SAFARI EXPEDITION

Exploring God's Good Gifts

Crafts

Leader Guide



1	2	3	4	5
				
Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath *1 Kings 17:8–16*	**God Calls Abram** *Genesis 12:1–9*	**Jesus Welcomes the Children** *Mark 10:13–16*	**Jesus Forgives the Thief on the Cross** *Luke 23:32–43*	**An Angel Rescues Peter from Prison** *Acts 12:6–19*
God gives me food and drink.	**God gives me a house and a home.**	**God gives me family and friends.**	**God gives me forgiveness and eternal life.**	**God gives me protection from danger and evil.**
The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season. *Psalm 145:15*	**For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.** *Hebrews 3:4*	**Let the children come to Me . . . for to such belongs the kingdom of God.** *Mark 10:14*	**For You, O Lord, are good and forgiving.** *Psalm 86:5*	**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.** *Psalm 46:1*

Crafts Leader Basics

How Do Crafts Work at VBS?

One of the sites kids visit after the Opening is Crafts. Kids move in Teams—groups of five or six kids with one Team Leader. Ask your Director how many Teams will visit your site each rotation and how many rotations you will do each day.

What You Do

Before VBS, do these things to get ready:

- Pray for the kids who will attend VBS. Read the five Bible accounts.
- Read through this *Crafts Leader Guide*.
- Gather craft supplies. Ask for craft supply donations to stretch your budget. Your Director may help you purchase items needed or solicit donations.
- Reflect on the points in "Connect." These help you connect the crafts to the Bible account each day.
- Recruit volunteers. The Crafts site is a great place for volunteers of all ages.
- Attend training with other volunteers. Learn to lead the call and response of the Take-Home Point.

During VBS, do these things:

- Arrive early and set out supplies needed for each day. Use this *Crafts Leader Guide* to prepare. Get an update on the number of kids expected.
- Read each day's Leader Devotion (available from your Director).
- Attend the Opening and the Closing to connect with kids and families.

During each rotation, do these things:

- Welcome kids; introduce helpers and yourself.
- Demonstrate how to make the craft, and show a finished craft.
- Allow for creativity! Know each child's project will look unique.
- Use the points in "Connect" with the whole group or print copies of them for Team Leaders to discuss with their Teams.
- Review the Bible Memory Verse and lead Teams in a call and response of the Take-Home Point for each day.
- Distribute completed crafts to Team Leaders or set crafts aside to distribute at Closing.

Role of Team Leaders

Team Leaders help kids understand the directions to create the craft, assist as needed, and may discuss the "Connect" questions with their groups. Team Leaders may hold finished crafts for their groups and distribute them after the Closing each day.

Site Setup and Decorating

- Set up enough tables and chairs to accommodate the number of kids and leaders who will visit the Crafts site each rotation.
- Set up a table for supplies and demonstration. Display a completed craft. Add a sign with the craft's name for each day.
- Kids will go wild for these *Safari Expedition* decoration ideas! Hang a *Safari Backdrop* on the wall to set the mood. Hang silk greenery or premade *Safari Hanging Lanterns*. Attach *Animal Print Decorations* to the wall. Cut cardboard into grassy points and paint green and brown. Scatter a few craft-paper boulders. Fashion a watering hole by covering a small plastic swimming pool with blue gossamer fabric. Populate the watering hole with safari animals cut from the *Decorating Posters* and attached to cardboard or foam core. And don't forget the jumbo photo-op picture in the *Decorating Posters*!
- Hang the Crafts site sign (available on the *Decorating Posters*) near the entrance to the room.

Reaching All Children

Plan to provide one-on-one support as needed while encouraging kids to work as independently as they are able. Encourage Team Leaders to do the same. Make on-the-fly modifications as needed.

Take-Home Point

Each day has a new Take-Home Point. You will say the Take-Home Point and Teams will respond, **"God gives good gifts!"** using these actions: **God** *(point both index fingers upward)* **gives** *(with palms up, reach forward and out with both hands)* **good** *(left hand stays out; right hand touches chin with fingertips, then extends to meet left hand)* **gifts** *(extend hands to each side)*.

We want to know what you think!

Fill out a survey at **cph.org/vbsfeedback**. Thank you!

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SAFARI EXPEDITION
Exploring God's Good Gifts

Lesson 1

Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath

1 Kings 17:8–16

Take-Home Point: God gives me food and drink.

Bible Memory Verse: The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season. Psalm 145:15

God Provides Window Cling

Supply List

- *God Provides Window Cling* for each kid (purchase in packs of 12 from cph.org)
- Permanent markers in a variety of colors
- Paper or plastic to cover tables

Craft Prep

- Cover tables with paper or plastic to protect them from markers as kids color.
- Set out a window cling for each kid.
- Place permanent markers at each table.

Welcome

Welcome to Crafts! My name is [name], and I'm looking forward to making crafts with you this week! Show a finished sample of the *God Provides Window Cling*. **Today's craft reminds us that God provides—meaning He gives us—daily food and everything we need!**

Connect

God knows we need food to eat and water to drink each day, and He lovingly provides them for us. Psalm 145:15 says, "The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season."

Connect to the Bible lesson with these key points:

- **In the midst of a famine, God miraculously provided food for a widow, her family, and Elijah. God daily provides us with food and all we need.**
- **Sometimes we worry that we won't have enough or we want more than we have, but we don't need to worry. We can trust God's promise to provide for us.**



Create!

1. Remind kids that the markers are permanent; they should not mark their hands or clothes.
2. Have kids write their name and Team name or number on the paper backing of the cling.
3. Use the markers to color the cling with a variety of colors.

Close

Review the Bible Memory Verse for today.

Say the Take-Home Point with the actions:

SAY: GOD GIVES ME FOOD AND DRINK.

TEAMS: GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS!

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