

VBS 2016 Grades 3-4 Bible Study Base

Purpose Statement

This 2-hour plan is designed to equip and train leaders to teach Lifeway's VBS 2016 Submerged Bible study materials to 3rd and 4th graders.

Resources to Collect, Prepare, and Copy

Resources to Collect	Resources to Prepare
Step 1	
CD Player	
Bible Study CD	
Handout 1	copy 1 per participant
Step 3	
3 snorkels	Label each with the 3 Learning Style Traits
Pool noodle	Cut into 1" pieces, slit down the side. Write or tape words to pieces from Item Number 1
Conference Item #1	Cut apart and tape on noodle pieces or print with sharpie
Step 4	
4 Scuba Divers	Create Scuba Divers from poster board or print clip art and label each with one of the following categories: Physical, Mental, Social and Spiritual. Attach to the wall.
Conference Item #2	Cut apart cards. Affix a small piece of magnetic tape or put a paper clip on each card
Magnetic tape	
Dowel Rod	Tie 12 inch piece of string to the dowel rod. Attach two small squares of magnetic tape to the end of the string to create a "mechanical recovery arm"
12 inch piece of string	
Step 5	
DIY Dive Slate (optional) or note paper	Create a "dive slate" by laminating a piece of paper. Prepare one for each participant.
Dry erase marker or pencil	
Step 6	
Balloons - clear if possible to resemble bubbles	List "Start It, Learn It, Live It, Finish It and Additional Activities" on 5 pieces of paper and place into each balloon, blow up prior to conference.
School of Fish cutouts	Label 5 cutouts with "Start It", "Learn It", "Live It", "Finish It" and "Additional Activities"
Step 7	
<i>Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Guide</i>	
<i>Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Pack</i>	

<i>Grades 3-4 Bible Study Enhanced CD</i>	Print all items from CD and place in a binder or folder
Dive Kit Grades 1-6	
<i>VBS Devotional Bible for Kids</i>	
3 Ring Binder or Folder w/3 prongs	
Sheet protectors	

Step 8

Dive Kit Grades 1-6, Day 1 Card

Step 9

5 reusable large plastic bags such as 2 gallon ziploc or old teaching pack bags	Prepare items from <i>Learn It</i> for each day and place in bags
Conference Item #3	Place in daily bags or tape to the bag
Pack Item 8	Cut out "porthole pictures" (pack item 8), place in Day 1 bag
Bubble wrap	cut pieces and place in bag for Day 2
Marker board and Dry Erase Marker or Easel pad and Marker	If presenting to entire group, draw a light outline of the Doodlefish ahead of time or practice plenty of times for the presentation. If dividing into groups, place a Dive Slate and dry erase marker in Day 3 bag
Pack Item 18	Prepare as directed and place in Bag 4
Pack Item 20, 21, and 7	Place Day 5 Drawing Guide (pack item 21) and Day 5 Drawing Grid (pack item 20) into Day 5 bag
12 - 3" squares of drawing paper, pencil, double sided tape	Place in Day 5 bag
5 Leader Guides or copies of "Learn It" for each day	Place one in each of the daily Bags

Step 10

Squishy Ball	
Pack Item 2	Display on focal wall

Step 11

<i>Leader Guide</i>	
Pack Item 15	Display on focal wall
<i>Dive Kit: Grades 1-6</i>	
<i>VBS Devotional Bible for Kids</i>	
<i>VBS ABC Wristband</i>	
<i>The Gospel God's Plan for Me</i>	
<i>VBS Parent Guide</i>	
<i>VBS Kids Gospel Guide</i>	

Step 12

<i>Dive Kit: Grades 1-6</i>	
DIY Dive Slate	Prepared for step 5

Step 13

<i>VBS 2016 Dive Tags</i>	one per conferee
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Focal Wall Description

Display the "Submerged Title Banner" (pack item 1) with each banner add-on in the specific place, "Psalm 139:23-24 Verse Poster" (pack item 2) and "Gospel Poster" (pack item 15). Add cutouts of fish and other sea creatures to set the scene of an underwater viewing area. Consider also adding the Bible story pictures (pack items 3-7) to the focal wall for quick reference as you talk about the daily Bible teaching lessons.

