



K-1st

Small Group

August — Week 4

SOCIAL

# Opening Activity

No Supplies Needed

MADE TO  
Play



## Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group. Some kids might need extra time to process and come up with their sentences.

Modify the activity if kids struggle with the sentences. Let kids add just one word at a time instead of full sentences.

## ① What You Do

**Pray for your group before they arrive.** → Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Recall a time in your life when you experienced uncertainty, but you knew that God was with you. Ask God to give each child courage when they face uncertainty. Pray they will trust God even when they don't know what's next. Ask God to help the kids see that God is always working in their lives!

1. Gather the kids to sit in a circle.
2. Explain that you're going to create a silly dream story together!
3. Start a story using one of the statements below.

- Last night, I had a dream that three purple giraffes showed up in my backyard. When I asked them to leave because my backyard wasn't big enough for three giraffes, they . . .
  - Last night, I had a dream that I had to give a speech about racecars in an auditorium full of people. When I started to speak, I couldn't remember what a racecar was so I . . .
  - Last night, I had a dream I could fly like an eagle. But only when it rains. The first time I decided to fly to . . .
4. The kid to your left will add the next sentence. Then, the next kid continues the story.
  5. Keep going around the circle until the story gets too long or kids start running out of ideas. Then, start a new dream story!
  6. When the story gets too long or the kids run out of ideas, start another story or dream.

## ② What You Say

"Whoa! We came up with some pretty crazy dream stories! **[TRANSITION]** Today in our true story from the Bible, we'll hear about a man who had a pretty epic dream and how God was always with him—even when he made mistakes. Let's go hear more!"

**Transition** → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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Small Group

August — Week 4

GROUPS 1/4

# The Story of Jacob

Bible Story Review

## Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

## What You Need

- "Jacob's Story Images"



## ① What You Do

1. Divide kids into five groups.
2. Give each group one card from the "Jacob's Story Images" Activity Page.
3. Encourage kids to discuss their pictures and recall what they learned in Large Group.

→ If the kids are stumped, walk around and give them a few hints.

4. Bring all the groups together and arrange them in the correct story order based on the numbers on the pages.
5. Add details as needed using these prompts.

→ #1: Jacob was sneaky! First, he convinced his older brother Esau to give up his birthright (the right to a certain position and wealth because of being the oldest) for a bowl of stew. Later, he tricked his father Isaac into giving him the family blessing instead of his brother by pretending to be Esau! Jacob was dishonest in both situations.

→ #2: Because of his dishonesty, Jacob was forced to flee from his home and take a very long journey—hundreds of miles—leaving behind everything he'd ever known.

→ #3: Jacob slept, using a rock as a pillow. He dreamt of a stairway, reaching all the way to heaven with angels traveling up and down. God was beside the staircase. God made a promise to give Jacob and his family the land he was resting on, the same promise he made to his grandfather Abraham. God also made another awesome promise to Jacob—God promised to be with him.

→ #4: Jacob lived in Harran for many years. While he was away from home, he married and had thirteen children.

→ #5: Eventually, Jacob returned home, just as God had promised.

## ② What You Say

Continued on the next page →

## Inclusive Pro Tips



Consider the needs of your group. Some kids might prefer to listen rather than speak for the group. Adapt and adjust as needed.

If sitting still is tough for your group, let the kids stand or move around while reviewing the Bible Story pictures.

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GROUPS 1/4

# The Story of Jacob

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## What You Need

"Jacob's Story Images"



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## ② What You Say

"Wow! Jacob's story was full of ups and downs. He made some sneaky choices to take away the birthright and blessing from his brother. Yikes. But even though Jacob messed up, God still kept His promises! God promised to be with Jacob always, and to make his family grow into a great nation.

"And guess what? God kept His promises to Jacob, but He also was working on His great rescue plan. God did grow Jacob's family—Jacob had thirteen children! And many, many, many generations later, from that same family, would come Jesus. And Jesus would rescue us all.

"God also kept His promise to always be with Jacob too! And God makes us that same promise—He promises that He is always with us. And it's true! He always is!

"But God is not just with us, He's in us! After Jesus returned to heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit to live inside each of His followers. If you are a follower of Jesus, you are never alone! God's very Spirit lives inside of you! God is closer than close! So just like Jacob, [Bottom Line] you can trust that God is with you."

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Small Group

August — Week 4

GROUPS 3/4

# Stepping Stones



## Category

Memory Verse Activity

## Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

## What You Need

- Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1
- "Hebrews 11:1 Stones" Activity Page

## Optional

- Floor Tape

## ① What You Do

1. Select a kid to open the Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1.
2. Read the verse out loud to the group.
3. Lead the group to repeat the verse together several times.
4. Discuss any unfamiliar words with the group.
5. Share with the kids that faith is trusting in God when you can't see because of what you CAN see!
6. Place the "Hebrews 11:1 Stones" Activity Page cards on the floor in verse order.

- Allow kids to help put the cards in verse order by looking at the numbers on the cards.
- Place the cards close enough together so that kids can hop from one "stone" to the other.
- Optional: Use floor tape to secure the "Hebrews 11:1 Stones" Activity Page in place.

7. Give each kid a zip-top bag so they can take their puzzle home.
8. If possible, invite the kids to take off their shoes.
9. Lead the kids to repeat the Memory Verse as they hop along the stones, one kid at a time.
10. Assist the kids as needed by reciting the verse with them as they hop.
11. Gather the kids to discuss.

## ② What You Say

Continued on the next page →



## Inclusive Pro-Tips

Consider the needs of your group. If any kids are overwhelmed by scissors or the noise, offer an alternative, like coloring the puzzle instead of cutting it out.

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August — Week 4

GROUPS 4/4

# Pray and Dismiss

Prayer Activity

## Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

## What You Need

### Optional

- Rocks from Application Activity



## ① What You Do

1. Gather kids in a circle.
2. Option 1: If you painted rocks from the Application Activity:
  - Invite the kids to hold up their rocks.
  - Lead the kids in saying together: [Bottom Line] You can trust that God is with you.
  - Close in prayer.
3. Option 2:
  - Ask the kids if they'd like you to pray for anything specific.
  - Lead the kids in saying together: **[BOTTOM LINE]** You can trust that God is with you.
  - Close in prayer.

## What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for Your constant love for all of us! Just like You were with Jacob, You are with us. You don't hold our bad choices against us, and we are so grateful for that. Instead, You offer forgiveness when we turn to You through Your Son, Jesus. Thank You for being a good, good God who we can trust, always. Teach us to listen to Your Holy Spirit and follow You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**Transition** → As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show off the label on their painted rocks and talk about how just like God was with Jacob that **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust that God is with you.



## Inclusive Pro-Tips

When you're praying with the kids, speak slowly and clearly, and give the kids time to say "Amen" with you at the end.