SAFARI EXPEDITION

Exploring God's Good Gifts

Snacks

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*

Snacks Leader Basics

How Do Snacks Work at VBS?

One of the sites kids visit after the Opening is Snacks. 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 VBS kids. Read the five Bible accounts.
- Read through this *Snacks Leader Guide*.
- Gather snack supplies. Ask for donations of food and paper products 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 snacks to the Bible account each day.
- Recruit volunteers. The Snacks site is a great place for volunteers of all ages.
- Ask your Director to provide you with a list of the kids, leaders, and helpers who have food allergies and which Teams they are in.
- 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 use this *Leader Guide* to prepare.
- Complete preparation for the snack before each rotation time. Get an update on the number of kids expected so you can prep supplies for each Team.
- 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 snack.
- Pray together, thanking God for the food.
- Use the points in "Connect" with the whole group or print copies of them for Team Leaders to discuss with their Teams.
- Remind Team Leaders never to force a child to eat. If a child doesn't want to eat something, let him or her make that choice.

Role of Team Leaders

Team Leaders help kids understand the directions to create the snack, assist as needed, and may discuss the "Connect" questions with their Teams.

Site Setup and Decorating

- Set up enough tables and chairs to accommodate the number of kids and leaders who will visit the Snacks site each rotation.
- Set up a table for supplies and demonstration. Each day, add a sign with the snack's name.
- Kids will go wild for these *Safari Expedition* decoration ideas! Hang one or more *Safari Backdrops* on the walls to set the mood. Hang silk greenery or premade *Safari Hanging Lanterns*. Attach *Animal Print Decorations* to the wall or on dowels for the tables. 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 Snacks site sign (available on the *Decorating Posters*) near the entrance to the room.

Tips for Helping Kids with Food Allergies and Sensitivities

- Be aware of common food allergens. Milk, peanuts, eggs, tree nuts, soybeans, fish, shellfish, sesame, and wheat are common, but there are other allergens as well. Consider providing allergen-free snack alternatives. Check with parents of kids with food allergies before serving these.
- Also be aware that some children have issues with food textures or have other nonallergic sensitivities.
- Post a list of kids, leaders, and helpers who have food allergies and sensitivities (and which Teams they are in) where leaders and helpers can see it.
- Give a list of snacks and ingredients to your Director to share with parents. Parents may choose to provide alternative snacks for kids who have food allergies or sensitivities.
- Familiarize yourself with allergic-reaction symptoms. Make a plan for how to handle an allergic-reaction emergency.

We want to know what you think!

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

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SAFARI EXPEDITION
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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*

Daily Bread Bites

Supply List

For each person, you will need the following:

- A plate
- A napkin
- A spoon
- A small pita bread cut into 4 pieces or 3–4 bite-size pita breads (naan dippers)
- A teaspoon of olive oil in a small cup
- Additional dips (such as hummus, ranch dip, and cheese dip); small cups

Snack Prep

On each plate, provide a few pieces of pita bread and olive oil. You can add a dollop of each available dip or let children choose desired dips already prepared in small cups.



Welcome & Prayer

Welcome to the Snacks site! Today, we're going to talk about daily bread! Pray together.

Connect

God gives us all that we need! He gives us food and drink. Psalm 145:15 says, "The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season."

Connect with the Bible lesson using these key points:

- **In our Bible lesson, a widow and her child had only enough oil and flour for one more meal. But she trusted in God and shared her food with Elijah. God took care of the mother, the child, and Elijah! They never ran out of what they needed.**
- **This week, we are going to talk about the many ways that God gives us what we need. We sometimes call this "daily bread." The snack you are eating today is a special kind of bread. Try dipping it in the olive oil and think about how God gave flour and oil in our Bible lesson. What are your favorite foods to eat?**
- **Can you think of a time when God gave you food and drink? We can look to God and know that He gives us what we need, when we need it. God listens to our prayers and gives us good gifts.**

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!

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)*.

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