

# 3-5's | W2 | March

## Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 2

**Today's Bible Story:** Coin in the Fish's Mouth • Matthew 17:24-27

Jesus can do things no one else can do.

**Key Question:** Who is amazing?

**Bottom Line:** Jesus is amazing.

**Memory Verse:** "We have seen amazing things today!" • Luke 5:26 NLT

*Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.*

### **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 minutes)**

#### **Social: Providing time for fun interaction**

Toss to the Fish

Fishy Find

Coin Hunt Surprise\*

### **Large Group (20 minutes)**

#### **Worship: Inviting people to respond to God**

#### **Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways**

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

### **Small Group (25 minutes)**

#### **Groups: Creating a safe place to connect**

What's in the Fish?

Act It Out: The Coin in the Fish

Coin Drop Wonders

Silver Coin

Coin in the Fish's Mouth

Journal and Prayer

### **Home: Prompting action beyond the experience**

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

### **\*Allergy Alert**



### **Bible Story**

Coin in the Fish's Mouth • Matthew 17:24-27

Jesus can do things no one else can do.

### **Key Question**

Who is amazing?

### **Bottom Line**

Jesus is amazing.

### **Memory Verse**

"We have seen amazing things today!" • Luke 5:26 NLT

5 min

# Social

5 min

## Toss to the Fish | Made to Move

### What You Need

 Butcher paper	1
 Permanent marker	1
 Painter's tape	1
 Silver paper plates	Several

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Draw a large fish with its mouth open wide on the butcher paper and tape to the floor to secure.

*During the Activity:* Encourage children to toss their paper plate toward the fish and try to get it in the fish's mouth.

*After the Activity:* Introduce the Bible Story.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Friends, look at this fun game I have for us to play. Do you know what animal this is? Yes, it's a fish! We have this really big fish on the floor, and look, it has a big open mouth. Can you open your mouth big like this fish? Great job! Let's pretend these plates are silver coins (give each child a plate) and we'll try to toss them into the fish's mouth."

*During the Activity:* "Let's see if we can get some of these coins in the fish's mouth. Ready?"

[Child's name], it's your turn. Can you toss your coin into the fish's mouth? Great job! Now, [child's name], it's your turn. Can you toss your coin into the fish's mouth? Wow, friends, you are doing great! Our coins are getting close to the fish's mouth. Let's keep playing! (*Collect and hand out all the "coins." Repeat as time or interest allows.*) Let's celebrate that we got some coins into the fish's mouth, hooray!"

*After the Activity:* "That was such a fun game! In our Bible Story today, we will hear about a fish and a coin and Jesus! Let's go hear what happens because Jesus can do amazing things!"

Preschool

First Look

March - Week 2

10 min

# Groups

5 min

## Coin in the Fish's Mouth | Made to Create

### What You Need

	"Coin in the Fish's Mouth Label" Activity	1
	Page	
	Avery Labels #5160 or equivalent	Several
	Blue pool noodles	Several
	Blue pipe cleaners	Several
	Large silver toy coins	1
	Googly eye stickers	Several
	Scissors	1
	Permanent marker	1

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy "Coin in the Fish's Mouth Label" on label paper, one per child. Cut pool noodles into 1 ½ - 2-inch slices, one per child and leader. Make a slit halfway through one side of each pool noodle. Write each child's name on their pool noodle slice.

*During the Activity:* Encourage children to slide their coins into the slit of the pool noodle. Then have children poke the ends of their pipe cleaner on the opposite side of the pool noodle to create a tail. Ask children to add a googly eye sticker on one side, then flip it over and add their label.

*After the Activity:* Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Friends, come to the table and let's create some fun story art to help you remember today's true story from the Bible!"

