

3-5's | W1

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Sweet Treat Freeze Dance
Ice Cream Scoops
Magnetic Hearts

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

Memory Verse with Motions
Stop and Go to Jesus
Jesus Loves All the Little Children
Pin Your Picture to Jesus
Come to Me
Journal and Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Memory Verse Card
Parent Cue Card (print or email)
Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Jesus loves children.
Jesus and the Children • Mark 10:13-16

Key Question

Who loves you?

Bottom Line

Jesus loves me.

Memory Verse

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me"
(Matthew 19:14 NLT).

15 min

Social

5 min

Sweet Treat Freeze Dance | Made to Move

What You Need

 "Sweet Treat Freeze Dance" Activity Page	Several
 Cardstock	Several
 Music player	1
 Upbeat preschool worship songs	Several
 Painter's tape	1



EveryChild Tips

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Encourage children to adapt moves for example: arm movement instead of jumps, chair spins instead of standing spins.
- Show the sweet treat picture cards as you call them out to help children with language differences follow along.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Sweet Treat Freeze Dance" on cardstock, one set for every four children. Arrange on the floor in an open area of your room, creating a winding path. Secure each picture with tape.

During the Activity: Start the music and encourage children to move around the path however they like: walking, marching, rolling, crawling, or skipping. When the music stops, ask children to freeze on a sweet treat. Call out a specific treat and do a silly movement. Anyone standing on that sweet treat should copy your movement then everyone does the movement together until the music starts again. Keep playing until everyone has had a chance to try each movement. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, look at all the sweet treat pictures on the floor! Wow! I see cupcakes and ice cream cones, lollipops and cookies ... yum! We're going to play freeze dance around these pictures. When the music starts, you move around the pictures and when the music stops, you stop."

During the Activity: "Everybody ready to play? (Start the music.) Hooray! Here we go! Move around anyway you'd like. (Pause the music.) Everybody freeze on a sweet treat! Look at the picture you are standing on ... If you are standing on a cupcake, move your hand/foot/body around in a circle. (Pause.) Fantastic! Now everybody, move your body like that. (Start the music.) There's the music, let's start moving! (Continue with the following movements for the remaining sweet treats: ice cream cones-pretend to lick the ice cream; lollipops-tap your foot/hand; and cookies-jump, hop, or raise your hands in excitement. Repeat as desired.) That was so much fun!"

After the Activity: "You guys were great sweet treat movers and freezers! Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about a time when children wanted to be near Jesus. And guess what? Jesus wanted to be with them too! Let's go hear our story!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by choosing a sweet treat to move like.

5 min

Come to Me | Made to Create

What You Need

	"Come to Me" Activity Page	1
	"Come to Me Children" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	2
	Crayons	Several
	Yarn	1
	Hole Punch	1
	Clear tape	1
	Scissors	1
	Permanent Marker	1



EveryChild Tips

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Provide adaptive crayons.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Come To Me" on cardstock and cut, one set per child and leader. Copy "Come To Me Children" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child and leader. Punch a hole in each heart where indicated. Cut yarn in 24-inch lengths, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Create an example.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color Jesus and the children on their papers. Ask children to decorate the heart with the text on it. Roll each child's picture of the children into a tube and secure with a piece of tape. For each child, thread their yarn through the tube and knot either end of the yarn to the hearts, text on the left and Jesus on the right. Demonstrate how to lift and lower either side simultaneously to make the children move to Jesus.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Sweet friends, come to me! I have some super special story art for you to make to help you remember today's true story from the Bible."

