

Bible Basics for Little Ones

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PRESCHOOL AGE CURRICULUM (suitable for 2-year-olds and older)

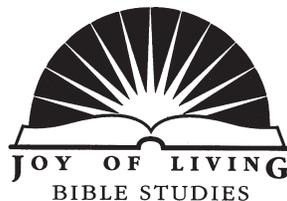
written by Joan Regan
(revised & updated)

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PREFACE

Considerations in Teaching Two-Year-Olds

Two-year-olds are at a very special place between babyhood and the preschool years. Because they have many abilities that children under two do not have, and yet do not have the capabilities of three and four-year-olds, they need a program that is designed especially for them. They are in the phase of personality development known as the autonomy stage. They want to do things for themselves and to assert themselves as individuals separate from their parents. Yet they still lack much self-control. For these reasons, their behavior must be guided gently in order not to squelch the drive for independence.

Aggression is very common at this age. Since most two-year-olds do not have enough language skills to express their feelings verbally, they do it physically, often by hitting, pushing and grabbing. These behaviors are best handled with a gentle, physical approach in which the child is removed from the situation and verbally reinforced (“We can’t hit other people.”). Spanking, scolding and shaming should not be used. Older two’s can be encouraged to verbalize their desires or anger, and this helps to reduce the amount of physical aggression.

Two-year-olds can learn! We must provide not only a safe environment, but one that is rich in opportunities for learning. Children learn best when all of their senses are being used. Music, stories, art experiences, blocks and toys, dramatic play equipment, manipulatives, and large motor activities all enhance the child’s development.

Two-year-olds can begin to develop an awareness of God. Although their understanding of Him is very limited, they can begin to know that He made everything and that He loves them. **Our goal in using Bible stories is not to emphasize details, but God’s loving relationship with His children, and His provision for our needs.**

It is important to avoid symbolism at this age. Young children think literally and do not understand such concepts as “Jesus is the light of the world,” etc. Stories should be brief, illustrated, and avoid details that would be disturbing or confusing to a young child. But perhaps the most learning takes place when a young child is eating an apple and we say, “God made apples,” or we give a child a hug and say, “I love you, and God loves you, too.” **Two-year-olds may not remember the stories for long, but they will remember the positive or negative feeling they had** about school in general and their teachers in particular.

May we be channels of God’s love and reflect His character to the little ones He has entrusted to us and may God richly bless you and give you good success.

Dear Director,

Children are important to God and **you have the privilege** of helping children learn more about God and develop a personal relationship with Him. In this course we will use a variety of methods to accomplish this including music, story time, activity centers, finger plays and more.

The suggestions on the following pages should help you have a successful year. **Please read through them** prayerfully and carefully. It is not necessary to follow every detail. Use the suggestions and the daily lessons as a springboard for your own ideas.

Areas of Responsibility:

Although one person may be responsible for all or many of these areas, it is much easier for the responsibilities to be shared among several people. **The division of responsibilities should be determined by the ability and availability of the volunteers.** Responsibilities may be assigned for the entire year or rotated on a weekly or quarterly basis.

Having adults present in the classroom helps young children stay focused and in control of themselves. The ideal situation is to have at least 1 adult or responsible teenager for every 5 children.

- **Director** is responsible for coordinating teacher/helpers. The charts on pages 8-11 will help keep track of the teacher/helpers and their assigned responsibilities.

Don't wait to the last minute to prepare for the year, begin well in advance. Read through the following information. Recruit the necessary helpers and schedule a Teacher/Helper meeting. Give a copy of their responsibilities to each volunteer.

Post a copy of the classroom schedule in the classroom.

If possible, recruit several people who are willing to pray on a regular basis for you, your workers and the children.

Prior to the first class meeting, make a follow-up call to each of your helpers to make certain they have everything ready for their area of responsibility.

Parent's Information Form (page 7). When each child is checked in for the first time, have the adult checking them in complete the form. Keep these on file in the classroom.

The most important thing to remember: Love the children and enjoy them. Pray for them, your helpers and yourself each week. Let the Lord do the rest!

- **Room Coordinator** is responsible for set up, clean up and decorating the room. Have the room cleaned and decorated *before* your first class. If space allows, designate areas for the following activities:

1. Singing, storytime, finger play activities should take place on a carpeted area or on child

size chairs so children may have a place to sit. If carpeting is not available, carpet samples (usually 2' x 3') can be obtained from carpeting supply stores at minimal cost. Pieces may be prearranged for the children or the children may pick up their own piece of carpeting from your storage stack and place it where they want to sit.

2. Decorations may be as simple or as elaborate as your budget allows. Pictures of Bible characters or Christian emblems may be purchased at most Christian Bookstores. You may also choose to decorate bulletin boards with seasonal colors and pictures. Keep themes bright, cheerful and happy. Avoid witches, monsters, etc. during the fall seasons; instead you can focus on Thanksgiving and all God has given us.
 3. A sturdy table and chairs will be needed for table activities and art. It can be used for snack time. Keep craft supplies and snacks out of reach and preferably out of sight until their assigned time.
 4. Organized and motor skill activities may be conducted outside if the weather permits. If it must take place inside, clear as large an area as possible. Table and chairs can be replaced when Organized Activity Time is completed.
 5. Interest Center. Have a small moveable table available for the teacher.
 6. For free play time make certain you have a number of 2-year-old safe toys. If the church does not have a supply already you may ask people to donate money to purchase the toys or to actually donate new or used toys. Check yard and garage sales, too, for bargain toys. (If the toys are used, check to make certain they are in safe and clean condition.) Baby dolls, trucks & cars, dress-up clothes, pretend cooking utensils & food, small kitchenettes, etc. are all fun for the children. Stay away from stuffed animals or other items that cannot be wiped clean at the end of the session.
- **Teacher** is responsible for the Interest Center and for teaching the lesson. One teacher may be assigned for the entire year or rotated on a weekly, monthly or quarterly basis.
 1. In preparation for the lesson, read through the teacher's scripture passages thoughtfully and prayerfully. Ask God to help you share His love and care with the children.
 2. The Interest Center will complement the lesson for the day. You will generally use the interest center information to lead into the story.
 3. Use visuals when teaching the story. Flannelgraph figures can be used or purchase an inexpensive Bible story book with brightly colored pictures. Point to the pictures as you tell the story.
 4. Familiarize yourself with the story. If possible, tell the story rather than reading the story. If it is necessary to read the story, put your page in your Bible so they will see you reading from your Bible.
 5. Make plenty of eye contact with the children and be enthusiastic about the Lord and all that He has done for us. The children will catch your excitement.
 - **Song Leader** is responsible for leading the children in singing & finger play. Suggested songs are from the reproducible CD "Sing-Along Songs for Young Children" which may

be purchased from *Joy of Living*. For those who are unsure of their musical ability, many of the tunes in “Sing-Along Songs for Young Children” are familiar folk songs. Music is a wonderful teaching tool. The suggested songs reinforce the truths being taught in the lesson; however, other appropriate songs may be substituted.

It is important to know the songs before trying to sing them with the children. And don’t forget to **use motions** to accompany the songs. If none are indicated—make them up! Motions will help the children learn the songs more quickly, add fun to singing them and help develop their motor skills. Don’t be afraid to be “silly” and exaggerate the motions, it will help the children loosen up and do the motions. Suggested finger plays are in Appendix starting on page 107. Practice them BEFORE you try to show the children and remember to smile a lot!

- **Table Activities/Art Coordinator** is responsible for obtaining materials for all art and table activities, oversees art activities, and is responsible for clean-up of art projects. Make certain you have the needed items prior to the class. It is also helpful to have a sample already made to show the children.

Talk to the children about the aim of the lesson as you complete the art activity. This will reinforce the truth you are trying to teach them (e.g. God’s loving care by providing us with food).

Plan ahead. Look through the upcoming art activities and see if you can purchase needed items in quantity. To cut down on the cost, ask the leader of the adult class to announce to the adults what items will be needed for the art activities. Some may have items at home they would like to donate or they may want to purchase the items and donate them. Also, see if the church bulletin will include a request for donated items to be used by your class. You could also check with the Craft Coordinator for the older children and see if they will be using some of the same materials. If so, purchase in quantity and share the cost.

- **Snack Coordinator** is responsible for preparation, serving and clean-up of snacks. Any simple healthful snack will do (make certain items are cut small enough so the children will not choke). Try to stay away from snacks containing added sugar or red food dye. Many parents are very careful about what their children eat. Check the registration forms to see if there are any dietary restrictions for any of the children. There is a list of suggested snacks on page 12-13.
- **Organized Activities Leader** is responsible for leading the Organized Activity time and obtaining and setting up any necessary equipment. Most lessons have suggested motor-skills activities and activity songs. Avoid activities that cause the children to compete with each other.
- **Assistants** are responsible for helping control the children during class time. Have the assistants sit among the children during story time. If a child is acting up have the child sit with the assistant. Assistants can also help with all activities, as well as set-up and clean-up.

Teacher/Helper Meeting:

For the best results plan to have at least one teacher/helper meeting prior to the beginning of the year. Other meetings through out the year can be helpful for planning events, sharing ideas and solving any problems that may arise.

At your meeting:

- pray for the students, teacher/helpers and the upcoming year
- give a brief overview of the objectives of the course
- familiarize the teachers/helpers with the daily schedule
- familiarize the teachers/helpers with the songs you will be singing. You may want to give each teacher/helper a copy of the songs on CD (*Sing Along Songs* on CD is reproducible).
- assign responsibilities
- give a copy of individual responsibilities & classroom schedule to each volunteer along with the sheet “Considerations in Teaching Two-year-olds”.
- answer any questions

Suggested Schedule:

Remember, attention span is very brief at this age. Keep each activity short to keep the children involved. The times are merely suggestions. See what works best for your class.

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Activity Songs/Motor Activity
10-20 minutes	Snack (See page 12 for suggestions)
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

Lesson Units Schedule (see overview on page 15):

Unit IV (Weeks 10-12) is about Christmas, and Unit VIII (Weeks 23-24) is about Easter. You may wish to re-arrange the Units and/or Weeks to place the Christmas and Easter Units at the correct time in your class’s calendar.

Please complete and return to your child's teacher.

Child's Full Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: (____) _____ Child's Birthday: _____

Name(s) of siblings: _____ "Potty Trained"? _____

Special needs or instructions (regarding food intolerances, etc.): _____

Please be certain to pick up your child immediately after class.

Please complete and return to your child's teacher.

Child's Full Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: (____) _____ Child's Birthday: _____

Name(s) of siblings: _____ "Potty Trained"? _____

Special needs or instructions (regarding food intolerances, etc.): _____

Please be certain to pick up your child immediately after class.

Director's Schedule

Use this chart to keep track of who is assigned to the various areas of responsibilities.

Week	Room Coordinator	Song Leader	Teacher	Table Activity/Art
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				

Director's Schedule

Use this chart to keep track of who is assigned to the various areas of responsibilities.

Week	Organized Activities	Snack	Assistant	Assistant
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				

Director's Schedule

Use this chart to keep track of who is assigned to the various areas of responsibilities.

Week	Room Coordinator	Song Leader	Teacher	Table Activity/Art
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				
28				
29				
30				
31				
32				
33				

Director's Schedule

Use this chart to keep track of who is assigned to the various areas of responsibilities.

Week	Organized Activities	Snack	Assistant	Assistant
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				
28				
29				
30				
31				
32				
33				

Recipes & Snack Ideas

These are just a few ideas. Use your imagination, just remember to stay away from sugar.

Make certain all portions are cut small enough so the children will not choke.

Fresh Fruits

Fresh fruits are a hit with both kids and parents!

Clean and cut fruit into easy to handle pieces. Remove any seeds and peel away any hard to chew skin.

Fresh Vegetables

Fresh vegetables, too, are a hit with both kids and parents!

Clean and cut the vegetables into easy to handle pieces. Remove any inedible parts. Ranch dressing or other dips usually make vegetables more fun and enjoyable. Don't use a "communal" dipping bowl. Place portions of dip on each child's plate.

Crackers & Cheese

Crackers of various shapes and flavors are easy to serve and clean-up. You may want to put a small amount of softened cream cheese on each plate and allow the children to use a plastic knife to spread the cheese on the crackers. To vary the look you can add food coloring to the cream cheese. Or, you can give the children slices of cheese to place on their crackers

"Goldfish" and "Dolphins"

There are crackers shaped as goldfish, dolphins and other creatures that are flavored and low in sugar. Most children love these.

String Cheese and Squares

String cheese is another inexpensive and easy to clean up snack that is a favorite with kids. Cheeses such as "jack" and mild cheddar cut into small squares are also fun and healthy. *Don't* be tempted to give them toothpicks...let them use their fingers!

Peanut Butter Balls (Serves 8)

This is a healthy snack that the kids will love to help you make!

1/2 c.	peanut butter	2 T.	honey
2 1/2 T.	nonfat dry milk	1/4 c.	coconut
2 T.	raisins		sesame seeds (sprinkle)

Mix together everything but sesame seeds. Form into small balls. Roll in sesame seeds.

Yummers (Serves 12-16)

2 oz. grated cheese 1/2 c. flour
1/4 c. butter (grated) 1/2 c. Rice Krispies

Mix all ingredients together. Form into little balls. Bake at 375° degrees for 10 minutes.

Quesadillas (kay - sa - dee - yas)

Cut flour tortillas in half. Spread with cheese spread, fold and serve sandwich style.

These are good served warm, too!

Trail Mix

You can buy already prepared trail mix or make your own using your own selection of dried fruit and nuts.

Chex Mix

You can make your own following the directions of the box or you can buy it pre-made.

Peanut Butter & Graham Crackers

Be certain to use peanut butter and graham crackers that are both low in sugar.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Circles

Make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Using a round cookie cutter cut the sandwiches into circles. To add variety or during various holiday seasons use different shaped cookie cutters (e.g. at Christmas use a Christmas tree or star shaped cookie cutter). Be certain to use peanut butter and jelly that are both low in sugar.

Games/Activities

Indoor/Outdoor Activities:

Children like the familiar. Don't introduce too many new games/activities at once. Discover which games/activities the children like best and play the same ones again and again. At this age it is best to avoid activities that cause the children to compete.

The motor skills activities are fun and challenging for the children. You've probably watched a two year old climb over an object on the floor just for the enjoyment of doing it. These large motor activities help them learn body coordination.

Additional games:

Did You Ever see a Lassie/Laddie – As you sing the song “Did You Ever See A Lassie/Laddie” pick a movement for them to follow. Then at the beginning of each chorus point to a child and allow that child to choose the movement. Use the appropriate word “Lassie for a girl and Laddie for a boy.”

Follow the Leader – This game is fun for children of all ages. Form a line and have the children follow you walking. Then while walking in the line you may have them walk over a board (balance beam), hop, skip, jump or crawl. If you want, you can take turns being the “leader.”

Joshua Fought the Battle – Sing the song “*Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho*” and as you sing hold hands and move in a circle (like *Ring around the Rosie*). When you reach the part about “and the walls came a tumbling down,” have everyone sit down.

Noah on the Ark (to the tune of “Farmer in the Dell”) – Play this just like you would *Farmer in the Dell* only substitute the words “Noah on the Ark” and “Noah takes two (whatever the animal is).”

Other old favorites such as “I'm a Little Teapot,” “Ring Around the Rosie,” etc. are still popular today. Just remember to smile a lot and let the children know you are enjoying yourself, too!

