



TEACHER GUIDE
Preschool B

Unit 5 : January

Jesus Helps and Heals Us!

One in Christ Preschool—An Overview

Welcome to the One in Christ preschool curriculum and to an easy-to-use format that will help you plan your “Jesus Time” and related experiences. There is one Teacher Guide for each month of the year. (Be sure to recognize that these are not disposables, like magazines.) Each month (unit) has 4 weeks of lessons, with 4 days per week. You will find that there is an abundance of ideas. This provides you with the freedom to pick what works best for you. Don’t try to cover all the material given. Make choices—make it your own!

To help you organize by quarters, the covers are color-coded. The Fall quarter (September, October, November) has autumn orange covers; the Winter quarter (December, January, February) has red covers for Christmas through Valentines; the Spring quarter (March, April, May) has spring green covers; and the Summer quarter (June, July, August) has turquoise blue covers. Each quarter will have one bonus lesson (because of variations in schedules and calendars). Please note the flexibility of the program, which has a Summer quarter for preschools that have a year-round program.

You also have flexibility in how you store your Teacher Guides. The pages are 3-hole punched if you would like to place each quarter in a separate binder. The pages are also perforated if you want to place them in file folders. Or you may simply want to place these colorful Teachers Guides on a bookshelf as your religion curriculum library.

Let’s see what a week provides. The first page of a weekly plan gives you an overview for the week. This is followed by 2 pages of ideas for each of 4 days of Jesus Time lessons. Note that each activity has a heart icon. To keep track of the activities you select to use, you can put a check mark, or better yet a cross, in the heart icon. Checking off activities will also help you in your planning next year!

You will find teaching tools referred to in the lessons such as play scenes, Bible figures, puppets, and *The Story Bible* (hardback edition), all available from Concordia Publishing House (CPH). Song suggestions come from *Little Ones Sing Praise (LOSP)* or *Lift Little Voices (LLV)*, also available from CPH, along with CD recordings of the songs. You will need a variety of materials and methods for teaching a Bible story because each week, the story is presented four times. This repetition is important, age-appropriate, and educationally sound. One time is not enough for a good story—children want to hear it over and over again. (Note: If you do not have the materials suggested, you can still teach the lessons, adapting them to fit with the materials you do have available.)

The second main section of each week provides circle time and center ideas on a variety of themes. Though independent of your Jesus Time, connections to our faith are made to show children that Jesus is part of all parts of our lives. The categories are Express (language development), Create (the arts), Explore (science and math readiness), and Relate (social development). Take note of the numbers in parentheses at the end of each activity. These relate the activity to an early childhood curriculum standard. Reproducible copies of these standards are found in the Administrator’s Manual. The standards are based on a compilation of state and national preschool standards.

Family Letters encourage families to read from *The Story Bible* with pages listed (from the hardback edition) each week, so that children can hear the Bible account both at home and at school. (Note: If you find it difficult to get weekly letters to the home, consider giving parents the entire packet at the beginning of the year.) Blessings!



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Unit 5—January

Jesus Helps and Heals Us

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From the Editor—A Look at This Month

Our theme in this month is Health and Wellness. Our lessons will focus on the concepts that Jesus has the power and the love to help us and heal us. Jesus does so physically and spiritually. We will learn that Jesus hears and answers our prayers, and answers them in the way He knows is best and at the time that is best (though not necessarily as we asked). We trust His wisdom, will, and ways. Sometimes God works through other people to help us; God blesses the work they do. In this world, healing is not always complete, but God blesses us through medicines and tools (such as eyeglasses and wheelchairs) that help us live with our problems. Since healing is not always complete in this world, God blesses us with peace and comfort to cope with our troubles. And the ultimate healing, full and perfect health, will come to all who believe in Jesus when He takes us to live in heaven! These are important understandings for children, their parents, and their teachers!

You are encouraged to use *The Story Bible* (© 2011 Concordia Publishing House) as a companion piece to the lessons you will teach in your classroom. Also encourage family use of this book in the home. Accompanying page numbers are listed in the Family Letters. The Family Letters are an important way of getting God's Word into the home. The messages of faith are for the parents too! If you have trouble getting papers home, send the whole month of Family Letters at one time; better

yet, send each family the whole packet for the rest of the year! Encourage them to follow along with what is happening in the classroom.

The CPH Big Books titled *Jesus Feeds 5,000 People* and *Who Will Help?* will be important companion pieces in this unit. Also, the CPH Arch Book series has several titles related to our Bible stories (and always check for new ones!): *Jesus Wakes the Little Girl*; *Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus*; *A Meal for Many*; *What's for Lunch?*; *The Story of the Good Samaritan*; *The Parable of the Prodigal Son*.

Note that in Week 19, you will need a photograph of each child. It is good to make multiple photocopies of all the children's school photos because the photocopies will prevent damage to the originals, and you will always have student photos on hand for other projects. Also note that there is a Bonus Lesson in this unit—five weeks instead of the usual four, to allow for adjustments in your calendar and schedule. Remember: you do not need to cover all of the material given. We have provided an abundance so you can pick and choose what works for you!

As you view the materials lists, consider that you may not need all items, depending on which activities you choose. We provide you with many ideas from which you can pick and choose and adapt. Think of this resource as a guide, not a prescription.

God bless your teaching of the faith!

Meeting Individual Needs

A classic teacher/parent tool is to count out loud to five as motivation to complete a task. The idea is that the student will hurry up and comply or face the consequences by the time you say five. A more effective way to use this tool is to count backwards from five. The reason for this is so that students have a definite end. If you count 1,2,3,4,5 the little preschooler next to you who does not understand that you mean business may happily think in their head 6,7,8,9,10 and miss the point of the interaction. By counting backwards 5,4,3,2,1 it gives a very clear end. This improves the chances that the student will

understand what the teacher is communicating and understand the urgency (*I better hurry up before the teacher gets to 1 and I run out of time*). Using a timer or written numbers that the teacher erases can reinforce the idea of something ending. Be careful when dealing with students who have high anxiety. Counting can actually increase the stress level of anxiety-ridden students. For these students, the teacher may need to give a five-minute warning. Students who have anxiety may need a longer transition time to calm and adjust to the idea of an activity ending.

Week 18—Jesus Is All Powerful

JAIRUS'S DAUGHTER LIVES!

LUKE 8:40-42, 49-56

Discovery Points

Law: Because of sin in the world, we will experience sadness and death.

Gospel: Jesus is more powerful than death. He takes our sadness away.

Sanctification: Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can trust in God to help with any of our problems, no matter how large.

