

2020 CONCRETE AND CRANES SNACK TIPS



The goal in providing snacks is not to overshadow the gospel message but to enhance, aiding in opening gospel conversations. ABC's of becoming a Christian are included.

Five of the cards include the daily biblical content with a Bible related snack! Leader responsibilities along with gluten free suggestions. Preschool-friendly icons are shown on the recipe cards that are appropriate for preschoolers (ages 3 and up). Boys and girls under three (3) will need separate snacks, most brought by their parent for safety reasons. Twenty (20) recipes are provided along with suggestions for decorating, dinner options, and store-bought options. Snack preparation is sometimes fun, but can be time consuming, therefore remember there is nothing wrong with a cup of water and store-bought cookies.

Allergy issues:

- Consider adding to the enrollment cards a section asking if their child has any allergies that need special attention while at VBS.
- When a parent indicates an allergy, note that on the name tag or bracelet the child will wear to remind snack providers special attention may be needed.
- Consider asking the parent to provide a snack for the child daily if your VBS cannot meet the dietary need of the child.
- Indicate near the registration area the snack planned for each day, enabling parents to know what will be served to avoid unfortunate allergic reactions if a child consumes something they should not eat.

VBS 2020 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards:

1. **Gold coins**, nearly every child and adult loves cheese and crackers. Cost per child less than 4 cents.
2. **Rocky Road Brownies**, yummy, but a little sticky. Really liked by all kids. Requires lots of time to prepare. Cost per child 12 cents.
3. **Garden Dirt Cups**, always a hit, however, can get expensive if using pre-made pudding snack cups. Suggestion to prepare your own and portion into clear plastic cups should be used to keep cost in check. Pre-portioned 44 cents; prepare your own 16 cents.
4. **Fruit Cross Cookies** easily made and a hit with kids especially if the suggested chocolate chips were used to make the crosses. Can use purchased plain cookies that work just as well. Cost with fruit 20 cents while with chocolate chips 14 cents

5. **House on a Rock** Rice cakes are not a favorite of most kids although the candy kiss and marshmallow were great. Cost per serving 22 cents
6. **Building Blocks**, the three small squares were just enough to satisfy even the hungriest young child. This is a little time consuming in preparation and best made a day ahead. Cost per serving 20 cents.
7. **Paintbrushes** easy to eat and the kids loved the added color on each. Homemade is more reasonable, but if pushed for time, purchased treats are great. Cost per serving homemade 13 cents, purchased 20 cents
8. **Manhole Covers** not a favorite and required a lot of preparation with a cost of 18 cents.
9. **Construction Cones** loved by leaders and children, however most wanted more than the recommended serving. Easily made and low cost of 13 cents.
10. **Construction Barrels** lots of steps involved in getting the look recommended, but fun and the kids were excited to eat their construction barrel. Must be stored in air-tight containers. Cost less than 6 cents.
11. **Construction Zone Crunch** yummy, enjoyed by nearly every child and adult. The option of adding other ingredients made this a favorite. Cost 28 cents.
12. **Concrete Mix** Who doesn't love ice cream! Especially with sprinkles. A serving line with extra servers can be helpful as each child moves from station to station for the toppings. Cost 19 cents.
13. **Build Your Own Trail Mix** again a serving line with designated servers is helpful as children choose options for their own trail mix. Cost 12 cents.
14. **I-Beams** tasty, but pricy and very time consuming. Consider using this as part of the dinner options. Cost per serving 45 cents.
15. **Dig In Rubble Dip** Adults loved this, children preferred to eat the apples separate. The idea is great but could be a waste of resources if children are not consuming the snack in its entirety. Cost 28 cents.
16. **Construction Cupcakes** a little messy, but kids loved the cupcakes and icing. Have lots of handy-wipes available or source of washing hands and faces after snack is completed. The recipe uses chocolate but could easily be yellow (representing sand). Must be made ahead of time. Cost 15 cents.
17. **Rubble** great granola, but perhaps purchase granola at a big box store, checking for ingredients with the potential of nut products could be cheaper and faster. Most kids like yogurt, but not all (this is a dairy product, so an alternative may be necessary). Cost as suggested 26 cents per serving.
18. **Hard Hats** Very time consuming, yet tasty and loved by children. Must be made at least a day ahead to allow for freezing, scooping, and decorating. Cost per serving 12 cents.

19. **Truck Haulers** So cute and loved by the leaders, however the kids were a little confused as to how to eat these. Cost per serving 16 cents.
20. **Construction Cone Dip** The suggestion to use bottled ranch dressing is more cost effective and the kids liked it better. Carrots are always enjoyed by children, however, make sure children are not shoveling these into their mouths as a choking incident could occur. Cost per serving 10- 15 cents.
21. **Boulders** another snack item that may be best served as part of the dinner option. Children liked them but did not eat the meatball in its entirety. Cost per serving 20 cents.
22. **Nuts and Bolts Snack Mix** Best made the day ahead and stored in airtight containers. Cost per serving is 17 cents.
23. **Drill Bits Pasta Salad** not a hit with children. Must be made at least 1-2 days ahead. Difficult to eat in a short period of time. Leaders/teachers like it very much. This is another that may be best served as part of a dinner option. Cost per serving 29 cents.
24. **Construction Barrell Pops** Yummy! Kids really enjoyed these. Best made with the larger size marshmallows, the smaller were difficult to place on the lollipop sticks and dip in the melting candy. Plan to make these early in the day, or ahead of time. Cost of each serving 11 cents.
25. **Construction Sign Cookies** should be prepared a day ahead, storing in air-tight containers. Decorating the cookies is fun, but time consuming. Perhaps enlisting the assistance of a group of ladies that are not participating in VBS but desire to be useful. Children did like these and were satisfied with the amount served. Cost per serving 15 cents.



Sharing the Gospel

- **God Rules:** The Bible tells us God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. (Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17)
- **We Sinned:** We all choose to disobey God. The Bible calls this sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 3:23; 6:23)
- **God Provided.** God sent Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9)
- **Jesus Gives.** He lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18)
- **We Respond.** We can respond to Jesus. The ABCs of Becoming a Christian is a simple tool that helps us remember how to respond when prompted by the Holy Spirit to receive the gift Jesus offers.