Overview of the Year

Week #	Unit	Story	
Week # 1	Unit I	God Made Our World	Daytime and Nighttime
Week # 2	Unit I	God Made Our World	Plants
Week # 3	Unit I	God Made Our World	Water and Water Life
Week # 4	Unit I	God Made Our World	Animals and Birds
Week # 5	Unit II	God Made Me	I Am Growing
Week # 6	Unit II	God Made Me	I Am Special
Week # 7	Unit III	We Thank God	For Home and Family
Week # 8	Unit III	We Thank God	For Clothes
Week # 9	Unit III	We Thank God	For Food
Week#10	Unit IV	Christmas	Jesus Is Born
Week#11	Unit IV	Christmas	Shepherds Hear the News
Week#12	Unit IV	Christmas	Wise Men Bring Gifts
Week#13	Unit V	Jesus Grows Up	Jesus Was A Good Helper
Week#14	Unit V	Jesus Grows Up	Jesus Liked To Go To Church
Week#15	Unit VI	Jesus Helps Others (Senses)	Jesus Heals a Blind Man (Sight)
Week#16	Unit VI	Jesus Helps Others (Senses)	Jesus Heals a Deaf Man (Hearing)
Week#17	Unit VI	Jesus Helps Others (Senses)	Jesus Heals a Sick Woman (Touch)
Week#18	Unit VI	Jesus Helps Others (Senses)	Jesus Feed 5,000 People (Taste and Smell)
Week#19	Unit VII	Jesus Loves And Helps Me	Jesus Loves Children
Week#20	Unit VII	Jesus Loves And Helps Me	Jesus Stills the Storm
Week#21	Unit VII	Jesus Loves And Helps Me	Jesus, The Good Shepherd
Week#22	Unit VII	Jesus Loves And Helps Me	Jesus Forgives Me
Week#23	Unit VIII	Easter	Singing To Jesus
Week#24	Unit VIII	Easter	Happy Easter Day
Week#25	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	Noah and the Ark
Week#26	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	Jonah and the Great Fish
Week#27	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	The Birth of Isaac
Week#28	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	The Story of Joseph
Week#29	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	Baby Moses
Week#30	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	A Path Through the Sea
Week#31	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	Food For Hungry People
Week#32	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	God Chooses a King
Week#33	Unit IX	God Takes Care Of His People	Daniel and the Lions

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** “Potty time”/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT I: God Made Our World

Lesson Plan Week #1

Date: _____

Daytime and Nighttime

Aim: To foster an awareness that God made daytime for play and work, and Nighttime for rest.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, 14-19

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested songs: <i>Who Made The World, Who Made The Birds, The Lord Has Done Great Things</i> (substituting words) Finger play suggestions: <i>Twinkling Stars, God’s Garden, Five Little Ducks, I Am A Camel</i>
Interest Center	Peep box with pinholes for light. Procedure: Get a shoe box with lid or similar item. Cut out a rectangular area at one end to look through. Poke several holes in the other end with a pin. Facing a window, look into the box. Explain that the light can come in through the holes.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Puzzles (very simple) 2. Daytime/nighttime picture: Glue a 9x12 piece of dark blue construction paper to one half of a 12x18 light blue piece. Print “God made daytime” on the light blue side and “God made nighttime” on the dark side. Help children glue the following to the appropriate side: large gummed stars, cotton balls for clouds, cut-outs of sun and moon, and pictures of children playing or sleeping.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: None for the first four sessions Activity songs: <i>If You’re Happy And You Know It; Hinges; Roll, Roll Your Hands; Animal Walk</i>
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

God Made Daytime and Nighttime

The Bible tells us that a long time ago there were no people, no houses, no trees or flowers. There was nothing at all except God. Then God decided to make our world.

First, He made daytime and nighttime. He made the sun to shine in the daytime to keep us warm and to help things grow. God made the daytime for working and playing.

God made the moon and stars to shine at night. Have you ever seen the stars in the sky at night? God made the stars. God made the nighttime for sleeping.

But God does not need to sleep like we do. He takes care of us all day and all night, too, because He loves us

—from Genesis 1

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

God Made the Daytime and the Nighttime

Objective

1. To create an awareness in the child that God gives us daytime and nighttime.
2. To encourage an appreciation for the beauty of the moon and stars.

Exploring the Night Sky

Purpose: To help the child appreciate the beauty of the moon and stars.
Procedure: Take your child outdoors on a clear night.
Point out the vast number of stars and the fact that God has created them.
Note the shape of the moon's appearance.
Observe the moon again several days later to see how it has changed in appearance.

Sunset

Purpose: To help the child see it is the presence or absence of the sun that causes it to be day or night.
Procedure: Find a place where you can observe a sunset with your child. Comment about the beauty of the sunset and the fact that God has made the sun to give us light. As it begins to get dark, discuss the nighttime as God's gift also.

Light/Dark Activity

Purpose: To help the child understand that a light room can be darkened by covering the windows.
Procedure: Go into a room with your child during the day and close the door. Discuss how the sunlight comes in through the window to light the room.
Cover the window to darken the room. Explain that the light can't get in through the shade very well, so the room is dark.

Peep Box

Purpose: To show that light can go through a tiny hole.
Procedure: Get a shoe box with lid or similar item.
Cut out a rectangular area at one end to look through.
Poke several holes in the other end with a pin.
Facing a window, look into the box.
Explain that the light can come in through the holes.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT I: God Made Our World

Lesson Plan Week #2

Date: _____

Plants

Aim: To foster an awareness that God created everything that grows. To help children learn how God provides food.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:6-13

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested songs: <i>Who Made The World, Who Made The Birds, The Lord Has Done Great Things (substituting words)</i> Finger play suggestions: <i>Twinkling Stars, God’s Garden, Five Little Ducks, I Am a Camel</i>
Interest Center	Display vegetable plant or branch with fruit on it. Discuss need for sun and water.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Nature collage: Glue leaves, flowers, seeds, etc. (can be collected on a nature walk) to a paper plate. Print “God made plants” on it. 2. Place lima beans between wet paper towels and the inside of a clear plastic container. Observe growth in a few days.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: None for the first four sessions Activity songs: <i>If You’re Happy And You Know It; Hinges; Roll, Roll Your Hands; Animal Walk</i>
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

God Made Plants

Last time we learned that God made daytime and nighttime. He made the sun to shine in the daytime and the moon and stars to shine at night. He made the daytime for working and playing and the nighttime for resting.

Then God made things that grow. He made pretty flowers—red ones, yellow ones and orange ones. He made trees with good-tasting fruit on them like apples and oranges. And He made things to eat that grow in the ground like carrots and potatoes.

God made lots of plants and trees with good food on them for us to eat. Next time I'll tell you about some other things that God made.

—from Genesis 1

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

God Made Plants

Objective:

1. To foster an awareness in the child that God created plants.
2. To show that many plants provide us with food.
3. To see how a seed grows into a plant.

Seeds

Purpose: To show that fruit contains seeds from which more fruit can be grown.
Procedure: Cut up various kinds of fruit and find the seeds inside.
Discuss the fact that God puts seeds inside so that people can grow more fruit.
Notice that the seed of each fruit is different.
Enjoy the fruit together, thanking God for his gift.

Alfalfa Sprouts

Purpose: To grow something to eat from seeds.
Procedure: Spread cotton over a tray or plate and add enough water to dampen it.
Sprinkle alfalfa seeds (purchased from a nursery) over the cotton.
Place the tray near a window for several days and keep the cotton damp.
When sprouts have grown a couple of inches, cut them off near the cotton and use in a salad or sandwich, or mix them with soft butter and spread on crackers.

Plant Growth

Purpose: To demonstrate the necessary conditions for plant growth.
Procedure: Cut the top inch off of two carrots which have had the green leaves removed.
Place one carrot top in a shallow dish and add an inch of water.
Place it near a window.
Place the other carrot top in a dish with no water.
Keep replenishing the water in the first dish, but leave the other one dry.
After the leaves begin to grow on the first one, explain that plants cannot grow without water and sunlight.

Nature Walk

Purpose: To explore the variety of plants God has created.
Procedure: Take a walk with your child, bringing along a paper bag and some scissors.
Collect a variety of leaves and flowers and discuss the similarities and differences.
When you get back, glue them to a paper plate or meat tray.
Put some of the flowers in a vase to enjoy.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT I: God Made Our World

Lesson Plan Week #3

Date: _____

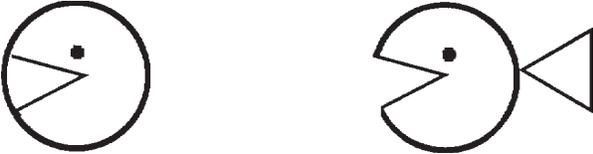
Water and Water Life

Aim: To foster an awareness that God created water and things that live in it. To help children understand ways we use water.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1-22

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested songs: <i>Who Made The World, Who Made The Birds, The Lord Has Done Great Things (substituting words)</i> Finger play suggestions: <i>Twinkling Stars, God's Garden</i>
Interest Center/Science	Live fish and pictures of sea life. Discuss where God planned for fish to live.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Sailboats, ducks, etc. in large pan of water or water table. 2. Paper plate fish: Help children cut out "mouth" from a paper plate and staple it on for a tail as shown. Children decorate with watercolor paints.
	
Organized Activities	Motor skills: None for the first four sessions. Activity songs: <i>If You're Happy And You Know It; Hinges; Roll, Roll Your Hands; Animal Walk</i>
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

GOD MADE WATER AND WATER LIFE

The Bible tells us that God has made everything there is. He made the sun to shine in the daytime. And He made the moon and stars for the nighttime.

He made everything that grows: trees, flowers and lots of good-tasting things to eat.

Another very important thing God made is water. Everything that is alive needs water. Plants need water and so do animals and people. God put the water in oceans, lakes, rivers and streams.

And God made rain clouds to water the thirsty plants. Then God made things that live in the water—like fish. Great big fish and little tiny fish.

And God made other things that live in the water like turtles and starfish. I'm glad God has made so many wonderful things.

—from Genesis 1

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

God Made Water

Objective

1. To foster an awareness in the child of God's gift of water.
2. To discover some of the uses and properties of water.
3. To use the child's natural enjoyment of water as a learning opportunity.

Freezing and Melting

Purpose: To demonstrate that water freezes and melts.
Procedure: Let your child help fill an ice cube tray and put it in the freezer. When water has frozen, take out an ice cube and discuss how the water became hard. Place the ice cube in a glass and set it out on the counter. Examine it periodically until it has completely melted. Discuss the change.

How We Use Water

Purpose: To help the child become aware of the many ways we use water.
Procedure: During the day, point out to your child each different way you use water.

Bath Activities

Purpose: To use the child's natural enjoyment of bath time as a learning opportunity.
Procedure: To make bath time a learning experience, provide some of the following for your child to experiment with in the bath tub:
Measuring cups, Squirt bottle, Straws for blowing bubbles, Spoons, Eye dropper, Turkey baster, Strainer, Egg beater & liquid soap, Funnels

Goldfish

Purpose: To show that God has planned for some creatures to live in the water.
Procedure: Visit a pet store and observe all the different kinds of fish and water life. If possible, buy a goldfish to take home. They are inexpensive, but pretty hearty. Let your child feed the fish each day. Explain that fish need food and clean water to live in.

Floating and Sinking

Purpose: To discover that some items will float and some will not.
Procedure: Fill a large pan with water. Assemble several small items, some of which will float and some of which will not. For example:
a cork a spoon a plastic lid a coin a key
a pencil a small toy a safety pin a rubberband

Let your child experiment to see which items float and which sink.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT I: God Made Our World

Lesson Plan Week #4

Date: _____

Animals and Birds

Aim: To foster an awareness that God made animals and birds. To model kindness to animals.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:20-23

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested songs: <i>Who Made The World, Who Made The Birds, The Lord Has Done Great Things (substituting words)</i> Finger play suggestions: <i>Here is Our World, Five Little Ducks, I Am a Camel</i>
Interest Center	Live animal or bird. Discuss how God provides what it needs and how we treat animals.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Have some animal puppets available. 2. Playdough, using animal cookie-cutters and rolling pins. Playdough 4 C. flour 2 C. salt food coloring water 1 C. melted shortening or oil. Mix dry ingredients in large bowl. Add melted shortening and mix. Add food coloring to water. Add enough water to mixture to make soft dough consistency. Turn out on floured hard surface and knead. <i>*Note: You will need this recipe for other weeks, so save this page!</i>
Organized Activities	Motor skills: None for the first four sessions. Activity songs: <i>If You're Happy And You Know It; Hinges; Roll, Roll Your Hands; Animal Walk</i>
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

GOD MADE ANIMALS AND BIRDS

God made the world and everything in it. Can you remember what He made to shine in the sky in the daytime? What did He make for the nighttime?

God made all the plants and trees with good things to eat. And He made all the water and everything that lives in the water.

Then God decided to make animals. He made big animals like elephants and lions. He made little animals like rabbits and hamsters. He made dogs and cats, too.

Can you think of some other animals that God made?

(Discuss: God also made things that fly, like big gray and white seagulls and little humming birds. God made everything in the whole world. And He saw that it was good.)

—from Genesis 1

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT II: God Made Me

Lesson Plan Week #5

Date: _____

I Am Growing

Aim: To help children know that God made all people. To help children understand that they are growing as God planned.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:26-31 & 2:21-35

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested songs: <i>Who Made The Birds, I Have Hands, God Made My Ears</i> Finger play suggestion: <i>Growing</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Scales and yardstick to weigh and measure children.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Show various baby pictures. Discuss how children have grown and what they can do now that babies cannot do. 2. Self drawing: Have child lie down on a 4’ long piece of butcher paper. Trace around child’s body with a crayon. Print “(Child’s name) Is Growing” at the top. Also print child’s height and weight. Give children crayons to fill in the outline. Suggest where facial features would go, but most children will only be able to scribble.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Children walk on a straight line taped to the floor. Activity song: <i>If You Are Happy And You Know It</i> . Select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar, so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Either take pictures of the children for project next week or ask the parents to bring a photo of the child.

GOD MADE ME

God sure made a lot of wonderful things, didn't He? The Bible tells us that He made everything there is.

Can you think of some things that God made? (Help children with this by briefly reviewing the previous stories.)

Then God made the very best thing of all—He made people! He made a man named Adam and a woman named Eve. Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful garden full of pretty flowers and good tasting fruit. They were very happy there.

One day they had a little baby named Cain and later they had lots more children. Adam and Eve and their children were the first family that God made. Adam and Eve took good care of their children.

And God gave you a family to take care of you. God made you and your family and He loves you very much.

—from Genesis 1 and 2

Note: The details of the temptation, fall, etc. are too difficult for children this age.

The emphasis here is on God's love for His creation.

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD MADE ME

Objectives

1. To foster an awareness in the child of his or her own physical appearance, coloring and sex.
2. To help the child know that God made and loves him and that he is special.

“All About Me” Book

Purpose: Self awareness.

Procedure: Make a book by stapling together several pieces of plain paper
Glue inside such things as: a baby picture, a recent picture, pictures of your child's favorite foods, height and weight, hand tracing, pictures of things the child likes to do.

“I Am Special”

Purpose: To help the child be aware that he is wonderfully and specially made by God.

Procedure: Look in a mirror with your child. Talk about his or her eye color, hair color, cute smile, etc., and whether the child is a boy or a girl.
Stress God's love in making your child very special, a gift to your family, and tell the child of your love also.

“I Am Growing”

Purpose: To help the child see that he or she is growing.

Procedure: Make a growth chart by using a six foot piece of butcher paper (or by taping several pieces of paper together).
Write “ I Am Growing” at the top.
With a ruler mark off the inches and feet, beginning from the bottom.
Hang it on a wall and mark your child's present height, along with the date.
Make a new mark every few months.
You may also want to add snapshots to help visualize the growth process.

Baby Book

Purpose: To help the child know about his or her own babyhood.

