



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus' power is amazing.
CALMING THE STORM
MATTHEW 8:23-27

MEMORY VERSE

"Everyone who heard him was amazed."
LUKE 2:47, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is amazing?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is amazing.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.

Stomp Rocket
Stormy
Stormy Weather

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"He Is Amazing" and "Jesus Is"

Bible Story
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Voice in the Storm
Stop the Storm
Something Amazing!
Parachute Storm
All in the Boat
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)
Parent Cue App



PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



works correctly.

1. STOMP ROCKET

WHAT YOU NEED: Junior stomp rocket

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Set up the stomp rocket according to the directions in your activity area or outside, if possible. Try the rocket ahead of time to make sure it

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather children to stand in a circle about three feet away from the stomp rocket. Demonstrate how to stomp on the pump to make the rocket fly. Then, call on each child one at a time to stand near you and give the rocket a launch! Make sure every child has a turn.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Gather the stomp rocket and place it out of reach of children. If outside, return to the classroom.

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Have you ever watched a real rocket launch? It's amazing! Would you like to launch a rocket today? Awesome, let's go."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, stand in a circle around the rocket then take two big steps back. (Pause.) Great! Now, watch this! (Launch the rocket.) Wasn't that amazing? Who would like a turn?"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Rockets are amazing! This month, we're learning about someONE who is amazing. I can't wait to talk about Him more in Large Group. Let's go!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by flying like rockets. Remind your "rockets" to be careful and fly in their line so they don't bump into friends.

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



2. STORMY

WHAT YOU NEED: Gallon size zip-top bags, blue gel shaving cream, heavy duty tape, and small toy boats

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Fill each bag half full with the gel. Place the boats inside the bags. Seal the bags and secure them with the tape. Place the bags on a table or the

floor and tape all four sides down to secure them in place.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children gather around the plastic bags, three children to a bag. Invite the children to move the boat through the bag as if it were in a storm. Challenge the children to move the gel to make big waves.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear a Bible story about a boat in a storm."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We have a boat in the water to play with! (Point.) Use your hands to move the water super-fast and make the waves big, just like in a storm." (Demonstrate.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "WOW! You made super big waves! Today in our Bible story, we will hear about a boat in a storm and how Jesus did something AMAZING! I am so excited for Story time today!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to drive a boat as you walk to the story area.

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PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning



3. STORMY WEATHER

WHAT YOU NEED: Large flat plastic bin or water table, water, plastic tablecloth or shower curtain, several plastic toy boats, and towels

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Cover the table or floor with a plastic tablecloth or shower curtain. Fill the bin or water

table with three inches of water. Set the boats in the water.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children to stand around the water table. Demonstrate how to move your hand in the water to make waves and create a storm. Call on two children at a time to follow your example and create a storm in the bin. Continue calling on the children, two at a time, until everyone has a turn. Remember, ALWAYS supervise children around water. Have towels nearby for children to dry their hands as they finish their turn.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pour out the water immediately or set out of reach of children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all these boats in the water. What do you think might happen to these boats if a big storm comes along? Let's see." (Demonstrate.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Whoa, looks like a big storm. I need two friends to keep the storm going. Don't worry, everyone will have a turn." (Call on two children to make waves in the water.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was quite a storm! In our Bible story today, we'll hear about a boat caught in a storm. Let's go find out what happened!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to be boats, tossed about by a storm in the water. Encourage the children to keep moving forward and stay in a line as they move.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



1. VOICE IN THE STORM

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tape an outline of a boat on the floor in the activity area.

NOTE: If you do Activity #2, save the boat outline.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to get in the boat and pretend to sail on calm waters. Then, ask the children to pretend a storm comes and hop out of the boat. Let the children act silly by moving their arms and legs all around. When you say, "STOP," the children freeze and say the memory verse together. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's go sailing! Everyone, hop in the boat." (*Point.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's sail on the nice calm waters. (*Do activity.*) Oh, no! A storm is coming! Everyone, hop out of the boat and act like a crazy storm! (*Continue activity.*) STOP and FREEZE! Great job! Let's say our memory verse together." (*Finish activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus calmed the storm in our Bible story today. Our memory verse tells us that Jesus says and does AMAZING things! **Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing!**"

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WEEK
THREE
JANUARY 2021

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE
an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning



2. STOP THE STORM
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]
WHAT YOU NEED: Floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tape a large outline of a boat on the floor, or if you did the "Voice in the Storm" Activity then use that boat.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Invite the children to get in the boat with you and help you act-out today's Bible story.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how amazing it is that Jesus has the power to stop a storm.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY
Jesus' power is amazing.
CALMING THE STORM
MATTHEW 8:23-27

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hi, friends! I'm so glad you're here today. We heard an amazing story from the Bible about Jesus stopping a storm! Get in the boat with me so we can talk about it."

