

YOUNGER KIDS LEADER GUIDE

SOCIAL DISTANCING ACTIVITY ADJUSTMENTS

Unit 31 • Session 3

A Note for Leaders: Because each volume of *The Gospel Project for Kids* is written several months in advance of its suggested use dates and because it is available for purchase for three years, the activities in the leader guides do not reflect the current social distancing guideline requirements of many kids ministries. However, we want to do all we can to help you, especially in these challenging times, so we have provided activity adjustments as needed below. Please note that we cannot anticipate the various policies and needs of every ministry, so even these adaptations and replacements may need further revision for your context.

MEDIATED “MOTHER, MAY I?” ADJUSTMENT

Select two volunteers to stand at one end of the room, one to be Mother (or Father) and the other to be Mediator. Instruct the rest of the kids to stand at the far side of the room. Those kids will take turns making requests of Mother such as “Mother, may I take 12 steps forward?” Mother will decide whether to grant the request, alter the request (such as “No, but you may take 3 steps forward”) or deny the request. Mother will share her answer with the Mediator, who will tell the answer to the kid who made the request. If space does not allow for all the kids to play at once while remaining distanced, take turns playing in groups.

THIS OR THAT? ADJUSTMENT

Direct the kids to stand in the center of the room while remaining distanced. Suggest two items, pointing to one side of the room for each. Kids will gather, while remaining distanced, on the side of the room that corresponds with the item they would prefer. Select a kid from each side to explain her reasoning. If space does not allow for kids to move to sides of the room, have them remain seated and raise their hands to indicate their preferences. Suggested options: cake or ice cream, air hockey or foosball, pizza or tacos, blue or red, soda or juice.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT ADJUSTMENT

Encourage kids to think of popular restaurants around you or favorite foods they eat at home or at school.

Help kids form pairs or small groups while maintaining proper distancing, or play as a large group, and imagine the ultimate sandwich. Ask one volunteer from each group to write the ingredients for their sandwich or draw a picture of the sandwich. For each ingredient, ask kids to think of one thing they can tell someone about Jesus. Give each group time to share with the others.

OLDER KIDS LEADER GUIDE

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FAVORITE FOODS ADJUSTMENT

Encourage kids to think of popular restaurants around you or favorite foods they eat at home or at school.

Help kids form pairs or small groups while maintaining proper distancing, or play as a large group, and imagine the ultimate sandwich. Ask one volunteer from each group to write the ingredients for their sandwich or draw a picture of the sandwich. For each ingredient, ask kids to think of one thing they can tell someone about Jesus. Give each group time to share with the others.

THE BETTER THING ADJUSTMENT

Before the session, collect small prizes or novelty gifts. Make sure there are enough for each kid to get one. Wrap each gift or place it in a gift bag.

Lead kids to form a circle while maintaining proper distancing, or play by having kids turn to face each other from their seats. Place all the gifts in the center of the circle or in front of the room depending on your configuration. Designate one kid to begin by choosing a gift from the circle and opening it. The kid to her right will then choose a gift. He has the option of either taking the gift from the first player or choosing a new one from the circle to open. If a player takes a gift from someone else, that gift cannot be taken again. Continue around the circle until everyone has chosen and opened a gift.