Room Setup Description

Set up a table near the focal wall. Cover the table with *VBS 2016 Tablecloth* or other bright colored cloth. (You can stand behind this table as if it is a command center.) Arrange materials needed on the table so that they are nearby while teaching. Set up chairs, facing focal wall, in a circle so that there is a large space for conferees to participate in teaching activities. Adhere prepared "Scuba Divers" (step 4) to the walls. Use the Visual Pack or create portholes for each day to adhere to the walls. Place Daily Dive Bags (step 9) near the portholes.

Decoration Suggestions

- Use the *VBS 2016 Supersized Backdrop* to create an illusion of a submarine door.
- Create an underwater observation window using the *VBS 2016 Super Duper Sized Backdrop* or use an underwater backdrop that has been framed by long strips of paper and rivets added for effect. Add fish and other sea creatures to the backdrop to add color and interest to the space.
- Port Holes: You can create a small porthole by using two paper plates. Glue an underwater scene on one plate. Cut the middle out of the other plate. Flip the cut plate over and attach to the underwater scene so that it is domed out. Hang several together as if looking out from the inside of submarine.

Audio Visual Needs

- CD Player

Teaching Steps

- 1) Welcome (5 minutes) Play "Submerged" (CD) as conferees enter the room. Introduce yourself and welcome conferees to the Submerged Observation Station. Briefly explain that we have now traveled hundreds of feet below the surface. Review the decorations found in the room as well as mention the decorating tips found in the leader guide on pages 6-7. Explain that the environment is important to bring excitement to the week but the overall focus must be a place where kids understand that **"Jesus Sees. Jesus Knows. Jesus Saves"**. Briefly mention how you created decorations and information for where you found materials used. Provide each conferee with Handout 1 to make notes on throughout the conference.
- 2) Let's Get Acquainted (5 minutes) "Each of us have been given different talents and abilities—no two of us are the same. God has created with different purposes and design." Lead conferees to stand. Say: "Your assignment is to make a statement that applies to you and only you." (Examples: I have touched a stingray, I have taught VBS 15 years, etc.) If the statement is true to anybody in the room, all must hold their noses, say, "Diver Down," and sit down. Continue with all conferees that are still standing until there is one person left. Explain that this year they will be helping kids learn that "Jesus didn't just see the outside; He saw people for who they were on the inside ... deep down." Tell conferees they have just completed Application Activity for Day 1 "Diver Down"

Prepare your Heart

- 3) Know how kids learn (10 minutes) Explain that there are three learning style traits: Auditory Learning, Visual Learning, and Kinesthetic Learning. Direct conferees attention to the three snorkels in the classroom labeled with the learning traits. Point out the pool noodle pieces throughout the room. Invite participants to gather the pieces and sort them on the corresponding snorkel.
Discuss with conferees how children learn in a variety of ways. In addition to three learning traits there are eight approaches to learning. Point out that throughout the week of VBS all eight approaches are addressed. Explain that within most activities all three learning styles are utilized. Discuss the benefits of utilizing all three learning styles in any given activity with children.
- 4) Know 1st and 2nd Graders! (10 minutes) Not only is it important to know how the kids that come to us learn but we need to know what is typical to them! Play a modified "Wreckage Recover" application activity from Day 1 to discover the Age Characteristics of 3rd and 4th Graders. Congratulate conferees for being chosen for a special recovery mission. Explain that their job is to haul up wreckage from the ocean floor and classify it correctly. Lead volunteers to the "wreckage" area where they will find a "mechanical recovery arm" and "wreckage recovery cards" on the floor. Call for one volunteer to use the "recovery arm" to retrieve one card, then read the phrase on the card aloud. Guide group to help the volunteer to identify it as "physical", "mental", "social" or "spiritual". Tape recovered wreckage to the appropriately labeled scuba diver on the wall.
Discuss with the group why it helps us to know where 3rd and 4th graders are in each of these categories.
- 5) Pray for 3rd and 4th Graders (2 minutes) Invite conferees to write down the name of one 3rd/4th grader on their "Dive Slate" and pray that this summer that child may come to understand that Jesus Sees, Jesus Knows, and Jesus Saves.

