do what Jesus says. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!** One more time. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!**"

BIBLE STORY

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MEMORY VERSE

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MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



2. DANCING STARS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Yellow butcher paper or poster board, scissors, painter's tape, music player, and fun preschool music

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Cut the yellow butcher paper or poster board into large star shapes, one per child. Stars

should be large enough for children to stand on. Spread out the stars on the floor around the activity area. Tape to secure.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to dance when the music plays and find a star to stand on when the music stops. Once each child is standing on a star, say a kind word together, for example, "Please;" "Thank you," "I'm a happy helper," etc. Play the music and do it again. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Ask everyone to stand on a star and review the Bottom Line together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Wow! Look at all the stars on the floor! Go find a star to stand on. There are enough stars for everyone!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "When the music plays, I want you to dance all around. And when the music stops, run to a star, and stand on it. Let's practice. (*Stop and start the music a few times to practice.*) That was fun! Jesus said to let our light shine. Our Bible Story taught us how the words we say can make us shine like the stars in the sky. Let's practice saying words that make us shine! (*Continue dancing to the music and standing on a star when the music stops. Each time you stand on a star, repeat one of these phrases: "Please," "Thank you," or "I'm a happy helper."*) Wow, friends! You are so good at saying kind words and shining your light!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, find a star to stand on. Now twinkle your fingers in the air, like stars. (*Demonstrate.*) The Bible teaches us to do what Jesus says with a happy heart. We can do what Jesus says without complaining or arguing. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says! Yay! I can do what Jesus says.**"

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



3. STICK THE STARS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Stick the Stars Note" Activity Page, cardstock, clear Con-Tact® paper, painter's tape, glow-in-the-dark stars, and resealable sandwich bags

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Stick the Stars Note"

Activity Page on cardstock and cut, one take-home note per child. Tape a long sheet of Con-Tact paper (*sticky side out*) to the wall at child's height. Place three glow-in-the-dark stars and a parent note in a bag for each child. Set aside to send home. Introduce the glow-in-the-dark stars to the children.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Hand children glow-in-the-dark stars one at a time and have them put the stars on the sticky paper. Continue as long as there is interest.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: If you are able, dim the lights so children can see the stars glowing on the wall. Give each child a bag of stars with the take-home note.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here with me. I have something fun to show you. (*Hold up star.*) What is this? (*Pause.*) Yes, it's a star. We heard about shining like stars in our Bible story today. Stars shine bright in the sky."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's pretend the wall is the sky and put our stars in the sky. [Child's name], put your star in the sky. Great job. Now, [child's name], you put a star in the sky. Look at that beautiful sky of stars you made! Watch what happens when I turn down the lights! They shine! That is awesome!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we heard that WE can shine like stars when we do what Jesus says. Raise your hand if you want to shine like a star! Yay! When you do what Jesus says, you shine! **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!** That's right! I'm going to give you this bag of stars that you can take home to remind you that you shine when you do what Jesus says."

BIBLE STORY

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MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



4. I CAN HEADBAND
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "I CAN Label" Activity Page, Avery® Labels #5163 or equivalent, blue poster board, star stickers in a variety of colors and sizes, scissors, stapler, and a permanent marker; *Optional: blue bulletin board border in place of blue poster board*

BIBLE STORY

I shine when I do what Jesus says.

SHINE LIKE THE STARS
PHILIPPIANS 2:14-16

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."
MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "I CAN Label" on label paper, one label per child. Cut poster board into 3"-3 1/2" wide strips, one per child. Write each child's name on their strip.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to decorate their strip with as many stars as desired. Measure each child's strip around their head and cut if needed. Staple the ends together with the bend facing outward. Ask children to place their label over the staple. Encourage children to wear their headband.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit at the table with me, and let's make a fun headband to wear!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, we learned how we can shine like the stars in the sky by doing what Jesus says with a happy heart. Let's cover this strip of blue paper with all these fun star stickers. (Pause.) Great job! Your paper looks just like the night sky! Let's turn your strips of paper into headbands. (Measure each child's strip around their head and cut if needed. Staple the ends together with the bend facing outward.) Put your sticker over the staple(s). Now you have an amazing headband that helps you to remember to shine like the stars!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The Bible teaches us that when we do what Jesus says with a happy heart, like when we don't argue or complain, we will shine like stars! There are so many ways to shine (*twinkle fingers*) and do what Jesus says. Sometimes, there will be people around you who are complaining or arguing. But you can choose to do what Jesus says and SHINE. Say this with me, 'I shine when I do what Jesus says.' I shine when I do what Jesus says. And **who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.** Yes, you can! **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.**"



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age-appropriate and hands-on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible Story.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and children at the door.

1. STAR JUMP

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

2. STARRY NIGHT SENSORY BAG

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Gallon-size resealable bags, one per every two children
- Black or dark blue cardstock or construction paper
- Star foil confetti
- Glow-in-the-dark stars
- Clear hair gel
- Wide masking or painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Put approximately one-half cup of hair gel in each bag.
- In half of the bags, add a few foil stars, and in the other half, add a few glow-in-the-dark stars.
- Tape a piece of black paper to the table at each spot; then lay a bag over each paper, and tape to secure.

3. LIGHT IT UP!

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Clear storage container and clear lid

- Aluminum foil
- Clear battery-powered Christmas lights
- Magna-Tiles® or paper and crayons
- Clear packing tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Create a lightbox by lining the sides and bottom of the container with foil.
- Place the battery-powered lights inside the lightbox and replace the lid.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. REACH FOR THE STARS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Stickers" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #5294 or equivalent
- Yellow crepe paper streamers
- Paper star cutouts, one per child
- Masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Memory Verse Stickers" on label paper, one sticker per child.
- Hang pieces of yellow crepe paper from the ceiling that extend to about a foot over a preschooler's head, one per child.
- Place a Memory Verse Sticker on each star cutout, one per child.



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

- Tape a star with the Memory Verse Sticker to the end of each piece of crepe paper.

2. DANCING STARS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Yellow butcher paper or poster board
- Scissors
- Painter's tape
- Music player
- Fun preschool music

WHAT YOU DO:

- Cut the yellow butcher paper or poster board into large star shapes, one per child. Make the stars large enough for a child to stand on.
- Spread out the stars on the floor around the activity area. Tape to secure.

3. STICK THE STARS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Stick the Stars Note" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Clear Con-Tact® paper
- Painter's tape
- Glow-in-the-dark stars
- Resealable sandwich bags

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Stick the Stars" Activity Page on cardstock and cut, one take-home note per child.
- Tape a long sheet of Con-Tact paper (sticky side out) to the wall at child height.
- Place three glow-in-the-dark stars and a parent note in a bag for each child; set aside to send home.

4. I CAN HEADBAND

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "I CAN Label" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #5163 or equivalent
- Blue poster board
- Star stickers in a variety of colors and sizes
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Permanent marker
- *Optional: blue bulletin board border in place of blue poster board*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "I CAN Label" on label paper, one label per child.
- Cut poster board into 3"-3 ½" wide strips, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their strip.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue app**.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

- Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. bit.ly/FL_Shine