MEMORY VERSE
"Everyone who heard him was amazed."
LUKE 2:47, NIV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Is everyone in the boat? Good! Today, we'll pretend we're Jesus' friends, the disciples, and this is a boat. We're riding in the boat with Jesus, and there is water all around us. Let's rock side-to-side like this (*demonstrate*) because our boat is floating on the water. (*Encourage the children to gently rock side-to-side with you.*)

KEY QUESTION
Who is amazing?

"As we sail along, a big storm comes! It starts to rain and thunder, and the boat rocks even harder, like this! (*Encourage the children to rock in a big motion side-to-side with you.*) Being in a boat on the water during a big storm is very scary! Someone get Jesus! Tell Him we need help! Everyone say, 'Help us, Jesus!' (*Encourage the children to say, 'Help us, Jesus!' several times with you.*)

BOTTOM LINE
Jesus is amazing.

"Jesus stands up and tells the storm to stop . . . AND IT DOES! Look, there's no more rain or thunder, and we're rocking gently again. (*Encourage the children to gently rock side-to-side with you.*) Everyone say, 'Thank you, Jesus! You are amazing!'" (*Encourage the children to say, 'Thank you, Jesus! You are amazing!' with you. Repeat acting-out the story if time allows.*)

BASIC TRUTH
Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus has the power to stop storms because Jesus is God's Son. That makes Jesus amazing! **Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing!**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



3. SOMETHING AMAZING!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Wikki Stix®

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children to sit around the tables.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child two or three sticks and encourage them to shape them into something amazing! Allow children to share what they're making as they shape their sticks.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Set all creations aside for pick up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Have you ever used Wikki Stix before? You can bend and shape them so many different ways. I have some sticks for you, and I want you to make something amazing with them!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wow! You did an AMAZING job! All this month, we're learning about the most amazing one of all, Jesus! His teaching is amazing. His healing is amazing. And His POWER is amazing. **Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing!**"

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



4. PARACHUTE STORM

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Parachute, blue crepe paper, scissors, and sponge boats

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Cut the crepe paper into foot-long strips. Lay the parachute out flat on the floor of your

activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to gather around the parachute and pick up the section in front of them. Have the children move their arms up and down as you toss the sponge boats and blue crepe paper strips onto the parachute to create a storm. Encourage the children to move their arms faster to create a bigger and bigger storm! Then say, "STOP!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Have the children set down the parachute and gather it for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Do you remember what happened to Jesus and his friends in the boat in our Bible story today? (Pause.) Yes! They got caught in a big storm. Let's make our own storm today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Pick up the parachute and move your arms up and down. Let's move our arms slowly at first. The storm is just starting. (Toss the boats and crepe paper strips onto the parachute.)

"Now the storm is getting bigger! Let's move our arms up and down as quickly as we can to create a big, big storm!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "STOP! On the count of three, let's lay the parachute on the floor. Ready? One, two, three. Great job! Jesus told the storm to stop, and what happened? (Pause.) Yes! The storm stopped because Jesus is out-of-this-world amazing! **Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing.**"

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



5. ALL IN THE BOAT
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "All in the Boat" Activity Page, cardstock, corrugated bulletin board border in two different blues, scissors, large craft sticks, crayons, double-stick tape, and stapler

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "All in the Boat" on cardstock and cut out, one per child. Cut bulletin border into eight-inch lengths, two per child (*one of each shade*). Stack the two different blue borders together with the back border higher than the front and staple along each side.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children color the boat and the disciples. Tape the boat cutout to the craft stick and slide in between the two bulletin borders. Show children how to move the boat back and forth.

