

VBS 2016 Preschool Base Conference

Purpose Statement

This two-hour plan is designed to prepare preschool leaders for conducting VBS using LifeWay's Submerged materials.

Resources to Collect

Resources for each group:

- Babies—2s:

- VBS 2016 Babies—2s Leader Guide*

- VBS 2016 Babies—2s Leader Pack*

- VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book o 8-1/2-x-11-inch sheet of paper*

- VBS 2016 Dive Bag*

- 3s—Pre-K:

- VBS 2016 3s—Pre-K Leader Guide*

- VBS 2016 3s—Pre-K Leader Pack*

- VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book*

- VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*

- VBS 2016 3s—Kindergarten Rotation Pack*

- 8-1/2-x-11-inch sheet of paper*

- VBS 2016 Dive Bag*

- Kindergarten:

- VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Guide*

- VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Pack*

- VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book*

- VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*

- VBS 2016 3s—Kindergarten Rotation Pack*

- 8-1/2-x-11-inch sheet of paper*

- VBS 2016 Dive Bag*

1. Welcome and Begin the Dive

- Name tags

- *Card 1 from VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*

2. Resources

- *VBS 2016 Babies—2s Leader Guide and VBS 2016 Babies—2s Leader Pack*

- *VBS 2016 3s—Pre-K Leader Guide and VBS 2016 3s—Pre-K Leader Pack*

- *VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Guide and VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Pack*

- *VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book*

- *VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*

- *VBS 2016 3s—Kindergarten Rotation Pack*
- *VBS 2016 VBS Preschool Starter Kit*
- Preschool Core Conference Handouts 1 and 2

3. Submariners

- Koosh® ball

4. Schedule

- “Bubbles” (Item 1)
- 3 envelopes
- Bubble solution

5. Bible Verse

- *Pack Item 11 from VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Pack*
- 6 silver paper plates
- 54 silver brads
- “Say the Verse” (Item 2)

6. Bible Stories

- Shallow clear tub or pan for water
- Fish net with handle
- 10 table tennis balls
- 5 permanent markers in different colors (Fine tip Sharpies are recommended)

7. Leader Guide

- Leader Guides for each age group

8. Leader Packs

- *Pack Items 8-13 from VBS 2016 Babies—2s Leader Pack*
- *Pack Items 8-9 from VBS 2016 3s—Pre-K Leader Pack*
- *Pack Items 9-10 from VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Pack*
- 3 swim fins

9. Take Home Pieces

- *VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book*
- *VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*

10. Rotation Pack

- *VBS 2016 3s—Kindergarten Rotation Pack*
- CD player
- *VBS 2016 Music for Preschoolers*

11. Teaching Tips

- “Teaching Tip Card” (Item 3)
- *VBS 2016 Waterproof Case*
- 1 swim noodle

12. Continue the Connection

- Remark-A-Ball

- “Connection Porthole” (Item 4)
- *VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*
- *VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book*
- *VBS 2016 Takin’ It Home CD*
- *VBS 2016 Takin’ It Home Parent Guide*
- Smart phone or “Submerged” punch out
- *VBS 2016 Music for Preschoolers*

13. Conclude the Dive

- “Submerged Statements” (Item 5)
- *1 set of VBS 2016 Cups*
- CD Player
- *VBS 2016 Music for Preschoolers*

Resources to Prepare

Preparation to use throughout the conference:

- Label the first sheet of paper Babies–2s, the second 3s–Pre-K, and the third Kindergarten.
- Place each age-group curriculum in the Dive Bag. Set the paper and bag in the age-group semicircles:

Babies-2s

- *VBS 2016 Babies—2s Leader Guide*
- *VBS 2016 Babies—2s Leader Pack*
- *VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Books*

3s—Pre-K

- *VBS 2016 3s—Pre-K Leader Guide*
- *VBS 2016 3s—Pre-K Leader Pack*
- *VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book*
- *VBS 2016 3s—Kindergarten Rotation Pack*
- *VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*

Kindergarten

- *VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Guide*
- *VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Pack*
- *VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book*
- *VBS 2016 3s—Kindergarten Rotation Pack*
- *VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*

1. Welcome and Begin the Dive

- Place a nametag in each chair.
- *Remove Card 1 from a VBS 2016 Dive Kit: 3s—K*

2. Resources

- Make one copy of Preschool Core Conference Handouts 1 and 2 for each conferee.

