



**MADE TO PLAY**

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



**1. WOBBLE ON THE WATER**  
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** blue painter's tape, paper

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Make a ten-foot line using blue painter's tape to

demonstrate the "water."

- Instruct Team 1 to line up behind the top of the tape.
- Instruct Team 2 to stand on either side of the tape.
- Direct Team 1 to walk, one-by-one, across the blue line.
- Direct Team 2 to distract them.
- Instruct one kid from Team 2 to stand at the end of the "water" line.
- Direct the kids from Team 1 who are walking on the "water" to do whatever actions the kid from Team 2 who is standing at the end of the "water" line is doing.
- Here are some actions the kid at the end of the "water" line could instruct the team to do:
  - hop on one foot
  - walk backwards
  - rub your belly and pat your head
- Give the rest of the kids on Team 2 (the distracting team) the pieces of paper.
- Encourage the other kids from the distracting team to blow wind and "make waves" using the paper to fan the air.
- If a kid wobbles off of the line, they are disqualified.
- Rotate teams a few times so both teams get to "walk on the water" and be the "distractors."
- Once you have rotated a few times, ask the kids the following questions.
  1. How do you think Peter felt when Jesus called him out on the water?
  2. How would you feel if Jesus asked you to do something that crazy?
  3. What was Jesus' response when Peter sank?
  4. What do you think could have changed for Peter if he decided to keep trusting in Jesus?
  5. Since we can't literally follow Jesus by walking behind Him, how do we follow Jesus today?

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Peter Walks on Water**  
Matthaew 14:22-33

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

**Jesus invited people to follow Him.**

**KEY QUESTION**

**What makes Jesus worth following?**

**MEMORY VERSE**

**"Whoever believes in me . . . rivers of living water will flow from within them."**  
John 7:38, NIV

**BASIC TRUTH**

**I can trust God no matter what.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Peter didn't have someone telling him to do silly things while he was walking across the water. But, he did have distractions. The wind was blowing. The waves were huge! He was probably scared and wondering what was going to happen. I know I would be!

"Jesus probably won't ask you to walk on water, but He does ask us to follow Him each and every day. For us, maybe following Jesus looks more like being kind to someone who is being made fun of. Maybe it looks like raising money



DAY  
**TWO**  
SUMMER 2022

SMALL GROUP

**2-3**

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

ROTATIONS

HOME

## (1. WOBBLE ON THE WATER, CONTINUED)

for other kids who are in need instead of asking for birthday presents at our party this year. Perhaps it's as simple as putting our family's needs first instead of our own and helping with the dishes after dinner.

"We can easily let things distract us from following Jesus too. We can think of ourselves before others, or we can decide to keep everything we have for ourselves. But today, let's be reminded of Peter's example. Jesus has invited us to do big and small things for Him and **Jesus invited people to follow Him**. Let's make waves by following Jesus."



**MADE TO IMAGINE**

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



**2. CATCH THE WAVE**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Catch the Wave" Activity Page, markers, scissors

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a "Catch the Wave" Activity Page and scissors.
- Set out the markers.
- Instruct the kids to decorate their surfboards and cut them out.
- Say: "Each surfboard has one way you can 'make waves' by following Jesus and spreading His love to others."
- As kids decorate their surfboards, talk about what's written on each one.
- Ask: "What could happen if you do what's on this surfboard?"
  - For example: If we show kindness by holding the door open for someone—treating them how Jesus would want us to treat them—maybe that person would do the same and we could start a wave of kindness!
- On the blank surfboard, instruct kids to write in their own way of following Jesus.
- Invite kids to share their "make waves" idea that they wrote on their blank surfboard with the group.
- Instruct the kids to focus on one surfboard each day with their family so they can "make waves" together!
- **[Make it Personal] (Share about a time you followed Jesus' example and made waves in the world around you.)**

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Peter Walks on Water**  
Matthaew 14:22-33

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

**Jesus invited people to follow Him.**

**KEY QUESTION**

**What makes Jesus worth following?**

**MEMORY VERSE**

**"Whoever believes in me . . . rivers of living water will flow from within them."**  
John 7:38, NIV

**BASIC TRUTH**

**I can trust God no matter what.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Jesus didn't just invite people to follow Him so their lives could be changed. **Jesus invited people to follow Him** so that we could make waves in the world around us! Think about how much better our schools, neighborhoods, parks, and our entire world would be if we all acted a bit more like Jesus.