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, have you ever been on a boat? Today in our story, Jesus and the disciples were on a boat when a big storm came. Let's make a boat craft to help us remember the story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Color your boat and the disciples. (*Pause.*) Now tape the boat to your craft stick. (*Pause.*) Slide the craft stick into the waves and move it around like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Keep it moving. When the disciples were out in the boat during the storm, they were scared. They asked Jesus to help. He stood up and told the storm to stop, and it did. Stop your boat. (*Pause.*) Jesus had the power to stop a storm."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus is God's Son, and He is out-of-this-world amazing. Only Jesus could stop a storm. **Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing.**"

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Luke 2:47, journal, and fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Let's pretend to row a boat to our small group spot like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Are you ready? Row, row, row your

boats and follow me! (*Pretend to row a boat as you lead the children to your small group spot.*) Whew! We made it! Everyone, step out of your boat, and let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*)

"Our Bible story was about Jesus telling a storm to stop . . . AND IT DID! That's totally amazing! Everyone who saw Jesus do this was amazed. That's why we're learning this Bible verse. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*)

"Everyone who heard him was amazed, Luke 2:47. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*) "Let's stand up and say that together with the motions."

CHILDREN AND SGL:
"Everyone (*arms out and around*) who heard him (*hands behind ears*) was amazed," (*hold hands like binoculars, open and shut*) Luke 2:47." (*Open hands like a book.*)

(*Repeat the verse with motions a few times.*)

SGL: "Jesus can do amazing things because **Jesus is amazing! Who is amazing?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "**Jesus is amazing!**"

SGL: (*cheering*) "Yes! **Jesus is amazing!**"

"Okay, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*)

"We all get scared sometimes. Even me! Strange dogs, a new babysitter, or bad storms, like the one Jesus' friends were afraid of, can scare anyone. But guess what? We don't have to be afraid because another amazing thing about Jesus is that He is always with us. When I say your name, tell me one thing you're afraid of, and I will write it in our prayer journal. We can use our list when we pray. So, get ready to listen for your name and can tell me one thing you're afraid of.

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"Thank you for making this list with me. Let's use it when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to help us when we're afraid. Help [child's name] remember that Jesus is with [him/her] when [he/she] is afraid of [what child listed]. Help [child's name] remember that Jesus is with . . .
(continue with each child.) Jesus is amazing, because He has the power to do anything! You are the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."



GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as Your 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

1. STOMP ROCKETS

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Junior stomp rocket

WHAT YOU DO:

- Set up the stomp rocket in your activity area or outside if accessible according to the directions.
- Practice launching the rocket according to the directions to make sure it works properly before using it with children.

2. STORMY

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Gallon-size zip-top bags, one for every three children
- Blue gel shaving cream, enough to fill each bag half full
- Heavy duty tape
- Small toy boats about two inches long, one for every three children

WHAT YOU DO:

- Fill the bags half full with the gel.
- Place the boats inside the bags.
- Seal the bags and secure with the tape.
- Place the bags on a table or the floor and tape all four sides down to secure them in place.

3. STORMY WEATHER

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Large flat plastic bin or water table
- Plastic tablecloth or shower curtain
- Water
- Several plastic toy boats
- Towels

WHAT YOU DO:

- Cover the table or floor with the plastic tablecloth or shower curtain.
- Fill the tub or water table with three inches of water.
- Set the plastic boats in the water.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. VOICE IN THE STORM

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Floor Tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape an outline of a boat on the floor in the activity area.
- **NOTE:** Leave the boat outline if you're doing Activity #2.



GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

2. STOP THE STORM

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape an outline of a boat on the floor, or use the boat outline from "Voice in a Storm" Activity.

3. SOMETHING AMAZING!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Wikki Stix®, two or three per child

4. PARACHUTE STORM

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Parachute
- Blue crepe paper
- Scissors
- Sponge boats

WHAT YOU DO:

- Cut crepe paper into foot-long strips

5. ALL IN THE BOAT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "All in the Boat" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Corrugated bulletin board border in two different blues
- Scissors
- Large craft sticks
- Crayons
- Double-stick tape

- Stapler
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "All in the Boat" on cardstock and cut out, one per child.
- Cut bulletin border into eight-inch lengths, two per child (*one of each color*).
- Stack the two different blue borders together with the back border higher than the front then staple along each side.

6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Luke 2:47.
- Journal, one per small group
- Fun-shaped pen, one per small group

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue app**.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. <https://bit.ly/FirstLookPinterest>