3. Submariners

- No preparation needed.

4. Schedule

- Cut out one set of “Bubbles” (Item 1) for each age group.
- Place each set of bubbles in random order in an envelope. Place the age-group Bubble on the outside of each envelope.

5. Bible Verse

- *Prepare Pack Item 11 from VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Pack*
 - Cut out the portholes from the pack item.
 - Cut away the centers from six silver paper plates then insert 9 silver brads evenly spaced around the edge or lip of the plate to look like bolts or rivets.
 - Place one plate over each porthole, making sure the porthole is visible through the opening.
 - Prop the portholes around the room.
- Cut apart “Say the Verse” (Item 2) for each age group and place it in each Dive Bag.

6. Bible Stories

- Print one word or phrase on each table tennis ball, using a different color marker for each day. (Tip: place balls in a clean egg carton to hold them in place as you write and the marker dries.)

Zacchaeus

Jesus knows me.

Woman at the Well

Jesus knows everything about me.

Nicodemus

Jesus has a plan for me.

Blind Man

Jesus cares about me.

Children

Jesus loves me.

- Place the balls in the pan of shallow water. Place the fish net beside it, lying on a couple of paper towels.

7. Leader Guide

- No preparation needed.

8. Leader Packs

- Prepare Pack Items 8-13 from VBS 2016 Babies—2s Leader Pack according to the instructions and attach it to a wall in the room.
- Prepare Pack Items 8-9 from VBS 2016 3s—Pre-K Leader Pack according to the instructions and attach it to a wall in the room.
- Prepare Pack Items 9-10 from VBS 2016 Kindergarten Leader Pack according to the instructions and attach it to a wall in the room.

9. Take Home Pieces

- No preparation needed.

10. Rotation Pack

- Set the CD player to “Everything About Me” (track 1 on the Music for Preschoolers CD).

11. Teaching Tips

- Cut apart the “Teaching Tip Cards” (Item 3) and place them in the VBS 2016 Waterproof Case. Fold them in half or cut slightly smaller to fit in case, if needed.

12. Continue the Connection

- Cut apart the “Connection Portholes” (Item 4) and attach:
 - Number 1 to *VBS 2016 Preschool Dive Kit*
 - Number 2 to *VBS 2016 Preschool Keepsake Book*
 - Number 3 to *VBS 2016 Takin’ It Home CD*
 - Number 4 to *VBS 2016 Takin’ It Home Parent Guide*
 - Number 5 to *a smart phone or “Submerged” punch out.*
 - Number 6 to *VBS 2016 Music for Preschoolers*

13. Conclude the Dive

- Cut apart the “Submerged Statements” (Item 5) and place one in each cup.

Resources to Copy

- Handout #1 (one for each conferee)
- Handout #2 (one for each conferee)

Room Setup

- *Place a VBS 2016 Super Duper Sized Backdrop on the focal wall.*
- Set up a long table beside the focal wall and cover it with a VBS 2016 Tablecloth. Display VBS resources, craft packs, and a VBS 2016 Tabletopper on the table.
- Place chairs in three semicircle groups. Arrange the chairs so that Babies—2s, 3s—Pre-K, and Kindergarten group members can work together and see the focal wall area. The amount of chairs in each group will vary based on the total number of conferees anticipated.