"How would things look different? (Allow time for responses.) I love those answers! Jesus has created some pretty sweet waves for us to catch and make a big difference in this great, big world. Whether it's a wave of kindness, generosity, or compassion, we get to help change the world because Jesus has invited us to."



### MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



### 3. FOLLOW ME

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Together, look up John 7:38.
- Invite a volunteer to read John 7:38 to the group.
- Recite John 7:38 a few times.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Invite the kids to make up motions to the Memory Verse.
- Allow the teams use the Bibles for reference.
- When kids have their motions ready, take turns letting each group be the "leader group" and teach the other team their motions for the Memory Verse.

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Peter Walks on Water

Matthaew 14:22-33

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus invited people to follow Him.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Following Jesus isn't always as easy as these sweet moves you've come up with, but it's always worth it. Just like our verse says, whoever believes in Jesus will have living water flow from them. The living water is God's Holy Spirit. He lives inside of us and will help us follow God.

### KEY QUESTION

What makes Jesus worth following?

"**Jesus invited people to follow Him.** And His Holy Spirit will help us! Jesus is kind and good and loving. And we follow Him when we live like Him. I can't wait to hear how you decided to follow Jesus this week—whether you put others first by letting your sister pick what show to watch, serve your family by cleaning up after dinner without being asked, or love someone by including them in a game at recess. I know you will make big waves this week!"

### MEMORY VERSE

"Whoever believes in me . . . rivers of living water will flow from within them."

John 7:38, NIV

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



**MADE TO REFLECT**

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



**4. PRAY AND DISMISS**  
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Prayer Card: Day 2" Activity Page, markers, Swag Bracelet (if choosing to use)

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a prayer card and a Swag Bracelet (if provided).
- Point out the "wave" symbol on the prayer card and the Swag Bracelet.
- Remind kids that **Jesus invited people to follow Him**.
- Say: "When we choose to follow Jesus—when we do what He did, and love like He loved—we can make waves and change the world around us!"
- Invite the kids to turn the prayer card over and write down one way they can follow Jesus this week. (They can use the same idea as the one they thought of for the surfboard activity.)

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Peter Walks on Water**  
Matthaew 14:22-33

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

**Jesus invited people to follow Him.**

**KEY QUESTION**

**What makes Jesus worth following?**

**MEMORY VERSE**

**"Whoever believes in me . . . rivers of living water will flow from within them."**  
John 7:38, NIV

**BASIC TRUTH**

**I can trust God no matter what.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Dear God, thank You for wanting to use us in this big world. Thank You that **Jesus invited people to follow Him** so we know how to make the world a better place! Please show us the small and big waves You want us to catch so we can show others Your love and goodness. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**Travel Time**

As you travel to the next track, use the following questions to keep the conversation going and to keep kids thinking about what they're learning!

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- Play Follow the Leader as you walk!
- What's your favorite thing to do in the pool or at the lake?



DAY  
**TWO**  
SUMMER 2022

SMALL GROUP

**2-3**

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

ROTATIONS

HOME

## GETTING READY

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

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Prepare ahead of time for Small Group Rotation for VBS:

#### 1. WOBBLE ON THE WATER

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

*Made to Play:* an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Blue painter's tape—one roll
- Pieces of paper—ten

#### 2. CATCH THE WAVE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

*Made to Imagine:* an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Catch the Wave" Activity Page—one per kid
- Markers

#### 3. FOLLOW ME

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

*Made to Create:* an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Bibles

#### 4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

*Made to Reflect:* an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Prayer Card: Day 2" Activity Page—one per kid
- Swag Bracelet (if choosing to use)—one per kid
- Markers