Get the Basic Facts

- 6) VBS Pressure Test (5 minutes) Explain that the second thing we need to do to be ready for VBS is to get the basic facts from our VBS Director. Call for 10 volunteers. Guide volunteers to pair up and give each pair a balloon. Remind conferees that water pressure is the weight of the water pressing on a diver or submersible. The greater the depth, the stronger the water pressure. The pressure is on us as leaders to know the facts such as how long do we have in Bible Study and how many kids should I prepare for.
Instruct pairs to stand back to back with the balloon between them and apply pressure until the balloon pops. When the balloon pops, have conferees retrieve the paper inside. Discuss the different components of the Bible Study in the 3rd and 4th Grade curriculum.
Remind leaders they need to speak to their VBS director to get their specific schedule. The *Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Guide* is set up for a 30 minute teaching time each day. Briefly go through the dive plan for a 30-minute teaching time.
 - Start It: 5 minutes to engage kids in the lesson for the day
 - Learn It: 10-15 minutes teaching activity
 - Live It: 5-10 minute application activity from the day's lesson
 - Finish It: 5 minute activity to recall the day's lesson

Additional Activity Options: 10-minute activities that leaders can use to extend their daily dive or use to substitute from the original plan. Point out that additional activities are available at the end of every day. These activities are designed to take about 10 minutes for students to complete. Every day four different options are offered; two application activities, one Bible skill activity, and one bonus verse activity. Point out that you have used these suggested activities in this training session.

Plan

- 7) Diving Plan and Materials (15 minutes) Explain that every good diver needs to make sure they have the necessary materials and a good dive plan to dive deep and explore the depths of God's truth. Begin to unpack resource materials and curriculum pieces from their dive bag. Use the following information to help explain the material and how it will be used during their week of VBS.
 - Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Guide: Each leader needs their own guidebook. The guide includes all the teaching procedures, decorations suggestions, supply lists, tips, and suggestions for how to teach third and fourth graders. Take time to point out the characteristics of third and fourth graders on page 5. Briefly review these with the group by pointing out the portholes found on the wall of your Observation Station. Discuss the importance of knowing the characteristics of third and fourth graders so that you can lead them in their dive. Point out that a supply list for each day is provided for quick and simple reference to materials needed for each day's particular dive.
 - Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Pack: Each Bible study room should receive their own leader pack. The items included inside the pack are the title banner which is displayed on the wall, banner add-ons, and all the items needed to complete specific activities that are outlined in the Bible study leader guide. Call attention to any pack items used on the focal wall. Explain that each pack item is numbered and an instruction sheet is provided on the CD to explain what each item is, if it is used on more than one day, and how it needs to be prepared. Lifeway gives permission to copy the instruction sheet for each leader in the class so they have this information as they prepare.
 - Grades 3-4 Bible Study Enhanced CD: The CD comes inside the leader pack. It has two purposes; one is to provide music and the other is curriculum items that will need to be printed. When the CD is placed inside a CD player it can be used to provide music needed for each day's different activities, as outlined in the Bible study leader guide, and for listening to Submerged music as kids arrive and leave.
 - Bible Study Enhanced CD Notebook: When the CD is placed in a computer you will be able to access files with content for specific activities or supplemental activities as outlined in the Bible study leader guide. You should print ALL of these files when you get your CD so that you have a copy of the material. If you lose this CD, you won't have access to the items that need to be printed. Point out the different items found on the CD; review questions, discussion questions, supplemental items used for activities. You may copy/print as many of the CD items as you need for your specific group. Instructions for using the Bible study enhanced CD are also found on the instruction sheet of the leader pack.

- Dive Kit: Grades 1–6: This kit is used in the same way as last year's kit. The Dive Kit includes 5 daily cards with Bible content and activities, Dive Slate with The Gospel: God's Plan for Me on the back, dry erase marker with eraser for writing on the Dive Slate. This item is used each day in the lesson but as always, there are many different ways to use it to reinforce the lessons from each day's dive. The kit is designed for grades 1-6 and so that each child may have one. However, it is possible to share one kit with a small group of children if necessary. We will talk more about the kits later as we walk through a daily dive schedule.
- VBS 2016 Devotional Bible for Kids: The Bible is the most important resource for each of our daily dives. We must be studying and going deeper in God's Word to see that we all need a Savior and that a relationship with Christ changes everything. Point out that the Bible study leader guide begins each day with a leader's devotion and an opportunity for each leader to dive deeper into the lesson for each day. Each day also ends with an optional Bible skill activity that leaders can use.

