



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Waffle" Activity Page, and "Everything on a Waffle" Activity Pages

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit with you in a circle.
- Set out the "Waffle" Activity Page face up in the middle of the group.
- Place the cards in a pile from the "Everything on a Waffle" Activity Page face down near the "Waffle" Activity Page.
- Instruct the kids to take turns turning over a card with a waffle topping on it from the pile, and placing it face up on the waffle.
- Demonstrate by drawing a card, showing it to the group, and saying: "I ate a waffle, and I put _____ (topping) on top." Then set the card face up on the "waffle."
- Direct the kid beside you to draw a card, show it to the group, and say, "I ate a waffle and I put _____ (topping) and _____ (first topping) on top." Then instruct them to set their card face up on the "waffle," on top of the first one.
- Instruct the next kid to draw a card, show it to the group, and say: "I ate a waffle and I put _____ (topping) and _____ (second topping) and _____ (first topping) on top." Then instruct them to set their card face up on the "waffle" on top of the other cards.
- Continue with each kid adding a new topping and saying the previous toppings in reverse order.

Note: If kids arrive during the game, direct them to sit between the kid who started the game and the last kid in the circle, giving them time to learn the sequence.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Wow! That's one tall, sticky, sweet, gooey, and crunchy stack of waffle yumminess! Which topping is your favorite? (*Invite responses.*) Do you think your tummies would feel good if you ate that waffle with EVERYTHING on it? (*Invite responses.*) Probably not! **[Transition] Let's go to Large Group where we'll hear how we can sometimes have too much of a good thing!**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Too Much

Too Much of a Good Thing
Proverbs 25:16

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Know when to stop.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**God's power has given us
everything we need to lead
a godly life.**

2 Peter 1:3a, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Self-control—Choosing to do what's
best even when you don't want to**

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.



WEEK
FOUR
OCTOBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
K-1

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



* 2. STOP OR STACK

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Jumbo marshmallows (or square wooden blocks or similar), heavy-duty plates, and a device for playing upbeat gameshow music

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to form groups of two or three.
- Give each team a plate and about 10 or so marshmallows.
- Instruct the kids to work together when you start the game show music, in order to stack all their marshmallows (or blocks) as high as possible.
 - Set the rule that kids may not move or touch a marshmallow (or block) once they add it to the stack.
- Play the music to cue kids to start building—reminding them they can only touch each marshmallow (or block) once to add it to the stack.
- At some point, one marshmallow (or block) will become too much and the towers will fall!
- Once everyone's towers have fallen, pause the music.
- Encourage the teams to gather their supplies into a pile.
- Play the music cueing them to start again, but this time encourage kids to **know when to stop** so their towers remain standing.
 - Allow kids to stop adding items when they think it's just enough.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great job working together! Did you want to stop? Or keep stacking? (*Invite responses.*) Sometimes it's hard to stop when we want to keep going! Great things can cause trouble if you don't know when to stop. Not just treats like marshmallows, but video games, sports, or your favorite show. *Anything* can cause trouble if you don't **know when to stop**."

[Make It Personal] (*Share an age-appropriate example of when you didn't know when to stop. You may have eaten too much food, drank too much soda or coffee, or jokingly teased someone too much. Share how God helped you know when to stop.*)

"The good news is you can ask God for help to practice self-control too. When you follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live inside of you and gives you God's power to choose what's best. Because self-control is part of the fruit of the Spirit that God will grow in your life. So remember, with God's help, you can **know when to stop**."



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Waffle" and "Everything on a Waffle" Activity Pages from the Opening Activity, index cards, and markers or crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid an index card.
- Set out the markers (or crayons).
- Use the conversation and activity below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

NOTE: If you did not do the Opening Activity, let kids choose toppings from the "Everything on a Waffle" Activity Pages to add to the "Waffle" Activity Page.

WHAT YOU SAY:

(Show the "Waffle.") "We put a lot of yummy stuff on our waffle, didn't we? (Show and name some toppings that are on the card.) Today, we discovered that too much of something good can turn bad.

"What's something you like so much that it's hard to stop? (Invite responses, like: eating sweets, reading, playing video games, or even talking. Give each kid an index card and invite them to draw their idea.) [Make It Personal] (Draw on a card too.) Let's pray and ask God to help us know when to stop."

Instruct the kids to hold their cards as you pray.

"Dear God, thank You for all the good things You give us. Thank You that You want us to enjoy them. Please help us remember that too much of any good thing can get out of control if we don't know when to stop. Help us know when to stop. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share what they drew on their index cards and tell today's Bottom Line: **know when to stop.**

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