Background

We all have questions that we would like to ask God when we get to heaven! Why do we have to get sick sometimes? Why do people get mad and fight? Why do children argue with their parents? And why do cookies have to contain so many calories? Perhaps, however, the biggest and most hotly burning question on everyone's list is, why do people have to die? It is an age-old question with a timeless answer we already know but do not fully understand. We know we all will die someday, but we all seem to still have a fear of the unknown. This fear can overtake us . . . until we really think about the nature of God, the one with whom believers will spend eternity!

God did not put death in our lives as simply a means to an end, nor did He do it as a way to taunt us and provoke fear! In fact, God didn't put death in our lives at all! Satan did, and he continues to do so every day of our lives as he tempts and coaxes us into sinful situations from which we should turn away. We are dead in and through our sin! Thankfully, as Jesus came to Jairus's house and rescued the beloved daughter from the physical consequences of earthly sin, so Jesus also has come into our lives, our hearts, and rescued us from eternal death through the redemption purchased and won through His saving work on the cross!

As you study the story of Jesus raising Jairus's daughter this week, remind students that God *is* so good and that we have no greater helper than Jesus, who saves us from sin, death, and the devil and has brought us to the newness of life. We can always trust Jesus with all of our problems!

Bible Words

*I trust in You, O LORD.
Psalm 31:14*

Week 18

Day 1 Materials

- Flannelgraph figures
- Bible
- Sign with "Hooray!" on one side and "Oh, no!" on the other
- Reproducible 18

Day 2 Materials

- 3 signs: "Capernaum"; "The Road"; and "Jairus's House"
- *The Story Bible* (available from CPH)
- Zippy puppet

Day 3 Materials

- Vinyl play scene
- Family Letter 18
- *Jesus Wakes the Little Girl* (CPH Arch Book)
- Zippy puppet
- 3 paper lunch bags
- Marker

Day 4 Materials

- Streamers
- Clothespin characters
- Shoebox
- Bubble solution and bubble wands

Note: The previous unit was all about when Jesus was born and when He was a young boy. It is important to establish with the children that the next things we learn about Jesus took place when He was a grown-up man. Point out that at this time, Jesus was probably about the age of most of their parents. Display the picture of Jesus from Reproducible 18. Also give each child a copy of the picture so they can have their own personal picture of what Jesus might have looked like.



Before class, prepare a sign that reads “Hooray!” on one side, printed in cheerful colorful letters, and “Oh, no!” on the other side, printed in gloomy colors. Say, **Boys and girls, most of our Bible stories about Jesus tell what He did when He was a grown-up. Our Bible story this week tells us about a time when Jesus was teaching the people about God’s love. Someone came to Jesus for help, and Jesus was the best helper ever because He is true God. Our story today is found in the New Testament of the Bible (hold up Bible) in a Book called “Luke.” When I hold up this sign (show the “Hooray!” side of the sign), shout “Hooray!” When I hold up this sign (flip the sign over), shout “Oh, no!”** (Note: This is a good story for also using flannelgraph figures because of all the movement.)

Long ago, Jesus came to a town named Capernaum. The townspeople were so happy to see Jesus that they gathered around Him and talked to Him. Show “Hooray!” sign; prompt children to respond, if needed. As they were talking, a man named Jairus, who was also a daddy, ran up to Jesus and begged, “Please come quickly to my house. My

daughter is so very sick and she might die soon!” Show “Oh, no!” sign. **So Jesus began to walk with Jairus to his house.**

While Jesus was still speaking to the people, a messenger from Jairus’s house came and said to Jairus, “Do not bother Jesus anymore. Your daughter has already died!” Show “Oh, no!” sign. This made all of the people very sad. But Jesus said, “Do not fear; only believe!” Then Jesus, Jairus, and many in the crowd continued to Jairus’s house.

When they got to the house, they saw Jairus’s daughter lying on a bed. She was dead, which made everyone terribly sad. Show “Oh, no!” sign. However, Jesus said, “She is not dead, but sleeping!” And then Jesus took her by the hand and said, “Child, arise!” And with that, she stood up! Jesus had raised Jairus’s daughter to life. She was no longer dead! Show “Hooray!” sign. Wow! What power! Jesus has power over everything—even death! Isn’t that wonderful? Show “Hooray!” sign. Only Jesus had the power to bring her back to life! That was a miracle that only God can do. Show “Hooray!” sign.



Continue by singing the following song to the tune of “Are You Sleeping.”

She’s just sleeping! She’s just sleeping! (*Rest head on hands.*)

She’s alive! She’s alive! (*Open hands wide.*)

Jesus raised her from the dead. (*Raise arms above head.*)

Jesus raised her from the dead. (*Raise arms above head.*)

Jesus cares! Jesus cares! (*Hug yourself.*)

✦ ✦ ✦ Jesus Is All Powerful ✦ ✦



We're going to play a game called All Thumbs! I'm going to say some short sentences about our story today. If they are true—correct—give me a “thumbs up”! Demonstrate. If they are false—not correct—give me a “thumbs down.” Demonstrate.

In our story today, Jesus was in the town of Bethlehem. *(Thumbs down; correct answer is “Capernaum.”)*

Jairus's son was so sick! *(Thumbs down; correct answer is “daughter.”)*

Someone came and said that Jairus's daughter was feeling better. *(Thumbs down; correct answer is she “was dead.”)*

When they got to the house, everyone was laughing. *(Thumbs down; correct answer is “they were crying.”)*

Jesus said, “She's not dead; she's sleeping!” *(Thumbs up.)*

Jesus took her by the hand and said, “Child, arise!” *(Thumbs up.)*

Only Jesus has power over death! *(Thumbs up.)*



Let's say a prayer that thanks Jesus for always helping us with our problems. Each time I pause after my part of the prayer, flex your arm muscles and say, “Your power amazes me!” Demonstrate as needed.

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank You for the life that You give me each day!

Your power amazes me! *(Flex arm muscles.)*

Thank You for the help that You give me each day!

Your power amazes me! *(Flex arm muscles.)*

Thank You for the forgiveness that You give me each day!

Your power amazes me! *(Flex arm muscles.)*

Thank You for the promise of eternal life, which You share with me each day!

Your power amazes me! *(Flex arm muscles.)*

Amen.



Let's do this action poem together. First let me teach you some of the signs we will be doing as we say this poem. Demonstrate and let children practice.

“Walked”: Walk index and middle finger across your palm.

“Stopped”: Place side of right hand in upright palm of left hand, as if chopping.

“Talked”: Place index and middle finger of your right hand on your lips, and then move fingers out, back and forth (as in conversation).

“Healed”: Hold out both fists in front and then cross over chest, using a “strong” motion.

When you say the poem, be sure to say it slowly and allow for “thinking time” between actions.

Jesus walked, walked, walked to Capernaum.

Jesus stopped, stopped, stopped at Jairus's house.

Jesus talked, talked, talked to the girl who had died.