Procedure: Look through your child's baby book together. Talk about how happy you were when your child was born, the preparations beforehand, the gifts, the first day home, etc. Look at the pictures to see how much your child has grown and changed. Let the child know you are glad he is growing up. Talk about the things he can do now that he couldn't do when he was a baby.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT II: God Made Me

Lesson Plan Week #6

Date: _____

I Am Special

Aim: To help children become aware of their own uniqueness.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Luke 1:5-16, 57-63

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested songs: <i>Who Made The Birds, I Have Hands, God Made My Ears</i> Finger play suggestion: <i>God Gave Me Feet</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Full-length mirror (unbreakable): Talk about whether child is a boy or girl and each child's eye color, hair, etc.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Mr. Potato Head toy: As children assemble it, discuss eyes, ears, etc. and why God made them. 2. Wall hanging: Punch holes around the outside of a paper plate (12 holes are enough). Print the words, "God Made Me. I Am Special" on it. Help children glue a recent snapshot of themselves in the center and lace yarn through the holes to decorate it and make a hanger.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Make a walking board by elevating a 2x4 on a couple of bricks. Help the children walk across sideways, then forward. Remove a brick from one end to create a slight incline. Let the children do the activities again. Activity song: <i>Do As I'm Doing</i> . Select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

God Made Me—I Am Special

In the Bible, God’s Book, there is a story about an old man and an old woman. They lived in a little house in the mountains. Their names were Zechariah and Elizabeth.

Zechariah was a priest. It was his duty to tell the people about God. Zechariah and Elizabeth were good people and God loved them very much, and they loved God.

They prayed much for a little child, like you. One day when Zechariah was very old, an angel talked to him in the temple. Zechariah was afraid! But the angel told him, “Don’t be afraid, Zechariah, for I have come to bring you good news. Your prayers have been heard, and your wife, Elizabeth, will have a little son. You must call him ‘John’! This little child will make you happy, and many other people happy. He will be very special for he will be a servant of God. He will tell the people, ‘Jesus is coming soon!’” Zechariah and Elizabeth did have a baby, and he was very special.

He was special to the Lord Jesus Christ, also. He did everything the angel said he would do. When he was older, he was called “John, the Baptist.” You are very special, too. The Lord wants you for His helper because He made you, and He knows all about you! Let us thank Him for making us special!

—Luke 1:5-16 & Luke 1:57-63

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD MADE MY BODY

Objectives

1. To create an awareness that God made our bodies to be able to do many things.
(Emphasize this as you do the activities.)
2. To improve the child's large muscle skills.

Floor Exercises

Purpose: To develop large muscles; body awareness.
Procedure: Get down on a carpeted floor with your child and see if he or she can do these exercises.
Roll from one end of the room to the other. Do a forward roll with help.
Walk on hands and feet. Crawl on stomach.

Walking Board

Purpose: To help the child develop balance and coordination.
Procedure: Make a walking board by elevating a 2x4 on a couple of bricks.
Help the child walk across sideways, then forward.
Remove a brick from one end to create a slight incline
Let the child do the activities again.

Rope Activities

Purpose: To increase body awareness and develop coordination.
Procedure: Lay a rope on the ground in a straight line. Have the child walk on it.
Lay the rope in an interesting way and have the child walk on it.
Lay the rope in a circle. Have the child jump in and out of the circle.
Hold one end of the rope yourself and have a second person hold the other end.
Lower the rope each time the child goes under until he has to crawl on stomach to get under.

Jump Box

Purpose: To develop the leg muscles.
Procedure: Place two boards (10-12" wide) against a sturdy box, as shown.



Have the child walk up one side and down the other. (Help if needed.)
Remove one board. The child walks up the remaining board, then jumps off the box.
You may want to provide a circle for the child to jump in, such as a hula hoop or one made with a rope.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** “Potty time”/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT III: We Thank God

Lesson Plan Week #7

Date: _____

For Home and Family

Aim: To foster an awareness of God’s loving care through His provision of home and family. To model thankfulness.

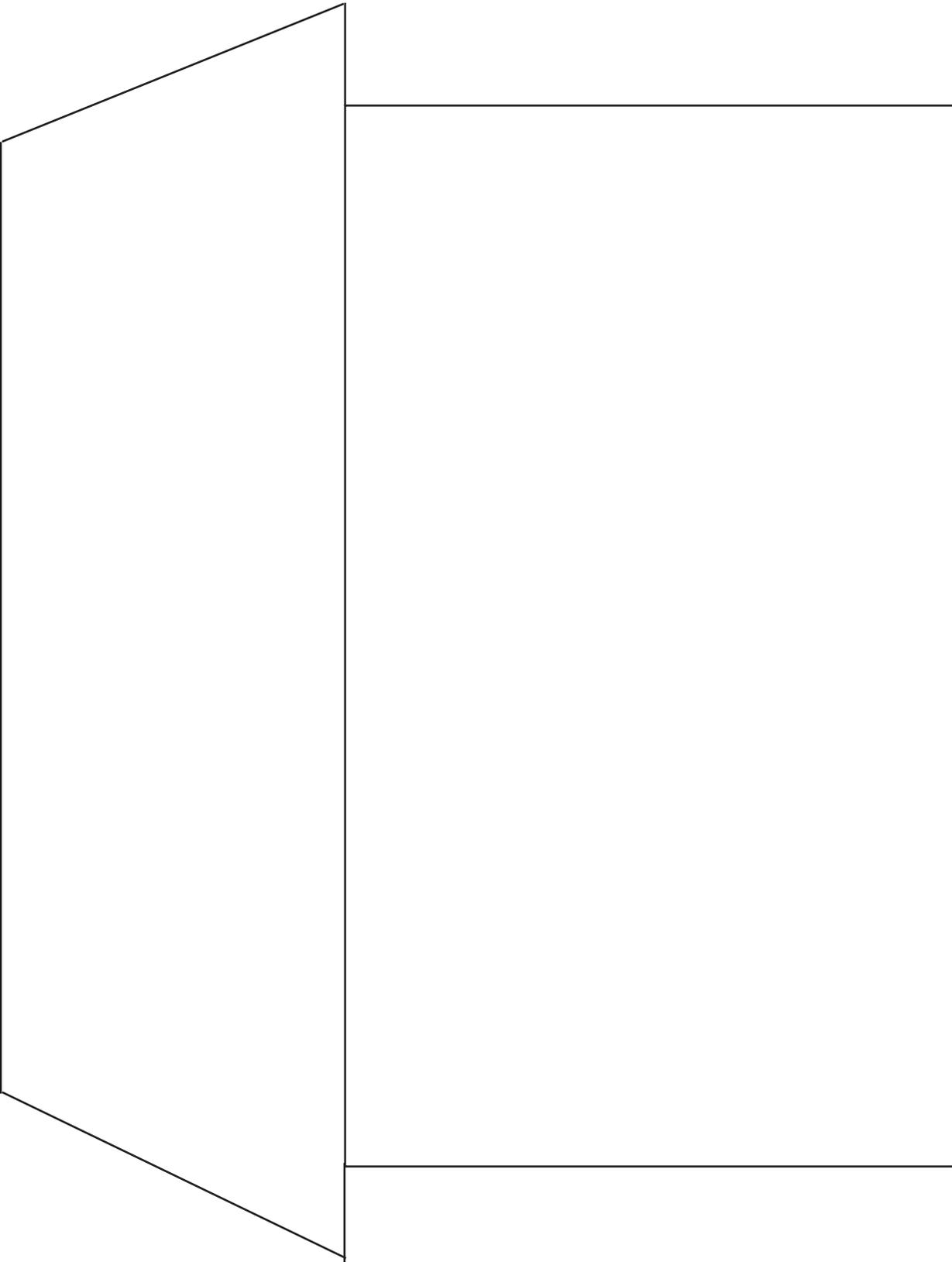
Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 25

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested songs: <i>The People In My Home; Who Made The Birds; Come, Let Me Tell</i>
	Finger play: <i>Here Is Our World</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays (page 106); include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Fisher-Price Play Family House (or similar toy)
Bible Story	See page 36
Table Activities/Art	1. Children wash dishes from the doll corner. 2. “My home” picture: Cut large house-shapes from construction paper (see pattern on next page). Print “Thank you God, for my family” on them. Help children glue on pictures of people cut from magazines. Discuss the people in each family. Be positive about its composition.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Children walk forward on low walking board. Activity song: <i>Roll, Roll Your Hands</i> . Select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

House Pattern -Week #7
Home and Family



We Thank God for Home and Family

When Jacob was a little child like you, he lived in a great big tent with his mother, his father and his brother. Isaac, his father, worked very hard to take care of his family. Rebekah, his mother, cooked good food for them to eat. Jacob and his brother, Esau, played together.

Jacob's father was a shepherd. He had many sheep. Jacob helped his father take care of the sheep. Jacob liked the soft wool of the baby lambs and he liked to hear the sheep say, "Baa, Baa." Can you say "Baa, Baa" like the sheep?

Jacob loved his family—his mother, father and brother. He loved his home. Many times he would thank God for his family and his home. Let's thank God right now for your home.

—Genesis 25

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD GAVE ME MY FAMILY

Objective

1. To create an awareness in the child of God's gift of family.
2. To help the child know more about his own family.

"My Family" Book

Purpose: To help the child know more about his family and be aware of their care for him.
Procedure: Make a book by stapling together several pieces of plain paper.
Put in a picture of each family member and write what the child says about the person, perhaps what he likes best about each one. (You may have to help with this.)
Include a picture of your home and perhaps the child's bedroom.
Discuss how God provides for your child's needs by His provision of home and family.

Keep In Touch

Purpose: To strengthen your child's relationship with grandparents.
Procedure: Write a letter to a grandparent or other relative. Ask the child what he would like you to say.
Let the child make a drawing to include with the letter.

The Family Album

Purpose: To help the child have a greater sense of belonging to a family.
Procedure: Look through a family photo album with your child. Point out family members and reminisce about special times.

Family Outing

Purpose: To strengthen family bonds.
Procedure: Plan a special family outing. Let your child be in on the planning and include at least one activity your child chooses. Take pictures of the outing so that you can enjoy reminiscing about it later.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT III: We Thank God

Lesson Plan Week #8

Date: _____

Clothes

Aim: To foster an awareness of God's loving care through His provision of clothing. To model thankfulness.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 1:1-28; 2:1-10

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

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| Songs/Finger play | Suggested songs: <i>The People In My Home; Who Made The Birds; Come, Let Me Tell; The Lord Has Done Great Things</i> |
| | Finger play: <i>God Made My Ears</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays (page 106); include ones the children already know. |
| Interest Center | Cotton branch or pictures of sheep and/or cotton growing in a field |
| | Discuss how God helps us have clothes. |
| Bible Story | See next page |
| Table Activities/Art | Closet: Fold shorter ends of a 12x18 sheet of construction paper into the center. Draw doorknobs. Print "THANK YOU GOD FOR CLOTHES" inside. Help children glue pictures of clothes cut from catalogs to the inside. |
| Organized Activities | Motor skills: Children walk forward on slanted walking board. |
| | Activity song: <i>Animal Walk</i> . Select other appropriate activity songs. Children like what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites. |
| Snack | See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes |

We Thank God for Clothes

Hannah was a very unhappy lady. All her friends had little children, but Hannah did not have one. This made Hannah very sad.

One day Hannah was praying. She said to the Lord, “Please let me have a little baby. I will take good care of him. I will tell him about You every day. I will let him be Your servant.”

God heard Hannah’s prayer and soon she had a little boy. She named him Samuel. She was so happy she sang a song of joy. Hannah made Samuel a special white robe to wear to the tabernacle/church. (God used Hannah to make clothes for her little boy.)

When Samuel was older he became a servant of the Lord.

— 1 Samuel 1:1-28 & 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD GIVES ME FOOD AND CLOTHES

(For use with Unit III, weeks 8 & 9)

Objective:

1. To create an awareness in the child that food and clothes are gifts from God.
2. To help children see where foods come from and how they grow.

Excursion

Purpose: To show the child how God gives us food in its natural state.

Procedure : If possible, visit a farm, garden or orchard.

Pick some fruit or vegetables and wash and eat them.

Discuss how God makes fruit to grow on trees for us, vegetables grow in the ground or on top of the ground, etc.

Scrambled Eggs

Purpose: To learn where eggs come from and how they change when cooked.

If possible, get fresh eggs from someone who has chickens.

Let your child help you make scrambled eggs.

Talk about the way the egg changes when cooked. Also discuss the fact that eggs come from chickens God has made; the milk comes from cows.

Food Plate

Purpose: To help the child see the variety of food and to choose what he likes.

Procedure: Help your child cut pictures of his favorite foods out of magazines.

Help him glue the food to a paper plate.

Discuss the fact that God has made lots of different things to eat.

Suitcase

Purpose: To foster an awareness of God's gift of clothing.

Procedure: Help your child make a "suitcase" by folding a large piece of paper in half, taping the sides, and adding handles made of yarn or string.

Help the child cut pictures of clothes out of department store catalogs. The child can "pack" his suitcase with the clothes.

Talk about the different kinds of clothes we need for various kinds of weather.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT III: We Thank God

Lesson Plan Week #9

Date: _____

Food

Aim: To foster an awareness of God's loving care through His provision of food. To model thankfulness.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:10-12; 9:1-4

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.
Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

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| Songs/Finger play | Suggested songs: <i>The People In My Home; Who Made The Birds; Come, Let Me Tell</i> |
| | Finger play: <i>God's Garden</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays (page 106); include ones the children already know. |
| Interest Center | Different kinds of unprepared food. Discuss where they come from. |
| Bible Story | See next page |
| Table Activities/Art | 1. Play food, dishes, etc.

2. Placemats: Print "Thank you God for Food" at the top of 12x18 sheets of construction paper. Children glue on pictures of food cut from magazines. Teacher covers it with clear contact paper. |
| Organized Activities | Motor skills: Children walk sideways on slanted walking board.

Activity song: <i>If You Are Happy And You Know It</i> . Select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites. |
| Snack | See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Note: There is no Home Learning Activity page for this week. The page sent home Week 8 applies to both Weeks 8 & 9. |

We Thank God for Food

The very first man ever to live was Adam. God took very good care of Adam. He made a beautiful garden called Eden for Adam to live in. In Eden, there were flowers and birds and trees. In this lovely garden God also made fruit trees. On these trees, God made beautiful fruit to grow.

Here is how people first began to enjoy all the good things God made to eat. Besides the fruit, God made plants to grow in the ground for vegetables. God told Adam to name all the vegetables.

So in the very beginning, God was good to Adam by giving him this wonderful food to eat. How happy Adam was to have good food.

We are happy, too, that God provides us with good food. We want to thank Him before we eat, and tell Him, “How good You are to me for giving me good food!”

—Genesis 1:10-12

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IV: Christmas

Lesson Plan Week #10

Date: _____

Jesus Is Born

Aim: To teach children why we celebrate Christmas. To help children participate more meaningfully in celebration.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Select appropriate Christmas songs, along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>That First Christmas</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Nativity Set (Mary, Joseph, Jesus and animals only)
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Christmas tree: Cut large Christmas tree shape from a 12x18 sheet of green construction paper. Allow child to use stickers, glitter-glue, ornament cut-outs, pop-corn etc. to decorate tree. 2. Playdough (see page 25 for recipe) with Christmas cookie cutters.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Jump box (see page 33) with one wide board. Children walk up board and jump off box. Activity song: <i>Do As I'm Doing</i> . Select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Christmas - Jesus is Born

A long time ago an emperor/ruler wanted to know how many people lived in the land, so all the people had to have their names written down, each in his own city. Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem, for it was their city.

It was a long way to Bethlehem, and they couldn't take a bus, a car or a train. They had to walk all the way. They finally came to an Inn. It was a big house where you could get a room to rest and sleep. But the Inn was full, for many people were traveling. Joseph could not find a place for Mary and himself to sleep. Finally, he found a stable where sheep and cattle would stay. It was there that Joseph made a nice bed out of straw for Mary. In the stable was a trough called a manger where animals were fed.

Then the most wonderful, exciting thing happened! Mary had a little baby boy. He looked just like every other baby, but an angel had told Mary that her baby would be a Holy Child, the Son of God. When He grew up, He would make everyone happy. How happy Mary and Joseph were. Joseph took more straw and placed it in the manger, and Mary laid her precious baby on the straw. Mary said to Joseph, "He will be called 'Jesus,' just as the angel said!"

