

SHOP & PREP



WEEK 1

ACTIVITY | Penguin Soccer

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Strips of fabric or bandanas (1 per kid)
 - 2 Soccer goals or cones
 - Soccer ball
- WHAT TO PREP: Prepare enough bandanas or pieces of fabric for each player to tie their knees together during the game. Place soccer goals or cones at either side of the room to create goals. Consider showing a picture like [this](#) of a penguin prior to playing.

ACTIVITY | Lions and Hyenas

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Soccer goals or cones
- WHAT TO PREP: Place soccer goals or cones at either end of the room to create two "dens". Be ready to show kids a picture of a lion next to a hyena, like [this](#) one.

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 1 (Babylonian Captivity)

- WHAT TO GET
 - [Safari hat](#) or full zookeeper (safari) outfit
 - Stuffed or inflatable animals to decorate stage area (optional)

BIG IDEA | I won't give up — God is with me!

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Speaker to play the music and the roar sound effect
 - Carpet roll tubes (You can likely get these for free at a local carpet store.)
 - Green butcher paper
 - Burlap
 - Hot glue gun
 - Scissors
 - Skewers
 - Twine
 - [Plastic coconut cups](#)
 - Stuffed or inflatable lion
 - [Flamingo yard decorations](#)
- WHAT TO PREP: [Create a coconut tree](#). Write this week's Big Idea on a piece of paper and insert it into one of the coconuts and close it. Attach the plastic coconut cups to the tree with twine. (See a worked example [here](#).) Decorate the space with a stuffed or inflatable lion and flamingo yard decorations. Prepare the [sleeping lion](#) image, the song "[The Lion Sleeps Tonight](#)," and a [sound bite of a lion's roar](#) to use during the Big Idea reveal.

VIDEO | Winter the Dolphin

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Screen, speakers, and internet connection for the video
- WHAT TO PREP: Set up equipment to show this [video of Winter the Dolphin](#), and prepare an image or video of an athlete that has overcome a physical challenge.

ACTIVITY | Locomotion Commotion Relay Race

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Cones (1 per team)
 - Painter's tape
- WHAT TO PREP: Mark a line using painter's tape that runs from the starting point to each cone.

SCRIPTURE | Lamentations 3:19–26

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Earpiece

REFLECTION | I Won't Give Up

- WHAT TO PREP: Prepare this [video](#) of the song, "Try Everything," from Zootopia.

RESPONSE | The Open Door

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Printable
 - Coloring utensils
- WHAT TO PREP: Gather art supplies and prepare a copy of the zoo cage printable for each kid.

MEMORY VERSE | Nahum 1:7 (NIV)

- WHAT TO GET:
 - 1 [lockbox](#) for each team
 - Colored construction paper
 - Tape
 - Marker
- WHAT TO PREP: Tape a small piece of colored construction paper on each lockbox. Write the jumbled combination that corresponds with that lockbox on the same color of paper. Inside the lockbox, put a piece of paper with the memory verse, Nahum 1:7, written on it (you can use the memory verse graphic in your Programming folder). Hide the lockboxes and the codes around the room.

ACTIVITY | Tiny Zoo

- WHAT TO GET: For each group, you will need . . .
 - 1 piece of large butcher paper
 - A [printed sample of the tiny zoo](#)
 - Writing and drawing tools

WEEK 2

ACTIVITY | Otter Tag

- WHAT TO PREP: Find a picture of an otter raft, like [this](#) one.

ACTIVITY | Troop Trivia

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Screen to show graphics
 - Clipboard

- Paper (10 slips per kid or small group)
 - Pens
 - Prizes — e.g., Zoo-themed activity books, stuffed animals, or [a Barrel of Monkeys](#) (optional)
- WHAT TO PREP: Prepare pictures to be shown of the ten animals used in the game, as well as ten slips of paper per kid or small group.

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 3 (The Fiery Furnace)

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Zookeeper outfit from Week 1
 - Folded newspaper (optional)
- WHAT TO PREP: Be ready to show pictures of [capybaras](#) and [sun bears](#).

BIG IDEA | I'm not alone — God is with me!

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Speaker to play the music and the roar sound effect
 - The supplies for the coconut tree, coconuts, and flamingos are listed in Week 1.
- WHAT TO PREP: Set up your space like last week. Write this week's Big Idea on a piece of paper and insert them into a plastic coconut then attach it to the tree with twine.

VIDEO | Lion Stick Together

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Screen and audio for the video
- WHAT TO PREP: Be ready to show the video "[Wild Inside the National Zoo: Lion Pride](#)".