Decoration Suggestions

- *Drape the VBS 2016 String Flags around the doorways and place the VBS 2016 Visual Pack, VBS 2016 Wall Art, and VBS 2016 Decoration Punch-outs around the walls and door.*

Audio Visual Needs

- CD player

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome and Begin the Dive (10 minutes)

- Welcome each participant to Submerged. Invite them to make a name tag.
- Say: “This year at VBS we will embark on an adventure like no other, scouring the mysterious fathoms of the deep sea. Things look very different once we get below the surface. As preschoolers are submerged in God’s Word, they will discover that Jesus saw people differently. He didn’t see just what was on the outside; He saw people for who they were on the inside.”

- Lead the conferees in prayer. Ask the Lord to help participants dive deep as they teach and minister to preschoolers and their families.
- Explain that lead teachers are called “First Mates” and assistant teachers are the “Crew.”
- Invite conferees to stand.
- Say: “First Mates, as we embark on our journey, the first thing we need to do is put on our gear because we are going diving. Let’s get ready together.”
- Pretend to put on fins, oxygen tank, and mask.
- Comment: “Divers must use hand signals to talk to each other underwater.”
- Teach conferees the various hand signals on the back of Card 1 from Dive Kit: 3s—K.
- Demonstrate the sign for “look at,” then point to a conferee.
- Ask the conferee to introduce himself. Guide that conferee point to someone in a different group. Play until at least one person has introduced himself from each group.
- Lead the conferees to pretend to swim around the room until you give the hand signal to “stop.” Instruct everyone to freeze. Give the “OK” sign when it is time to swim again.
- Comment: “Great job! Now, let’s get on board our submarine.”
- Invite conferees to return to their age groups.

2. Resources (10 minutes)

- Say: “Our conference today is based upon four resources. Let’s look at them now, then we will refer to them throughout the conference.”
- Ask each group to find the resources. Show each resource as you explain it:

Babies—2s:

- Leader Guide
- Leader Pack
- Preschool Keepsake Book

3s-Pre—K:

- Leader Guide
- Leader Pack
- 3s-Kindergarten Rotation Pack
- Dive Kit: 3s—K

Kindergarten:

- Leader Guide
- Leader Pack
- 3s-Kindergarten Rotation Pack
- Dive Kit: 3s—K

- Show the Preschool Starter Kit and explain the components

Babies—2s Leader Guide, Leader Pack, Preschool Keepsake Book

3—Pre-K Leader Guide, Leader Pack, Dive Kit 3s—K

Kindergarten Leader Guide, Leader Pack, Dive Kit 3s—K

3s—Kindergarten Rotation Guide

Craft Pack samples

- Explain how churches can order a Preschool Starter Kit, or they can individually order the number of items they need for their various classrooms.

3. Submariners (5 minutes)

- Say: “Now that we are settled in our sub, let’s talk about our submariners, or preschoolers. The submariners we will lead during VBS are different than adults. Let’s learn more about them.”
- Show conferees the Koosh® ball and invite them to play “Sea Urchin Toss.”
- Guide conferees to open the 3s--Pre-K and Kindergarten Leader Guides to page 6. Point out the Preschool or Kindergarten Characteristics.
- Explain that each person holding the Sea Urchin will share one characteristic of a preschooler and then toss the Sea Urchin to another conferee. If the conferee catches the Urchin, he will name another characteristic. If the conferees drops the Urchin, he will have to name two other characteristics of preschoolers.
- Play until several conferees have participated.
- Explain that knowing preschoolers will help teachers know how to teach & minister to them.