—Luke 2:1-7

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

Christmas (for use with Unit IV, weeks 10-12)

Objective:

1. To teach the Christmas story to the child.
2. To help the child participate in the joy of the Christmas season.

Advent Wreath

Purpose: To help the child join in the anticipation of Christmas and learn the Christmas story.
Procedure: Purchase round piece of styrofoam approximately 12" in diameter. Evenly space four candles around the edge. Place one candle in the center. Add greenery to cover styrofoam.
Four Sundays before Christmas, light one outside candle and read the story of the angel's visit to Mary from Luke 1:26-38. (The Living Bible is easier for children to understand.)
Three Sundays before Christmas, light two outside candles and read the story of Jesus' birth from Luke 2:1-7.
Two Sundays before Christmas, light three outside candles and read the story of the shepherds from Luke 2:8-20.
One Sunday before Christmas, light the four outside candles and read the story of the wise men from Matthew 2:1-12.
On Christmas Eve, light all five candles and reread the story of Jesus' birth.

Nativity Set

Purpose: To help the child learn and retell the Christmas story.
Procedure: Buy a nativity set that your child can play with. Durable plastic ones are available, or, if funds are limited, a punch-out set is available in most stores that carry coloring books. Tell the story to your child, using the figures, until the child can help tell it or tell it alone.

Food Gift

Purpose: To help the child participate in the joy of giving.
Procedure: Let your child help in the preparation of a simple treat such as crisped rice bars. Let the child decide whom to give some of them to. (Do not expect the child to give them all away. He will surely want to eat some and cannot be expected to be unselfish at this age.)

Crisped Rice Bars

Melt 1/4 cup butter or margarine in a large saucepan. Add 4 cups miniature marshmallows and cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until marshmallows are melted. Remove from heat. Add 5 cups crisped rice cereal and stir until well coated. Press warm mixture evenly and firmly into buttered 13x9 pan. Cut into squares when cool. Sprinkle colored sugar on top if desired.

Christmas Song

Purpose: To help the child participate in the special music of Christmas.
Procedure: Help your child learn to sing "Away in a Manger."

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** “Potty time”/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IV: Christmas

Lesson Plan Week #11

Date: _____

Shepherds Hear The News

Aim: To teach children why we celebrate Christmas. To help children participate more meaningfully in the celebration.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Luke 2:8-14

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Select appropriate Christmas songs, along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>Ring The Bells</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; also include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Nativity Set (add shepherds and angel)
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Bell ornaments: Cut individual cups from foam egg cartons for “bells.” Help children attach a small jingle bell to one end of a pipe cleaner and then push the other end up through the bell to form a hanger. Decorate with glitter glue. 2. Gift for parents: Soak several layers of paper toweling with tempera paint to make a paint pad. Help children make their hand prints on a paper plate. Add child’s name and date. Punch holes at top to make yarn hanger.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Jump box (see page 33) with two wide boards. Children walk up one side and down the other. Activity song: <i>Hinges</i> . Select other appropriate activity songs; children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Shepherds Hear the News

On a dark night when the Savior Jesus was born, there were shepherds caring for sheep in the fields of Bethlehem.

The people in the city were sleeping, but the shepherds were awake to care for the sheep. All was calm and very still; suddenly the shepherds were startled. Suddenly everything was bright as daytime—and the sun wasn't shining! In the middle of the bright light stood an angel who came from heaven. The shepherds were so afraid!

“Don't be afraid,” said the angel, “for I have come to tell you something which will make you very glad. The Lord Jesus has been born in Bethlehem. Go and see! You will find the baby wrapped in soft clothes and lying in a manger.”

Soon many angels from heaven came until the whole sky was filled with angels. They sang a most beautiful song. It was the most beautiful song the shepherds ever heard. We can sing it too! “Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to men!”

—Luke 2:8-14

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IV: Christmas

Lesson Plan Week #12

Date: _____

Wise Men Bring Gifts

Aim: To teach children why we celebrate Christmas. To help children participate more meaningfully in the celebration.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-11

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Select appropriate Christmas songs, along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>That First Christmas</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Nativity Set (add wise men)
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Wrap gifts made for parents last session. 2. Nativity Scene: Draw simple outline of a stable on a 9x12 sheet of blue construction paper. Cut out Nativity pictures on page 50. Allow the children to color them. Help the children glue the figures to the paper. Use a large gummed star.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Jump box (see page 33) and hoop. Children walk up board and jump into hoop. Activity song: <i>Animal Walk</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Wise Men Bring Gifts

There were three wise men who lived in the East. They read many books and studied the sky, this made them very wise. They loved to study the sky at night to see all that God made in the heavens. They said, “God made the stars and moon and He lets them shine every night—God is wiser than all men.”

One night as they watched the stars, they saw a new star and it was very bright. They said, “A new star! It means a child has been born somewhere. It is such a beautiful star, it must mean the child is very important. It must be a child of a King!” They decided they would go to find this Baby King. They would take beautiful, expensive gifts because there had never been so mighty a King born on earth before.

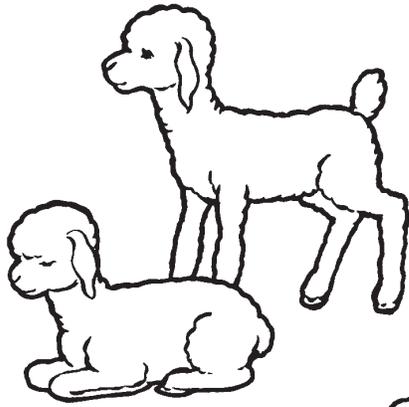
As the wise men traveled on their camels, the star shone above to lead them. They came to the large city of Jerusalem, but no one there knew of a new Baby King. Finally, they came to the small town of Bethlehem. How very brightly the star shone! They followed the star until it stopped—right in front of the stable!

There inside was the baby—He looked like every other baby. They brought their presents and knelt down before Him, “Oh, King Jesus, how happy we are to have found you!”

We can find Him too! All we need to do is ask Him to come into our heart and He will. He wants us to find Him.

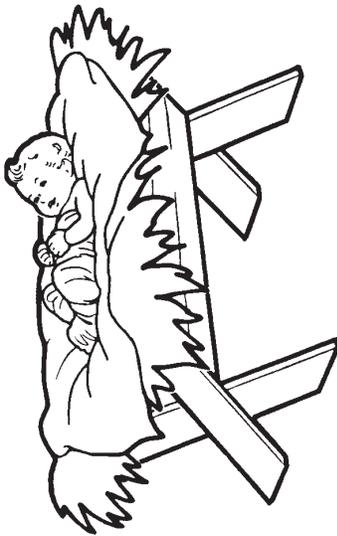
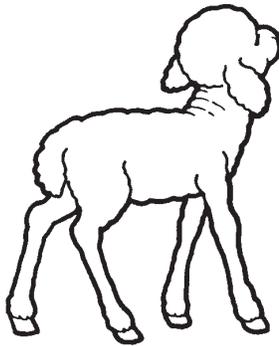
—Matthew 2:1-11

Craft Patterns -Week #12
Wise Men Bring Gifts



Wise Men

Joseph



Shepherds



Mary



Patterns from *Make-it-yourself Pattern Encyclopedia* (Gospel Light 1972). Used by permission.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT V: Jesus Grows Up

Lesson Plan Week #13

Date: _____

Jesus Was A Good Helper

Aim: To help children understand that Jesus was a child who grew as they are growing. To provide a transition between stories of Jesus’ birth and His ministry. To encourage helpfulness.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading:

Luke 2:51-52

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Jesus Is My Best Friend</i> , along with songs the children have already learned. Finger play suggestions: <i>God Gave me Feet</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	A piece of wood with bark on it and a small piece of lumber. Discuss how furniture is made from the trees God made.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Plastic tools, nuts and bolts. 2. Plastic saw and styrofoam (it saws very easily). Wood scrap collage: Provide lots of small, smooth wood scraps in various shapes and sizes for children to glue together in any way they wish on heavy cardboard or foam trays or plates.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Place several hoops in a row like this:  Children step into each hoop with one or both feet. Activity song: <i>Roll, Roll Your Hands</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

JESUS WAS A GOOD HELPER

Mary and Joseph took good care of little Jesus. They gave Him good food to eat and warm clothes to wear.

Every day he was growing bigger—just like you are. He learned to walk and talk and He learned to be a good helper.

Joseph was a carpenter. A carpenter is someone who makes things out of wood. [Point out things in the room which are made from wood: “This chair I’m sitting on is made out of wood. So is that table.”] Joseph made chairs and tables and other things out of wood.

When Jesus got older he helped Joseph build things. He learned to cut the wood with a saw, like this. Can you do what I’m doing? He learned to sand the wood to make it smooth. And He learned to hammer the nails into the wood, like this. Jesus was a good helper.

You are getting old enough to be a helper, too. Do you help at home by picking up your toys? What else do you do to help?

Note: Since this story is supposition, do not present it as a Bible story.

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

Counting

(For use with Unit V, Weeks 13-14. We are not working on counting in class, but these can be fun ways for you to begin teaching your child to count.)

Objective

1. To help the child learn to count.
2. To learn a new song, rhyme and Finger play.

Counting Song

Teach your child the following song to the tune of Ten Little Indians.

*One little, two little, three little fingers,
Four little, five little, six little fingers,
Seven little, eight little, nine little fingers,
Ten fingers on my hands.*

(Help your child hold up the right number of fingers as you go, or touch each finger as you sing.)

Counting Objects

During the day there are many opportunities to practice counting with your child. When setting the table, count the plates, etc. together. Help your child count blocks, toy cars or whatever he is playing with. On a trip to the grocery store, count the apples you buy. This kind of learning can be very natural and is preferable to sitting the child down for a "session" on counting.

Counting Rhyme

The following traditional rhyme will also help your child learn to count.

*One, two, buckle my shoe.
Three, four, open the door.
Five, six, pick up sticks.
Seven, eight, lay them straight.
Nine, ten, the good fat hen.*

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT V: Jesus Grows Up

Lesson Plan Week #14

Date: _____

Jesus Liked To Go To Church

Aim: To help children understand that Jesus was a child who grew as they are growing. To provide a transition between stories of Jesus' birth and His ministry.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Luke 2:41-52

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play Suggested song: *Come, Let Me Tell*; along with songs the children already know.

Finger play suggestion: *Growing*; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.

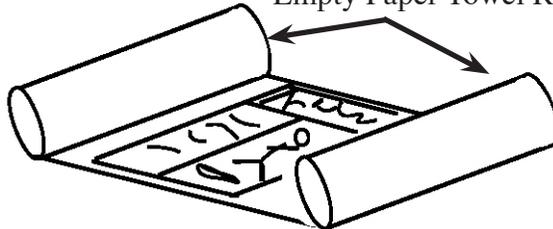
Interest Center A Bible

Bible Story See page 56

Table Activities/Art1. 1. Playdough (For recipe see page 25.)

2. Scrolls: For each child you will need either 2 empty paper towel tubes or 2 12-inch dowels, a piece of butcher paper 10" x 24", a copy of the picture on page 55, masking tape and a rubber band. Help children glue picture onto butcher paper and tape tubes/dowels at each end. Roll tubes/dowels into center and hold in place with rubber band.

Empty Paper Towel Rolls



Organized Activities Motor skills: Arrange several hoops as shown:



Show children how to walk through them, putting one foot in each hoop.

Activity song: *Hinges*; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.

Snack See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes.

Note: Home Learning Activity page given out week 13 is also for week 14.

Joy of Living Bible Basics for Little Ones

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Jesus Liked To Go To Church



Adapted from *Bible Story Coloring Pages* (Gospel Light Publications, 1997). Used by permission.

JESUS LIKED TO GO TO CHURCH

When Jesus was growing up He liked to learn about God. Every week He went to His church, called a synagogue, with Mary and Joseph. He listened to Bible stories and He learned to sing and pray.

When He was twelve years old, He went on a long trip to the big church in Jerusalem called the Temple. Jesus was so happy to be in the Temple. He listened to the teachers and asked them lots of questions. Then he went back home with Mary and Joseph.

Do you go to church with your family? What do you do there? (Discuss.)

—from Luke 2:41-52

Note: Jesus' reasons for remaining behind in the Temple would only confuse children at this age.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VI: Jesus Helps Others

Lesson Plan Week #15

Date: _____

Jesus Heals A Blind Man

Aim: To present Jesus as one who cared about others and who could help them as no one else could. To create an awareness of God’s gift of sight.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Mark 10:46-52

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Jesus Is My Best Friend</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>God Made My Ears</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays, include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	A large magnifying glass and things to look at A kaleidoscope
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Colored clothes pins and a box with corresponding colored sides. See if children can clip the pins on the side of the same color. (This is also a pre-cutting activity.) 2. Binoculars: Tape two toilet paper tubes together with masking tape, leaving an inch between them. Punch holes to attach yarn so children may hang them around the neck. Paint with black paint.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Children crawl through more hoops Activity song: <i>Do As I’m Doing</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

JESUS HEALS A BLIND MAN

When Jesus grew up to be a man He liked to help other people and tell them that God loved them. So He went to many places helping sick people to get well and telling everyone about God.

The Bible tells us about a man named Bartimaeus who was blind. That means his eyes didn't work. Close your eyes for a minute. Can you see anything? That is what it's like to be blind. It's always dark. Bartimaeus could not see his friends or his family. He could not see anything. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was coming, he said, "Maybe Jesus can help me." So he called out to Jesus, "Please help me, Jesus! Please help me!" "What do you want?" said Jesus. "I want to see," said Bartimaeus. And right away Bartimaeus could see! He could see his friends and his family. And best of all, he could see Jesus. Bartimaeus knew that Jesus helped him because Jesus loved him. Bartimaeus decided to go with Jesus to tell everyone about God.

—from Mark 10:46-52

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD MADE MY EYES

Objective:

1. To create an awareness in the child of God's gift of sight.
2. To explore with the child the ways our eyes function.
3. To explore with the child the ways our eyes help us.

Light/Dark Activity

Purpose: To help the child understand that our eyes need light in order to function.

Procedure: Take your child into a well-lit room and close the door.
Talk about the things you see in the room.

Hold the child close to you and slowly dim the light if possible. (Or turn on a low-wattage lamp such as a night light.) Talk about the ways things look different or are harder to see.

Turn the light all the way off (if this will not frighten your child), being sure you never let go of him and keep talking to reassure him. Talk about how you cannot see anything because our eyes need light in order to see.

"Use Your Eyes" Game

Purpose: To show that our eyes help us to locate and recognize things.

Procedure: Ask your child if he would like to play a game with you.
Say, "Use your eyes to find a (book)." Repeat with other items in the room.
Exchange roles and let your child name things for you to find.

"Can You See It?" Game

Purpose: To show that your eyes can see through some things but not others.

Procedure: **Materials needed:**
A small toy or other object.
Some transparent things to put the toy under, such as a glass, a piece of plastic wrap, and a piece of net.
Some solid things to put the toy under such as a bowl, a cloth, and a can.

Place the toy under the glass and ask the child if he can see it.

Say, "Our eyes can see through the glass."

Place the toy under the bowl and ask the child if he can see it.

Say, "Our eyes cannot see through the bowl."