Jesus healed, healed, healed, and she became alive and well.



Read *The Story Bible*, pages 336–338. Then sing the story to the children using the following poem, sung to the melody of “I’m a Little Teapot.”

Jairus was a leader / of the church,
Who hurried fast to Jesus / one day.
Jairus said, “My daughter’s / near to death.
Please! Come to / my house, I pray!”

Everyone at home / was in despair.
Mother, aunts, and cousins / all did cry.
Then our Lord said, “Listen, / she’s not dead!
She’s asleep. / Your tears now dry.”

Jesus took the girl / and held her hand,
Then He said to her, / “Get up, My child!”
When the people heard / that she sat up,
With great joy / they all went wild!

Jesus said, “Now, give to / her some bread.
She’ll need some food that’s / good to eat.”
We know Jesus our / salvation won;
Death He always / will defeat!



Review the Bible story in an active way. Set up three stations marked by a sign reading “Capernaum,” “The Road,” and “Jairus’s House.” As you say the poem, bring children along with you from place to place. Encourage them to echo your words and actions.

Long ago and far away, (*Walk in place.*)
Jesus was in town one day. (*Walk to Capernaum sign.*)
He talked and talked and talked some more. (*Motion to mouth.*)
Then Jairus knelt down on the floor. (*Kneel, begging with folded hands.*)

“My daughter is so very sick.” (*Look sad.*)
He cried out, “Jesus, please come—quick!” (*Motion to “Come!”*)
Then someone said, “It’s now too late! (*Hold up hand to indicate “Stop.”*)
Your daughter’s dead; it was her fate!” (*Hang head sadly.*)

Quickly to the house they sped, (*Run in place.*)
But when they saw her, she was dead. (*Put hands over eyes in sadness.*)

The people then began to weep, (*Pretend to cry.*)

But Jesus said, “She’s just asleep!” (*Place head on “pillow” hands.*)

Then Jesus took her hand and said, (*Act surprised, mouth open.*)

“My child, arise! You are not dead!” (*Clap hands.*)

She got up at once and stood! (*Jump for joy.*)
Our God is great; our God is good! (*Lift arms in victory.*)

Sing the following to the melody of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

Jesus healed a little girl,
Little girl, little girl.
Jesus healed a little girl.
He raised her from the dead.

Jesus is all powerful,
Powerful, powerful.
Jesus is all powerful.
Yes! Even over death!

✦ ✦ ✦ Jesus Is All Powerful ✦ ✦



Use the puppet Zippy to expand concepts.

Zippy: Hello, everybody! I'm back!

Teacher: Back from what?

Zippy: From visiting my mom's work.

Teacher: Oh, that's right! I almost forgot! You told us that your mom was going to let you go to her "Bring Your Child to Work Day" at the hospital where she works. How was it?

Zippy: Awesome! I can't believe how hard my mom works; she helps so many people!

Teacher: That's great, Zippy! God is using her to help people who want to get well.

Zippy: But she and the other nurses and doctors can't do everything. We visited a little girl my age in the hospital. Her name is Jennifer, and she was in a bad accident. She smiled at me and laughed at my

jokes. But she has to have lots of medicine, and she has a machine that helps her breathe.

Teacher: Don't be sad, Zippy. God is using those medicines and machines to heal Jennifer and make her better. We can thank God in prayer for those medicines and we can ask God to help her get well again.

Zippy: You are right, Teacher. God is helping Jennifer every day. She even had a wheelchair in her room! That is another blessing! When Jennifer is well enough, she will be able to get out of bed. And then I will be able to push her in her wheelchair. That will be so cool!

Teacher: We can be thankful to God for blessing us with doctors and nurses and with medicines and machines that can help us get better. And never forget that God is always with us and will never leave us.



Say, **When Jairus's little girl died, there were lots of tears. But Jesus has the power to change tears into cheers! Everyone dried their tears and gave loud cheers when they saw that the little girl was alive again. Let's have a cheer for Jesus to tell everyone that Jesus is the best!** Print "POWER" in big letters on the board. Point to each letter at the appropriate time as you teach this responsive cheer. (Children say only what is in parentheses. Practice in advance.)

Give me a P! (*P!*) Praise the Lord!

Give me an O! (*O!*) Outstanding!

Give me a W! (*W!*) Wonderful!

Give me an E! (*E!*) Eternal!

Give me an R! (*R!*) Risen!

What does that spell? (*POWER!*)

Who's got the power? (*JESUS!*)

Who's got the power? (*JESUS!*)

Who's got the power? (*JESUS!*)

As you read each underlined word in the following prayer, perform the accompanying action. Say, **Let's say this action prayer as we thank Jesus for His power in our lives!**

Dear Jesus,

When I see the world around me, (*Make a big ball shape with both hands.*)

I see Your power! (*Point to eyes.*)

When I learn about Your Word, (*Cup hands to make a Bible.*)

I know Your power! (*Point to head.*)

When Your love and blessings surround me, (*Hug yourself.*)

I feel Your power! (*Bend arms and flex muscles.*)

We love You, Jesus. Amen. (*Hug yourself.*)

We learn about God's power through His Word, the Bible. Sing "The B-I-B-L-E" (*LOSP*, p. 48, and on CD). Point to the individual letters on a Bible as you sing.



Teacher: (Addressing Zippy, who is bent over, obviously sad) Zippy, you look kind of sad. What's wrong?

Zippy: That Bible story was so happy. But things don't always have a happy ending. My friend Mikala is very sad. Her grandfather died. Why didn't Jesus make a miracle for him?

Teacher: Oh, Zippy, I am sorry for Mikala. Jesus does have power over death, but He used it in a different way. Jesus gives Mikala's grandfather new life *in heaven!* Jesus has that power to save all believers. Mikala is sad because she misses her grandfather. But she can be happy to know that he is living a new life in heaven!

Zippy: So when someone dies, it makes us sad because we don't see them for now. But we can be happy because they have a new life somewhere else!

Teacher: That's right! The Bible tells us that in heaven, all believers will live with Jesus. We will see Him face-to-face. In heaven there is no sickness, no pain, no sadness, and no tears!

Zippy: Wow! That is a miracle! Jesus gives the best life of all—and He promises that to you and me and all believers!

Teacher: Jesus always blesses us, forgives us, loves us, and promises us new life in heaven!

Zippy: Can I hear that happy Bible story again, the one that tells about Jesus' power and that He is true God?

(Use the vinyl play scenes, available from CPH, to retell the story of Jairus's daughter. These are wordless books that are like little stages on which you can move the characters to bring the story to life.)



Sing the following to review the Bible narrative. Children can join in the refrain. Then sing the song again, having the children echo each phrase. Use the melody of "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know."

Once a leader came to say,
"Jesus, help my girl today.
She is dying. Only You
Have the power that can rescue."

