



Elem Social- January

Drawing Tablet Games

Big Goal: Remove barriers to belonging.

Supplies: Drawing Tablets (1 per kid) or Paper and pencils (several sheets per kid)

Team Drawing

For this game, you will rotate papers or seats, and each person will add to the drawing. Continue drawing and exchanging papers until you get your original picture back.

If you are playing with one other person, you can just exchange papers. If you are drawing with 3 or more people, you can all sit at a table and then rotate seats until you are finished. You can play with a timer and allow 1 minute for each turn drawing, or you can play where each person adds just one line to make a line drawing.

When kids collaborate, they are more likely to learn from each other as well as build off each other's ideas

Simon Says, Draw!

A fun, interactive drawing activity for kids and families. Simon says, "draw circles," and the artists each draw circles. Simon also says things like, "trade pastels," "draw dots," and "draw a face."

Blindfold Drawing

A laugh-out-loud drawing game for kids that challenges them to draw something without seeing what they're doing. Imagine trying to draw a cat while blindfolded – who knows where those whiskers will end up!

This game is one of the funniest drawing games kids can play and is perfect for parties or sleepovers. It's not just about the final picture but the fun you have while creating it. Blindfold Drawing is a good drawing game to show kids that art doesn't have to be perfect – it just has to be fun!



Elem Social- January

Building Sets

STEM challenges help children develop creativity, higher level thinking skills, and problem solving skills while integrating science, technology, engineering, and math. Children use these challenges to plan, design, engineer, and invent something using simple supplies given to them in a STEM bin

Supplies needed: Building set, STEM Card set (1 per group)

Setup: Using the given building set, kids can have time to free play and create their own structures. You could also use the enclosed cards to set up a building challenge for kids to participate in.



Elem Social- January 4

Warm Up Questions:

- What was the best part of your week?
- Besides you, who else lives in your home?
- If you could compete in the summer or winter Olympics, which would you like to try and why?
- Rainy, sunny, cloudy, or something else—which weather do you think is the best? What do you like to do in that weather?
- Would you prefer to swim really fast but have a huge shark fin or to fly but have a beak and why?

Object Lesson

Supplies: Object Lesson Pictures (1 set per group)

What to Do: I am going to list some foods, and you say, “Yum!” if you like them or “Pass!” if you do not. Ready? (*Show the pictures.*)

- Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. (*Allow responses.*)
- Corn dogs. (*Allow responses.*)
- Root beer floats. (*Allow responses.*)

American cheese. (*Allow responses.*)

Say: These are popular foods in America but America *only*. People in other countries might say, “Yum!” or might say, “Pass!”—kind of like all of you in this room! You might think the food in other countries is good or not so good too. It would be impossible to find a food that everyone in the world agrees tastes good!

However, there is one thing everyone everywhere can know is good—God! That is because God’s goodness is not based on our opinion. It is a fact! God was good in the past, He is good right now, and He will be good in the future. **God is always good.** His love and presence are available for people everywhere, and all people can experience His goodness. We can trust that **God is always good**, which helps us know we are secure in Him. Let me hear you say, “I am secure!” (*I am secure!*) Unlike those American foods that only *some* people think are good, God’s goodness is for everyone! **God is always good.** Say, **“God is always good!” (God is always good!)**



Elem Social- January 4

No Teeth Nonsense

Kids will share fun facts about each other while trying not to smile.

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

Leader Prep: Invite kids to sit in a circle. Write some prompts on a dry erase board for kids to use later in the game, if desired.

Supplies: Dry erase board and marker (1 per group; optional)

What To Do: Hey, everybody! (*Smile big, showing your teeth.*) What am I doing? (*Smiling!*) That is right! I am smiling so big that you can see my teeth! However, our game today is called “No Teeth Nonsense.” No what nonsense? (*Teeth!*) The goal in this game is to keep your teeth hidden. This might be harder than it seems, because it is your neighbor’s job to make you smile!

Take a minute and think of something funny, special, or interesting about yourself. When it is your turn, you will tell your neighbor on your right your interesting fact—without showing your teeth! Your neighbor cannot show his teeth either. That means no smiling or laughing, even when it is your turn to talk or even if everyone else laughs! Do you have your fact? All right, hide those teeth, and let’s play!

Keep It Going: Invite kids to say nonsense phrases instead to try and make their neighbors laugh or instruct the whole group to hide their teeth the whole time! Giggle fests will ensue. For younger kids, have them share their names instead of an interesting fact.

Leader Tip: If kids have a hard time thinking of an interesting fact, write a list of prompts on the dry erase board.

No Teeth Nonsense Prompts:

My favorite animal is ____.

I dislike doing ____.

I am really good at ____.

I have gone to ____.

I want to visit ____.

My dream job is ____.