Let the child choose other things to put the toy under and discuss.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VI: Jesus Helps Others

Lesson Plan Week #16

Date: _____

Jesus Heals A Deaf Man

Aim: To present Jesus as One who cared about others and who could help them as no one else could. To create awareness of God’s gift of hearing.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Mark 7:31-37

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>The Lord Has Done Great Things</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestions: <i>God Made My Ears</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays, include ones the children already know
Interest Center	Tape recorder/player.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Sound discrimination: Fill several similar opaque containers with different things such as rice, beans, salt, etc. See if children can hear the difference and find two that sound alike. 2. Drums: Let children decorate a pre-cut piece of construction paper with crayons or felt pens. Help them tape paper around empty oatmeal boxes or coffee cans. May be used during song time.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Children crawl under a crossbar set at various heights. Activity song: <i>If You’re Happy And You Know It</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

JESUS HEALS A DEAF MAN

Jesus always liked to help people everywhere He went. One day He met a man who could not hear anything because his ears did not work. He could not hear the birds singing or people talking to him. He could not hear Jesus telling about God. He couldn't talk very well either because he could not hear how the words should sound. But he had some kind friends who brought him to Jesus.

Jesus touched his ears and his tongue. Right away the man could hear and he could talk just right! He could hear all about God's love and he could tell others about Jesus!

Do you know why Jesus helped the man who couldn't hear? Because Jesus loved him. And Jesus loves all of us, too.

—from Mark 7:31-37

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD MADE MY EARS

Objectives

1. To create an awareness in the child of God's gift of hearing.
2. To help the child develop auditory discrimination.
3. To explore the variety of sounds in the child's environment.

Tape Recording Activity

Purpose: Auditory discrimination and recognition of sounds.

Procedure: With your child, tape record a variety of sounds.

For example: a timer bell, a closing door, a telephone, footsteps, a pet, your own voices. Play back the recording and see if your child can identify the sounds.

If the child does it easily you may want to record some other sounds while the child is not around and see if those can be identified.

"Can You Hear Me?" Game

Purpose: To foster a beginning awareness of how our ears function.

Procedure: Say to your child, "Can you hear me?" in a soft voice.

Cover the child's ears with your hands and repeat the question.

Discuss the difference in sound and explain that the sound has to go into the holes in our ears for us to be able to hear it.

Listening Walk

Purpose: To explore the sounds one can hear out-of doors.

Procedure: Take a walk with your child and ask him to tell you what he hears.

Stop occasionally and listen with eyes closed.

If you hear birds or animals, point out that God gave each kind a different sound to make

Music Activity

Purpose: To foster an enjoyment of music and to learn about loud and soft.

Procedure: Play several songs on a CD, cassette or musical instrument.

Talk about how the music makes you feel.

Do whatever it makes you feel like doing.

Turn the volume up and tell your child that the music is loud.

Lower the volume and tell your child the music is soft.

Let the child try to make the music loud and soft.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VI: Jesus Helps Others

Lesson Plan Week #17

Date: _____

Jesus Heals a Sick Woman

Aim: To present Jesus as One who cared about others and who could help them as no one else could. To create an awareness of God’s gift of touch.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Mark 1:29-45

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Jesus Is My Best Friend</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestions: <i>God Gave Me Feet</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Tactile trays: Glue things with various textures onto styrofoam or heavy cardboard trays or plates. Let children feel them with eyes closed.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Doctor kit, bandages, and dolls. 2. Tactile collage: Children brush glue onto a styrofoam or cardboard tray or plate, then stick on small items with different textures such as fabric, fur, sponge, sandpaper, foil, wood, etc. 3. Valentine bags: Children decorate white paper lunch sacks with hearts and stickers for Valentine exchange next time. (<i>Omit this activity if this lesson does not fall on the week before Valentine’s Day for your class.</i>)
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Children step over a crossbar set at various heights. Activity song: <i>Animal Walk</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

JESUS HEALS A SICK WOMAN

One day Jesus and his friends went to Peter and Andrew's house. When they got there, Peter's mother-in-law was sick. She had a very bad fever and was so sick she was in bed. Have you ever been so sick you didn't want to get out of bed to play?

Jesus was very sorry that Peter's mother-in-law was sick. He went over to her and held her hand. As soon as Jesus touched her hand the fever went away and she felt good again. She was so happy that she felt good again. She got right up out of bed and fixed Jesus and His friends something to eat.

Do you know why Jesus helped the woman with the fever? Because Jesus loved her. And Jesus loves all of us, too.

—from Mark 1:29-45

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD MADE MY HANDS

Objective

1. To foster an awareness in the child of God's gift of hands.
2. To explore the many ways we use our hands.
3. To explore the sense of touch.

Hand Tracing

Purpose: To create a general awareness of God's gift of hands.
Procedure: Trace around your child's hands on a piece of paper.
Talk about some of the reasons God has given us hands.
Let your child name things he can do with his hands.

Feeling Game

Purpose: To help the child learn to identify objects by touch alone.
Procedure: Without letting your child see, place an object in a paper bag.
See if the child can identify it by reaching into the bag and feeling it.
Repeat with other objects until the child loses interest.
Let the child do it for you if he desires.

"Use Your Hands" Game

Purpose: To explore the many ways our hands help us.
Procedure: Give the child directions of various things to do, using hands.
For example:
"Use your hands to open the door." "Take off your shoes."
"Bring me a book." "Eat a cracker." "Roll a ball."
etc.

Tactile Awareness

Purpose: To explore the sense of touch.
Procedure: Say to your child, "Let's see how different things feel."
Walk around the house feeling objects of various textures.
Label things for the child by saying.
"This table feels smooth." "The fireplace feels rough."
"This pillow feels soft." etc.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VI: Jesus Helps Others

Lesson Plan Week #18

Date: _____

Jesus Feeds 5,000 People

Aim: To present Jesus as one who cared about others and who could help them as no one else could. To create an awareness of God’s gifts of taste and smell.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading:
John 6:1-14

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Who Made The World</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>God’s Garden</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Smelling bottles: Place a cotton ball in each of several small containers. Add a few drops of various extracts for children to smell.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Parents help children put Valentines in bags. (<i>Omit this activity if this lesson does not fall on Valentine’s Day for your class.</i>) 2. Playdough with heart-shaped cookie cutters. (For recipe see page 25.) 3. Valentine cards: Cut large heart from red folded construction paper so that it hinges at the top. Print: “Happy Valentine’s Day” on front and “Jesus said, ‘Love One Another’” inside. Children put a Jesus sticker inside and glue styrofoam packing pieces around edge of heart on front. (<i>If this lesson does not fall on Valentine’s day for your class, you may adapt this activity by omitting the “Happy Valentine’s Day” from the front of the heart.</i>)
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Children follow rope laid in various patterns. Activity song: <i>Roll, Roll Your Hands</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

JESUS FEEDS A LARGE CROWD

The Bible tells us that one day Jesus was talking to lots and lots of people and telling them about God. They stayed all day to listen to Him. They were getting hungry, but they did not have any food.

There was one little boy who had some fish and bread in his lunch. The boy wanted to share his lunch with Jesus, but Jesus' friends said it would not be enough for so many people. But Jesus knew just what He would do. He told all the people to sit down on the grass. Then He took the lunch and said a prayer to thank God for it. He told His friends to give the bread and fish to the people.

When they passed it out, something wonderful happened. There was lots and lots of food for everyone and there was even a lot of food left over! Only Jesus could do something so wonderful. Then the people knew that Jesus was very special.

—from John 6:1-14

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD MADE MY MOUTH

Objectives

1. To foster an awareness of God's gifts of speech and taste
2. To explore the many ways we use our mouths.
3. To explore new foods.

Food Exploration

Purpose: To introduce the child to new tastes.
Procedure: Prepare a meal for your child that includes some foods that are new to him.
Discuss which ones he liked and didn't like. Accept his opinion.

Taste Discrimination Game

Purpose: To help the child realize that each food has its own taste.
Procedure: Prepare several kinds of food your child likes.
Ask your child to close his eyes and open his mouth.
Put a bite of food in his mouth and see if he can guess what it is.
Repeat using each kind of food.
Then let the child have you close your eyes and guess.

Use Your Mouth

Purpose: To explore the many ways we use our mouths
Procedure: With your child, see how many things you can do with your mouth.
For example:
Whisper Lick Talk Shout Blow Bubbles
Sing Bite Chew Make faces Suck through a straw

Listen and Speak

Purpose: To let the child practice listening and speaking.
Procedure: Read nursery rhymes (or a favorite book) a few words at a time and see if the child can repeat them after you.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VII: Jesus Loves And Helps Me

Lesson Plan Week #19

Date: _____

Jesus Loves Children

Aim: To help children know that Jesus loves them very much.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Mark 10:13-16

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Jesus Loves Me</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>Here Is Our World</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	A picture of Jesus with children.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Cutting: Have thin strips of red paper ready to snip. Most two-year-olds will need lots of help. Safety scissors are recommended. 2. Picture: Help children glue the picture of Jesus with children to a piece of cardboard (see page 71). Allow them to color the picture. Add a frame of glitter glue or shell macaroni.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Obstacle course: Arrange some of the equipment used in previous sessions into an obstacle course. Activity song: <i>Hinges</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

JESUS WELCOMES THE CHILDREN

The Bible tells us that one day some children went with their mommies and daddies to see Jesus.

“Maybe Jesus will tell us a story,” said the little girl.

“I want to sit on Jesus’ lap,” said the little boy.

But when they were almost to Jesus, some men said, “You’ll have to go away, Jesus doesn’t have time for children.”

Oh, the children felt so sad. But then they heard Jesus calling them. “Always let the children come to me,” He said, “Don’t send them away.”

So the children ran to Jesus and He hugged them and held them on His lap. Jesus loves children and He loves you, too,

—from Mark 10:13-16

Jesus Loves Children!



Jesus Loves Me!

Home Learning Activities

This paper is intended to supplement the teaching your child is receiving from *Joy of Living Christian Curriculum for Two-Year-Olds*. These parent/child home activities will reinforce the particular theme we have been working on in class. For optimum learning, choose a time when your child is rested, alert and interested. If your child does not want to do a particular activity, it would be better to postpone or eliminate it. Learning cannot be forced. Your own enthusiasm should help. You are your child's most important teacher. It is our hope that you and your child will enjoy the activities and each other.

GOD MADE COLORS

Objective:

1. To create an awareness in the child of God's gift of color.
2. To help the child learn to identify several basic colors.
3. To show children some of the properties of color.

Color Sorting Activity

Purpose: To help the child sort objects by color and learn color names.

Procedure: Assemble several small objects of each of the following colors:

red blue yellow green white

Place one object of each color on a different plate.

Ask the child to find the red objects in the group and place them on the plate with the red object on it. Help the child if needed.

Repeat the procedure for each color, naming the color frequently and encouraging your child to say the names, too.

Food Colors

Purpose: To foster an awareness in the child that God has created food in many different colors.

Procedure: On your next trip to the grocery store, take your child to the produce department.

Show your child the different kinds of food and talk about their colors.

For example: "God made red apples and green apples." "Do you know what color these bananas are?" "Many vegetables are green. Can you find something green?"

Color Game

Purpose: To help the child identify colors.

Procedure: Ask your child if he/she would like to play a game. If so, say, "Let's see how many things we can find that are red." Walk through the house and see if the child can point out things that are red. If he/she has trouble, point to a red object and say, "This is red. Do you see anything else that is red?" Carry the first object with you if necessary to help the child. Continue with other colors until the child loses interest.

Color Mixing Activity

Purpose: To show the child that new colors can be made by mixing red, blue and yellow.

Procedure: Fill three clear glasses with water. Add red food coloring to one, blue to another and yellow to the third, naming each color. Pour some of the blue water into a fourth glass. Add an equal amount of yellow water and mix. Discuss what happened. Repeat the procedure for yellow and red, then blue and red.

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VII: Jesus Loves And Helps Me

Lesson Plan Week #20

Date: _____

Jesus Stills The Storm

Aim: To help children know that Jesus can control nature.

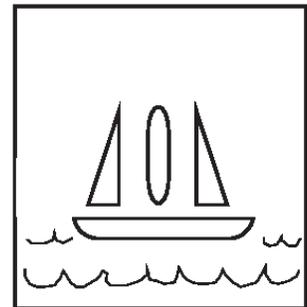
Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Mark 4:35-41

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Jesus Is My Best Friend</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestions: <i>God Gave Me Feet</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Floating and sinking: Provide a container of water and many small objects, some of which will float and some which will not.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Easel painting 2. Boat picture: On 9x12 sheets of light blue construction paper draw the outline of a sailboat as shown. Cut out white sails and red boats for children to glue in place. Use tongue depressors for the masts. Let children add water with blue crayons or felt pens.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Roll a ball to children and let them roll it back. Activity song: <i>Do As I'm Doing</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.



JESUS STILLS THE STORM

One day Jesus was very tired from helping sick people and telling everyone about God. So He got into a boat with His friends to go away for a rest. Jesus lay down in the boat and went to sleep while His friends rowed across the lake.

It was a quiet night. The stars were twinkling in the sky and little waves splish-splashed against the boat. Then suddenly—a big storm came up. Black clouds filled the sky and it started to rain. The wind was blowing harder and harder. It made the little waves into great big waves that splashed water into the boat and made the boat rock back and forth.

Jesus' friends were afraid. They woke Him up and said, "Please help us, Jesus!"

Jesus saw the storm and He said, "Be still!"

And right away the storm was gone. Everything was quiet again. "Why were you afraid?" said Jesus. "I will always help you."

Do you feel afraid sometimes? You can ask Jesus to help you when you are afraid. He wants to help you because He loves you.

—from Mark 4:35-41

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VII: God Loves And Helps Me

Lesson Plan Week #21

Date: _____

Jesus The Good Shepherd

Aim: To help children to know Jesus watches over them and always knows where they are.

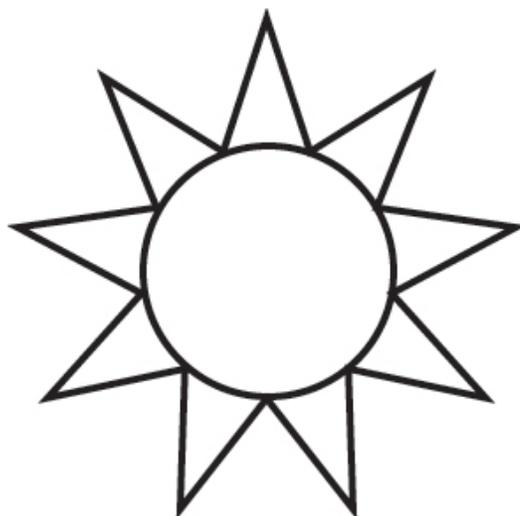
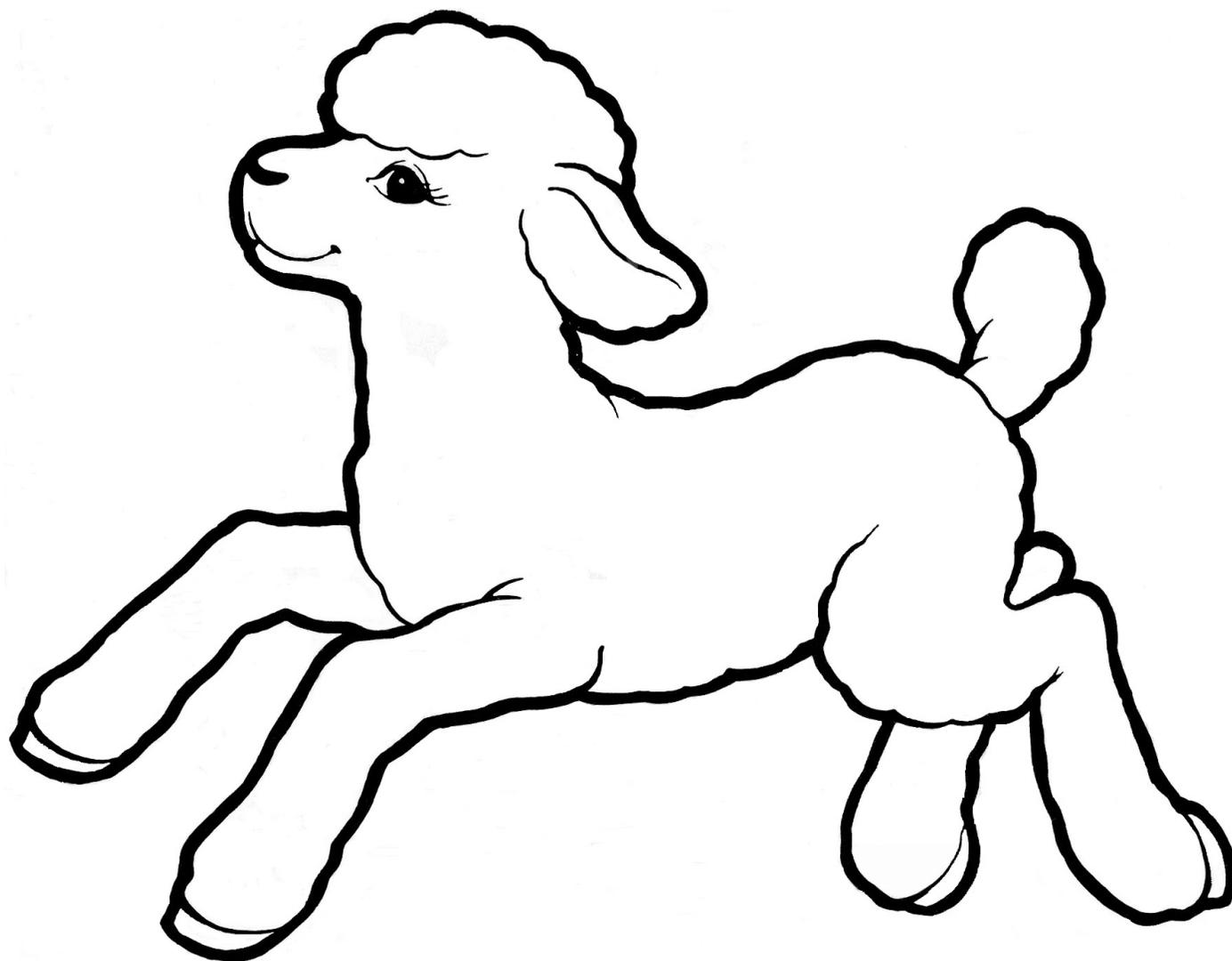
Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Luke 15:3-7 & John 10

