

Whirl



A PARENT'S GUIDE

to Making Faith Connections Using the Whirl: Ada & Friends DVDs

This guide applies to *Staged Fright and Other Inspired Adventures: Volume 1*.

Welcome to the Whirl: Ada & Friends DVDs!

Each animated episode is designed to entertain kids with a story about Ada and her friends, as they have adventures, solve problems, and learn about faith together. Every episode is inspired by a story from the Bible. Check out the reference at the end of this guide to make these connections to Scripture.

Using Whirl: Ada & Friends With Your Child

The fun animated stories on the Whirl DVDs offer parents and caregivers wonderful opportunities to laugh and talk with kids about the silly and the serious. Each episode is about four minutes long, making it easy to choose one episode for some quick family faith time together. Or you can watch several—or watch them all!—to spur dinnertime, bedtime, car-time—anytime!—conversations.

However you use them, Whirl stories are designed to set the stage for fun while viewing and great conversations afterward. This Parent Guide offers ideas such as discussion questions, activities, and other creative responses.

Everything in this guide is flexible, so use it to fit your family's needs and interests. The goal of this guide matches Whirl's overall goal: to make you and your kids laugh while helping you grow in your love of God and each other.

Discussion Questions

After watching some Whirl: Ada & Friends episodes, start a discussion with your child with these questions:

- Which episode was your favorite and why?
- What happened in the episode? What was one problem the kids faced? How did they solve it?
- What was a lesson the kids learned? What was a lesson you learned from this episode?
- Which character did you like best and why? What makes this character special?

- Which character is most like you? What makes this character similar to you? How are you different?
- What is something your whole family could learn from this episode? How could this episode help your family to grow stronger?
- How does this episode help you understand more about God?

Activities

Flip the Script

Pretend you are a cartoonist. Pick your favorite Whirl: Ada & Friends episode and draw some cartoon panels from it. Then add a twist! Change a panel to show one of the characters making a different choice or decision than he or she makes in the episode. Then draw what would happen next!

Share:

How does this change affect the story's outcome? What does that say about the choices we make and our relationship with God?

Sketch a Space

In Whirl stories, the church building itself is like a character. We see lots of spaces: the worship space, gathering areas, classrooms, and grounds outside. Think of your church building. Draw a picture of your favorite room or space or place. Draw what you like about it.

Share:

Why is this space your favorite? How does it remind you of God and God's presence?

Walk the Talk

The idea of loving our neighbors is central to the Whirl stories, just as it's central to the Bible. You can help children learn about putting love into action. Take a walk through your neighborhood, or another favorite area, and think about the people whose homes you pass.

Ask your child, "What's one way we can show this person or that family love?" Maybe you can say a silent prayer. You might bake cookies and share some with them. You might rake leaves or pull weeds, or maybe roll their garbage cans to the curb. As you walk, open your mind and spirit to the concrete ways you and your child can show neighborly love.

Share:

How do you feel when you show love through action for a neighbor? How do you feel when someone shows love for you?

Lines to Remember

These quotes capture the spirit of these Whirl episodes. Share them with your child and try making connections to your family's faith life together.

"You know what this means, Jax? Forgiveness goes on and on forever!"

-From *"Plentiful Pardons"*

"We shouldn't think about the classes she's missed. We should be glad she's here now!"

-From *"Miffed Givings"*

"It doesn't matter what people say they are going to do. They need to do it."

-From *"Half Baked Sale"*

"Even Jesus knew what it was to be rejected."

-From *"Piñata Kickball"*

"Worship isn't about having the right answers. It's about coming together as a family to rejoice in God."

-From *"Worryship"*

"God wants us to follow and love God with all our hearts."

-From *"Offer Errings"*

"We're supposed to love all of God's family. That's how we show our love for God."

-From *"The Ultimate BFF"*

"What's more important? Fixing the door, or getting praised for fixing it?"

-From *"Credit Crusade"*

"Imagine how well it could have gone if you had actually been prepared."

-From *"Disastrous Delay"*

"I can't believe Clara made it onstage. . . . She just needed a little nudge."

-From *"Staged Fright"*

"When we serve those in need, we are truly serving God because Jesus is in all of us."

-From *"Jesus Detector 2000"*

"God likes fairness."

-From *"Scissor Reign"*

"You don't know what's possible unless you say yes."

-From *"Mr. Fuzzler"*

"God loves everyone. No matter what."

-From *"Extra Ordinary"*

"Let's try this again. And maybe this time, we should work together!"

-From *"Cleaning Chaos"*

"But there's gotta be something I can do! I really want to help!"

-From *"Hampered Helper"*

"You know how we read the story of Jonah today? You know how God sent him to Nineveh? I was thinking we should do the same thing with Victor and talk to him about all the mean stuff he does."

-From "Incredulous Intervention"

"News on television doesn't really show that much good news. That's why we go to church!"

-From "Late Night News"

"Ada, this is one of those cards where you can record your voice. Everyone misses you. Just listen!"

-From "Ada Outage"

"God is with both of you, ready to guide you."

-From "Oh No"

Reference

Bible Story Connections for Staged Fright and Other Inspired Adventures (Whirl: Ada & Friends: Volume 1)

Each Whirl: Ada & Friends episode is connected to a Bible story. The stories that inspired the episodes on *Staged Fright and Other Inspired Adventures* are listed below. If you'd like to explore biblical themes further, look up and read the related Bible passage and talk about how it applies to the episode and to your family's daily life.

Plentiful Pardons

Matthew 18: 21-35
The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

Miffed Givings

Matthew 20:1-16
The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

Half Baked Sale

Matthew 7:21-34
Concerning Self-Deception

Piñata Kickball

Mark 8:31-38
Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

Worryship

Philippians 4:2-9
Exhortations

Offer Errings

Mark 12:13-17
The Question about Paying Taxes

The Ultimate BFF

Luke 10:25-25
The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Credit Crusade

Matthew 6:1-4
Concerning Almsgiving

Disastrous Delay

Matthew 24:36-44
The Necessity for Watchfulness

Staged Fright

Matthew 25:14-30
The Parable of the Talents

Jesus Detector 2000

Matthew 25:31-46
The Judgment of the Nations

Scissor Reign

Hebrews 13:1-19
Service Well-Pleasing to God

Mr. Fuzzler

Mark 10:17-31
The Rich Man

Extra Ordinary

John 3:1-21
Nicodemus Visits Jesus

Cleaning Chaos

Ephesians 5:3-20
Renounce Pagan Ways

Hampered Helper

1 Samuel 3:1-20
God Calls Samuel

Incredulous Intervention

Jonah 1:1-17
Jonah Tries to Run Away from God

Late Night News

John 16:25-33
"Peace for the Disciples"

Ada Outage

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11
The Coming of the Lord

Oh No

Matthew 28:16-20
The Commissioning of the Disciples