

### Suggested Adaptations for Teaching Lessons to Address Social Distancing Grades 3-4

These suggestions are written with the presumption the reader is familiar with the teaching material. You are encouraged to review the Leader Guide for Grades 3-4 and view the video posted on the EBA website for Grades 1-4 prior to reading the suggestions below. These are a few ideas of how you might implement a teaching strategy to help mitigate the spread of the corona virus and other viruses. Please use additional precautions to ensure the health of families in your community as you host your VBS. As you plan your lessons you may modify these suggestions and develop other ideas that are uniquely suited for your situation, but will provide a safe and clean environment for VBS. Please contact the EBA 2020 VBS Team if you would like help. We are here to serve!

## **General Classroom Suggestions**

- The 6 ft distance between people is still recommended. Assign kids a space for the time they will be in VBS. If you are doing a week long VBS, kids should use the same space the entire week.
- Prepare daily packets of materials for kids ahead of time to minimize contact between people and sharing of materials during the lesson. You may want to place these materials in gallon size storage bags with the kids' names or you may want to invest in plastic storage shoe boxes or some other similar storage basket that will be easy to check and replenish materials. Some items, like pencils, will be used every day, while others, like pom-poms will be used once and can then be removed. You can have the kids either take items that will not be re-used home or throw away.
- If your classroom is outdoors then providing a hard surface for writing will be beneficial for the kids. Clipboards purchased at the Dollar Tree have worked well for other teachers.

# Day 1 Foundation of Love

- Daily Pack Items: Philippians 1:6 printed on paper or cardstock Pen or thin line marker (e.g. Papermate Flair) Memory Maker Carabiner, Logo Tag and Day 1 Tag (if doing Memory Maker Tags) Permanent Marker (if doing Memory Maker tags) 1 sheet of construction paper and 1 roll of decorative tape OR 4 sheets of construction paper and glue stick (additional activity only)
- Start It Rather than distribute pictures for the matching game as directed in the Leader Guide, which has kids come in close contact with each other, hold up a few of the cards (pack item 3) and ask kids to name the tool. Discuss how it is necessary to have the correct tools in order to build something well. Another idea is to show the kids an actual tool e.g. drill, screwdriver, level, etc. rather than the cards provided in the Leader Pack.
- Learn It No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary for telling the Bible story. If you have spread your kids out across the teaching area, be sure to move around during the story so that you make eye contact with all kids during the story and that each one can see the Day 1 Bible Story Picture (pack item 4).

You can adjust the story by using items from step 9 (coins, small flip flop or sandal, plastic food, scroll, band-aids) as you tell the story.

- <u>Know It</u> No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary, but it is a good idea to have the verse printed on cardstock so that kids can have a copy to take home, especially if they do not have their own Bibles. Help those kids who do have Bibles to mark the verse in their Bibles.
- Live It If you are not using the Memory Maker tags or the Kids Activity Book, you can still do the activity described in the Leader Guide. Here is one source of a free printable tape measure: <u>https://www.inchcalculator.com/printable-tape-measure/</u> Be sure to have the kids write "Jesus chooses to love me. I can't earn it.", on the tape measures. Kids can use the tape measure to mark Philippians 1:6 in their Bibles.
- <u>Finish It</u> Consider having kids place the Memory Maker Carabiner back in the daily pack and leaving it, rather than taking them up each day. If you are not using the Memory Maker tags be sure to review that we have a foundation of love and the point "Jesus chooses to love me. I can't earn it." Finally, complete step 3 as directed in the Leader Guide.

#### Additional Activity Option

Name ItThe sharing of the rolls of tape is not recommended. If you only have a<br/>few kids and have the money to spend you can buy each one their own<br/>roll of decorative tape. The idea is to personalize the point "Jesus chooses<br/>to love me. I can't earn it." An economical way to do this is to give each<br/>student 4 sheets of construction paper and a glue stick. Instruct them to<br/>tear the letters of their name from three of the sheets of paper and then<br/>glue their name to the fourth sheet. Do an example beforehand to<br/>demonstrate what it should look like. Be sure to follow the instructions for<br/>steps 2 – 5 in the Leader Guide.