Refrain:

**Jesus is true God. Jesus is true
God.**

**Jesus is true God. He saves from
sin and death.**

But the little girl died,
And the people cried and cried.
Jesus said, "My child, get up."
Just like that, the girl stood up.

(Refrain)

Jesus has the power to save
You from Satan, sin, and grave.
He removes our sin and strife
And He gives eternal life.

(Refrain)

(Also make use of the Family Letter and Bible story books such as the CPH Arch Book *Jesus Wakes the Little Girl*.)

✦ ✦ ✦ Jesus Is All Powerful ✦ ✦



Say, **When we have problems, we know that Jesus is near us. He can help us in the way that He knows is best. Jesus has the power to help us with the biggest problems of all. These three bags remind us of the biggest problems.** Hold up three paper lunch bags.

In a messy way, write the word *SIN* on one bag and add messy, squiggly lines. **This stands for our sins—the bad things we do wrong. Jesus took our sins.** Blow up the bag and pop it after warning the children to be ready. **Jesus took away our sins when He died on the cross for us. He solved that big problem by forgiving us.**

Write “DEATH” on the second bag and add squiggly lines. **Jesus also conquered death.** Blow up and pop that bag. **Jesus showed He is more powerful than death when He came to life again at Easter.**

Write “THE DEVIL” on the third bag and add squiggly lines. **Jesus has power over the devil, our greatest enemy.** Blow up and pop this bag. **The devil can’t hurt us, because Jesus promises that we will live with God in heaven. Jesus has won the victory! Jesus is almighty! Hooray! And thank You, Jesus!**



Sing “My God Is So Great” (*LOSP*, p. 64, and on CD). Sing opening refrain twice, and then repeat it once after the verse, adding the words “for you” (while pointing to others).

My God is so great, (*Flex one arm muscle in the air.*)

So strong and so mighty, (*Flex both arm muscles in the air.*)

There’s nothing my God cannot do. (*Shake head and one finger as if saying no.*)

The mountains are His, (*Touch fingertips together.*)

The rivers are His, (*Wave flowing fingers left and right.*)

The stars are His handiwork too. (*Wiggle twinkling fingers in air.*)



Begin with this prayer, inviting children to echo your words and actions.

Our hands we fold, (*Fold hands.*)

Our heads we bow, (*Bow head.*)

We gather here

For learning now! (*Point to brain.*)

We hear Your Word! (*Cup ear with hand.*)

We see Your love! (*Place hand over eyes, then hug yourself.*)

We lift one voice

To You above! (*Lift both arms straight up.*)

Let's lift our voices in praise to Jesus as we sing "Rejoice in the Lord Always" (*LOSP, p. 52, and CD*) or another favorite joyful song. Get out the streamers and have students wave their streamers and march around in a circle as they rejoice and sing praises to Jesus!



Use a shoebox in telling the Bible narrative today. Place the characters inside the box (no lid). Make simple characters from construction paper shapes attached to spring-type clothespins. For each character, use a construction paper circle for the head and a paper rectangle for the body/robe. Use light blue paper for Jesus' robe, different shades of green for Jairus and his wife, pink for the little girl, and brown for all other characters (mourners, others in the crowd, etc.). To show the girl when she was sick and then dead, attach her clothespin to a larger brown paper rectangle to indicate her bed. Move the box around and move the clothespin characters to indicate the various locations and movements.

Boys and girls, the Bible says we should "Rejoice in the Lord always," like we just sang in our song. However, sometimes we are sad, and we don't always feel like rejoicing. Today we will hear once again about someone who was very sad. His name was Jairus. But keep listening, and hear how his sadness was turned to joy! Watch carefully as I tell the story in a different way.

At one end of the box, show the little girl in bed, with her parents standing nearby. At the other end of the box, show Jesus and a

big crowd of people. Say, **Long ago, Jesus came to a town called Capernaum, and He began visiting with a crowd of people. Suddenly, a man named Jairus ran up to Jesus (move Jairus) and begged Him, "Jesus, please come to my house and heal my little girl. She is very sick! She may die!"**

So Jesus, Jairus, and the crowd began to travel toward Jairus's house. Move Jesus and Jairus. **All of a sudden, someone from Jairus's house (move a brown-robed person to meet them) came and met Jairus and Jesus on the road and said, "Do not bother Jesus anymore. Your daughter is already dead!" The people began to cry immediately, but Jesus said, "Do not fear; only believe!"**

When they got to Jairus's house, they saw the little girl was dead and lying in bed. Jesus, however, said, "She's not dead, she's sleeping!" Then He took hold of the little girl's hand and said, "Child, come!" and she stood up. **Jesus had raised her from the dead!** Have parents jump up and down for joy. Say, **Jesus is the only one who can overcome death. Even with all of our problems in life—sicknesses and sad times—Jesus is always with us and can bless us.**

✦ ✦ ✦ Jesus Is All Powerful ✦ ✦



Place all the clothespins from the previous activity back in the box. (Later, put it in a center area so children can retell the story.) Say, **This is a wonderful story about Jesus! And the best thing we can know about Jesus is that He is our Savior. He loves us and He forgives our sins and He helps and blesses us! This is something we don't want to keep to ourselves. We don't want to hide Jesus' love in a box. We want to share the love of Jesus with our friends and with our**

family and with everyone we meet!

Let's learn a song about not keeping Jesus' love in a box or a bag or a jar. Let's keep God's love in our hearts. Sing "Love in a Box" (*LOSP*, p. 35, and on CD). Then explain, **When we sing "His love'll come a-bubbling through," it means that Jesus' love overflows. He wants us to spread His love all over the world.** Sing the song again, this time celebrating with bubble wands and bubbles.



In this activity, the teacher says the lines of the poem followed by the children chanting "Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!" Clap at each underlined word.

In town, Jesus told them what they needed to know.

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!

When Jairus needed Jesus, He couldn't say no!

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!

The daughter of Jairus might die, oh no.

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!

Then a mess-en-ger said, "She's dead! Don't go!"

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!

At the house all the people were filled with woe.

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!

But Jesus said, "She sleeps. She's not dead, I know."

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!

"Child, arise!" She stood up. "Get some food to go."

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!

Oh, yes, Jesus loves me, and this I know.

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!

