

3-5s | W2

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Going on a Sheep Hunt

Find the Sheep

Find the Hidden Sheep

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

Sheep in the Pen

Sheep on Your Shoulder

Shepherd the Sheep

Roll and Search

Missing Sheep Game

Journal and Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org



Bible Story

The Lost Sheep • Luke 15:3-7

Jesus sees me.

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

Going on a Sheep Hunt | Made to Move

What You Need

| | |
|---|-----|
|  Cotton balls | 100 |
|  Small heart sticker | 1 |
|  Basket | 1 |



EveryChild Tips

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Use larger pom-poms or textured objects for children with fine motor challenges.
- Make the lost sheep more visible with a bright or reflective sticker for children with visual differences.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the heart sticker onto one cotton ball to be the lost sheep. Scatter all the cotton balls around the room.

During the Activity: Invite children to go on a hunt to find the lost sheep. Encourage children to move around the room, picking up cotton balls and looking for the one with the heart sticker. Once the lost sheep is found, celebrate together. Reset and repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, look on the floor! There are so many cotton balls, they look like little sheep! Let's play a game with them and go on a sheep hunt!"

During the Activity: "Let's pretend to be shepherds and walk around collecting one or two sheep at a time then put them in this basket. (Pause.) A shepherd's job is to take care of their sheep, and you are being a great shepherd! Did anyone find the little lost sheep? The lost sheep has a heart sticker. (Pause.) Can you help me find that sheep too?(Pause.) Yay! You found the little lost sheep! Let's celebrate! Dance, clap and shout hooray! (Pause.) That was so much fun celebrating finding the lost sheep with you! Let's play again!" (Reset and repeat.)

After the Activity: "Wow! Way to go, friends! You were such good shepherds collecting all the sheep and looking and looking until we found the lost sheep. That is such a good reason to celebrate! Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about a shepherd who had a lot of sheep, and one was lost. Let's go find out what happened to the little lost sheep in our story."

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by looking for hearts on the way to your designated area.

5 min

Missing Sheep Game | Made to Create

What You Need

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------|
|  | "Missing Sheep Game" Activity Page | 1 |
|  | "Missing Sheep Label" Activity Page | 1 |
|  | Cardstock | 1 |
|  | Avery® Labels # 5163 or equivalent | 1 |
|  | Crayons | Several |
|  | Cotton balls | Several |
|  | Glue sticks | Several |
|  | 12-ounce plastic cups | 3 |
|  | Gallon-sized resealable bags | 1 |
|  | Scissors | 1 |
|  | Permanent Marker | 1 |



EveryChild Tips

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Provide adaptive crayons.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Missing Sheep Game" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child and leader. Copy "Missing Sheep Label" on label paper, one label per child. For each child, fold and flatten their cutout. Make an example. Write each child's name on their bag.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color their sheep, glue a cotton ball to it, and fold to stand. Leader places their sheep under one cup then move the cups around on the table without lifting them and ask the children to guess which cup the sheep is under. Lift the cups chosen to find the sheep. Give each child three cups, placing all three cups open side down, with one cup covering their sheep. Let children explore and play. Ask children to place the sticker on their bag then stack the cups and place them in the bag along with their sheep. Seal bags and send home.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends! I have a game for you to make today that will help you remember today's Bible Story."

During the Activity: "Look at this cute little sheep! (*Hold up your example.*) Use the crayons to color it and you can add one cotton ball to it to make it fluffy! (*Pause.*) Great job! Now fold it so it stands like mine. (*Put your folded sheep on the table.*) The sheep in our story was missing. (*Put three cups on the table upside down, one covering the sheep.*) Now my sheep is missing! (*Slide the cups around on the table without lifting them.*) Do you know where my sheep is? (*Pause for responses.*) Let's see. (*Lift up the selected cup.*) No ... not under that cup. What about this one? (*Continue until the sheep is found.*) There's my sheep! Thank you for helping find it! Now, you play! (*Give each child three cups. Placing each upside down on the table in front of them, covering the sheep with one of the cups.*) That was so much fun! Let's make a bag for you to take your game home in. Add this label to the bag. (*Pause.*) It has directions on how to play the game. Now stack your cups together and put them into your bag with your cute little sheep." (*Seal and send home.*)

After the Activity: "Today we heard a story Jesus shared about a shepherd who had 100 sheep, and one went missing. The shepherd loved all his sheep so much that when he saw one was missing, he made sure the other sheep were safe then went looking for it. The shepherd was so happy to find his missing sheep that when he got home, he celebrated! Friends, Jesus loves US like the shepherd loved his sheep. Jesus loves EVERYONE no matter where we are or what we've done. Jesus always sees us and wants to bring us close to Him. Jesus loves you and [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me! That's right! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me!"

"Jesus told the story of the shepherd leaving his 99 sheep to find the one lost sheep because He loves everyone just like the shepherd loved his

sheep. No matter where we are or what we've done, Jesus always sees us and wants to bring us close to Him. 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" from Week One 1
-  Journal 1
-  Fun-shaped Pen 1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, 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 act like sheep as you walk 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 people they love.

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 we're sheep while we walk to our Small Group spot. Follow me and say 'baa-baa-baa' all the way to our Small Group spot! (Say 'baa-baa-baa' like a sheep as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.) Yay! We made it, little sheep! 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 today, Jesus told a story about a shepherd and his sheep. What did the shepherd do when one of his sheep was lost? (Pause for responses.) That's right! The shepherd looked for his lost sheep because he loved all of his sheep. And what did the shepherd do when he found his lost sheep? (Pause for responses.) That's right! The shepherd carried his sheep home and celebrated with his friends and family! Jesus told this story so we can know how much He loves us. Jesus loves EVERYONE no matter where we are or what we've done, Jesus wants to bring us close to Him. 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.) Today, we're going to make a list of people we love. When I say your name, tell me one person you love, and I will write it in our journal." (Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

After the Activity: "Look at all of the people we love. (*Hold up journal.*) Let's use it when we pray. 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 us like the shepherd loved his sheep. We love (*read the list the children made*) and Jesus does too! We love You, God! In Jesus' name. Amen."