



# Wiggles and Squiggles

60 Bible-Based classroom  
Games and Activities

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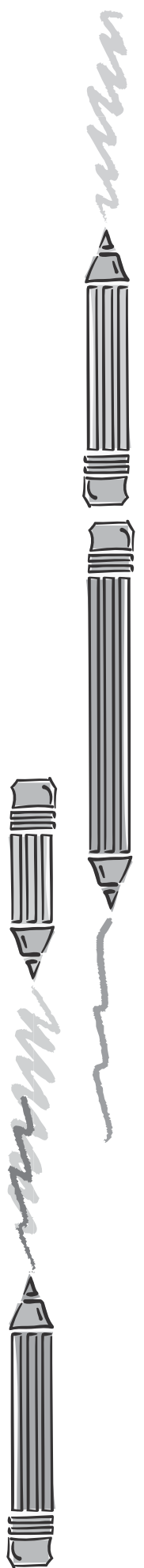
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# introduction

It happens in every classroom. Eventually, students grow weary of sitting and they start to wiggle. They grow weary of neat handwriting and they start to squiggle. What do you, their teacher, do to guide their energies and still help them learn? You introduce a game or activity that gets them on their feet.

This book offers 60 classroom games and activities that will be welcomed by any teacher or student. Each one reinforces Bible themes and concepts by connecting with a Bible verse or story. They are intended to help teach fundamental skills and give children a fun, creative outlet for the expression of their faith.

The games offered here are accomplished with simple and easily obtained materials. They are designed for a classroom with a tight budget and for teachers who are looking for creative ways to integrate faith into classroom activities. Each activity includes a materials list, instructions, and a Bible connection. Reproducible patterns are provided where appropriate. Some games or activities do require more adult assistance and are better suited for older children. Some are intended for use in the classroom and some are appropriate for large areas. And still others, because they involve water, should be played outdoors.

These games and activities have been chosen for their applicability to the Christian school. Use them as they are presented here, or use them to supplement your program. Feel free to adapt them as necessary to fit your students' interests and abilities.

May God's Spirit fill you with wisdom and joy as you share His love and mercy with the children in your care.

The Editors



# Quiet Games



## Creation Walk

### Directions

Help the children hold hands and make a circle. While holding hands, walk in a circle and sing these words to the tune of "This Old Man":

**God made you. God made me.  
He made the animals, plants, and trees,  
Planets, stars, and sun shining bright.  
Ev'rything God made was right!**

Explain to the children that God made the world and everything in it. He made animals, sea creatures, plants, people, everything! Ask one or two children to name something God made. Walk and sing again, repeating until each child has an opportunity to respond.

### ***Bible Connection***

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1*

### **Creation**

God's divine design perfectly reflected the creativity, love, power, and goodness of its Creator. He perfectly provided a prime environment for His creatures to prosper and grow. He gave Adam and Eve purposeful work, blessed them, and enjoyed them. Although sin destroyed this perfection, God promised to send One to restore His people. How wonderfully our good God kept this promise in Christ, our Savior!

## Follow Me!

### SUPPLIES

1 index card per person  
Pen or marker

## Directions

Make a set of cards. Draw a smiley face on all cards but one. Draw an X on the last card. Shuffle cards. Sit in a circle. Let each player choose a card, but not show it to anyone. Whoever receives the X card is the leader. Start a motion or rhythm everyone can follow, such as clapping, and have everyone join in. Then the leader will begin a new movement to the same rhythm. The leader might snap, tap a knee, touch his or her nose, or do something else. The group watches closely and changes to the new movement while trying to find and identify their leader. Reshuffle and play again.

