



## Elem Social- February

### Smack It Playing Card Game

#### Smack it! Challenge® Card Game Rules

**Supplies:** Smack It Game Card set (1 per group)

**How to Win:** The last player with any remaining cards wins.

**How to Play:** Shuffle deck THOROUGHLY. Deal all cards face-down and as equally as possible to each player, creating individual piles. The player on the dealer's left starts the game by **QUICKLY** flipping the top card of his pile AWAY from him to create a central pile of face-up cards within easy reach of all players. (**FASTER GAMEPLAY IS THE most FUN**). Players must NEVER look at their cards or crowd the central pile with their hands. Play continues clockwise with each player, in turn, **QUICKLY** flipping a single top card until a **Challenge!** or **Smack it! card** is placed on top of the central pile. When a **Challenge! card** is played, all players flip ONE card, in turn, and place it on the central pile. The player with the highest-numbered card wins the pile and ends the challenge round. If, during a challenge round, a player places another **Challenge! card** on the pile, the challenge round immediately starts over. ANYTIME a **Smack it! card** is placed on top of the pile (**including challenge rounds**), the first player to smack the card wins the pile. (Smacking MUST be done gently to avoid injury to yourself and other players.) In the event of a tie, the player whose hand is closest to the bulls-eye center dot wins. When a player wins the central pile, those cards are added face down to his own pile (shuffling is optional) and he restarts play. The game continues until only one player has any cards left.

**False Smack & Cheating:** A player smacking any card but the **Smack it! card** (a "false smack") or caught cheating must forfeit one card and place it face-up at the bottom of the central pile.

**Out of Cards:** Players with no cards have lost the game. However, they can still harass remaining players by smacking the **Smack it! card** and, if successfully won, **REMOVES** this pile of cards from play. (This helps end the game faster.) The player to the smacker's left restarts play. If a player with no cards "false smacks," he is permanently out of the game.



## Elem Social- February

### Rock Paper Scissors Dice Game

**Supplies:** Rock Paper Scissors dice set (1 per group- includes 12 dice)

**Objective:** To be the last person standing, or to win a specific challenge.

**Setup:** Gather your group; the dice have Rock, Paper, and Scissors symbols, often in different colors.

**Roll:** Everyone rolls one die at the same time.

**Elimination Round** (If more than two symbols):

If three different symbols (Rock, Paper, Scissors) are rolled, it's a "full house" – nobody is eliminated, and everyone rolls again.

If two symbols appear, play the classic game: Rock beats Scissors, Scissors beats Paper, Paper beats Rock.

Players who reveal the losing symbol are out (or perform a silly task, depending on house rules).

**Winning:** Continue rolling and eliminating until only one person remains.



## Elem Social- February 1

### Warm Up Questions:

- What was the best part of your week?
- What is your favorite thing to learn about at school and why?
- If you could climb to the top of the tallest mountain or swim to the deepest part of the ocean, which would you rather do and why?
- If you could spend a whole day with just one person, who would it be and what would you do?
- If you could be a character in a movie, what movie would it be and which character would you choose?

## Kindness Hunt

**Big Goal:** Kids will learn that **God's love is kind.**

**Leader Prep:** Print and cut out the "Kindness Hunt" printable. Hide the cards around the room.

**Supplies:** "Kindness Hunt" printable (1 per group)

**What To Do:** For this game, we will go on a hunt! Everyone, say, "Go on a hunt!" (*Go on a hunt!*) Yes! We will be searching around the room for 10 strips with our Main Idea, **"God's love is kind!"** written on them. When you find one, shout out, **"God's love is kind!"** What do you shout? (***God's love is kind!***) That is right! Then bring the piece of paper back to me. Once you find one, help your teammates look for the other ones. Are you ready? 3-2-1 Go!

**Keep It Going:** Hide the pieces of paper for multiple rounds of the game in increasingly difficult places. Allow kids to hide the papers for other kids. Allow the kids to come up with additional rules to do when they find one of the pieces of paper.

*Example Additional Rules for when a kid finds a paper, they must:*

*Jump up and down three times*

*Spin in a circle once*

*Try to lick their elbow*

*Do three squats*

*Do three jumping jacks*

**Leader Tip:** Encourage kids who have found one of the pieces of paper to help their teammates find the other hidden strips of paper. For an added challenge, hide the papers out of sight for the kids to find.