ACTIVITY | Ant Race

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Screen to show [picture of the ants](#).
 - Cones to designate the race course
 - Blow-up beach balls (1 for each pair of kids)
- WHAT TO PREP: Inflate the beach balls. Set up a race course around the room with cones.

ACTIVITY | Find the Animal

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Screen to show the images
- WHAT TO PREP: Be ready to show the following images one at a time: [Image 1](#), Image 1 [answer](#), [Image 2](#), Image 2 [answer](#). You can check out a tutorial [like this](#) before you do this with the kids.

ACTIVITY | Postcard from the Zoo

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Printable
 - Drawing tools
 - Cardstock paper
 - Postcard stamps (optional)
- WHAT TO PREP: Print the postcard printable on cardstock paper double-sided and cut. If possible, ask families to provide addresses prior to this week's activity.

MEMORY VERSE | Nahum 1:7 (NIV)

- Printable
- WHAT TO PREP: Print and cut printable to distribute to each group.

ACTIVITY | Tiny Zoo

- WHAT TO GET:
 - [Plastic animals](#)
 - Toilet paper rolls
 - Construction paper, fabric, or tissue paper (mostly greens, blues, and browns)
 - Rocks, leaves, twigs, and other items to create the animal's natural habitat
 - Cardboard pieces
 - Glue scissors
- WHAT TO PREP: Check out tutorials on how to build some of the structures needed for [the zoo](#). Here's one about making [cardboard trees](#).

WEEK 3

ACTIVITY | Animal I.D.

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Printable
 - Scissors
 - Tape
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Print a set of the Animal I.D. printable for your group and cut them out ahead of time. Without showing kids the animals on the cards before play begins, tape one I.D. card to the back of each kid's shirt.

ACTIVITY | Devour or Decline

- **WHAT TO GET:** Ideas for possible food items . . .
 - Pandas: grapes and apples
 - Gorillas: broccoli and kale
 - Lions: hamburger
 - Meerkat: worms (give them gummy worms!)
 - Penguins: fish sticks
 - Hippos: lettuce and watermelon
 - Tiger: pulled pork
 - Owl: mouse (but make it chocolate mousse!)
 - Paper bags
 - Sharpie or marker
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Prepare for this game by placing food items specific to the animal that eats them in separate paper bags and labeling the bag with the name of the animal. Fold each bag shut after filling it so the food remains a secret.

POLL | Upvote Challenge

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Poster paper
 - Foam board or corkboard
 - Velcro or magnets
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Ahead of time, prepare strips of poster board that can adhere to a board using Velcro or magnets (here's [an example](#)). On each strip, write a challenge a kid might relate to — you might even invite the kids to add some of their own, however you can check out the list below for ideas. Display the first challenge. Then display the second. Have the kids upvote or downvote each challenge by giving a thumbs-up or thumbs-down, based on the previous options. Have them keep voting, until they have collectively ranked the challenges from easiest to hardest.
 - Learn to tie your shoes.
 - Learn to play the piano.
 - Learn to shoot a free throw in basketball.
 - Memorize the names of all 50 states.
 - Memorize the 66 books of the Bible.
 - Learn to ride a unicycle.
 - Teach a wild monkey to juggle.

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 5 (The Writing on the Wall)

- Zookeeper outfit from previous weeks

BIG IDEA | I can keep learning — God is with me!

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Speaker to play the music and the roar sound effect
 - The supplies for the coconut tree, coconuts, and flamingos are listed in Week 1.
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Set up your space like last week. Write this week's Big Idea on a piece of paper and insert them into a plastic coconut then attach it to the tree with twine.

ACTIVITY | Crocodile Attack Game

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - A kiddie pool
 - [Packing peanuts](#) or shredded paper
 - Printable
 - Colored paper
 - Glue stick
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Fill the kiddie pool with packing peanuts or shredded paper. Print the "Roar" and "Attack" cards and fold them in half, gluing them closed, so kids can't tell the two types of cards apart. Disperse the cards throughout the kiddie pool.

ACTIVITY | Zookeeper Observation

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Zookeeper attire: cargo shorts, button up shirt, safari hat, colorful socks, bandana, pins, watch, map
 - Screen to display the photos
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Have a leader, pretending to be a zookeeper, tell the kids a narrative about the animals. Be sure to have the zookeeper dress in a costume that involves flashy socks, zoo-related buttons, and a bandana. Be prepared to show the following pictures of the lions: [Ari](#), [Nala](#), and [the three cubs](#).