## **Day 2 Foundation of Forgiveness**

- Daily Pack Items: Two different color coded nuts, bolts, screws or washers Copy of "My Story" (pack item 10) Pencil Kids Activity Book (optional) Day 2 Tag (if doing Memory Maker Tags)
- <u>Start It</u> Use the "Nuts and Bolts About You" activity as directed in the Leader Guide except place two color-coded pieces (nuts, bolts, screws or washers) in the kids' daily packs rather than have them select them from a pile. Be sure they are of different colors.
- Learn It Show the kids the handcuffs, crown, and flashlight as directed in step 4. Tell the kids at the end of the story they should be able to tell what each item has to do with the story today. Give out speaking parts for Paul and King Agrippa and tell them to read their parts at the appropriate times. As you tell the story and display the Day 2 Bible Story Picture (pack item 7) be sure that all kids can see the picture if they are spread out in your teaching area. In step 8, you or your assistant should choose the guestions from the lunch pail rather than the kids.
- <u>Know It</u> It is not necessary to have a cone for each individual word of Philippians 1:6, but you should have at least one cone per kid. Place the cones at the front of the teaching area and allow one kid at a time to come to the front, read Philippians 1:6, punch through the foil on any cone and pull out the index card in the cone. Allow time for he or she to sit back down before saying the verse together again. If you choose to tape the index cards to

the wall in order it is best that you or your assistant be the one who handles the tape so that kids are not passing it amongst themselves. If doing this outside, the cards can be taped to a poster.

- Live It You may consider using a salad spinner as a "concrete mixer" for the "Biography Cards" (pack item 9) or you may place them in kids' daily packs beforehand. If they are selecting or if you are distributing from the "concrete mixer" just be sure the kids do not all gather at one time. Also, be sure that the kids who read for the "Biographies" are not the same as those who had parts in the Bible story.
- Finish It No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary.

#### Additional Activity Option

<u>Missing the Mark</u> No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary, but be sure to keep the kids separated as you measure them. Printing a picture of the skyscraper in Dubai and other buildings may also be interesting for the kids. For picture of tallest building see: <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burj\_Khalifa#/media/File:Burj\_Khalifa.jpg</u>

## Day 3 Foundation of Worth

- Daily Pack Items: Building materials—paper cups, blocks, tape, straws, cardstock, paper plates, and so forth Copy of Story Cards (pack item 13) (optional) Construction paper (if doing step 5 of Know It) Pen or fine tip marker (if doing step 5 of Know It) Day 3 Tag (If doing Memory Maker Tags) Copy of "Mystery Message" (pack item 15) (additional activity only) Pencil (additional activity only)
- <u>Start It</u> The activity presented in the Leader Guide can be done individually by providing inexpensive "building materials" in the daily pack for each kid. Be sure to include the same materials in each pack. The remainder of the Start It activity can be done as instructed in the Leader Guide.

- Learn It No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary. If you prefer to minimize distribution of paper during class, include the sections of "Story Cards" (pack item 13) in the kids' daily packs OR copy the entire sheet of "Story Cards" and include in each daily pack and assign sections in class. If each kid has their own copy they can read the story as well as listen to it while it is read. As in previous days, be sure that all kids are able to see the Day3 Bible Story Picture (pack item 12). Remember to complete the Learn It portion of the lesson with steps 5 and 6 listed in the Learner Guide.
- Know It Before class place the tools indicated in the Leader Guide inconspicuously around the room. Play "I Spy" in order to identify where the tools are. It may be possible to let one student bring the tool to you and give you the index card taped to the tool with the portion of the scripture on it. If you choose to do step 5 in the Leader Guide be sure to wipe the tools with alcohol wipes before sharing. This would also be a good time to remind kids to keep hands away from their faces.
- Live ItTeach kids the following 3 hand motions:<br/>Crane—arms extended on both sides<br/>Wrecking Ball—hands clasp together with arms raised<br/>Bulldozer—hands flexed, palms forward, arms extended in front<br/>While you close your eyes and count to three have each kid make one of<br/>the three motions (crane, wrecking ball, or bulldozer). With your eyes still<br/>closed, call out one of the three pieces of construction equipment.<br/>Everyone with that motion must share a kindness they chose to do for<br/>someone else. Then that group may be seated. Continue to play until<br/>everyone has had a turn. Play again if time permits.
- <u>Finish It</u> No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary.

### Additional Activity Option

<u>Mystery Message</u> No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary. This is an activity to emphasize the point "Jesus chose to die for me," and to focus on the bonus verse of John 15:13.