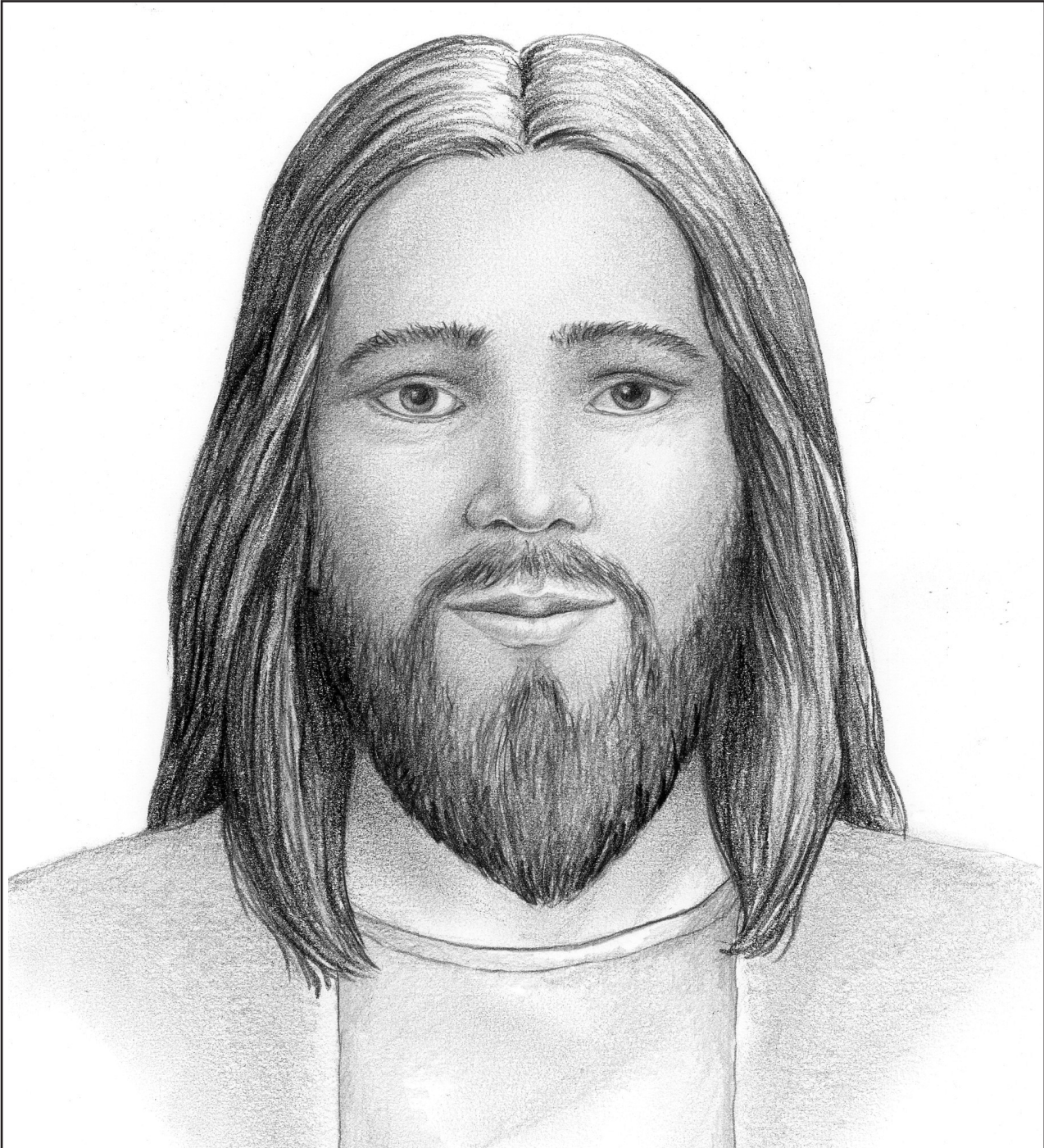
For in the Bible, God tells me so.

Go, Jesus! Go, Jesus! Go! Go! Go!



Say, **You can be sure that someday you will go to heaven. Jesus promised it to all believers, and Jesus always keeps His promises. If you love Jesus, you can be sure you will go to heaven someday. Another name for heaven is "eternal life." Listen to these words from the Bible that tell us we can be absolutely sure we will live in heaven with Jesus. In the Bible, Jesus said, "I give them eternal life . . . and *no one* will snatch them out of My hand" (John 10:28; emphasis added). That is His promise to us: nothing can keep us from the love of God! Celebrate by marching around the room as you play "Nothing Can Keep Us" (*LLV*, p. 43) on the CD.**

Jesus Christ, Our Savior



HEALTHY LIFE

Prepare Our Thoughts

(Worship) Gather children for worship and say, **Our Bible story this week talks about Jesus being a helper and a healer. Sometimes we use our hands to help others too, but other times our hands can get wiggly and get us into trouble. Our opening today reminds us to fold our hands, bow our heads, and close our eyes when we talk to Jesus.**

We bow our heads, we fold our hands,
We close our eyes and pray.
We know You always listen, Lord,
Each and every day! Amen. (P.2.3.2)

Praise the Lord

(Worship) Say, **In our story this week, Jesus showed lots of power, goodness, and love. Let's say a prayer about those very special qualities! As you pray the following echo prayer, pause at each asterisk to allow students to repeat after you.**

Dear Jesus, *
Your power amazes me! *
Your goodness humbles me! *
Your love completes me! *
We love You, Jesus! *
Amen! * (P.2.1.4)

New Life

(Worship) **Just as Jesus raised Jairus's daughter from the dead, Jesus also rose from the dead Himself. Jesus has great power, even over death! How amazing! And because He lives, we, too, shall live!**

Let's sing a song about the new life we have through Jesus Christ! Sing the following lyrics to the tune of "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" (LOSP, p. 65). Have children echo each line you sing.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. *
He lives and sets our hearts aglow. *
We live because He set us free. *
Through Christ, we live eternally! *
Amen. * (P.4.4.1)

Rejoice!

(Worship) Say, **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!**

Repeat after me, please, as I say these Bible words from Psalm 118:24 (pause at each asterisk to allow children to repeat the phrase):

This is the day * the Lord has made. * Let us rejoice * and be glad in it! *

Sing "This Is the Day" (LOSP, p. 53, and on CD). Say, **Every day is a reason to celebrate the life God gives us! Our story today also talks about how precious life is!** (P.4.4.1)

Sign of the Cross

(Worship) Teach your children to make the sign of the cross (touch head, heart, then side to side). **When we make the sign of the cross, we are reminded of our Baptism, when we became children of God. Let's make the sign of the cross again as we say:**

In the name of the Father (touch head), **Son** (touch heart), **and Holy** (touch side of chest) **Spirit** (touch other side). **Making the sign of the cross marks us as one redeemed by Christ the crucified. We are forgiven because Jesus died on the cross!**

Sing "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" (LOSP, p. 42). On the refrain, children can make the sign of the cross, moving fingers on each word: "Yes" (head), "Jesus" (heart), "loves" (side), "me" (other side). (P.4.4.1)

HEALTHY LIFE

Butterfly Symbol

(Literature) Focus on the butterfly this week as a symbol of resurrection and new life. Later in the year, when you learn more about Easter, repeat some of these same activities (children love repetition). Several times during the week, read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, written and illustrated by Eric Carle. Read the book several times because children will love hearing it again and again, just like seeing an old friend.