During the Activity: "You have two pictures, one picture is Jesus in a heart cutout, and the other is a picture of lots of children. Color both of these pictures and then decorate your other heart with the words on it. (Pause.) Great job! Let's roll the picture of the children into a tube like this (demonstrate) and add a piece of tape to keep it rolled up nicely. (Help each child as needed.) Now we need to put the yarn through the tube and tie the ends to each heart. I'll help you with that. (Make sure the heart with the text is on the left and the heart with Jesus is on the right and knot each end of the yarn through the holes on each heart.) Now watch this. (Hold up the example with the words lower than Jesus.) The words on this heart are our Memory Verse words. Let's say them together. 'Jesus said, "Let the children come to me.'" Matthew 19:14. (Raise the heart with the words written on it to make the children move to Jesus.) Look! We made the children move to Jesus! Let's do it together. Hold your hearts up making sure Jesus is higher in the air than the words. (Pause.) Great! Now say the verse with me. 'Jesus said, "Let the children come to me.'" Matthew 19:14. Now raise the heart with the words (pause) and watch the children move to Jesus! That is so cool!"

After the Activity: "In today's true story from the Bible, we learned that Jesus and His friends, the disciples, traveled to a lot of places because Jesus loved people and wanted to tell everyone that God loves them and that God wants them to love others. One day Jesus was teaching, some grown-ups brought their children to be near Jesus and hear Jesus teach. The disciples told the grown-ups to stop that children weren't who Jesus needed to be spending time with. But, when Jesus saw what His friends were doing, He became angry! Jesus told them: 'Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. (Mark 10:14 NLT)

"Jesus wanted the children to come to Him. Jesus placed His hands on the children's heads and blessed them. Jesus made sure the children knew He loved them. And Jesus wants you to know that He loves you too! Jesus loves everyone ... which means Jesus loves you **and [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me. Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me!**"

5 min

Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect

What You Need

 "Memory Verse Card"	1
 Cardstock	1
 Bible	1
 Journal	1
 Fun-shaped pen	1
 Scissors	1
 Heart stickers	Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Matthew 19:14. Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.

Encourage children to give themselves a big hug as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions. Write each child's name in the journal. As you read each child's name, encourage them to add a heart sticker next to their name.

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 are going to give ourselves the biggest hugs we can. Wrap your arms around you and give a little squeeze. Follow me and keep giving yourself little squeezes as you hug yourself. Great work! Let's sit down and 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 today, we heard a story about Jesus, His friends, the disciples, and some people who came to hear Jesus teach. The people who came to be with Jesus and hear Him teach were not just grown-ups, but some children were also there! Children just like you! (Point to all the children.)

"But there was a problem! The disciples, Jesus' friends, told the grown-ups to take the children away! But Jesus loves EVERYONE! Grown-ups AND children too! Jesus called the children to Him and blessed them. Jesus made sure that the children knew that He loved them. No matter where you live, Jesus loves you! Jesus loves everyone ... which means Jesus loves you **and [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me. Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.**

"Hey! That reminds me of the new Bible verse we are learning today! It says, 'Jesus said (tap finger to middle of each palm) "Let the children (point to children) come to me,"' (move hands toward self) Matthew 19:14.' (Open hands like a book.) Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do! 'Jesus said (tap finger to middle of each palm) "Let the children (point to children) come to me,"' (move hands toward self) Matthew 19:14.' (Open hands like a book.) Yay! (Clap.)

"Let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Open journal.) We're going to make a list of all your names in our prayer journal. Then we can use the list when we pray. (Remember to print, as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

Jesus loves [child's name] (*write child's name*). And Jesus loves [child's name] (*write child's name*). And Jesus loves... (*Continue with each child.*) Jesus loves all the children, each and every one of you! (*Point to all the children.*) When I read your name in our list, I want you to add a heart sticker next to your name because hearts make us think of love and Jesus loves you! (*Point and read each child's name pausing to give each child time to add their sticker.*) Great job everyone!"

After the Activity: "This is a list of very special people, it's a list of all our Small Group friends! (*Hold up journal.*) Let's pray and thank God for you. 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 Jesus, and how He loves [child's name], and [child's name] and... (*say this with each child's name*). We love You, God! In Jesus' name. Amen."