#### 

## **Day 4 Foundation of Promise**

Daily Pack Items: Strip of cash register tape (approximately 18" long) Pencil, pen or marker Individual emoji poster (optional) Paper sack of "rubble" Copy of Response Card (pack item 19) Day 4 Tag and Gospel Tag (If doing Memory Maker Tags) Copy of claw catcher pattern (pack item 20) (additional activity only) Scissors (if square pattern is not pre-cut for kids) (additional activity only) Colored marker (additional activity only) Construction/tool stickers (additional activity only)

- Start It Play the game of "Love It or Like It" as directed in the Leader Guide but have kids stay in their designated space. If kids "Love It" they should raise their hands with a fist, like a hammer. If kids "Like It" they should raise their hands with fingers together and hands flat, like a saw blade. If you want kids to be more animated they can act out the motion of hammering or sawing.
- Learn It Acting out a story is not conducive to social distancing. The grades 1-2 Leader Guide notes that there are many emotions involved in the story for Jesus' Resurrection and Promise. Print out a page of emojis that include all the emotions involved in the story. (I have attached one I created using free clip art). Give the kids a strip of cash register tape. Instruct kids that they should draw an emoji for each part of the story. Not every emoji on the chart I created will be used, but there are options from which the kids may choose. As in previous days, be sure that all kids are able to see the Day 4 Bible Story Picture (pack item 16). Remember to complete the Learn It portion of the lesson with step 4 listed in the Learner Guide.
- Know It If possible use brown or gray construction paper for the following activity. Cut the construction paper into pieces large enough to write words of the scripture Philippians 1:6, one word per each piece. Leave some of the pieces blank. Wad each piece of paper into a ball to create "rubble" and place 4-5 pieces in brown paper sacks. Give each kid one paper sack. Ask kids to come one at a time and put the scripture in order. Throw the blank pieces of "rubble" in the trash.
- <u>Live It</u> No significant adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary. Be sure to allow enough time for the activity so that kids are not congregating at the "skyscraper" at the same time. If time is an issue, let the kids hand you the sticky notes and you place them on the "skyscraper."

Finish It No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary.

### Additional Activity Option

<u>Claw Catcher</u> No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary. This activity stresses the points made in days 1-4. To enable kids to copy these points down it will help if they are posted in the room some place where they are easy for all to see. Some kids will already be familiar with how to make the claw catcher while others may not.

# **Day 5 Foundation for Life**

- Daily Pack Items: Portion of pool noodle with Philippians 1:6 scripture Day 5 Tag (if doing Memory Maker Tags) "Scrap Lumber" craft sticks with scripture (additional activity only)
- <u>Start It</u> Either distribute the "Excavator Hand Signal" cards (pack item 22) in the daily pack or you demonstrate a few of the hand signals rather than have kids pick one out of the lunch pail. Be sure to complete the Start It portion of the lesson with steps 4 and 5 from the Leader Guide.
- Learn It Have one volunteer to come to the front of the class and attempt to build a tower using cotton balls as the foundation. Allow the other kids to offer suggestions. After several attempts, then give the kid the cookie sheet to use as a foundation to build a tower. Let kids discuss why building the tower on the cookie sheet was easier than the one on cotton balls. Complete the Learn It portion of the lesson with steps 7 10 in the Leader Guide. As in the previous days, be sure to display the Day 5 Bible Story Picture (pack item 23) so that all kids can see it clearly.
- <u>Know It</u> Prepare a pool noodle similarly to what is described in the Leader Guide but only prepare one set. Place the pieces into the daily packs. Allow kids to come one at a time and place their portion of scripture, in reverse order, on the dowel rod in order to make the scripture tower.
- Live It The activity can be done as directed in the Leader Guide EXCEPT instead of having kids run to either the foolish sign or the wise sign, have them face the wall on which the sign is placed. If you are not using the Kids Activity Books the objective of the activity can be taught by using actual objects. Explain to kids that good construction

requires using good materials. Show the kids a rusty nail, good nail, rotten piece of lumber, and a good piece of lumber. Ask the kids which materials are wise and which are unwise to use as building materials. Show the kids a Bible, video game controller, symbol for Bible devotion app, and symbol for social media app. Ask thewhich two of the four are wise tools for helping to build a life of following Jesus.

Finish It No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary.

### Additional Activity Option

<u>Crane</u> Rather than doing the entire activity as described focus on the "scrap lumber" portion of the activity. Use small craft sticks and write words of the Bible verse 2 Timothy 3:14. You can write one word per craft stick or several words. Place in a bag. Also place some blank craft sticks in the bag. Make one bag for each kid. Of course, you could choose to do this for Philippians 1:6 or another verse you want to emphasize on the last day. Be sure to conclude the activity with step 5 from the Leader Guide.

#### 

Continue to emoji page