Connect It: You all did a great job, even if you *did* show your teeth! It is so fun to learn about each other in a silly way! I am so glad to be able to laugh with my team. Let’s thank God for laughter as we keep learning about Him and each other today!



Elem Social- January 11

Warm Up Questions:

- What was the best part of your week?
- What is your favorite thing about your name?
- If you could time travel, would you rather go to the future or the past? Why?
- What is the best flavor of potato chips?
- If you could breathe underwater, would you rather live in a lake, a river, a beach, or the open ocean?

Head, Shoulders, Name, Cup

Kids will play a variation of “Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cup” to learn new names.

Big Goal: Learn a new name.

Supplies: Plastic cups (4-6 per group)

What To Do: We are going to play “Head, Shoulders, Name, Cup!” Head, Shoulders, What, Cup? *(Name!)* That is right! We are going to play this game but listen for my prompt to shout your name as well! *(Invite kids to find a friend. Give each pair a cup. Encourage pairs to disperse around the space and place the cup on the ground between them.)*

You have got to listen really well in this game! I will call out different commands. When I say, “Head,” put your hands on your head. When I say, “Shoulders,” put your hands on your shoulders. When I say, “Name,” say your name out loud. And when I say, “Cup,” you will try and grab the cup before your friend. Ready? Let’s go! *(Call out different commands, occasionally calling, “Cup!”)*

Keep It Going: Allow kids to play with a new friend and replay.

Connect It: Whew! You all are really fast! I think you know a lot of each other’s names by now, seeing as how you were shouting them at each other during the game! Let’s see if we can learn all our teammates’ names by the end of today!



Elem Social- January 11

Basketball Jam –

Kids will throw playground balls into hula hoops while they write words from the Theme verse on a dry erase board.

Big Goal: To remind kids that God is powerful yesterday, today, and forever.

Leader Prep: Set out supplies. Use the Theme Verse Poster or display the Theme verse in a visible location for kids to see: *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8)*

Supplies: Playground balls (2 per group), Hula hoops (2 per group), Dry erase board (1 per group), Dry erase markers (2 per group), Dry erase erasers (optional; 2 per group), Stopwatch or timer (optional; 1 per group)

What To Do: Let’s have a basketball competition to help us learn our Theme verse! I will place you in two teams. Your team will line up, front to back, about halfway across the room. One player from each team will stand by the dry erase board and hold a hula hoop in front of you. When I say, “Go!” the first player from each team will shoot a playground ball, trying to get it into your teammate’s hula hoop. If you miss, grab the ball, pass it to the next player, and move to the end of the line. If you make it, grab a dry erase marker, and write the first word of the Theme verse on the dry erase board. Then return the ball to the next player in line and move to the back. The next player who makes a “basket” will write the next word on the board. It will be a race to see who can write the Theme verse first! Once your team gets the Theme verse written, everyone, shout it together! If you are ready for our “Basketball Jam,” say, “I am ready!” (*I am ready!*) (*Play multiple rounds, changing teams and inviting different kids to hold the hula hoop.*)

Keep It Going: Write the Theme verse on the dry erase board and play rounds where kids are erasing the words instead, challenging them to say the verse from memory at the end.

Leader Tip: Younger Option: Write the Theme verse and invite kids to trace the letters when they make a basket.

Smaller Group Option: Play as one team, timing the kids to see how quickly they can complete the Theme verse.

Loud And Clear: Way to go! This Bible verse says that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever! That means that He was powerful in the past, He is powerful today, and He will be powerful forever. No matter what is going on in our lives or the world, **God is always powerful.** Say, **“God is always powerful!” (God is always powerful!)** And because of that, we are always secure. Point to your neighbor and say, “You are secure!” (*You are secure!*)



Elem Social- January 18

Warm Up Questions:

- What was the best part of your week?
- What is a job you might like to do when you grow up?
- If you could instantly speak any language, which would it be?
- What is something interesting you have learned or you know a lot about?
- If you could go to school on the moon or under the ocean, which would you pick and why?

Power Up Pop

Kids will jump and punch like a character in a video game to keep a balloon off the ground while saying the verse one word at a time.

Big Goal: Remember that God could be trusted yesterday, can be trusted today, and will be trustworthy tomorrow.

Leader Prep: Inflate and tie the balloon. Print and display the "Allergy Alert" printable, drawing attention to a potential latex allergy. Use the Theme Verse Poster or display the Theme verse in a visible location for kids to see: *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."* (Hebrews 13:8)

Supplies: "Allergy Alert" printable (1 per group), Inflated balloon (1 per group), Pool noodles (several; optional), Music and music player (1 per group)

What To Do: We are going to learn our Theme verse by playing "Power-Up Pop!" Power Up what? (*Pop!*) To play "Power-Up Pop," you need to pretend you are in a video game. To "power up," you need to hop and punch this power-up balloon one at a time.