4. Schedule (5 minutes)

- Comment: “Let’s dive into our schedule and see the components of each day.”
- Ask conferees to find the envelopes with the “Bubbles” (Item 1).
- Show conferees the bubble solution.
- Pull out the wand from the bubble solution and blow bubbles up in the air. Challenge conferees to put the schedules in order before the last bubble pops on the floor.
- Ask a spokesperson from each group to tell each schedule:

Babies—2s

- Activities
- Recreation
- Snack
- Rest Time
- Repeated Activities and Departure

3s—Pre-K

- Intro Activities
- Group Time
- Bible-Learning Activities
- Rotation Activities
- Closing Group Time

Kindergarten

- Worship Rally (Or Intro Activities)
- Group Time
- Bible-Learning Activities

- Rotation Activities
- Closing Group Time

5. Bible Verse (10 minutes)

- Say: "It's time to dive deeper and discover what preschoolers will learn during VBS."
- Comment: "Once you are on a submarine the only way to see out is through a porthole. Let's use the portholes around the room to discover our preschool Bible verse for Submerged."
- Invite six conferees to find the Verse Portholes (Kindergarten Leader Pack Item 11) and stand in order in the front. Guide conferees to look in the Leader Guide for the correct order, as needed.
- *Guide conferees to say the Bible verse together. (God, You know everything about me. Help me do what is right. Psalm 139:23-24)*
- Allow volunteers to return to their seats.
- Ask conferees to find the "Say the Verse" (Item 2) card in their Dive Bags. Guide conferees to practice saying their verse in the way described. Share that each group will lead all of the conferees to say the verse. Allow one minute for groups to practice.
- Invite each group to stand and say the verse one time as described, then to lead the group to say the verse in the same way.
 - Babies--2s: Say the verse with "fish lips." Use your thumb and index fingers to press your cheeks together and compress your lips. Make fish lips and say the verse.
 - 3s—Pre-K: Say the verse as if you were underwater. Quickly move your index finger up and down over your lips while you speak. Say the verse while "underwater talking."
 - Kindergarten: Say the verse while moving like a jellyfish. Squat down and stand up slowly as you say the verse.
- Explain that preschoolers will use this one verse for the week. Point out that this year the Bible verse is the same for preschoolers as it is for the elementary children!
- Share: "God knows about us because He sees us. Just like we could look through a porthole to see the outside, Jesus looks at us. But He doesn't see just the outside. He knows everything. He looks below the surface. This year we can help preschoolers understand how God knows everything about them, as well."

6. Bible Stories (10 minutes)

- Say: "Our Bible stories this year are about people that Jesus saw. Jesus looked below the surface to see what was really going on with each individual."
- Let's play "Catch the Bubble" as we discover what preschoolers will learn each day.
- Use the clear tub of water containing the 10 table tennis balls on the table with the fish net.
- Assign Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, Day 4, and Day 5 to five conferees.
- Ask the Day 1 volunteer to "catch the bubble" (ball) that represent the story and the main point.
- Ask the volunteer to share the Bible story and main point for their day. (It may help to quietly tell them what color of writing they are looking for.)
- Continue with Days 2 through 5 stopping after each day for the volunteer to catch the bubbles.

Day 1

- Jesus Saw Zacchaeus
- Jesus knows me.

Day 2

- Jesus Saw the Woman at the Well
- Jesus knows everything about me.

Day 3

- Jesus Saw Nicodemus
- Jesus has a plan for me.

Day 4

- Jesus Saw a Blind Man
- Jesus cares about me.

Day 5

- Jesus Saw the Children
- Jesus loves me.

Share that the Bible Stories for preschoolers are the same as for elementary children this year!

7. Leader Guides (10 minutes)

- Comment: "Alright, First Mates, it's time to dive deep into the Leader Guides."
- Explain the elements of each age-group Leader Guide:

Babies—2s:

- Spiral-bound flipbook of Bible and theme-related activities Teachers can pick and choose a few activities to do each day or repeat activities through the week.
- Bible-teaching and theme related activities
- Two age groups: Babies-Younger 1s and Older 1s-2s
- Music, snack, and recreation ideas

3s-Pre-K and Kindergarten:

- Six Step VBS
- Prepare your heart
- Get the basic facts from your VBS Director
- Plan
- Gather & Prepare
- Teach
- Continue the Connection
- Schedule & Rotation Options
- Overview
- Things to know about Preschoolers
- Teacher Tips
- Activity based decorations