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Jesus Loves Me</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>The Good Shepherd</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Absorption: Put a small amount of green-colored water in a container. Let children put in cotton. Discuss.
Bible Story	See Page 77
Table Activities/Art	1. Toy sheep and blocks to build a sheepfold. 2. Sheep picture: Children glue cut-outs of sheep and sun (patterns on next page) to 9 x 12 sheets of light blue paper. Add cotton to sheep for texture. Lettering: “The Lord is My Shepherd.” Help children fringe a piece of green paper to glue at the bottom for grass.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Build another obstacle course, different from the last one. Activity song: <i>Roll, Roll Your Hands</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There is no Home Learning Activities page for this week. Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

Sheep & Sun Pattern



Lamb Pattern from *Make-it-yourself Pattern Encyclopedia* (Gospel Light 1962). Used by permission.

JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Our Bible story today is about a shepherd. A shepherd is someone who takes care of sheep.

This shepherd had one hundred sheep. He gave each one a name and took very good care of them. Every morning he took the sheep to find green grass to eat and cool water to drink. At night he took them all home to the sheep fold. Then he lay down in the door way to make sure nothing could get in to hurt the sheep during the night. One day when the sheep were going into the sheep fold the shepherd saw that one little lamb was missing. So he went back to look for it. He called the little lamb and looked and looked.

Finally he heard a sound like this: “Baaaa.” It was the little lost lamb. It was caught in a bush and couldn’t get out. Carefully the shepherd helped the little lamb get free. Then he carried it on his shoulders back to the sheep fold.

The Bible says that Jesus is like a good shepherd. He takes care of us like the shepherd takes care of his sheep. He takes care of us because He loves us.

—Luke 15:3-7 and John 10

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VII: Jesus Loves And Helps Me

Lesson Plan Week #22

Date: _____

Jesus Forgives Me

Aim: To help children know that Jesus will forgive the wrong things they do.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading:
Luke 19:1-10

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Jesus Is My Best Friend</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>Here Is Our World</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know
Interest Center	Display a live caterpillar.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	1. Felt pens or crayons and paper for scribbling. 2. Caterpillar: Cut the bottoms of cardboard egg cartons in half lengthwise. Attach a pipe cleaner at one end for antennae. Children color “caterpillars” with green crayons or felt pens and stick-on eyes (purchased at craft or sewing store).
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Roll a ball to children and let them roll it back. Activity song: <i>If You’re Happy And You Know It</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

JESUS FORGIVES ME

Our Bible story today is about a man named Zacchaeus. Can you say, “Zacchaeus?” Zacchaeus was very rich. He had lots of money and a big house to live in. But he was not happy. Zacchaeus took money that did not belong to him and that was a bad thing to do.

When Jesus came to the town where Zacchaeus lived he wanted to go see Jesus. But there were a lot of people in the way and Zacchaeus was not very tall. So he climbed a tree so that he could see Jesus better.

Then Jesus came over to the tree and said, “Come down, Zacchaeus. I want to have dinner at your house today.”

Zacchaeus was so surprised! He was happy to have Jesus come to his house, but he felt sorry about taking money that did not belong to him. So he told Jesus that he would give it all back. And he would give money to people who did not have enough.

Jesus was glad that Zacchaeus was sorry. And Zacchaeus was glad that Jesus forgave him and loved him.

When we do something wrong, we can tell Jesus that we are sorry and He will forgive us, too.

—from Luke 19:1-10

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VIII: Easter

Lesson Plan Week #23

Date: _____

Singing to Jesus

Aim: To help children understand the joy of Palm Sunday.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading:
Mark 11:1-11

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

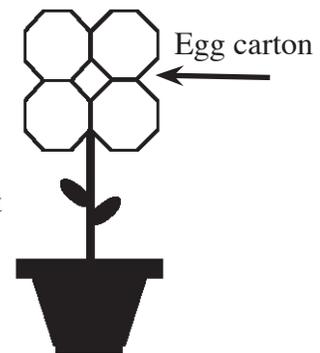
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| Songs/Finger play | Suggested song: <i>Jesus Loves Me</i> , along with songs the children already know.

Finger play suggestions: <i>God's Garden</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know. |
| Interest Center | Potted palm plant and Easter lilies |
| Bible Story | See Page 82 |
| Table Activities/Art | 1. Help children fringe green paper palm branches with scissors.

2. Easter lilies: Cut large flower shapes from white or yellow foam egg cartons (3 per carton), stem and leaves from green paper and pots cut from colored construction paper, gift wrap or floral wallpaper. Help children glue it all together on a sheet of light blue construction paper. (Patterns on next page.) |
| Organized Activities | Motor skills: Ball rolling.

Activity song: <i>Do As I'm Doing</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites. |
| Snack | See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class. |



Flowerpot, Stem & Leaf Pattern



Flower Pot



Stem



Leaf

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

The Bible tells us about a very happy day that we call Palm Sunday. Jesus and His friends were going to the big city of Jerusalem. When the people in Jerusalem heard that Jesus was coming, they ran out to meet Him.

Jesus was riding on a little donkey. Some of the people waved palm branches as He walked by. Others put flowers or their coats on the ground for the little donkey to walk on. It was kind of like a parade.

When Jesus got close to the big church called the Temple, He could hear children singing. They were singing songs to Jesus! How happy that made Jesus feel. Jesus feels happy when we sing songs to Him, too.

—from Mark 11: 1-11

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT VIII: Easter

Lesson Plan Week #24

Date: _____

Happy Easter Day

Aim: To help children know the reason we celebrate Easter.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Matt 28, Luke 24, or John 20

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Happy Easter</i> (To the tune of <i>Happy Birthday</i>), along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>Eastertime</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Flowers
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	Dye Easter eggs: Write child's name on egg with a white crayon before dyeing.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Children practice throwing and catching balls. Activity song: <i>Hinges</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs; children like what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

THE FIRST EASTER

It was the very first Easter morning. But Jesus' friends were not happy. They were sad because Jesus had died.

One friend named Mary was in a garden crying because she missed Jesus so much. She thought she would never see him again. While she was crying she heard someone say, "Mary, why are you crying?" When she looked to see who was talking to her, she was so surprised! It was Jesus! He wasn't dead anymore. God had made him alive. Now Mary was so happy because she could be with her friend Jesus again.

Later Jesus went to show all of His other friends that He was alive. They had many happy times together.

Then one day Jesus told them that it was time for Him to go back to heaven. While He was gone He would make a special home in heaven for them and some day they could come and live there with Him.

Heaven is a special place where no one is ever sad or sick. Before He left, Jesus told His friends to go all over the world and tell people about Him. Then He went up, up into the air until His friends couldn't see Him anymore.

Jesus lives in heaven now. Someday we will get to go there too, and be with Jesus.

—from Matthew 28, Luke 24, and John 20

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care of His People

Lesson Plan Week #25

Date: _____

Noah and The Ark

Aim: To show the children some of the special ways God takes care of His people.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading:
Genesis 6-8

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.
Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Songs/Finger play | Suggested song: <i>Who Made The World</i> , along with songs the children already know.

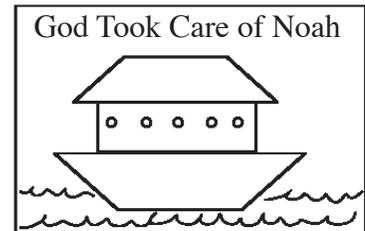
Finger play suggestion: <i>I'm A Camel</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know. |
| Interest Center | A live animal |
| Bible Story | See page 87 |
| Table Activities/Art | 1. Toy ark with animals.

2. Playdough and animal cookie cutters. (See page 25 for recipe.)

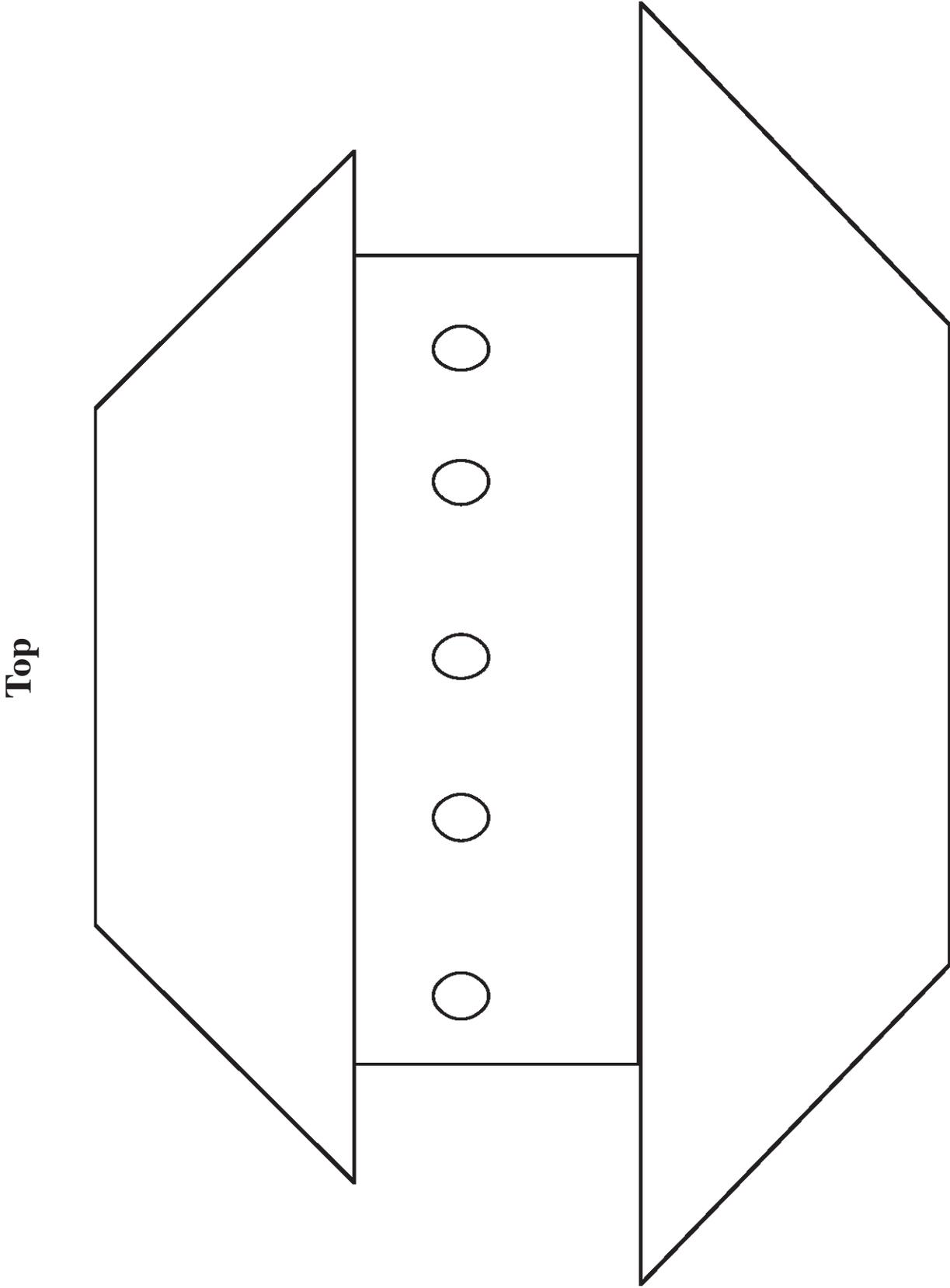
3. Ark picture: Cut ark shapes out of brown construction paper. Help children glue them to 9x12 sheets of light blue paper. Children add stickers of animals and crayon lines for water. (Patterns on next page.) |
| Organized | Activities Motor skills: Construct another obstacle course.

Activity song: <i>Animal Walk</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites. |
| Snack | See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class. |



Ark Pattern



GOD TOOK CARE OF NOAH

Our Bible story today is about a man named Noah. Noah was a man who loved God. One day God told Noah to build a great big boat. God wanted Noah and his family to be safe from the flood that was coming. So Noah and his family worked a long time to finish the boat.

When it was done, God told Noah to take two of every kind of animal into the boat. There were two lions, and two sheep, two giraffes, two of everything. When they were all safe inside, it started to rain. It rained harder and harder until the ground was all covered with water and the big boat began to float.

Noah's family and all the animals were safe and dry inside the boat. Finally one day the rain stopped. The water dried up and the boat came to rest on a mountain.

Then Noah and his family got out of the boat. The animals got out of the boat, too. They all went to find new places to live. After the flood, God put a beautiful rainbow up in the sky.

Noah and his family thanked God for keeping them safe during the flood.

