

# 3-5's | W3

## Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 3

**Today's Bible Story:** Great Commission • Matthew 28:16-20  
I can tell others about Jesus.

**Key Question:** Who wants to be your friend forever?

**Bottom Line:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**Memory Verse:** "I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

*Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.*

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### Small Group (15 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Walkie Talkie and Move

On the Move

Where Will You Go?

### 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

Parachuting Memory Verses

Bible Story Actions

Go and Tell STEM\*

Go and Tell a Friend

Share the News Journal and Prayer

### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

### \*Allergy Alert



### Bible Story

Great Commission • Matthew 28:16-20  
I can tell others about Jesus.

### Key Question

Who wants to be your friend forever?

### Bottom Line

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

### Memory Verse

"I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

11 min

# Worship

3 min

## Worship Opener

### What You Need

No supplies needed

3 min

## OPTION 1 (Amazing Music)

### What You Need

No supplies needed

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Hi, friends! My name is [your name], and I am so happy to see you today!"

"It's time to celebrate! (*Pat legs.*) Hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray! Can you do that with me?"

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** (*Pat legs.*) "Hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Again!"

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** (*Pat legs.*) "Hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Great job! When we come to worship, we are celebrating God and His Son, Jesus. God made everything—(*make a mountain peak over your head with your arms*) the big, tall mountains ... (*make a fish with your hands*) the fish that swim in the deep, blue sea ... (*point to children*) even you! God made every single person. That is definitely something to celebrate. Let's celebrate God by saying (*pat legs*) 'hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray!' Ready?"

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** (*Pat legs.*) "Hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "And (*point up*) God (*cross arms over chest*) loves us so much He gave us Jesus, His only Son. Let's celebrate again. Ready?"

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** (*Pat legs.*) "Hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "And here is something else we can celebrate: Jesus wants to be our friend forever. He wants to help us be friends with God! Let's say 'hip, hip, hooray' one more time."

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** (*Pat legs.*) "Hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Now, let's stand up, and let's continue celebrating Jesus."

*SONG: "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" Preschool Video is available from Amazing Music.*

5 min

**OPTION 2 (Orange Kids Music)****What You Need**

No supplies needed

"Great singing, friends! Now, let's learn some words from the Bible. These are words that Jesus said. (*Open hands like a book.*) Are you ready? Watch me say the words from the Bible and do the motions, and then you can do them with me!

*Note: A video of the Memory Verse Motions is available in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.*

"I (*point up*) have called you (*point to others*) friends" (*hook index fingers twice*) John 15:15 (*open hands like a book*).

"Can you do that with me?"

*Lead children to say the Memory Verse with Hand Motions once or twice.*

"Great job! Jesus calls us friends, and He wants us to follow Him. Let's sing one more song together.

*SONG: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" Preschool Video is available from Amazing Music.*

"Thanks for celebrating Jesus with me! **[Transition]** And now it's time to turn around (*spin around*) ... sit down (*sit down*) ... shake the wiggles out (*wiggle hands*) ... so we can hear (*cup hands behind ears*) what the story's all about!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Now, let's stand up, and let's celebrate Jesus!"

*SONG: "I've Got a Friend" is available on store.thinkorange.com.*

"Great singing, friends! Let's sing one more song together.

*SONG: "My Forever Friend" is available on store.thinkorange.com.*

"Thanks for celebrating Jesus with me! **[Transition]** And now it's time to turn around (*spin around*) ... sit down (*sit down*) ... shake the wiggles out (*wiggle hands*) ... so we can hear (*cup hands behind ears*) what the story's all about!"

27 min

# Bible Story Section (Stage)

3 min

## Intro Sketch

### What You Need

-  Picture of your pet or favorite animal 1
-  Picture of your family or friends 1
-  Optional: Cardstock 1

### What You Do:

- If you have a very large number of children, create slides of your pictures to display on screens. If not, consider printing them full size on cardstock to make it easier for children to see.

*Host enters as Worship Leader exits. Host carries photos to show children (if the photos will not be displayed on a screen).*

**HOST:** "Hi, friends! My name is [your name]. Welcome to [your environment's name or story time]!"

"I brought some pictures so I could do a little show and tell. What do you see in this picture?"

*SLIDE: Your pet or favorite animal (not provided)*

"Yes, it's my dog! What sound does a dog make? (*Listen.*) Woof, woof!"

*Tell children the name of your pet/favorite animal and something silly they do.*

"Raise your hand if you have a pet at home. (*Look and respond to the raised hands.*)"

*Note: If you are showing a picture of your favorite animal, ask about their favorite animals instead of pets at home.*

"Now take a look at this picture."

*SLIDE: Family or friends (not provided)*

"This is my family/friend, and I love them so much!"

*Tell children the names of your family members/friends and something special about them, such as a favorite game you played together or a favorite meal/treat.*

"I love talking about my family/friend because they are some of my favorite people."