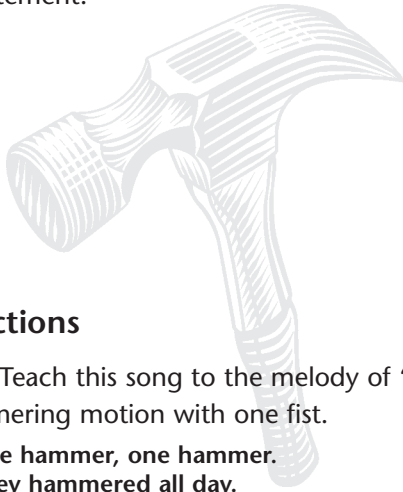
### **Bible Connection**

*As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. . . . “Come, follow Me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed Him. Matthew 4:18–20*

## The calling of the first disciples

How can we follow Jesus when we cannot see Him? We follow Jesus when we learn about Him and hear His words in the Bible. Our church and families teach us about Jesus and His love for us. In thanks for all God has done for us in Jesus Christ, we want to find out what pleases Him. We want to follow Jesus, copy Him, and be like Him. We follow Jesus with joy and excitement!

# Hammer it



## Directions

Help the children stand in a circle. Teach this song to the melody of “Did You Ever See a Lassie?” while you make a hammering motion with one fist.

**All the workers had one hammer, one hammer, one hammer.  
All the workers had one hammer; they hammered all day.  
They hammered this way and that way, and this way and that way.  
All the workers had one hammer and then they had two.**

Sing the song again, but sing “two hammers” and “then they had three” while you hammer with both fists. Sing the song with “three hammers” while adding the motion of stomping one foot. Sing a final time with “four hammers” while hammering both fists and stomping both feet. Sing the last line as “and then they went home.”

### **Bible Connection**

*Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight. . . . So God said to Noah, “I am going to put an end to all people. . . . But I will establish My covenant with you, and you will enter the ark.” Genesis 6:11–13, 18*

## The flood

In Noah's time, God was grieved over the utter sinfulness of the world, so He sent a flood to wash the world clean. Only Noah and his family were still faithful to God. God spared them by instructing Noah to build an ark. God used a hammer to help us with our problem of sin. Jesus was nailed to the cross with a hammer and nails. He died to take away our sins. God repaired the world through Jesus.

## invisible Memory Review

### S U P P L I E S

White paper  
Waxed paper  
Magazine  
Pencils  
Bible



### Directions

Instruct students to place a piece of waxed paper over a piece of white paper with a magazine under it. Write a favorite Bible verse or memory verse on the waxed paper. Press hard. Throw away the waxed paper. Have students exchange white pieces of paper with the person behind or beside them. Show students how to hold a pencil almost parallel to the paper. Lightly rub the pencil over the sheet of paper. Take turns reading one another's Bible verses.

### *Bible Connection*

This activity can be used with any Bible story or verse. Consider using it with memory work. For example, if your class is studying the Apostles' Creed, each student could write a few words of the creed then exchange his or her paper with the student in front or behind.

## Pop-a-Prayer Pal

### S U P P L I E S

Paper strips  
Pen or pencil  
5" balloons  
Balloon sticks



## Directions

Write each student's name on a strip of paper. Fold the paper and slip it into a balloon. Inflate each balloon, tie, and attach to a stick. Have each child choose a balloon and pop it. The paper inside gives the name of that student's prayer pal. They can pray for their pals throughout the school year or for a designated length of time.

### **Bible Connection**

*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."*

*Matthew 7:7-8*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Prayer is a special gift from God. He invites us to come to Him in prayer and promises to hear us. Jesus gives us the model for prayer in Luke 11:1-4. Help students understand that there are many ways to pray and that we can pray wherever we are.

This activity can be used to supplement a unit on general prayer or on the Lord's Prayer. It makes a good first day of school ice breaker. Or it can be used for Special Friends Day, when older students are paired with younger students, if your school provides that program.

Sing "God, Our Father, Hear Your Children."

## Team Memory Work

### SUPPLIES

3" x 5" index cards

Scissors

Marker



### Directions

Cut the index cards into fish, star, or heart shapes. Write one word of the memory verse on each card shape. Make two sets. Divide the class into two teams. Give each team one shuffled set of cards. Each team is to put the words in the correct order and display the whole verse on a chalkboard ledge or table for everyone to see.

**Options:** Give each person on the team one card. He or she must go forward at the correct time to place his or her word in correct sequence. Or have the children stand and hold their words in correct order.

### **Bible Connection**

This activity can be used with any Bible verse or memory work assignment.