—from Genesis 6-8

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care Of His People

Lesson Plan Week #26

Date: _____

Jonah and the Great Fish

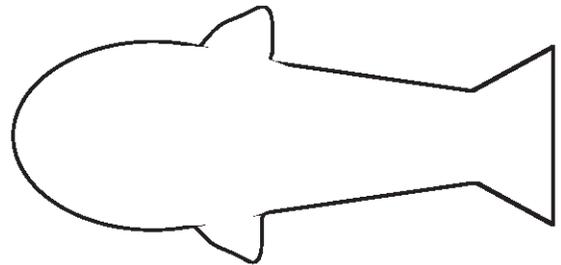
Aim: To show the children some of the special ways God takes care of His people.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading:
Jonah 1-3

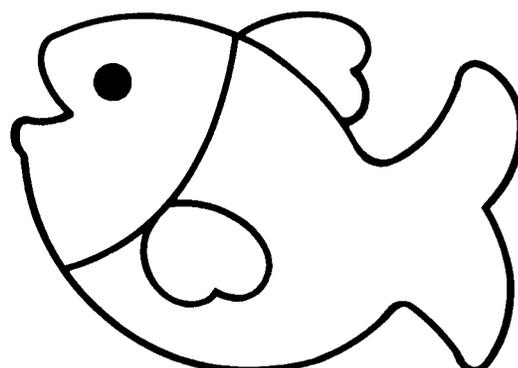
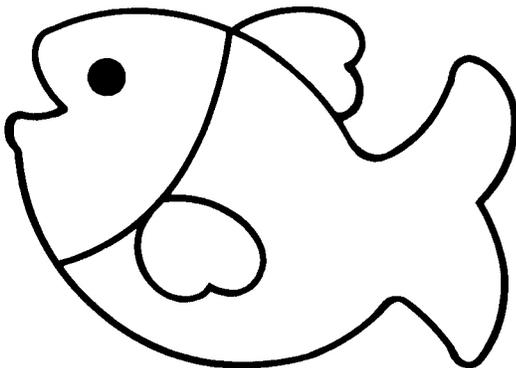
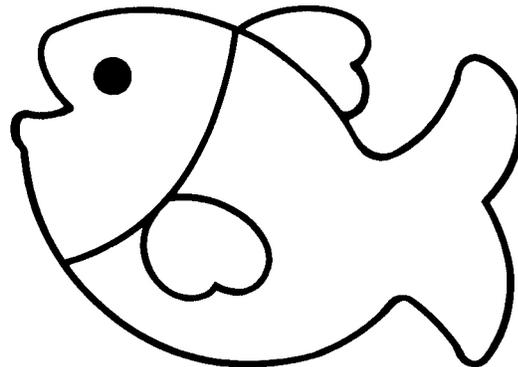
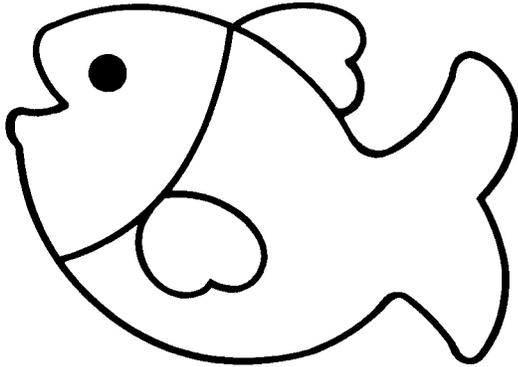
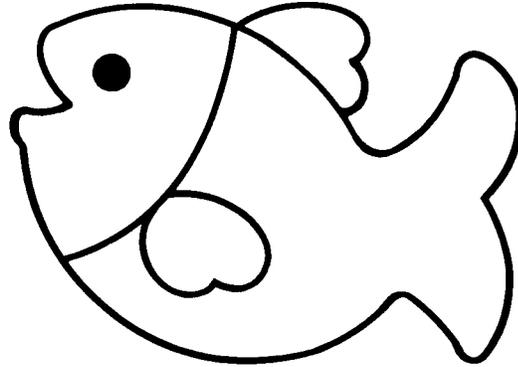
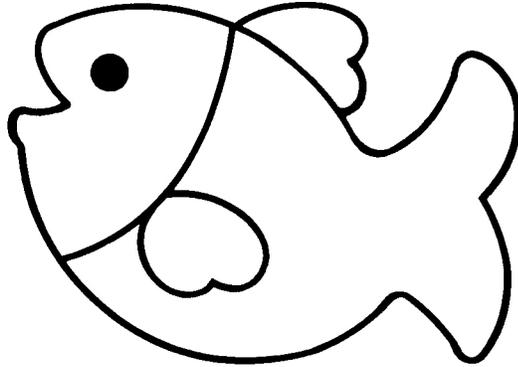
Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Come, Let Me Tell</i> ; along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>God Gave Me Feet</i> . You may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Live fish
Bible Story	See page 90
Table Activities/Art	1. Fishing: Provide small fishing poles made of dowels, string, and magnets. Cut small fish (patterns on next page) out of laminated paper and put a paper clip on each one. Let children fish out of a container. 2. Large container of water and sailboats. 3. Great fish. Cut large fish from 12 x 18 sheets of construction paper. Let children decorate with starch and tissue paper scraps. When dry, staple on a folded paper plate for mouth.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Help children roll sideways on an exercise mat. Activity song: <i>If You’re Happy And You Know It</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.



Small Fish Patterns



JONAH AND THE GREAT FISH

Our Bible story today is about a man named Jonah. God had a special job for Jonah. He told Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh and tell the people there to stop doing so many bad things.

But Jonah did not want to go, so he ran away. He bought a ticket and got on a boat. The boat started on a long trip. But a storm came up and the boat started to sink. The men on the boat tried to keep the boat afloat, but the storm got worse and worse.

Then Jonah said, “This storm is my fault because I am running away from God. But if you throw me into the water, it will stop.” So the men threw Jonah into the water and the storm stopped.

Jonah went down, down, down into the water. But God was taking care of Jonah. He sent a big fish to swallow him up and carry him safely to land. Jonah was sorry that he did not do what God had told him to do.

So when he got out of the water, he went to Nineveh and the people stopped doing so many bad things. That made God very happy.

—from Jonah 1-3

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care of His People

Lesson Plan Week #27

Date: _____

The Birth of Isaac

Aim: To show children God can do anything and He keeps His promise.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 18:9-15; 21:1-7

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

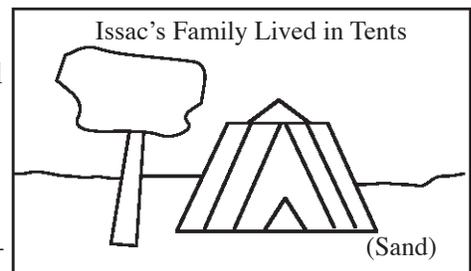
Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

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|----------------------|---|
| Songs/Finger play | Suggested song: <i>The Lord Has Done Great Things</i> , along with songs the children already know.

Finger play suggestion: <i>God Made My Ears</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know. |
| Interest Center | Make a "tent" by putting a sheet over a table. Put some dolls and accessories for their care inside the tent. |
| Bible Story | See next page |
| Table Activities/Art | 1. Felt pens and paper for scribbling.
2. Tent picture: Children glue tree and a fabric tent to 9x12 sheet of paper. Then they brush glue on the bottom and add sand. |
| Organized Activities | Motor skills: Exercise mat: Have children crawl on their stomachs.

Activity song: <i>Roll, Roll Your Hands</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites. |
| Snack | See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes

Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class. |



THE BIRTH OF ISAAC

The Bible tells us about a man named Abraham who was married to a woman named Sarah. Abraham and Sarah were very rich. They had lots of clothes and animals and lots of helpers. But they did not have any children, which made them feel sad.

Then one day God told them they would soon have a baby boy. What a happy surprise! They made tiny clothes for the new baby and a special bed for him to sleep in. When he was born, they named him Isaac. Abraham and Sarah took good care of little Isaac. And every day Isaac grew bigger and bigger.

One day they decided to have a party for him. They made lots of special food and invited their friends to come over. The friends brought presents for Isaac. It was kind of like a birthday party. Abraham and Sarah said, “Thank you, God, for our little boy Isaac.”

—from Genesis 18:9-15, 21:1-7

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care of His People

Lesson Plan Week #28

Date: _____

The Story of Joseph

Aim: To show the special way God took care of Joseph and his family.

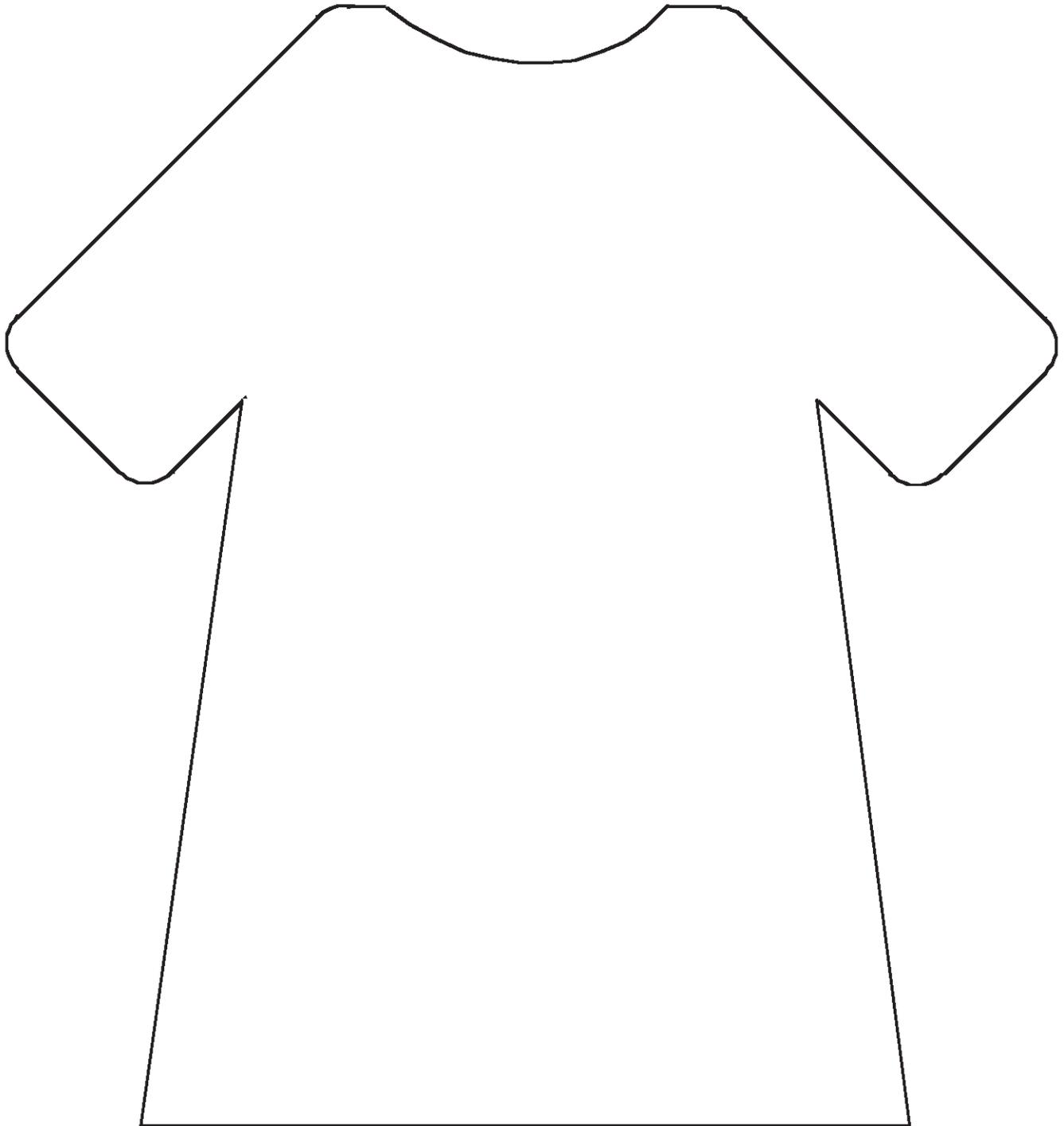
Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Genesis 37, 41, 42 and 45

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Who Made The World</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>Here Is Our World</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Color mixing: Help children mix colored water to make new colors. Start with blue, red and yellow.
Bible Story	See page 95
Table Activities/Art	1. Children use white chalk on black paper. 2. Joseph’s coat: Cut large coat shapes (pattern on next page) from white construction paper. Let children color them with crayons or different colored felt pens.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Children walk like spiders across exercise mat and practice other skills. Activity song: <i>Hinges</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

Coat Pattern



THE STORY OF JOSEPH

Our Bible story today is about a boy named Joseph who had one little brother and ten big brothers. That was a big family wasn't it? One day Joseph's father gave him a beautiful new coat. When Joseph showed it to his brothers, they were jealous because they did not get new coats.

One day they did a mean thing to Joseph. They sold him to some men who took him far away to Egypt. Joseph missed his home and his father and mother. But God was taking care of him. He helped Joseph to know how to become the king's best helper.

One day Joseph's brothers came all the way to Egypt to buy some food because there was not enough to eat where they lived. Joseph was all grown up now and he was glad to see his brothers. He wasn't angry at them for being mean.

"God has taken care of me," said Joseph, "We have lots of food and you can come and live here with me."

So all of Joseph's family came to Egypt to live. Joseph's father was so happy to see him again. Everyone was glad that God had taken care of Joseph.

—from Genesis 37, 41, 42 and 45

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

- 15 minutes** Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
- 10-15 minutes** Bible Song Time/Finger Play
- 15-20 minutes** Interest Center/Bible Story
- 10-15 minutes** "Potty time"/Diaper changing
- 10-15 minutes** Table Activities/Art
- 10-15 minutes** Organized Activity Time
- 10-20 minutes** Snack
- 5 minutes** Clean-up
- 15+ minutes** Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care of His People

Lesson Plan Week #29

Date: _____

God Protected Baby Moses

Aim: To show the special way in which God protected Moses as a baby.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Exodus 1:22—2:10

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>God Is With You</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>The Good Shepherd</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Have a baby visit the class. Display a variety of baskets.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	Playdough Recipe holders (Mother's Day gift): Print playdough recipe (see page 25) on one side of a 3x5 card and "Happy Mother's Day" on reverse. Children press playdough into a spray can lid and stick in an artificial flower. Then help them stick in a sturdy plastic fork (handle down) to hold the recipe card. Organized Activities Motor skills: Review mat skills and learn the crab walk (children sit, put hands behind them and raise up on hands and legs. They attempt to 'walk'.) Activity song: <i>Do As I'm Doing</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

GOD TOOK CARE OF BABY MOSES

The Bible tells us about a woman who had a beautiful baby boy named Moses. But a bad king wanted to hurt the baby so she had to hide him. She made a special basket for him that was nice and soft inside. She put the baby in the basket and took him down to the river. She put the basket in the water and asked God to take care of her little baby. Slowly the basket floated down the river. The baby's sister, Miriam, walked along the river watching the basket.

Soon the king's daughter found the basket with baby Moses inside. She picked him up and held him. Miriam said, "Shall I find someone to take care of the baby for you?" "Yes," said the king's daughter. So Miriam brought her mother and her mother took care of baby Moses. Now the king would not hurt him. And that is the story of the special way God took care of baby Moses.

—from Exodus 1:22—2:10

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care of His People

Lesson Plan Week #30

Date: _____

A Path Through The Sea

Aim: To show the special way God protected His people from the Egyptian soldiers.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Exodus 14

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Come, Let me Tell</i> ; along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>God Gave Me Feet</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Display seashells.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	Sand painting: Children brush diluted white-glue on heavy paper, then sprinkle on sand that has been mixed with powdered tempera.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Review mat skills and learn the forward roll. Activity song: <i>Animal Walk</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

A PATH THROUGH THE SEA

When Moses grew up to be a man. God gave him a very special job to do. God said, “Moses, I want you to take all my people out of Egypt to a new land that I will show you.” The people were very excited about going to a new home. They packed all of their things for the long trip.

Soon everyone was ready to go. But they did not have any cars, so they had to walk. God put a special cloud in the sky to show them the way. Soon they came to the edge of a great sea. There was no way to get across the water—no bridge or boats. Then they saw that some soldiers were chasing them to take them back to Egypt. But the people did not want to go back to Egypt. What were they going to do? “Don’t worry, said Moses, “God is taking care of us.”

Then God did something very special. He moved the water apart to make a road through the sea! Now the people could walk right through it. When they were all safely on the other side, God covered up the road with water again. Next time I will tell you more about the long trip to the new home.

—from Exodus 14

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care of His People

Lesson Plan Week #31

Date: _____

Food For Hungry People

Aim: To show the special way in which God provided food for his people in the wilderness.