**Loud And Clear:** All of you did a great job finding all the pieces around the room! In our Bible story today, God showed Peter that He loves all people and wants everyone to know Him.

**God's love is kind,** and He wants everyone to have a relationship with Him and be forgiven of their sin, including you! Say, "I am loved!" (*I am loved!*) His love is the greatest!



## Elem Social- February 1

### Tightrope Walk

Kids will learn the Theme verse while walking on a tape line and balancing a beanbag on their heads.

**Leader Prep:** Draw a vertical line between the two sides of a dry erase board. Use masking or painter's tape to mark 2 8- to 10-foot lines (or "tightropes") on the floor, extending from the dry erase board, one line on each side. Use the Theme Verse Poster in a visible location for kids to see: *"Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love."* (1 Corinthians 13:13).

**Supplies:** Dry erase board (1 per group), Dry erase marker and eraser (2 per group), Masking or painter's tape (1 per group), Beanbags (2 per group), Stopwatch or timer (1 per group) Theme Verse Poster

**What To Do:** We are going to learn our Theme verse today by walking on "tightropes." First, I will place you on two teams, and each team will line up at one of the tightropes. Then I will give the first player on each team a beanbag. *(Allow time.)*

When I say, "Go!" the first players with the beanbags will balance them on their heads and walk down the tightrope to the dry erase board. When they get there, they will take the beanbag down while they quickly write the first word from the Theme verse. Then hurry back to their team, pass off the beanbag, and return to the back of the line. Play will continue in this way as the two teams race to see who can write the Theme verse first. If the beanbags drop while players are walking on the tightrope or if players step off the tightrope, they must come back to the beginning and try again. The first team to finish writing the Theme verse will shout it out together, and you will be the winners!

**Keep It Going:** Challenge kids to walk backward on the tightrope.

**Leader Tip: Smaller Group Option:** Play as one team, timing the team so see how quickly they can write out the Theme verse. **Younger Option:** Write the Theme verse and invite younger kids to trace the letters with different colors. **Older Option:** Challenge kids to write one letter rather than one word at a time.

**Loud And Clear:** You all have great balance! *Faith* means that we trust and believe God. *Hope* means we trust that something good will happen. While faith, hope, and love are all gifts that God offers everyone, His love is the one gift that makes all the other gifts possible. Our Theme verse reminds us that, of all the great and amazing things we can know about God, we can know that love is the greatest. **God's love is kind**, and it is for all people, including you! Everyone, say, "I am loved!" *(I am loved!)* We know that faith, hope, and love are all important, but God says that the greatest of all three is love. Everyone, say, "God's love is the greatest!" *(God's love is the greatest!)*



## Elem Social- February 8

### Warm Up Questions:

- What was the best part of your week?
- What is your favorite color and why?
- If you could read a book every day or watch a movie every day, which specific one would you choose, and what do you like about it?
- If you could plan the best day ever, what would you do?
- If you could travel to space, what five items would you bring with you?

## It Never Ends

**Big Goal:** Learn about God's never-ending love.

**Leader Prep:** Blow up the balloons. Print out the "Allergy Alert" printable, listing latex. Set out the supplies.

**Supplies:** Balloons (10 per group), Stopwatch or timer (1 per group), "Allergy Alert" Printable (1 per group), Beach balls (10 per group; optional instead of balloons)

**What To Do:** We get to play a game called "It Never Ends!" What is it called? (*It Never Ends!*) Right! To play this game, we will all stand a few feet apart from each other. I will toss a balloon into the air, and your job is to work together to keep it up in the air as long as you can. Do not let it touch the ground! Each time you tap the balloon to keep it up, you will say, "**God's love never ends!**" As we keep playing, after *every* 30 seconds, I will toss in another balloon. We will have to work together to keep them all up in the air for as long as we can! Ready? 3-2-1! Keep it up!

**Leader Tip:** Add in one new balloon every 30 seconds, using the stopwatch or timer as a reminder. Use beach balls instead of balloons, if a child has a latex allergy and cannot participate otherwise.