"And there is one other person I LOVE to talk about ... Jesus, God's Son! I love telling people that Jesus loves them and that He wants to be their friend forever. And I know just the story to help us learn how important this is. I'll see you after the Bible Story!"

8 min

## Wonder Bible Story (Video)

### What You Need

No supplies needed

10 min

## Bible Story (live)

### What You Need

	Bible	0
	Table	1
	Decoration and party supplies for table, such as a tablecloth, party plates, plastic cups, mylar balloons, etc.	1
	Six large buckets, such as 5-gallon paint buckets	1
	Option: Cardstock	1

### What You Do:

- Decorate the table for a party.
- Place the buckets in a line along the front of the storytelling area.
- Download the Large Group Visuals to display on a device or screen or copy on cardstock.

*There are three plush animals in the storytelling area: one is riding a push car, one is on green butcher paper, and one is on blue butcher paper.*

*Storyteller enters as Host exits. Storyteller carries a Bible and pulls the prepared wagon of plush animals.*

**STORYTELLER:** "Hello, friends! My name is [your name]."

"Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible from the book of Matthew.

*Open the Bible for children to see, then set it down.*

*"Today's Bible Story begins with Jesus' friends, (kneel next to the plush animals in the wagon) the disciples.*

*SLIDE: Story Image W3 01 (Disciples walking up a mountain)*

"When Jesus came back to life, His friends were so excited.

*Move several of the plush animals in the wagon as if they are jumping up and down.*

*(In a different voice for the disciples.) "Hip, hip, hooray! Jesus is alive!"*

"Ooh, can you say that with me?"

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER:** *(Pat legs.) "Hip, hip, (throw arms in the air) hooray! Jesus is alive!"*

**STORYTELLER:** "Jesus asked the disciples to meet Him on a mountain so He could give them some special instructions.

"Stand up and let's pretend to hike up a mountain.

*Pretend to hike a mountain with big steps, pulling the wagon as you walk.*

"The disciples hiked up, up, all the way to the top of the mountain. Good job, friends! Let's sit down.

*SLIDE: Story Image W3 02 (Jesus with the disciples on mountain)*

"The disciples were so happy and amazed to see Jesus again. They worshiped Him because they knew that Jesus is God's Son! Jesus told His friends:

*"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" (Matthew 28:18 NIV).*

"Authority is a big word that means someone is in charge. It's like when you play Simon Says. If I say, 'Simon says wave your hands in the air,' what would you do?

*Wave your hands in the air.*

"Yes! We'd wave our hands in the air because Simon said to and Simon is in charge of the game.

"Well, Jesus is in charge of (*arms wide*) EVERYTHING, and Jesus gave the disciples a super-big job to do.

*SLIDE: Story Image W3 03 (Disciple preaching)*

"Jesus wanted His friends to go and tell other people about Him and help them to follow Him too. And not just the people next door or in the next town. Jesus wanted His friends to go all over the whole world to tell people about God's love and help them follow Jesus!

"So that's what the disciples did!

*Note: In the next section, Storyteller will pull the wagon of disciples to the various plush animals that are placed around the storytelling area. Instead of going to plush animals, you could pull the wagon to various groups of children in the audience if that is a better fit for your environment.*

"They told people in town about Jesus ...

*Look around the storytelling area, and then point to a plush animal in the push car.*

"Ooh, let's go, disciples!

*Pull the wagon as you run to the plush animal in the push car.*

"Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever!

*Look around the storytelling area, and then point to another plush animal next to the green butcher paper.*

"The disciples went to people who lived in the country. Let's go, disciples!

*Pull the wagon as you run to the plush animal on the green butcher paper.*

"Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever!

*Look around the storytelling area, and then point to another plush animal next to the blue butcher paper.*

"The disciples went to people who lived by the ocean. Let's go, disciples!

*Pull the wagon as you run to the plush animal on the blue butcher paper.*

"Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever!

*Pull the wagon as you run back to the center of the storytelling area.*

"Jesus wanted His disciples to tell everyone everywhere about Him no matter where they lived. Jesus told the disciples to teach them everything He had taught them. It was a big job! But Jesus gave them a promise too.

*Cup hands behind ears.*

"Let's listen very closely because this is a big promise.

*Lean in and speak a little slower just to add emphasis.*

*SLIDE: Story Image W3 04 (Jesus makes a promise)*

"Jesus said: 'And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end' (Matthew 28:20 NIRV).

"Jesus' friends would not have to go tell people about Jesus all on their own. Jesus would be with them and help them all the time, everywhere they went!

"Jesus will help us, too, because Jesus wants us to tell people about Him too! We can tell people about Jesus at home, at school, at church, and in the neighborhood—everywhere we go!

"Let's practice right now. Let's say: **[Bottom Line] 'Jesus wants to be your friend forever!'** Ready?"

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus wants to be your friend forever!"**

**STORYTELLER:** "Great job! We can tell others about Jesus, and we never have to do it alone. Jesus is always with us because Jesus wants to be your friend forever and **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever?"