- Supplies
- Music Motion
- Days 1-5 Teaching Plans

8. Leader Packs (20 minutes)

- Invite conferees to play “Sonar Spy.”
- Explain that submarines use sonar to know where things are in the water. Sonar uses pinging sounds.
- Demonstrate a sonar “ping.”
- Ask a volunteer from the Babies-2s group to “swim” around the room and look for an item from the age group Leader Pack.
- Explain: “As you swim around the room, listen for the sonar clues. If you are close to a word, the sonar will ping faster.”
- Make sonar pings. Ask the volunteer to listen for sonar clues. Make the sounds faster as the volunteer approaches the Submarine from the Babies-2s Leader Pack.
- Point out the elements of the pack item.
- Play again with a volunteer from the 3s-Pre-K group. Make the ping sounds faster as the volunteer approaches the Submerged Poster. Point out the elements of the pack item.
- Play again with a volunteer from the Kindergarten group. Make the ping sounds faster as the volunteer approaches the Observation Window. Point out the elements of the pack item.
- Invite conferees to open the Leader Packs in their group.
- Talk about elements of the pack:
 - Bible story pictures -Games -Puzzles -Enhanced CD
- Say: “Now let’s see how well you can find your way around these items.”
- Invite conferees to spread out the resources on the floor or table.
- Give one conferee in each group a swim fin.
- Guide them to slap the item when they find it then pass the swim fin to another conferee.

Pack Item 1 (Bible Story Picture: Jesus Saw Zacchaeus)

Pack Item 7 (Babies-2s Door Poster; 3s-Pre-K Door Poster Add Ons; Kindergarten Door Poster)

Pack Item 10 (Babies-2s Porthole Pictures of Jesus; 3s-Pre-K Sand Recipes; Kindergarten Story Words)

Babies: Pack Item 15 (Book: God You Know Me)

3s-Pre-K: Pack Item 14a (Lost in the Crowd Gameboard)

Kindergarten: Pack Item 24 (Through the Sea Cube)

Enhanced CD

Attendance Chart (Enhanced CD)

9. Take Home Pieces (5 minutes)

- Invite conferees to look through the take home pieces.
- Explain each piece:

Babies—2s: Preschool Keepsake Book

- Designed specifically for Babies-2s but is a great keepsake for preschoolers of all ages. Each page allows for interaction from the child (e.g. placing a hand or footprint on the page, taping in items found on nature walks, or attaching photos) and helps parents know what their kids did at VBS. Think of it like a scrapbook – parents will love it!
- Connects to Bible content for week
- Learner for Babies-2s, used for all preschoolers as take-home piece

3s-Kindergarten: Dive Kit:3s—K

- 5 Dive Cards
 - 1 Dive Slate
 - The back of the Dive Slate also includes a parent letter with ideas for activities families can do together.
- Allow conferees several minutes for the Babies-2s leaders to look through the Keepsake Book and the 3s-Pre-K and Kindergarten leaders to look at the Dive Kit.

10. Rotation Pack (10 minutes)

- Say: “Let’s dive into the last preschool resource for Submerged. The 3’s-K Rotation Pack contains individual folders with ideas for activities and ways to expand the Biblical content of VBS through Deep Sea Music, Deep Sea Missions, Deep Sea Recreation and Deep Sea Arts & Crafts. When planning rotations for preschoolers here are some tips to keep in mind.”
- Locate rotation sites close to each other so it is easier for preschoolers to travel.
- Maintain appropriate teacher/child ratios when traveling to and from rotations. (1:4 is recommended)
- Use a walking rope or buddy system to keep kids together.
- Keep the focus on the Bible story, Bible Verse, Today’s Point, and Kid Connection statements.
- Each rotation should last 25 minutes, which includes time for transitions.