**Loud And Clear:** That was so much fun! You all did a great job keeping the balloons up in the air! When we worked together, we tried hard to make sure that the balloons never ended up on the ground. Even though eventually there was an end to this game, we learned today in our Bible story that **God's love never ends**. Everyone say, "**God's love never ends!**" (*God's love never ends!*)



## Elem Social- February 8

### Pop Up Valentines —

**Big Goal:** Celebrate Valentine's Day and God's love.

**Leader Prep:** Create an example craft in advance. Set out supplies.

1. Fold the sheet of paper in half like a hamburger, with short sides touching.
2. Rotate the folded paper so the creased side is facing the child.
3. Cut 2 identical 2-inch slits with 1 inch in-between them perpendicular to the folded crease. This creates the pop-up tab.
4. Open the card and fold the pop-up tab inward.
5. Use another sheet of paper to cut out a 2- to 4-inch heart.
6. Place glue onto one side of the heart and secure it onto the middle of the tab.
7. Fold an additional sheet of construction paper in half and glue it on the outside of the inner sheet.
8. Write *God loves you!* on the outside or inside of the card and decorate.

**Supplies:** Construction paper (several), Child-safe scissors (1 per child), Markers or crayons (several), Glue sticks (1 per child), Stickers (several; optional), "Pop-Up Valentine Example" printable (optional; 1 per group), stamps or stickers to decorate cards (several per group)

**What To Do:** Today we get to make a special Valentine's Day card! To begin, fold your paper in half like a hamburger, with short sides touching. Then rotate the folded paper so the folded side is facing you. (*Demonstrate.*) Next, use scissors to cut two slits into the folded side that are about 2 inches long and about 1 inch apart. (*Demonstrate.*) This makes a pop-up tab!

Everyone, say, "Pop-up tab!" (*Pop-up tab!*) Great!

Now open the card and fold the pop-up tab inward. (*Demonstrate.*) Once your pop-up tab is made, use a different piece of construction paper to cut out a 2- to 4-inch heart. Place glue on one side of the heart and glue it onto the middle of the tab. (*Demonstrate.*) This will be your "inner sheet."

Then grab one more piece of construction paper and fold it in half. Carefully glue this sheet onto the back side of the inner sheet. Write *God loves you!* on the outside or inside of your card and decorate your Valentine's Day card however you want!

**Leader Tip:** Assist when needed. Demonstrate the instructions repeatedly as the kids are at each step of the craft.

**Loud And Clear:** Your Valentine's Day cards look amazing! Valentine's Day is often a day to celebrate love, and we learned today that God's love is the greatest love you could ever receive. God loves you! Everyone say, "I am loved!" (*I am loved!*) Say, "God's love is the greatest!" (*God's love is the greatest!*) Who can you give your card to so you can share the truth about God's love? (*Allow responses.*)





## Elem Social- February 15

### Warm Up Questions:

- What was the best part of your week?
- What is your favorite movie, and what do you like about it?
- If you could live in an amusement park or in a zoo, which would you rather live in and why?
- If you could only eat one dessert for the rest of your life, what would it be, and how often would you eat it?
- If you could be any animal in the world, what animal would you be and what would it be like?

### Back to Back

**Big Goal:** Build connections with others.

**Leader Prep:** Print the “Back to Back” printable, cutting apart the different pictures. Set out supplies.

**Supplies:** “Back to Back” printable (1 per group), painter’s tape

**What To Do:** Today, we get to play “Back to Back!” Everyone, say, “Back to Back!” (*Back to Back!*) Everyone find a partner. (*There are 7 cards, if there are more than 14 kids, make some teams groups of three*) Everyone stand facing each other. I am going to tape a paper to the back of the kids on this side of the space. When I count to three you are going to turn around so your partner can see your paper. They are going to trace the picture on your back and you are going to guess what they are drawing with their finger on your back. When your partner guesses the picture, sit down on the floor with your partner. Try not to use words to describe the picture.

**Keep It Going:** Switch drawing partners and give each team a different picture to trace.

**Connect It:** That was amazing! I loved seeing how we all worked together as teammates to make drawings. Great job building connections with your teammates. Everyone, say, “Build connections!” (*Build connections!*) That was so much fun! This activity gave us the chance to practice patience. How many of you think you are good at waiting? Would you consider yourself to be patient? Why or why not?



## Elem Social- February 15

### Juggler, Ringleader, Clown

**Supplies:** Social Video Feb 15

**Game Rules:**

1. Play the video.
2. Challenge kids to find a friend and show one of the circus character poses: Juggler, Ringleader, or Clown. Explain that Juggler defeats Ringleader, Ringleader defeats Clown, and Clown defeats Juggler.
3. Instruct kids to high-five a leader when they win and say, "I won!" but to fist-bump a leader when they lose and say, "I lost."
4. Instruct kids to play with new friends until the video ends.