Talk about what caterpillars are and how their bodies go through several transformations: They start out as fertilized eggs. After 3 or 4 days, the tiny caterpillar (larvae stage) begins to eat the shell of its egg, and eventually it becomes free! At this stage, caterpillars love to munch on plants all the time. In fact, many people think of caterpillars as pests because they love to eat plants! Eventually the caterpillar forms a beautiful chrysalis (pupa stage). The caterpillar is buried deep inside the chrysalis, where it is sleeping, and from the outside, it no longer looks alive. But then, about 10 days to 2 weeks later, a beautiful butterfly emerges and begins a new life!

Have children act out the life cycle of the butterfly:

- Egg: Have them reach down and grab their ankles and round out their backs to look like butterfly eggs.
- Caterpillar (larva): Have children lie on their tummies and squirm around like worms.
- Chrysalis (pupa): Have students each crawl into something like a sleeping bag or blanket that has colorful scarves or streamers hidden inside it.
- Butterfly: Cue children to “pop out” and become beautiful butterflies, flapping their colorful, majestic wings (the scarves or streamers)! (P.1.8.3)



Hungry, Hungry

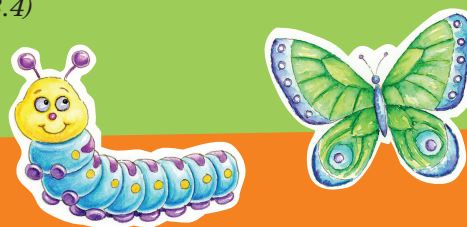
(Literature) Read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle again, and talk about how the book shows the real-life stages of a butterfly's life (egg, hungry caterpillar, chrysalis, and, finally, butterfly). Explain that Eric Carle chose to use the word *cocoon* instead of *chrysalis* because his father used to tell him to come out of his cocoon; but in reality, all but one type of butterfly emerge from a chrysalis—not a cocoon. You might want to try to have children make the connection that the significant parts in the story took place on Sundays (the egg hatching and the butterfly emerging)—similar to Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday morning.

Additionally, the caterpillar (one of the butterfly's incomplete stages) is somewhat annoying to people because it wants to eat everything. Later, however, this problem stops when mature growth has taken place. Explain, **As Christians, we are kind of like caterpillars because we aren't perfect either!**

We sin every day! However, someday, when we are in our complete form—like a butterfly is in complete form—we will be perfect because we will be re-created perfectly—in heaven!

Try several of these activities:

- Have children list the names and amounts of all the food eaten by the caterpillar. Then, on a whiteboard or chart pad, make a bar graph showing the different types and amounts of food it ate. Have children help color the bars.
- Add up the amount of food eaten each of the days to get a total number of items eaten the entire week.
- Talk about the benefits of eating fruit instead of things such as ice-cream cones and chocolate cake. We, too, need to eat nutritious food so we can grow and change. (P.2.3.4)





Caterpillar Fest

(Literature) After again reading Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, say, **Boys and girls, that caterpillar sure was hungry! Do you think that people liked him eating their fruit? (No) That's right! People were probably frustrated. Can you think of frustrating and sinful things we do?** Listen to responses. **Jesus gave new life to Jairus's daughter, just like a butterfly has new life when it emerges from its chrysalis. Can you think of ways Jesus has given us new life too?** (He died on the cross to redeem us from our sins so that someday, we can have new life in heaven. There, we, too, will be transformed—*not into butterflies, but into perfect children of God.*)

For fun, create a classroom Caterpillar Fest! Make caterpillar headbands by tracing around templates or jars to make circles on green paper; cut out the circles, then overlap and glue them together. Mount the caterpillar on a strip of paper about 2 inches wide and long enough to reach around the child's head. Be sure to add googly eyes and chenille wires for antennae. Then watch *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* on DVD or YouTube.

On another day, have a Butterfly Fest. Look at pictures that show the great variety of shapes and colors seen on different butterflies. Then have children make their own butterfly wings. Give each child a circle of colorful tissue paper that is about 20 inches in diameter. Have them add colorful dot stickers along the circle's outer

edges. Provide large green twist-ties (found in hardware and craft stores, often in the garden section) or long, fat chenille wires. Have children scrunch their circles together in the center and wrap the twist-tie to hold it in place. Fluff out the wings on both sides. (*Note:* The ends of the twist-tie can become the butterfly's antennae.) Use safety pins to attach the wings to the back of each child's shirt. *Option:* If you are ambitious, give children another circle of tissue paper and create another set of wings; use another twist-tie to connect the 2 sets of wings, 1 below the other.

Say, **Just as our caterpillar is growing, so also God helps us to grow and grow and grow in our faith life as well! Because of Jesus and His forgiveness for our sins, someday we will be changed. We'll have perfect bodies and a beautiful life in heaven!**



Busy Hands and Feet

(Circle Time) **Jesus helped Jairus by walking to his house and raising his daughter from the dead. Jesus is happy when we use our hands and feet to help others too! Let's sing a song about helping.** Sing to the tune of "I Am a Fine Musician."

(Encourage your students to join you in shaking your hands to the rhythm as you sing the first stanza.)

**I use my hands for helping.
I sweep and wash and share.
I help my family and my friends
To show them that I care.**

(Encourage your students to join you in marching in place to the rhythm as you sing the second stanza.)

**I use my feet for helping.
I walk and run and play.
I help my family and my friends
'Most every single day. (P.4.1.2)**

Express

HEALTHY LIFE



Butterfly “Feet”

(Art) A fun story to read this week is Eric Carle’s *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Eric Carle often tried to make his illustrations look like they had been created by a child because he was writing stories for children. To achieve this effect, he often used tissue paper. Have students experiment with the texture, coloring, and strength/durability of tissue paper in a simple art project.