3 min

## Prayer

### What You Need

No supplies needed

3 min

## Outro Sketch

### What You Need

No supplies needed

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER:** *[Bottom Line]* "Jesus wants to be my friend forever."

**STORYTELLER:** "Let's say, (*pat legs*) 'Hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray!' for our friend Jesus. Ready?"

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER:** (*Pat legs.*) "Hip, hip, (*throw arms in the air*) hooray!"

*Pick up and close Bible.*

**[Transition]** "Our story time is over, but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, Jesus has given us a big job, just like the disciples. Help us tell everyone everywhere that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen. "I'll see you next time. Bye!"

**HOST:** "Wow! Jesus told His disciples to tell everyone about Him everywhere! Jesus wants everyone to know that He wants to be their friend forever. Tell me: Who wants to be your friend forever?"

**CHILDREN and HOST:** *[Bottom Line]* "Jesus wants to be my friend forever."

**HOST:** "I think I (*point to self*) got the story. Did you (*point to children*) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it! Get it?' (*Cup one hand behind ear.*)

**CHILDREN and HOST:** "Got it!"

**HOST:** (*Give two thumbs-up.*) "Good!"

"I love telling people about Jesus, because I know Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever."

# Getting Ready | 3-5's Stage Large Group

## GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive Worship, the Intro Sketch, and the Bible Story. The Stage Script is written for those who gather their preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible Story. If you are pulling your children to a rug on one side of your preschool space, you may benefit from using the Rug Script.

## APlay

Get the most out of your curriculum with **APlay!** [JoinAPlay.com](http://JoinAPlay.com) is an all-in-one media organization and presentation tool. Experience all of your Orange Curriculum media assets, now pre-built and fully customizable. No more sorting through multiple download folders.

**APlay is free** with your curriculum subscription and packed with features to help your weekly experience run smoother. APlay gives you more time to focus on what truly matters—more ministry, less media management with Apple TV-based media solutions.

## WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God (10 minutes)

*A leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.*

## STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways (10 minutes)

*Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible Story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be "told" and not "read." Advance preparation is necessary.*

## 1. Worship

### What You Need:

- Worship Leader(s)

### Music and Sound Effects:

- "Give Me Oil in My Lamp"—available on APlay with Amazing Music
- "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"—available on APlay with Amazing Music
- "I've Got a Friend"—available on [store.thinkorange.com](http://store.thinkorange.com)
- "My Forever Friend"—available on [store.thinkorange.com](http://store.thinkorange.com)

### Optional Videos (available for purchase):

- "I've Got a Friend" Dance Moves Music Video or Live Lyric Video—available on [store.thinkorange.com](http://store.thinkorange.com)
- "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video or Live Lyric Video—available on [store.thinkorange.com](http://store.thinkorange.com)

### What You Do:

- Prepare all songs and have them ready to use.
- Check out the Ministry Leader Guide for more information.

## 2. Intro/Outro

**What You Need:**

- Picture of your pet or favorite animal
- Picture of your family or friends
- *Optional: Cardstock*

**What You Do:**

- If you have a very large number of children, create slides of your pictures to display on screens. If not, consider printing them full size on cardstock to make it easier for children to see.

**3. Bible Story****What You Need:**

- Bible
- Wagon
- Blanket(s)
- 8-12 large plush animals
- Push or riding car
- Green and blue butcher paper
- *Option: Cardstock*

**Large Group Visuals:**

- Story Image W3 01
- Story Image W3 02
- Story Image W3 03
- Story Image W3 04

**Optional Video: (available in APlay)**

Our Large Group scripts are interchangeable with the *Wonder!* video so you can plug and play the way you need to each week. *Wonder! Look at God's Story* offers weekly videos to engage preschoolers with the Bible Story. Join our Bible storytellers, Treehouse friends, and, of course, Ollie the Owl to discover the wonder in God's story.

**What You Do:**

- Place three plush animals around the storytelling area.
  - One goes on a push or riding car (as if they are in the city).
  - One goes on top of a piece of green butcher paper (as if they are on green grass in the country).
  - One goes on top of a piece of blue butcher paper (as if they live near the ocean).
- Put the blanket(s) inside the wagon, and put the rest of the plush animals on top of the blankets. The blanket(s) should prop up the plush animals so the children can see them.
- Download the Large Group Visuals to display on a device or screen or copy on cardstock.

**First Look Pinterest Page**

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. [bit.ly/FL\\_HipHipHooray](https://bit.ly/FL_HipHipHooray)

# Supplies

Intro Sketch	Quantity
1. Picture of your pet or favorite animal	1
2. Picture of your family or friends	1
3. Optional: Cardstock	1

Bible Story (live)	Quantity
1. Bible	0
2. Table	1
3. Decoration and party supplies for table, such as a tablecloth, party plates, plastic cups, mylar balloons, etc.	1
4. Six large buckets, such as 5-gallon paint buckets	1
5. Option: Cardstock	1