Remind conferees the following information regarding the supplies needed:

- All leaders need a copy of the leader guide
- All rooms need a copy of the leader pack and enhanced CD
- Copy all files from the enhanced CD
- Dive Kits are recommended for one per child but can be shared when necessary
- Devotional Bible for Kids (HCSB or KJV)

Take time to ask if there are any questions regarding the materials needed to dive into God's Word or the Dive Plan as outlined. You might have conferees that have never taught VBS before and don't have these materials or know they need them. Direct them to ask their VBS Director about the materials that will be provided to them.

Gather and Prepare

- 8) Dive Talk (5 minutes) Show the Dive Kit, day 1, "Dive Talk". Demonstrate the diver hand signals for "Trouble" and "OK". Practice the hand signals together. Explain that this is an adaptation of the Live It section of Day 1 on page 12.

Share that you will tell some ideas for preparing for VBS. If it is a good idea they should do the "OK" symbol. If it is not a good idea they should signal with the "Trouble" sign.

- *Look at your leader guide the night before VBS.* (Trouble)
- *Attend a VBS workers meeting.* (OK)
- *Place needed items for each day in separate bags.* (OK)
- *Wait to see if you need an item before you print off of the CD-ROM and print while the kids are at snack time.* (Trouble, remind participants the benefit of having everything ready before the start of VBS)
- *Plan for church leadership to follow up with VBS attendees.* (Trouble, help conferees understand that they can and should participate in follow up too.)
- *Meet with your teaching team before VBS.* (OK)

Teach

- 9) Bible Study Teaching (40 minutes) Remind leaders that the Bible study material is always going to be located in the "Learn It" section of their daily plan. Each day divers will be going deeper into discovering that "Jesus taught people that the kingdom of God had come and that salvation is available to all." We will learn that "Jesus Sees. Jesus Knows. Jesus Saves." It is important for children to understand that these lessons are true and are from the Bible. We will be learning these lessons from a group of books in the New Testament called the Gospels. These books tell about the life of Jesus. They are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Divide Conferees into 5 groups (or less if necessary). Assign each group to a designated "Learn It" location around the room where they will find a Dive Bag for one day of VBS. Instruct groups that they have 5 minutes to look up the "Learn it" section for the assigned day and record their observations on Handout 1. At 5 minutes play "Sonar Pings" from Bible Study CD to indicate time for groups to rotate. (Alternative – after each group has discovered information about assigned day, allow conferees to return to their seats and share their findings with the large group)

- Day 1: Jesus Saw Zacchaeus **Jesus knows who I really am.**
Third and fourth graders will listen to the story while being shown visual cues. After the story, kids will take the story pictures and arrange themselves in the correct story order. Explaining what element of the story is visible through their porthole.
- Day 2: Jesus Saw the Woman at the Well **Jesus knows my worth.**
Third and Fourth graders will be listening to the Bible story and identifying words that begin with the letter "w". When they hear a word, they can pop a bubble.
- Day 3: Jesus Saw Nicodemus **Jesus knows I need a Savior.**
Third and fourth graders will hear how Nicodemus came to visit Jesus while the teacher draws a "Doodlefish" (pack item 14) to represent each segment of the story. Kids will debrief and discover that as we listen and understand Jesus' teachings, we understand our need for him as our Savior.
- Day 4: Jesus Saw a Blind Man **Jesus knows my purpose.**
Third and fourth graders be assigned roles from the story. After the teacher tells the story, kids will reenact the story through pantomime or retelling.
- Day 5: Jesus Saw the Children **Jesus loves and accepts me.**
Third and fourth graders will listen to the story and think about the "big idea" of this story.

- 10) Bible Verse (10 minutes) Third and fourth graders will be learning Psalm 139:23-24 throughout the week. Point out the verse poster (pack item 3) on the focal wall and have conferees say the verse together. They will be learning the verse during VBS.