*During the Activity:* "Today we heard the story of the coin in the fish's mouth. That's what we are going to make today! Let's turn these pool noodle slices into a fish! There is a slit in the side of your slice. (*Help children find the slit.*) Slide the coin into the slit. (*Pause.*) Now poke your pipe cleaner into the other side of your pool noodle like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Now your fish has a tail! Add a googly eye sticker, then flip your fish over and add your label. (*Pause.*) Great job, this looks like the fish from our Bible Story! In our story, Peter knew that Jesus was the Son of God. One day, some men asked Peter if Jesus paid the temple tax. That's money that helps take care of the temple, the building where God's people worship. Peter went to Jesus, and Jesus told Peter exactly what to do. Jesus told Peter to go to the lake and catch a fish. Open the mouth of the first fish, and a large silver coin will be inside. Take that coin and pay the taxes for both of us. Peter did exactly what Jesus said."

*After the Activity:* "Everything happened just like Jesus said it would. Jesus is God's Son, and Jesus can do things that no one else can do because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing! Who is amazing? [Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing!**"

5 min

## Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect

### What You Need

-  "Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder 1
-  Journal 1
-  Fun-shaped pen 1

*Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.*

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder on cardstock and cut one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Luke 5:26. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.* Encourage the children to pretend they are fishing as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

*During the Activity:* Review the Memory Verse and Hand Motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of amazing things.

*After the Activity:* Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend to go fishing. Hold your pretend fishing poles up and cast your line like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Now let's fish and walk together to our Small Group spot. (*Pretend to cast your fishing line out into the water, then use the other hand to reel it in.*) Now cast your fishing line and follow me! (*Encourage the children to reel their line in and recast as desired as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) That was fun! Now let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

*During the Activity:* (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story, Jesus did something that only He can do. Do you remember what Jesus did? (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus told Peter to go to the lake to catch a fish. The first fish he catches will have a large silver coin in its mouth. Jesus told Peter to take that coin and pay both the temple tax. Everything happened just like Jesus said it would. Jesus is amazing! That's why when I ask you, '**Who is amazing?**' you can say, [**Bottom Line**] '**Jesus is amazing!**' Ready? **Who is amazing?** [**Bottom Line**] **Jesus is amazing!**

"The Bible verse we're learning says: 'We have seen (*point to self*) amazing things today!' (*Hands like binoculars, open and shut.*) Luke 5:26 (*open hands like a book*). Let's say that together! Stand up and say what I say and do what I do! Ready? 'We have seen (*point to self*) amazing things today!' (*Hands like binoculars, open and shut.*) Luke 5:26 (*open hands like a book*).

"Way to go! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*)

Today, we'll make a list of things we think are amazing. It can be anything that makes you say, 'WOW!' Maybe it's watching an airplane fly, or

someone who runs super fast. Whatever you think is amazing, tell me when I say your name, and I'll write it in our journal." *(Say each child's name and write down what they say beside their names in the journal. Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

*After the Activity:* "Thanks for helping me make this list. *(Hold up the journal for the children to see.)* These are some pretty amazing things. Now I'll write 'Jesus' really big over our list because Jesus is the MOST amazing! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)* Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to be our AMAZING friend forever. Jesus really is amazing! Our list is full of amazing things *(read the list you made with the children)*, but Jesus is the most amazing of them all! We love You, God. In Jesus' name, Amen."

# Supplies

Toss to the Fish   Made to Move	Quantity
1. Butcher paper	1
2. Permanent marker	1
3. Painter's tape	1
4. Silver paper plates	Several

Coin in the Fish's Mouth   Made to Create	Quantity
1. "Coin in the Fish's Mouth Label" Activity Page	1
2. Avery Labels #5160 or equivalent	Several
3. Blue pool noodles	Several
4. Blue pipe cleaners	Several
5. Large silver toy coins	1
6. Googly eye stickers	Several
7. Scissors	1
8. Permanent marker	1

Journal and Prayer   Made to Reflect	Quantity
1. "Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder	1
2. Journal	1
3. Fun-shaped pen	1