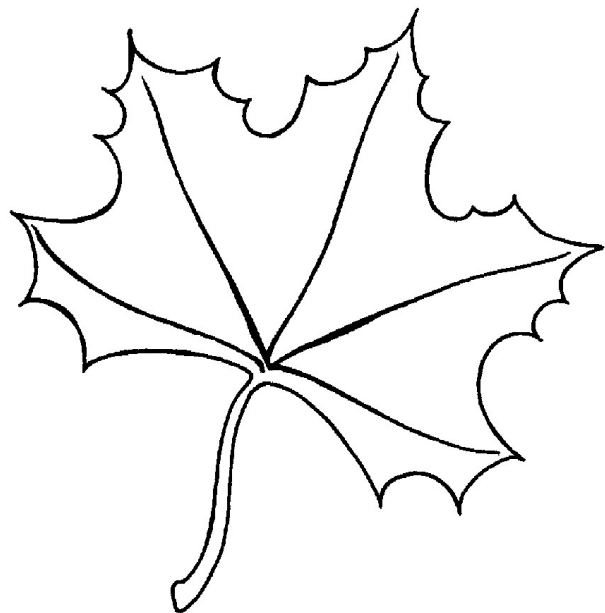
Explain that the children will draw butterfly patterns by tracing around their shoes! The fun part is that they need to switch the shoes from side to side (right shoe on the left side and left shoe on the right side). Suggest that children take off their shoes, place them on a sheet of paper, and then have the teacher or aide check the position. *Note:* The shoes should touch only at a point just below the little toes. Once the pattern has been traced in pencil, children may put their shoes back on and then retrace the outline on the paper with a black marker. Next, children may take torn pieces of various colors of tissue paper and glue them all over their patterns to decorate their butterflies. (P.4.1.2)

Circles

(Art) Provide each child with a sheet of paper that has the outline of an enlarged leaf pattern. Provide green dot stickers that children can line up on the leaf to make a caterpillar. *Option:* Children may draw antenna on their caterpillars. They may color the leaf a lighter green so the caterpillar shows up well. They may even cut out the leaf pattern and cut out a big section of the leaf where the caterpillar was eating!

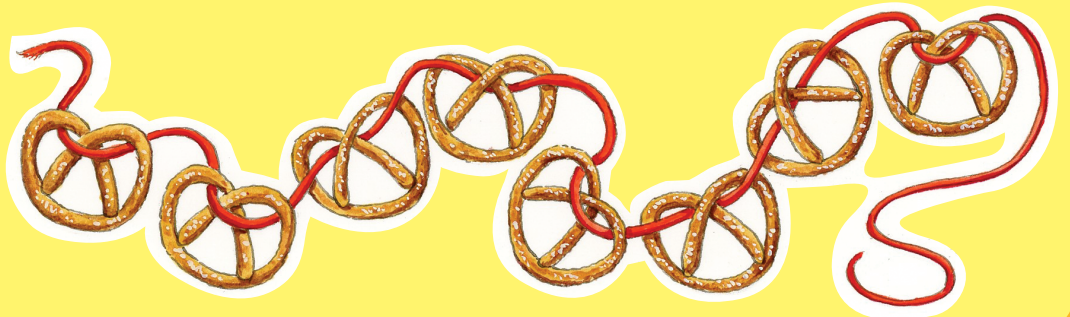
After completing the project, look at the circle dot stickers and point out that circles make you think of something else, because circles don’t have an ending point. God’s love for us does not have an ending point either! Have children stretch their arms out to make a big circle above their head and then in front of their body; finally, close the circle to give themselves a hug. Say the following poem, using it as an echo poem if you wish.

**Circles: round and round they bend,
No beginning and no end.
God, who always was and is:
He is mine, and I am His!** (P.4.1.1)



Prayer Reminder

(Art) In the Bible lesson, Jairus prayed that Jesus would help him. Make necklaces to remind us to pray. First, explain: **Years ago, some people would pray by crossing their arms over their chest so they could touch the opposite shoulders. They also made pretzels in the shape of their crossed arms to remind them to pray.** Show an example of the classic pretzel shape. Then give each child at least 8 of these pretzels to string together to make a necklace. Give each child a 2-foot length of yarn on which both ends have been taped (for easier weaving in and out). After connecting the pretzels by weaving in and out with the yarn, the necklaces can be tied at the neck. Suggest that the children explain the prayer pretzels to their parents. Also suggest that tomorrow, they place their necklaces on a tree or shrub branch to feed the birds or squirrels. (P.3.4.3.2)



Tube Bracelets

(Art) Create a bracelet that has a message. In advance, cut 1-inch-wide rings from the cardboard tube from a roll of paper towels to make the forms for individual bracelets. Cut a slit through each bracelet so it is easy to get on and off. Let children wrap their bracelets in aluminum foil. Then give each child three dot stickers to place across the center (top) of the bracelet. Children may then use fine-tip markers to draw a symbol on each sticker: the letter *I*, a heart, and a cross. This reads, "I love Jesus." (P.4.1.1)

Fruit Prints

(Art) Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* mentions different kinds of fruit. Buy some or all of the different fruits mentioned, slice them in half, and place them in separate bowls at the Art Center. Set up various colors of poster paints and watercolors, making sure that there are enough paintbrushes and water cups too! Encourage the children to create a set of prints by gently dipping the cut sides of the fruit into the paint and then gently pressing them onto their paper. Encourage children to experiment with the process, perhaps making a line of fruit prints, a circle of prints, or even a cross mosaic. (P.4.1.2)

Create

HEALTHY LIFE



Pick Up Pom-Poms

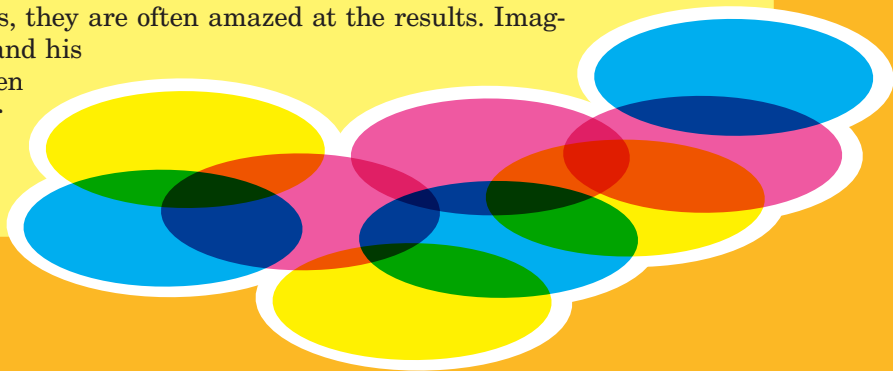
(Sensory) Set up a sensory station with colored pom-poms, tongs, and a clear plastic jar. Allow children time to have fun practicing their hand-eye coordination and their fine motor skills as they use the tongs to pick up pom-poms and place them in the containers. For an added challenge, label several jars with the names of colors, and sort the pom-poms into the proper container. Say, **As we have fun exercising our hands and fingers today, remember that God wants us to also use our hands to help others.** (P.3.4.3.1)

Matching Shapes

(Manipulative) Make a set of laminated sensory play mats, each with the outline of a different shape (e.g., diamond, circle, oval, square, rectangle, triangle). Have children make thin play dough rolls/snakes to cover/trace the outlines of the different shapes on the play mats. Be sure to give students plenty of time to practice working on curving their dough to make nice round circles. Remind students. **Just as a circle has no beginning or end, neither does Jesus. He has always been, always is, and always will be there to help us through our problems.** (P.1.3.1)

Rainbow Water!