Whenever someone powers up and punches the balloon, everyone will say one word or phrase of our Theme verse. Let's practice it first! *"Jesus Christ (Jesus Christ) is the same (is the same) yesterday, (yesterday,) today, (today,) and forever. (and forever.) Hebrews 13:8."* (Hebrews 13:8.)

Excellent! Let's "Power-Up Pop!" (*Start music and launch balloon.*)

Keep It Going: Blow up more balloons and allow more kids to "Power-Up Pop" at once!

Leader Tip: Play with pool noodles to include kids with latex allergies.

Loud And Clear: I think all of you won the high score for this totally awesome "video game!" Our Theme verse reminds us that we are secure in God because He is trustworthy and never changes! Because Jesus has been trustworthy in the past, we can know He can be trusted in our circumstances today. **God can always be trusted!** Say that with me, **"God can always be trusted!" (God can always be trusted!)** Right! Because God is, repeat after me (*hold up a thumb after each word*), "Always awesome!" (*Always awesome!*)



Elem Social- January 18

Epic Facts

Game Rules:

1. Show the "Epic Facts" video.
2. Choose an answer and do the corresponding motion.
3. Display the answer.

What to Do: Everyone, say, "Epic!" (*Epic!*) Everyone, say, "Facts!" (*Facts!*) Everyone, say, "Epic Facts!" (*Epic Facts!*) We are going to play a game called "Epic Facts!" *Epic* means something that is extraordinary, impressive, or awesome! God is always awesome, and He made people to be able to do awesome things too!

In "Epic Facts," you will see an epic fact and a question on the screen. To answer the question, pick the answer you think is right and do the corresponding action. After you all have made your selections, I will show you the answer. Keep track of how many you get right! Give yourself a high five if you guessed correctly or pat yourself on the back if you did not guess correctly. Ready? Let's play "Epic Facts!"

Leader Tip: Keep the energy high by varying the amount of time between the questions and answers, calling out how many kids are doing which actions, and inviting them to look around and see who is choosing the same answers as them.

1. What is the quickest someone has ever climbed Mount Everest? Was it A. 10 hours and 56 minutes? If so, then balance on your left foot! Was it B. 12 hours and 9 minutes? If so, then balance on your right foot! Or if you think it is C. 14 hours and 12 minutes, then jump up and down! (*Allow responses.*) OK, looks like the answer is— If you guessed A. 10 hours and 56 minutes and balanced on your left foot, you are right! Give yourself a high five if you guessed correctly or pat yourself on the back if you did not guess correctly. You will get it next time! Let's see the next one!
2. Who was one of the first people to fly non-stop across the Atlantic Ocean? Was it A. Amelia Earhart? If so, bend down. If you think B. Buzz Aldrin, bend side to side. If you think C. John Alcock, then stretch up on your tiptoes with your arms in the air. (*Allow responses.*) What is the correct answer? If you stretched up on your tiptoes and guessed John Alcock, then you are right! Give yourself a high five or pat yourself on the back! Let's see "Epic Fact" number three.



Elem Social- January 18 cont.

3. What is the longest consecutive days someone has ever spent in space? Was it A. 365? If so, wave your hands in the air like you just do not care. If you are going with B. 405, flap your arms at your sides like wings. And if you think C. 437, turn in circles. *(Allow responses.)* Let's see the answer! If you turned in circles and guessed 437, then you are right! Give yourself a high five or pat yourself on the back! Now for the next one.
4. The deepest ocean dive was made at what? If you think it is A. the Tonga Trench, pretend to swim forward. If you think it is B. Mariana Trench, pretend to swim backward. If you think it is C. Kermadec Trench, pretend to sink down and float up. *(Allow responses.)* OK, what is the correct answer? If you pretended to swim backward and guessed B, the Mariana Trench, then you are right! Give yourself a high five or pat yourself on the back! Time for "Epic Fact" number five.
5. What is the length of the longest tightrope walk? Is it A. .75 miles? If so, kick your feet forward—but be careful not to kick anyone! If you think it is B. 1 mile, kick your feet side to side without kicking your neighbor. If you think it is C. 1.4 miles, kick your feet backward without kicking anyone else. *(Allow responses.)* Show us the answer! If you guessed C, 1.4 miles, then you are right! Give yourself a high five or pat yourself on the back! We have one more, so let's see it!
6. The highest skydive took place in which place? If A. Boston, Massachusetts, then hop on your right foot. If B. Roswell, New Mexico, then hop on your left foot. If C. The Sahara Desert, then hop back and forth, switching feet. *(Allow responses.)* And our final answer is— The answer is B. Roswell, New Mexico! Give yourself a high five or pat yourself on the back!

