



**MADE TO PLAY**

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



**1. PACK THE BEACH WAGON**

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Pack the Beach Wagon" Activity Page pieces, glue sticks, markers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a "Pack the Beach Wagon" Activity Page and a glue stick.
- Share that the missing beach items in their wagon are hidden around the room.
- When you say go, instruct the kids to hunt around the room to find the missing pieces and glue them to the wagon so they can go on their beach trip.
- The first kid to fill their Beach Wagon wins!
- Once game is finished, allow kids to color their wagons and beach items while you ask the Bible Story Review Questions below.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Fruit of the Spirit**  
Galatians 5:22-23

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

**God can help you change the world around you.**

**KEY QUESTION**

**What needs to change in the world around you?**

**MEMORY VERSE**

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

**BASIC TRUTH**

**I should treat others the way I want to be treated.**

**Bible Story Review Questions:**

1. In the book of John, Jesus told His disciples that God was going to send them a Friend. Who is the Friend He was talking about? (*the Holy Spirit*)
2. Where can we find a list of the attributes of the fruit of the Spirit? (*Galatians*)
3. What does the fruit of the Spirit help people do? (*act in a way that looks more like Jesus*)
4. Name the different attributes of the fruit of the Spirit. These are the different ways God's fruit will look in your life. (*You might need to help kids out naming these—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*)
5. How can we show the fruit of the Spirit? (*When we put our faith in Jesus and let His Holy Spirit change how we think and act, we will show God's fruit.*)
6. Why is it important for God to grow His fruit in us? (*answers will vary/So we can change the world around us!*)

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"The fruit of the Spirit may not taste like mangosteen or apples, but it sure does look good in our lives! When we decide to put our faith in Jesus, we get to have the Holy Spirit live inside us to help us look more like Jesus. Changing the world is a big job, but God has given us everything we need—He even moved inside our hearts Himself to help us! **[Make it Personal] (Share about how the Holy Spirit has helped you show the fruit of the Spirit and in turn, how you changed the world around you.)**

"There are times when we don't necessarily want to show kindness, goodness, self-control, or love. It can be hard some days, right? But, that's why we have the Holy Spirit to help us. Don't ever forget that God thinks you are important enough to do big and awesome things in this world. So, when you don't feel like you're making much difference, remember that **God can help you change the world around you.**"



**MADE TO EXPLORE**

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



**2. RIPPLE EFFECT**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** bowl of water, sandwich bags, permanent markers, small and big objects

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Encourage kids to sit in a circle around the bowl of water.
- Give each kid a small object.
- Take turns dropping each small object into the water.
- Before a kid drops an item in the water, ask the kids if they think it's going to create a big ripple or a small ripple.
- Once each object has been dropped in the water, give each kid a sandwich bag and a permanent marker.
- Instruct the kids to use the marker to write, "God can help you change the world around you" on their bag.
- Invite each kid to choose an object from the water and put it inside their bag.

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**BASIC TRUTH**

**I should treat others the way I want to be treated.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Did you notice that there were ripples made in the water no matter how big or small the object was? Just like these objects, you can create ripples in the world around you too. It doesn't matter if you do small things like smile at someone or give them a fist bump, or big things like buy someone a coat if theirs is worn out. **God can help you change the world around you** in everything you do.

"This week, I want to encourage you to remember the impact you're making every time you show God's love. Each time you show love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, or self-control, you are literally changing the world! You're creating a ripple effect that will influence others toward knowing Jesus. How awesome is that?"



**MADE TO MOVE**

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



**3. WAVY WORDS**

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bible, beach ball, large blanket

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Look up John 7:38 and read it out loud to the group.
- Instruct the kids to gather around the blanket and hold

an edge of it.

- Place the beach ball in the middle of the blanket.
- Work together to toss the beach ball up in the air while saying John 7:38.
- Try to say one word every time the ball launches in the air.
- Start the verse over if the ball drops off the blanket!
- Say the verse as many times as time and interest allow.

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**What needs to change in the world around you?**

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John 7:38, NIV

**BASIC TRUTH**

**I should treat others the way I want to be treated.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Just like the ball was flowing through the air, God's Holy Spirit flows through you and will show His fruit in the world around you. Every action you take—whether it be loving someone who feels unloved, showing self-control when your sister is driving you crazy, using gentle words with someone who is having a hard time, or displaying the joy of Jesus in even the hardest circumstances—you are allowing the Holy Spirit to show His fruit through you. **God can help you change the world around you.** This VBS and beyond, don't underestimate the power you have within you to make change for good! God wants you to do great work in this world and will continue giving you everything you need to do big things."



**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 5" Activity Page, markers, Swag Bracelet (if choosing to use)

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a prayer card, a marker, and a Swag Bracelet (if provided).
- Point out the "ripple" symbol on the prayer card and the Swag Bracelet.
- Say: "**God can help you change the world around you.**"
- Direct the kids to think of something in the world they would like to see changed.
- To get the kids thinking, ask:
  - Have you ever seen anything that you think is unfair in the world—like people who are hungry or don't have a home?
  - Do you wish there was less trash on the sides of the highways?
  - Do you wish every animal at the local shelter had a home or maybe that everyone in the world would have clean water?
- Instruct the kids to write down the idea they think of on the back of their prayer card.
- Direct the kids to think of what they've written as you close your group time in prayer.

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**BASIC TRUTH**

**I should treat others the way I want to be treated.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Dear God, thank You that You work through us to do big things in this world. This world seems so big and sometimes, change seems impossible. But, we know that with the power of Your Holy Spirit, You will help us change the world around us. Show us the change You want us to be a part of. Grow the fruit of Your Holy Spirit in us and help us to show the world how good You are. 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:**

- What was your favorite thing from this week?
- What was your favorite snack?
- What song do you want to keep singing and listening to?



## 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:

- Swag Bracelet (if choosing to use)—one per kid
- Markers

### 1. PACK THE BEACH WAGON

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Pack the Beach Wagon" Activity Page—one per kid
- Glue sticks—one per kid
- Markers
- Before group time: Cut out the beach items (one set per kid) and hide them around the space.

### 2. RIPPLE EFFECT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**Made to Explore:** an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Large bowl of water
- Various small and large objects that can be dropped in the bowl, such as: a penny, a small rock, a large rock, a button, a craft bead, a quarter, etc.
- Sandwich bags—one per kid
- Permanent marker—one per kid

### 3. WAVY WORDS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**Made to Move:** an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Beach ball (inflated)
- Large blanket

### 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 5" Activity Page—one per kid