Deep Sea Music:

- Enhanced CD contains 7 songs- a Bible verse song, 4 songs to sing any and every day, a Movement song, and the Theme song. The enhanced CD also contains printable resources. Two new items now on the CD are the Bible Story Pictures and Bible Story Coloring Pages! Other helpful items are available also.
- If your church does a Preschool Worship Rally there are suggestions for this on the back of the folder.
- Each teaching plan has the Bible verse, Today’s Point, and Bible story synopsis. It also includes a teaching plan with instructions on how to teach the songs to preschoolers.
- Let’s learn one of our songs now. Invite conferees to stand and sing “Everything About Me” (track 1). Teach the motions as directed on p. 49 in the 3s-Pre-K and Kindergarten Leader Guides.
- Motion instructions for adults are now available online! Videos showing the motions to the preschool songs are available at www.lifeway/vbs/downloads then

click on the tab for “Instructional Videos”. This is the first time this type of resource has been available for us so let Lifeway know if you find this helpful.

- If time permits, play “Creature Feature” on the CD. Pictures for motions are not included in the pack for this song. Kids are asked to move like the animals mentioned so they can use their own imagination!

Deep Sea Missions:

- A change this year for Missions is that we now have only one video segment each day. However we are still following two missionary families.
- Days 1, 2: DJ from Ontario, Canada
- Days 3,4, 5: Dye Family from Atlanta, Georgia
- Our hope is that this will be less confusing for preschoolers and the teacher will have more time to focus on the one story line for the day.
- “Tide You Over Pack” Mission Project: Kids will help gather non-perishable items for and prepare the packs to be given to a local food bank, homeless shelter, school programs (some have summer programs to provide meals for underprivileged kids), and so forth. This pack is intended to help “tide kids over” until their next hot meal.
- Remember that games and activities are included in the Missions curriculum as well. It is not just about the videos.

Deep Sea Recreation:

- Daily Bible Story Game suggestion for each day
- Bubble Games
- Water Games
- Theme Games
- Administrative cards include tips on Leader Responsibilities, Kid Characteristics, Teaching Tips, Decorating Ideas, and Free Play Ideas. Encourage your teachers to read through these, especially because many times volunteer teachers for rotations might not be teachers who work with preschoolers on a regular basis.

Deep Sea Arts & Crafts:

- 4 craft choices per day- typically these will be one Bible related, two theme related and one Free Art Center idea
- Remember that coloring pages are available on the **Music** enhanced CD
- Craft packs are available for Day 1 Climbing Zacchaeus, Day 3 Submerged Periscope, Day 4 Dive Compass, and Day 5 Porthole Picture Frame. Plans to make these without purchasing the craft packs are also included in the folder.
- Teaching plans also include a three-day project- Art Canvas Keepsake
- Several templates are also provided for other activities
- And of course, there are Teaching Tips included in the folder

Mention that Snack Rotation Cards are sold separately and include preschool- friendly snacks.

11. Teaching Tips (10 minutes)

- Invite two volunteers to stand at the front. Guide each to hold the end of one swim noodle.
- Say: "Let's go over some teaching tips as we continue our dive training today."
- Invite a conferee to choose a "Teaching Tip Card" (Item 3) from the Waterproof Case.
- Ask the volunteers to make a smile with the swim noodle if the statement is true or a frown with the swim noodle if the statement is false. Ask conferees to explain why each statement is true or false.
 - You should start VBS preparation the week before VBS begins. (frown-false) Say: "Prep should begin several weeks and sometimes months before VBS starts. The more prepared you are the better your week will go."
 - You should wait for every child to arrive before you begin the intro activities. frown-false) Explain: "Be ready as soon as the first child walks into the room. Engage kids as they enter into the intro activities."
 - You should read the Teacher Devotion to prepare your own heart before you teach. (smile-true)
 - You should ask your VBS Director about your specific schedule. (smile-true)
 - You should invite preschoolers from your neighborhood to attend VBS. (smile-true)
 - You should read the Bible story word for word as you hold the Leader Guide. (frown-false) Explain: "You should tell the Bible story in your own words as you hold the Bible in your hands."
 - You should only teach in the specific learning style in which you learn best and are most comfortable. (frown-false) Explain: "You should use a variety of teaching methods and styles to engage all kinds of learners in your preschool room."
 - You should use repetition and repeat some of the favorite activities throughout the week. (smile-true)
 - You should not worry about what you do during VBS because preschoolers are not paying attention to you at all. (frown-false) Explain: "You are the example for preschoolers. They are always watching and listening, even when you think they are not."
 - You should pray before VBS, during VBS, and after VBS. (smile-true)