"We are going to read the verse in 4 different sections with 4 different voices." Explain the

following voices to conferees and lead conferees to say each section in the assigned voice.

Sonar: Each time you see punctuation, you say "Ping" *Bubble voice*: bounce index finger up and down across lips *Jellyfish*: pitch of voice wavers up and down while waving arms

Respirator: hold your cupped hand over mouth

SONAR: "Search me, God, and know my heart;"

BUBBLE VOICE: "test me and know my concerns."

JELLYFISH: "See if there is any offensive way in me;"

RESPIRATOR: "lead me in the everlasting way." Psalm 139:23-24

The Bible Verse activity is found at the end of the "Learn It" section of each day. This was the Bible verse activity for Day 5.

Review the Bible verse together by asking conferees to stand in a circle then turn to face the outside. Pass the squish ball around the circle saying one word at a time as they pass the ball around the circle. Point out that this was a Bonus Verse Activity for Day 4 "Squishy Fish".

11) Sharing the Gospel (10 minutes) Third and fourth graders will hear the gospel message on Day 3 (Jesus saw Nicodemus) and will discuss the ABCs of becoming a Christian. The commitment time should be done without any pressure for children to make a decision. Pray that the Lord will make it very clear to children if they are ready to make a decision to trust Jesus as their Savior and Lord. There are many tools to help leaders share the gospel with children.

- "Sharing the Gospel with Kids" – Located in the front of your leader guide
- "Gospel Poster" (Pack item 18) – use to review the different items printed on the starfish with children and discuss the gospel and how children can respond.
- *Dive Kit: Grades 1–6* – "The Gospel's Plan for Me" is located on the back of the Dive Slate and is a great tool to use as you lead in a discussion of what it means to become a Christian.
- *VBS 2016 Devotional Bible for Kids* – Bible designed with highlighted text and margin notes to take kids through the gospel plan of salvation. Included is 30 days of devotions to help any child build the habit of discovering God's truth below the surface.
- *VBS 2016 ABC Wristband* – a great gift to remind children of how to respond to the gospel.
- *VBS 2016 Kids Gospel Guide* – a guide that makes it easy for kids to share with family and friends the gospel and how to ask Jesus to be their Savior and Lord.
- *The Gospel: God's Plan for Me* – A witnessing booklet that emphasizes the God's plan for salvation from the beginning of creation and how we can respond to that plan.
- *VBS 2016 Parent Guide* – A guide that is designed with 5 family devotions, fun activities, and a gospel presentation.

When children respond to the gospel it is as simple as ABC.

12) Dive Kit: Grades 1–6 (10 minutes) – Dive Kits are used in the "Finish It" for each day and are suggested for several of the activities throughout the leader guide. Dive Kits contain the following items:

5 daily cards: During the “Finish It” sections, children are challenged to complete the Daily Dive challenge before returning to the Observation Station the next day. These cards also contain a short review of Bible content and other activities.

Dive Slate and Marker: This is used in several places outlined in your leader guide. The Dive Slate and marker can also be used by the teacher during review, for children to write questions as the lesson is being taught, or just to share messages with each other about what they are learning about Jesus at VBS.

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me: This tool is located on the back of the Dive Slate and is used during the Day 3 “Live It” activity.

Finish It

- 13) Continuing the Connection (3 minutes) – “The job of the Bible study leader isn’t over on the last day of VBS. We have been given a great opportunity to build relationships with children during the time they have been with us at VBS. Be intentional to continue that relationship with children. Check with your VBS director and be a part of the follow-up process. Pray for them to remember that Jesus sees, knows, saves, accepts, and loves them!” Give each conferee a Dive Tag and encourage them to use it as a reminder to pray for VBS 2016.



Grades 3 - 4 Bible Study

Motto: Jesus _____. Jesus _____. Jesus _____.