RESPONSE | The Search

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Projector
 - Laptop or computer source
 - Whiteboard
 - Whiteboard markers
 - Printable
 - Paper
 - Writing utensils
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Project the wordsearch printable image onto the whiteboard or print out poster size for kids to fill out in small groups.

ACTIVITY | Tiny Zoo

- LEGO people or plastic people figurines (like [these](#))
- Cardboard or cardboard boxes
- Toilet paper rolls
- **WHAT TO PREP:** For reference, check out these images: [Ticket booth](#) and [Entrance](#).

WEEK 4

ACTIVITY | Porcupine Tag

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Clothespins (3 per kid)

POLL | Would You Rather

- WHAT TO PREP: Feel free to decorate the two exhibits as the landmarks for this poll! (optional)
 - Butterfly Exhibit: [hanging butterfly garlands](#)
 - Otter Exhibit: a kiddie pool or baby bathtub with an [otter stuffed animal](#)

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 6 (Daniel in the Lions' Den)

- Zookeeper outfit from previous weeks

BIG IDEA | I'm not afraid — God is with me!

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Speaker to play the music and the roar sound effect
 - The supplies for the coconut tree, coconuts, and flamingos are listed in Week 1.
- WHAT TO PREP: Set up your space like last week. Write this week's Big Idea on a piece of paper and insert them into a plastic coconut then attach it to the tree with twine.

VIDEO | The Elusive Pangolin

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Screen and audio to display the picture and show the video
- WHAT TO PREP: Be ready to show the [video](#) "Meet the Pangolin | Night on Earth".

ACTIVITY | Siberian Hide and Seek

- INSTRUCTIONS: Familiarize yourself with the rules of [this camouflage version](#) of "Hide & Seek." Also cue some music and [this image](#) of a Siberian snow leopard.

VIDEO | "Don't You Worry About a Thing"

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Screen and audio for the video
- WHAT TO PREP: Be ready to show this clip (or a part of it): "[Meena Sings](#)" from the movie "Sing".

RESPONSE | Fight or Flight Bright

- WHAT TO GET:
 - [Tri-fold black poster board](#)
 - [Glow sticks](#)
 - Drill
 - [Lite Bright board](#) (optional)
- WHAT TO PREP: Drill small holes, the size of your glow sticks, in the board. Place the board on a table during your program.

ACTIVITY | Tiny Zoo

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Cardboard
 - Markers
 - Straws
 - Paper
 - Clay
- WHAT TO PREP: Here are pictures of the animal [shelters](#) and [signs](#) for your reference.

WEEK 5

ACTIVITY | Monkey Glue

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Vaseline
 - Paper plate (1 for each team)
 - Cotton balls (2 per kid)
 - Baby wipes (to clean noses after)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Place cotton balls on a paper plate for each team. Set up a cotton ball station at one end of the room, across from each team's starting line.

QUESTION | Time Travel

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Speaker to play the sound effect

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 7 (Daniel's Dream)

- Zookeeper outfit from previous weeks

BIG IDEA | I don't know the future but God is with me!

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Speaker to play the music and the roar sound effect
 - The supplies for the coconut tree, coconuts, and flamingos are listed in Week 1.
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Set up your space like last week. Write this week's Big Idea on a piece of paper and insert them into a plastic coconut then attach it to the tree with twine.

VIDEO | Facing the Future Together

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Screen and audio for the video
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Prepare this [video](#) of Ruuxa and Raina.

ACTIVITY | Star-Nosed Mole Volleyball

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Blow-up beach ball
 - Large blanket
 - Picture of a [star-nosed mole](#)

ACTIVITY | Elephant Parade

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Speaker to play the music
 - Screen to show the picture
 - Blindfolds (1 for each kid)
 - Pool noodles
 - Chairs
 - Balls
 - Cones
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Before the activity, set up an obstacle course around the room using the supplies above. Prepare a picture like [this](#) of elephants walking in a line and this song [from "Jungle Book."](#)

RESPONSE | Giants

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Speaker to play the song
 - Paper
 - Drawing supplies
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Play a song that speaks to this week's Big Idea, like "[Won't Worry 'Bout a Thing](#)" ([Lifetree Kids](#)).

MEMORY VERSE | Nahum 1:7 (NIV)

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Printable
 - Tape
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Print an enlarged copy of the printable (poster-size) so kids can do this activity as a large group.

ACTIVITY | Tiny Zoo

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Glue
 - Scissors
 - Tape
 - Assorted materials (see below)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Give each group a random assortment of supplies that can consist of just about anything: buttons, pipe cleaners, beads, figurines, cardboard boxes, pom poms, tin foil, felt, sticks, old toys, etc.