12. Continue the Connection (10 minutes)

- Comment: "Let's talk about how we can continue the connection after VBS."
- Show conferees a Remark-A-Ball. Explain how it is divided into two colors, has six numbers, and five images.
- Toss the ball to a conferee.
- Ask him to call out the number closest to his thumb.
- Show the "Connection Porthole" (Item 4) that matches with the number and explain how it can be used to continue the connection.
- Guide the conferee to toss the ball to another conferee. Play until all six items have been described.

1. **Dive Kit:** Each card includes a summary of that day's Bible story plus games and activities to help parents and children personally apply each day's Bible truth. The back of the Dive Slate also includes a parent letter with ideas for activities families can do together.

2. **Preschool Keepsake Book:** Give the books to parents at the end of VBS as a keepsake documenting the things their children did and learned at VBS. This will be a treasured gift for many parents!
 3. **Takin' It Home CD:** This disc facilitates games and spiritual conversations for the car ride home each day of VBS.
 4. **Takin' It Home Parent Guide**
 5. **Submerged App:** Suggest parents download the VBS app on their smartphones or tablets and interact with the content alongside their children.
 6. **Music for Preschoolers CD:** Send notes, call, or visit each child after VBS. Consider taking a small gift such as the Music for Preschoolers CD for children to enjoy all of their favorite VBS songs for years to come!
- Share other ideas to continue the connection specifically for preschoolers:
 - Ask preschool Sunday school teachers to work at the registration table early in the week to greet new families.
 - Invite preschool Sunday school teachers to introduce themselves to parents during check in and check-out on the last day of VBS.
 - Provide parents with your church's summer and fall preschool calendar.
 - Mail out two cards to each family. Send a thank you note to parents and a fun postcard to preschoolers.
 - Plan a preschool event later in the summer that includes some of the preschoolers' favorite activities and games from Submerged.
 - Take a group picture of preschoolers. Place the pictures in a VBS 2016 Picture Frame and deliver them to the preschooler's home.
 - Ask conferees to share other ways they can continue the journey with preschoolers and their families after VBS.

13. Conclude the Dive (5 minutes)

- Say: "We have concluded our journey today for Submerged."
- Invite a volunteer to choose a "Submerged Statement" (Item 5) from the cup and read it aloud. Each statement is taken from one of the Teacher Devotions.
 - As you teach, beware of the tendency to make judgments based on "surface stuff" like skinned knees, scruffy clothes, silliness, or surliness. Rely on God to help you perceive each child as He does ... He loves them inside and out! o It is highly possible that some of the VBS kids you encounter have never been told that they are valued—by their families or by God. Jesus wants everyone to know they are special to Him!
 - Remember to communicate so clearly that all your kids will understand that under the surface, everyone needs Jesus!
 - Chaos, confusion, and tragedy may appear to run rampant these days, but no life and no circumstance is without purpose. During VBS, watch carefully for God's work in your own life and the lives of the preschoolers in your class.
 - Because of Jesus, we all have a precious purpose and unquenchable hope.
- Close the session in prayer. Thank God for the conferees and for their willingness to dive deep during this year's Vacation Bible School.
- Play "Submerged" (track 7) as conferees leave.