Teacher’s Personal Scripture Reading: Exodus 16

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>The Lord Has Done Great Things</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play: <i>God’s Garden</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know
Interest Center	Display a live bird. Plant some birdseed on a wet sponge
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	Plate of food: Children glue magazine pictures of food to paper plates. Talk about what they like to eat.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Review ball skills. Activity song: <i>If You Are Happy And You Know It</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE

Do you remember our story about Moses and the people who were going on a long trip to their new home? Every day they followed the special cloud that God gave them to show the way. When the cloud stopped, the people stopped, too. They would build a fire and cook some of the food they had brought with them.

But one day the food was almost gone. And there was no place to buy food in the desert. The children were getting hungry. “What are we going to do?” they asked Moses. “Don’t worry,” said Moses, “God is taking care of us.”

That night while they were sleeping God put a special food all over the ground for them. It was called manna and it tasted kind of like biscuits with honey. Then every day God gave the people manna. And that is how God took care of the people on their long trip.

—from Exodus 16

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care of His People

Lesson Plan Week #32

Date: _____

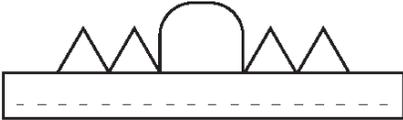
God Chooses A King

Aim: To show that God can use even the smallest person.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Who Made Our World</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestions: <i>God Made My Ears</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Display rocks.
Bible Story	See next page
Table Activities/Art	Crown: Cut crowns as shown from 12x18 yellow construction paper. Fold up bottom and staple a rubber band to one end. Let children glue “jewels” (old jewelry, foil scraps, etc.) to crown. When dry, staple same rubber band to other end also. (You may prefer to measure the child’s head and just staple another piece of construction paper to the crown to make it fit rather than using rubber bands.) 
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Obstacle course Activity song: <i>Hinges</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

GOD CHOOSES A KING

Our Bible story today is about a shepherd boy named David. A shepherd is someone who takes care of sheep. David was a good shepherd and he took good care of his sheep. David loved God very much and he liked to sing songs about God.

One day a man named Samuel came to see David's father, Jesse. "God has chosen one of your boys to be the new king," said Samuel. Jesse had many grown-up boys and he brought them to see Samuel. Samuel looked at all of David's big, strong brothers. "No," said Samuel. "God has not chosen any of these boys to be the king. Don't you have anyone else?"

"Only David," said Jesse. "But he is not very big yet."

"Bring him to me," said Samuel.

When Samuel saw David he knew right away that David was the one God wanted. "This is the one God has chosen to be the king," said Samuel. "God knows that David loves Him." And when David grew up he became the king just as God had promised.

—from I Samuel 16:1-13

Suggested Time Schedule:

(attention span is very short at this age)

15 minutes	Greet children as they arrive. Allow them free time to play.
10-15 minutes	Bible Song Time/Finger Play
15-20 minutes	Interest Center/Bible Story
10-15 minutes	“Potty time”/Diaper changing
10-15 minutes	Table Activities/Art
10-15 minutes	Organized Activity Time
10-20 minutes	Snack
5 minutes	Clean-up
15+ minutes	Free play time until children are picked-up

UNIT IX: God Takes Care of His People

Lesson Plan Week #33

Date: _____

Daniel And The Lions

Aim: To show the special way in which God protected Daniel from the lions.

Teacher's Personal Scripture Reading: Daniel 6

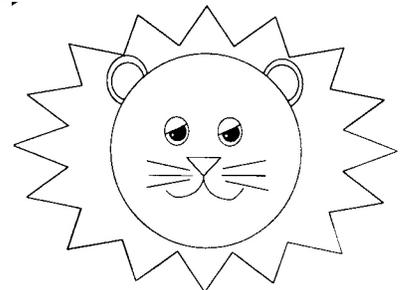
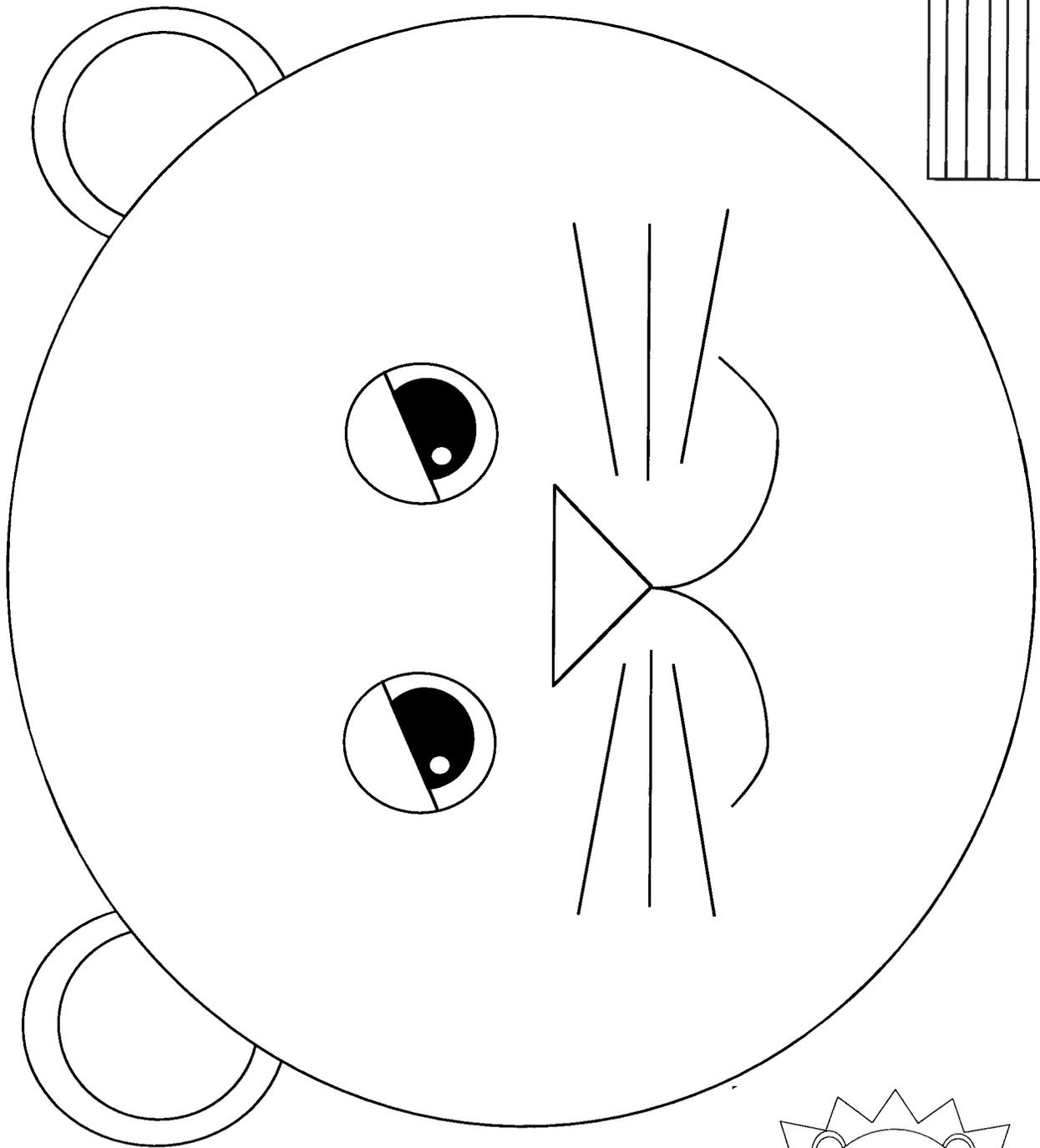
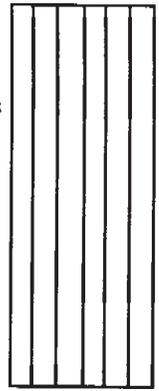
Suggested **fingerplay activities** are included in the Appendix beginning on page 107 of this study.

Bible Songs and **Activity Songs** are from *Sing-Along-Songs for Young Children*

Songs/Finger play	Suggested song: <i>Jesus Is My Best Friend</i> , along with songs the children already know. Finger play suggestion: <i>The Good Shepherd</i> ; you may select other appropriate finger plays; include ones the children already know.
Interest Center	Magnets and some metal and non-metal objects.
Bible Story	See page 106
Table Activities/Art	1. Rice in a pan with measuring cups and funnels for pouring. 2. Lion Pictures. <i>Prior to class</i> : For each child—copy lion face (see next page for pattern) on yellow paper or draw a lion's face on yellow construction paper. Cut out the face. Cut starburst shapes from brown paper to use for the mane. Cut strips of brown or black paper to use as whiskers. <i>During class</i> : Help children glue the face to the mane and then glue whiskers to the face.
Organized Activities	Motor skills: Review mat skills. Activity song: <i>Animal Walk</i> ; select other appropriate activity songs. Children enjoy what is familiar so be certain to repeat some of their favorites.
Snack	See page 12 & 13 for suggested snacks and recipes Note: There are no more Home Learning Activities pages for this course. You may wish to re-use the pages from Weeks 1-19 for the remaining weeks of your class.

Lion Face Pattern

Whiskers



DANIEL AND THE LIONS

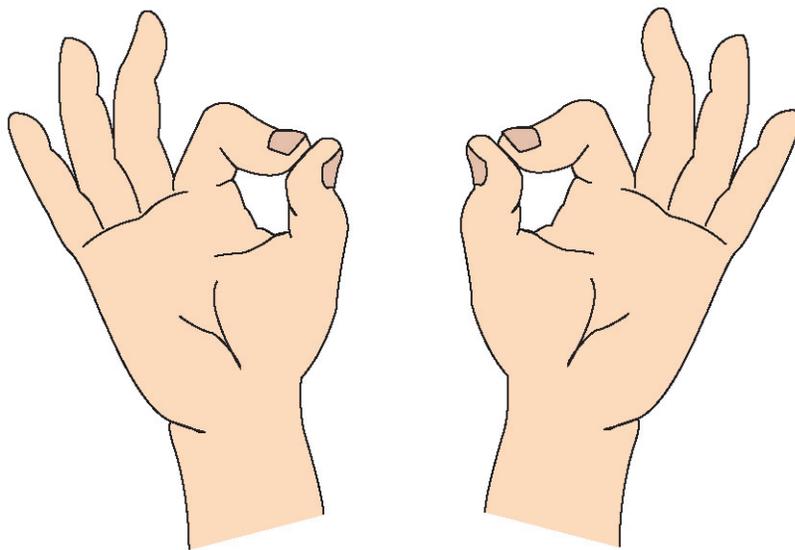
The Bible tells us about a man named Daniel who loved God very much. Every morning he would pray and ask God to help him. And every night he thanked God for helping him and loving him. Daniel was the king's very best helper.

Some of the king's other helpers were jealous of Daniel. So they asked the king to make a law that people could only pray to the king or else they would be thrown into a den of hungry lions. But Daniel kept praying to God. So the helpers told the king that Daniel had broken the new law.

Oh, the king felt sad because he liked Daniel very much. He felt terrible when Daniel was thrown into the lions' den. All night he worried about his friend Daniel. But God was taking care of Daniel and He didn't let the lions hurt him at all. When the king saw that Daniel was safe he was so happy! And he made a new law that everyone should pray to God.

—from Daniel 6

Finger Play Appendix



Finger plays and activities are taken from *Gospel Light's Big Book of Instant Activities* (2001). Used by permission.

Five Little Ducks

Five little ducks went swimming one day,



Over the pond and far away.



Mother Duck said, "Quack, quack, quack, quack,"



But only four ducks came back.

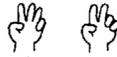


Replace the underlined words with the following.

2. Four little ducks/But only three



3. Three little ducks/But only two



4. Two little ducks/But only one



5. One little duck/but no little



6. No little ducks/But no little



7. Five little ducks/Because her five



God Gave Me Feet

God gave me feet that can turn me around.



God gave me hands that can touch the ground.



God gave me legs that can jump to the side;



God gave me knees that can bend and glide.



God gave me food and a place to live;



God gave me people with love to give.



So I thank God, 'cause it's easy to see



God is good and He cares about me!



God Made My Ears

God made my ears, God made my nose.



God made my fingers, God made my toes.



God made my eyes, they're both open wide.



God made my mouth with white teeth inside.



God made my tongue that helps me to speak



God made my chin, and God made my cheeks.



God made my hands that help me to play.



God made my feet for walking today.



God's Garden

Procedure: Children stand in a circle. Choose one child to be the Farmer. Remaining children will be Seeds. As you lead all children in singing the following words to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell," Farmer touches Seeds on the head. When they are touched, the Seeds curl up in a ball on the floor.

The farmer plants the seed.

The farmer plants the seed.

Hi-ho, the derry-o,

The farmer plants the seed.



Choose another child to be the Sun. As children sing, Sun forms a sun shape by holding his or her arms in a circle over his or her head and walks around "shining" on the Seeds.

The sun shines bright and warm.

The sun shines bright and warm.

Hi-ho the derry-o,

The sun shines bright and warm.



Choose another child to be the Rain. As children sing, Rain walks around the circle "sprinkling" on the Seeds with his or her fingers.

God sends the rain.

God sends the rain.

Hi-ho, the derry-o,

God sends the rain.



As all children sing together, Seeds begin to stretch and wiggle.

The seeds begin to grow.

The seeds begin to grow,

Hi-ho the derry-o,

The seeds begin to grow.



As all children sing together Seeds stamp their feet on the ground.

The roots grow deep and strong.

The roots grow deep and strong.

Hi-ho the derry-o,

The roots grow deep and strong.



As all the children sing together, Seeds wave their arms above their heads.

The leaves grow tall and straight.

The leaves grow tall and straight.

Hi-ho the derry-o.

The leaves grow tall and straight



Growing

When I was one, I was so small



I could not speak a word at all



Now I am two, I learned to talk;



I learned to sing and I learned to walk.

I grew and grew, I learned that

Jesus Loves Me, too!



I learn each day, Kind ways to help
and work and play.



Now I am big enough to say,

"Please come to church with me today."

Here is Our World

Here is our world, our great big world,



And here are the mountains high.



Here is a tree, a tall, tall tree,



And here is a bird that can fly.



There is the sun, the big bright sun,

That shines on the world all day.



Here are the children, running along,

God takes care of them as they play.



I'm a Camel

I'm a camel, big and humpy



I'm an elephant, walking clumpy.



I'm a turtle, round and slow.



God made us that way, you know.



I'm a squeaky mouse so small.



I'm a horse that's standing tall.



I'm a bird—I flap my wings.



Thank You God, who made all things.



The Good Shepherd

One wooly sheep went hopping



And skipping,

Away from the shepherd and sheep.



And then he fell down and was

Lost in the night,



While the others went home to sleep.

The shepherd went out and looked



For his sheep—

He climbed up and down over boulders.



He found that tired sheep and

Lifted him up—



Then carried him home on his shoulders.

Twinkling Stars

Our God has made the twinkling stars.



He made the moon so bright



To tell us it is sleepy time



When we can rest at night.



Our God has made the day and night

To show his love and care;



So when I play and when I sleep,



I know that God is there.



Holiday Finger Plays

That First Christmas

Here is Kind Joseph



And here is sweet Mary:



She rode and he walked



On their Bethlehem journey.

Here is the Inn.

Joseph knocked on the door.



But each bed was full:



There was no room for more.

They were both tired:



It was late in the day.

So they went to the stable



To sleep on the hay.

And there in the stable



That first Christmas morn,

Jesus, our savior,



God's own Son was born.



Ring the Bells

Ring, ring, ring the bells,



Ring them loud and clear

To tell the people everywhere



That Christmastime is here.

Clap, clap, clap your hands,



Clap them loud and clear

To Tell the people everywhere



That Christmastime is here.

Stamp, stamp, stamp your feet,



Stamp them loud and clear

To tell the people everywhere



That Christmastime is here.

Eastertime

Easter is a time of joy



For all people, girls and boys.

Joyfully today we sing,



Jesus is our risen King!

Jesus is living!



Yes, He is living!

Jesus is living!



The Bible tells me so.

(May be sung to "Jesus Loves Me" tune.)