Wow, those facts were epic! Show me with your hands how many facts you got right! *(Allow responses.)* Great job! Sometimes people can do some really awesome stuff! However, I do not think I would be able to do most of these things. Tightrope walking? Living in space? No, thank you! Not for me! I would not feel secure at all!

But sometimes, even our normal lives do not feel very secure. Sometimes we can be sad, scared, or angry. In those moments, we may not be sure what will happen and feel very unsettled. But we can know God is with us! No matter what happens in our lives, we are secure in God. This means God knows what we need and is able to hold us fast no matter what we face. Point at yourself and say, "I am secure!" *(I am secure!)* That is right! We are secure because God is, repeat after me *(hold up a thumb after each word)*, "Always awesome!" *(Always awesome!)*



Elem Social- January 25

Warm Up Questions:

- What was the best part of your week?
- What is the first thing you like to do on a Saturday?
- If you could visit the North Pole, South Pole, or the equator, which would you visit and why?
- What is your favorite thing about school?
- Would you rather be able to see sound or hear color?

Fill in the Blocks

Kids will say the verse each time they roll a dice and color in part of a grid.

Big Goal: Remember that God is with us yesterday, today, and forever.

Leader Prep: Print a "Fill In the Blocks" printable, one per child. Write the verse on the dry erase board.

Supplies: "Fill In the Blocks" printable (1 per child), Markers (several), Dice (1 per group), Dry erase board and marker (1 per group)

What To Do: To learn our Theme verse, we are going to play "Fill In the Blocks!" Fill in the what? (*Blocks!*) (*Distribute the "Fill In the Blocks" printables.*) On your paper is a grid of blocks. We will all say the verse together each time I roll a dice. Depending on which number I roll, you will fill in the grid with the corresponding shape. If I roll a 1 or 2, you will fill in 1 block. If I roll a 3 or 4, you will fill in 2 blocks. Roll a 5, and you will fill in 3 blocks in an *L* shape. Roll a 6, and you will fill in 4 blocks in a *T* shape! Choose wisely! Your goal is to have as few blank squares as possible. If I roll a shape that you do not have room for, wait and fill in the shapes that you *do* have space for on the next rolls! Ready? Let's say the verse together, and then I will make the first roll! (*Read the verse together from the dry erase board, then roll the dice. Keep reading and rolling until kids have no more room on their grids to fill in.*)

Keep It Going: Gather more dice and guide the kids to roll for each other in smaller groups.

Leader Tip: Assign a couple of leaders to walk around and help kids remember which blocks to fill in.

Loud And Clear: That was so much fun! This Bible verse reminds us that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever! That means that, even when other things in life change, Jesus never changes. When we remember that, we know we are secure in Jesus! Point to yourself and say, "I am secure!" (*I am secure!*) Point to your neighbor and say, "You are secure!" (*You are secure!*) That is right! We are secure because God is, repeat after me (*hold up a thumb after each word*), "Always awesome!" (*Always awesome!*)



Elem Social- January 25

Team Train

Kids will fill the freight cars of a train with drawings of their favorite things.

Big Goal: Find something in common.

Leader Prep: Prepare a 5-foot piece of butcher paper. Draw a large, simple train with train cars on the butcher paper. Behind the engine, draw five large boxes for the train cars. Label each box: *favorite food, favorite sport, least favorite food, something special, and me.* Add wheels and a train track underneath the train. Consider providing butcher paper in team colors.

Supplies: Butcher paper (1 per group), Markers (several), Tape (1 per group, optional), Dry erase board and marker (1 per group, optional)

What To Do: Let me hear you say, "Choo-choo!" in 3-2-1! (*Choo-choo!*) Awesome! You all sounded just like a train! Trains are sometimes used to carry supplies back and forth all over the country. Goods are loaded into train cars, and trains carry the goods wherever they are needed. (*Gesture to the train.*) We have a train right here! But it needs some supplies in its cars before it can leave for its destination. So you are going to fill up the train with supplies! Each train car needs something different. In the first car, draw your favorite food. In the second car, draw something that shows your favorite sport or hobby. In the third car, draw something or someone special to you. And in the fourth car, draw a picture of yourself! Let's load up this train! Say, "Choo-choo!" (*Choo-choo!*)

Keep It Going: Allow kids to decorate around the train car with a train track, trees, flowers, hills, buildings, cars, and so forth.

Leader Tip: Ask older kids to help the younger ones brainstorm ideas to draw in each car. You can write these suggestions on the dry erase board.

Connect It: This train is jam-packed with so many special things about you! I even see that some of you share a favorite food or hobby! Who knew that we could have those things in common? It is so cool that we get to play and learn together! As we keep having fun today, remember that we are all on the same train and the same team!