Dive Schedule:

- Get Started-
- Learn It-
- Live It-
- Finish It-
- Additional Activities – Application, Bible Skills, and Bonus Verse

Dive Materials:

- VBS 2016 Grades 3-4 Leader _____
- VBS 2016 Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader _____
- VBS 2016 Grades 3-4 Enhanced _____
- Dive _____: Grades 1–6
- VBS 2016 Devotional _____

Bible Study Teaching

	Daily Point	Bible Story	Learn It Activity
Day 1			
Day 2			
Day 3			
Day 4			
Day 5			

Bible Verse: Isaiah 139:23-24

Learning Styles Traits

Auditory Learning “I hear”

Remember what they hear	Likes verbal repetition
Talk about the lesson	Recall verbal instructions
Distracted by sound	Enjoy music activities
“Ask a question”	“Repeat a phrase”
“Hear the story”	

Visual Learning “I see”

Desire to see words	Enjoy pictures
Prefer written instructions	Study material by reading
Enjoy visual art activities	“Read card from Dive Kit”
“Take a close look”	“Observe a poster”

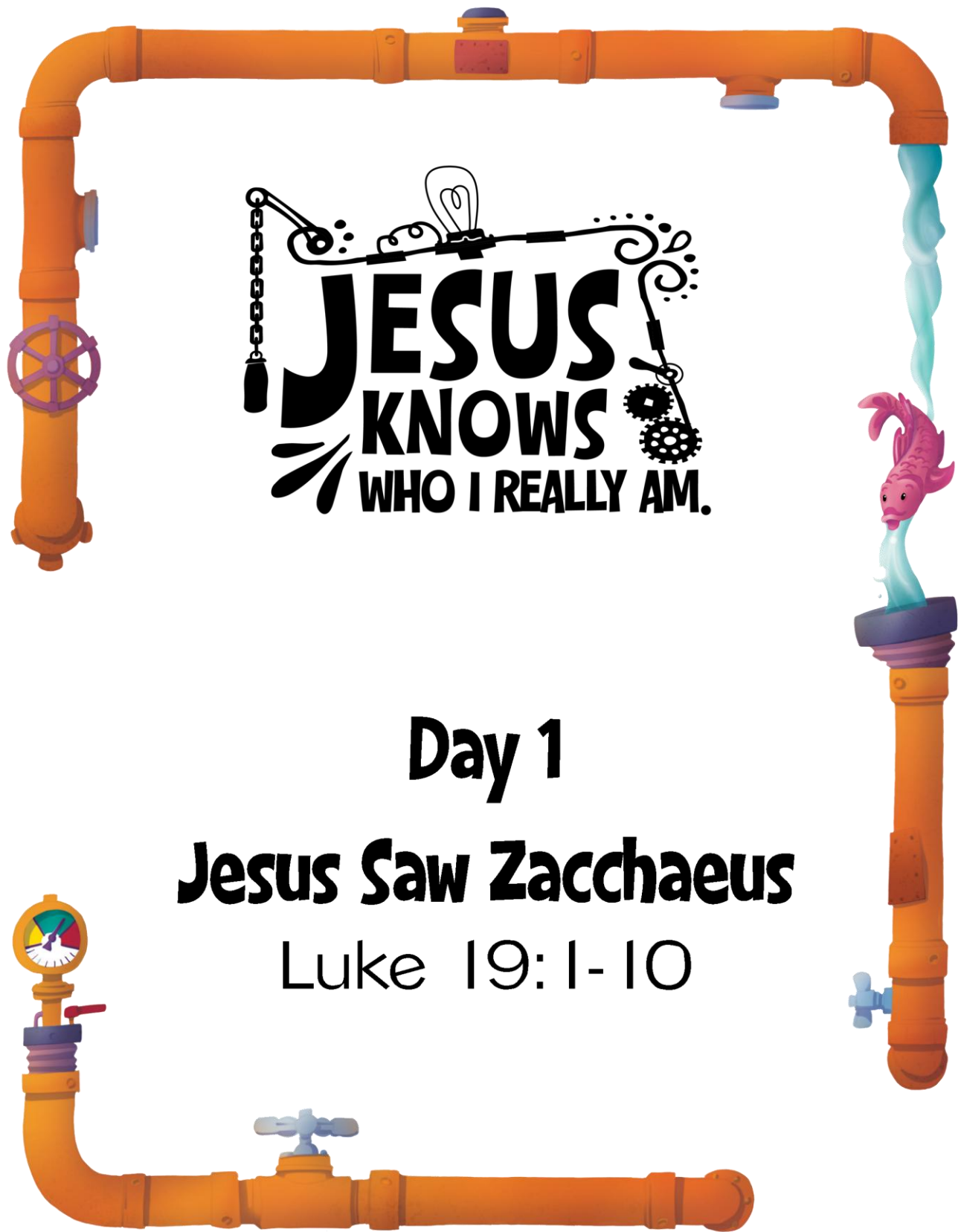
Kinesthetic Learning “I do”