**What to Do:** We get to play "Juggler, Ringleader, Clown!" Juggler, Ringleader, what? (*Clown!*) It's like "Rock, Paper, Scissors," but even more fun! When the video starts, each of you will find a friend and face one another. Then you will choose a circus character by doing that character's pose. If your character wins, give any leader a high five, and say, "I won!" If you lose, give any leader a fist bump, and say, "I lost!" Then you will find another friend and play again. You will keep playing until the video ends, so try and keep track of how many times you win. We need to learn the poses for the circus characters! To be a "Juggler," you will pretend to toss a and catch a bunch of objects without letting them drop. Everyone, pretend to be a Juggler. (*Demonstrate.*) Great job! To be a "Ringleader," you will hold one hand out to the side like you are holding a hoop for a lion and wave a baton with the other hand. Let's see everyone be a Ringleader. (*Demonstrate.*) That is perfect! To be a "Clown," you will put your hands by your head and wiggle your fingers while you make a silly face. Let's see you all pretend to be Clowns. (*Demonstrate.*) Perfect!

**Connect It:** The picture on the screen will help you remember who wins and who loses. Jugglers defeat Ringleaders. Ringleaders defeat Clown. And Clowns defeat Jugglers. Get on your feet, and let's get this game started!

In this game, all our circus characters were important and needed. In real life, circus characters are played by real people. We may not know them, but God does. God knows and loves everyone. He also loves each one of us, including you!





## Elem Social- February 22

### Warm Up Questions:

- What was the best part of your week?
- What are you most looking forward to when you grow up?
- If you could run faster than a cheetah or swim faster than a shark, which would you rather be able to do and why?
- If you could own a store, what would you sell there?
- If you could create your own animal, what would it look like and be named?

### My Story

**Big Goal:** Be seen, heard, and known by my team.

**Supplies:** "My Story" printable (1 per child); Markers or crayons (several); "My Story Categories Poster" (1 per group)

**What To Do:** Today, you get to make comic strips about *your* life! Everyone, say, "About my life!" (*About my life!*) Yes! It is all about you! Different categories are listed on the This poster. Choose three categories to draw and add words to the speech bubbles in your comic strips. It will be so fun! Once you finish your comics, we will each go around and share about our drawings. We get to learn more about each other! Let's get drawing!

**Keep It Going:** Allow the kids to come up with their own drawing categories. Provide time for the kids to share their comics with the team.

**Leader Tip:** Pay attention to what each child shares in order to build relationships with them. Be sensitive to kids who may not be open to sharing their comics.

**Connect It:** Your comics are amazing! Thank you for sharing your stories with us! When we share with each other about our lives, it helps each of us feel seen, heard, and known by our team. I am so thankful that each of you is a part of our group today! Thank you for sharing! Everyone, give yourself a round of applause! (*Clap in a circle.*)



## Elem Social- February 22

### At The Circus I Could Find

**Supplies:** Feb 22 Social Video

**Game Rules:**

1. Explain that the kids will try to guess what the fuzzy image is on the screen.
2. Play the video of the slides.
3. Assist the kids as they act out their guesses of the images.

**What to Do:** We are going to play a game called “At the Circus I Could Find ...!” Are you ready to play? Everyone, say, “Oh yeah!” (*Oh yeah!*) Great! Me too! On the screen, there will be a circus-related picture that will pop up, but it will be fuzzy. Everyone, say, “Fuzzy!” (*Fuzzy!*) We have to figure out what it is. We have 10 seconds to guess, and when you think you know the answer, show it by pretending to act out whatever is in the image! Everyone, say, “Act it out!” (*Act it out!*) We need to all guess what the image may be. When the 10 seconds are up, we will see what the image is! Are you ready? Everyone, stand up and let’s get started in 3-2-1!

**Leader Tip:** Add any helpful hints to what it may be without giving away the answer.

**Connect It:** You all did such a great job guessing what people and animals we could find at the circus! Everyone, give yourselves a round of applause and sit back down. (*Clap your hands in a circle.*) All these people and animals in the circus can do some amazing tricks! In our lives, we are loved by God, but we do not have to do tricks or amazing things to be loved by God. God loves us because He made us. God’s love is the greatest! Everyone, say, “The greatest!” (*The greatest!*)