(Science) Have students experiment with mixing primary colors to make secondary and other colors. Set up 3 clear plastic cups, each with water mixed with primary-colored food coloring (red, yellow, and blue). Let children use eyedroppers to mix the primary colors in the separate compartments of plastic paint trays or egg cartons. Before they mix their colors, have them predict what color their mix will turn out to be. When children mix colors, they are often amazed at the results. Imagine how amazed Jairus and his family must have felt when Jesus raised his daughter from the dead to new life! Amazing! (P.4.1.2)



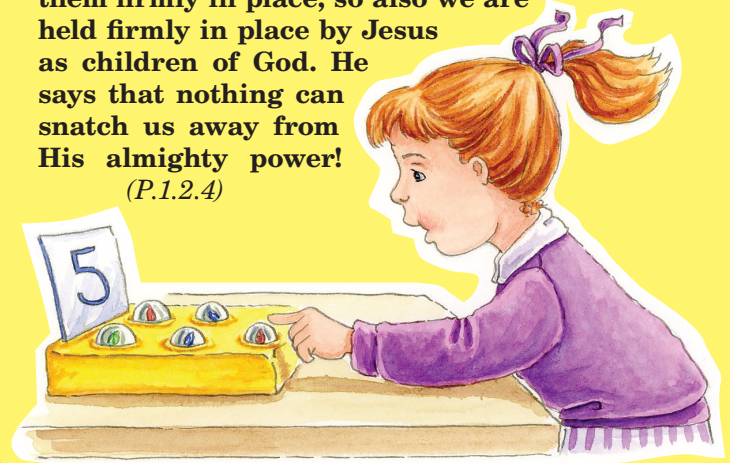
Skittles Melt Away

(Science) At the Science Center, set up plastic bowls containing about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of water. Give each student 3 different colored Skittles and ask, **What do you think will happen if we put these Skittles in water?** Listen to their predictions. **Why do you think that?** Listen to their reasoning. Then have students drop the Skittles (S side up), 1 at a time, into the water near the edges of the bowl, spread apart. Be sure to tell them to not bump or move the table at first so that natural color spreading can occur. Ask, **What is happening to the colors? What is happening to the Ss? Colors of Skittles mixed with water equals a colorful rainbow. People mixed with the forgiveness and love of Jesus equals happy and redeemed children of God!** (P.1.7.3)

Count Your Marbles!

(Math) Make a laminated set of index cards with numbers on them, and put them in a container on the Math Center table. Place marbles in another container on the table. In advance, prepare slabs or tablets of clay or play dough that are about 4 inches square and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick. Have children try the following number-recognition and counting activity. Have a child select a card, set it upright in the clay along the back edge of the slab, and then press the same number of marbles into the clay to match the number card. Say, **Just as we press marbles into the clay to keep them firmly in place, so also we are held firmly in place by Jesus as children of God. He says that nothing can snatch us away from His almighty power!**

(P.1.2.4)



Bigger and Smaller

(Math Manipulatives) On trays, place similar items that children can arrange from smallest to biggest. Sets might include pencils, fun-foam shapes, or toy cars, all of different sizes. Display a sign that has the math symbol $<$ and explain that the symbol starts with a small point and then gets bigger, just as their sequences start small and get bigger.

On another day, set out the same trays, but tell the children to arrange the items from biggest to smallest. Display a sign with the math symbol $>$ and point out that now the symbol starts with the big open section and then gets smaller, just as their sequences start big and get smaller.

Say, **Sometimes we have small problems and sometimes we have big problems. In our Bible story this week, Jairus had a very, very big problem. He knew where to go for help. We can go to Jesus in prayer. He is always ready to listen and help us, whether our problems are big or small.** (P.1.5.1)

Explore

HEALTHY LIFE

How Can You Help?

(Social Game) **Jesus was a helper to Jairus and his daughter! Today we are going to act out ways that we can help other people too! Let's think of ways that people can help one another.** Write the ideas on the board. Then have students volunteer to come to the front and act out a particular helping action (such as setting the table, sweeping up a mess on the floor, playing with baby sister when Mom is trying to talk on the phone). The rest of the children will guess what helping action the student is acting out. (P.4.3.3)

Review Relay

(Social Game) Set up 3 cones about 15 feet apart and label each with a sign (in order): “Capernaum,” “The Road,” and “Jairus’s House.” Assign 1 child to each cone, while the rest wait in line at Capernaum—the starting place.

You will need to guide the players in their responses until they get the hang of things. The first “Capernaum” child says, “Heal my little girl!” and rolls a ball to “The Road.”

That person catches the ball and says, “It’s too late!” and then rolls the ball to “Jairus’s House.”

That child catches the ball and says, “Jesus said, ‘Arise!’” and runs to deliver the ball back to “Capernaum.” While this child is running back, all the children in line shout “She’s alive!” and all children on the story path advance to the next location. The game starts again with the next child in line, who should be ready to roll. (P.3.4.2.1)

Caterpillar Tag

(Social Game) Play Caterpillar Tag. Have 1 person be “it” and run around and tag someone, who then puts his/her hands on “its” shoulders. Together, the 2 of them run and try to tag someone else to join their caterpillar. Continue in this manner until all of the children become part of the caterpillar or until time is up.

Boys and girls, what do caterpillars become? (Butterflies) A butterfly symbolizes new life because when it comes out of a dried-up chrysalis, it’s like it is being born again to new life. Jesus raised Jairus’s daughter and gave her life again. All believers in Jesus will receive new life—eternal life—in heaven! (P.3.4.2.1)

Caterpillar Sandwich!

(Snack) Remind children that the caterpillar eventually becomes a butterfly, and a butterfly is a symbol of new life! **Jesus raised Jairus’s daughter from the dead and brought her back to new life. He brings us new life as well—eternal life, in heaven. At our snack station today, we will be making caterpillar sandwiches to remind us of the new life we have through Christ Jesus!**

Each student should receive 2 slices of bread and a small, circle-shaped cookie cutter (if necessary, share cutters among students). Help children use the cookie cutters to cut as many circles as possible from their bread slices. Show them how to start at a corner and keep the circles close together. Collect the bread scraps to be fed to the birds later.

Then give each student a plastic knife and some peanut butter to spread on each of their

circles. Have them also use the peanut butter as “glue” as they overlap the circles and press the edges together to form a caterpillar. Students can give their caterpillars string cheese antennae and raisins for a mouth and for eyes.

Pray before eating:

**Lord, thank You for this silly snack
To keep our bodies right on track.
Please keep us happy, healthy, strong,
And faithful always, all life long!**

(P.3.4.3.1)



Relate