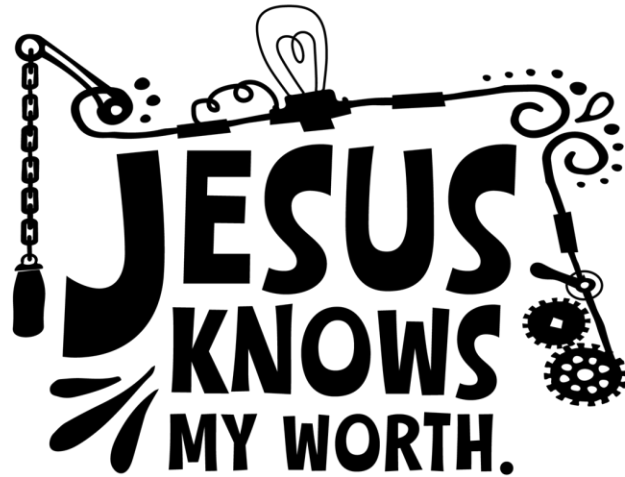
Physically involved in subject	Find it difficult to sit still
Enjoy acting through drama	“Make hand signals”
Enjoy building a project	“Write responses”
Take study notes to keep busy	“Search through sand”

Characteristics of Children

Cut along dotted lines. Affix magnetic tape to back or put a paper clip on card.

3rd & 4th Graders	
PHYSICAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has slow, steady growth and good muscle coordination • Has good eye-hand coordination • Is enthusiastic and may have trouble calming down • Girls are growing more quickly than boys • Can work for longer periods of time • Needs to be able to let off steam
MENTAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginning to think abstractly • Is eager to learn • Likes to experiment and find out how things are made/work • Wants to do things the right way and may feel ashamed when wrong • Is able to excel in Bible skill activities • May have difficulty making decisions
SOCIAL/ EMOTIONAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoys being with friends • May express dislike of children of the opposite sex • Likes to express himself • Dislikes being treated as a “baby” • Will accept carefully worded criticism • Eager to please, wants to be liked • Changes moods quickly
SPIRITUAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is becoming conscious of self & sin • Is developing values • Can see things in terms of right and wrong more than good and bad • Asks serious questions about religion • May be beginning to feel the need to accept Jesus as Savior





Day 2

Jesus Saw the Woman

at the Well

John 4: 1-42

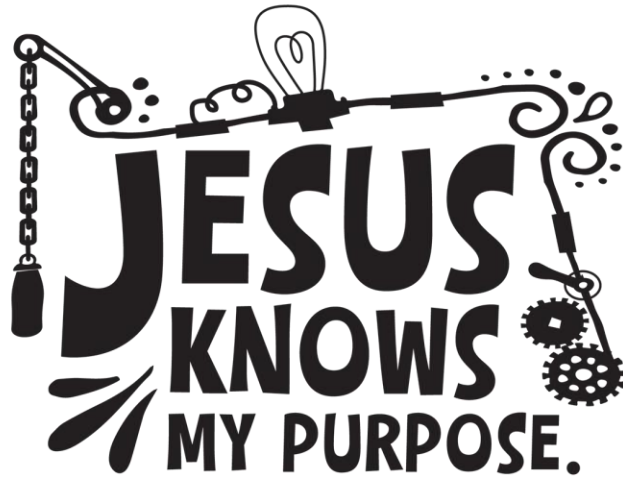


**JESUS
KNOWS
I NEED A SAVIOR.**

Day 3

Jesus Saw Nicodemus

John 3: 1-21 ; 19:38-42



Day 4

Jesus Saw a Blind Man

John 9



**JESUS
LOVES
AND ACCEPTS ME.**

Day 5

Jesus Saw the Children

Mark 10: 13- 16