

MOONBEAMS® BIBLE



OVERVIEW

Moonbeams learn to respect the Bible because it's God's Word. It teaches us how to live our lives and how to treat others.

OBJECTIVES

To earn this emblem, Moonbeams need to complete at least one activity from each section and the Bible lesson.

WORD BANK

- Bible
- God
- Jesus
- Respect

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS SUPPORTED BY THE ACTIVITIES

- Play and Creative Activities
- Religious Community
- Engagement in Learning Experiences
- Early Literacy

BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

Children won't automatically respect God's Word, or even know what it is. To teach respect for the Bible, model the behavior you want from them. Some ways you can make the Bible important to Moonbeams are:

Teach them to respect the Bible. Have a special place in your meeting room where the Bible is kept. Each week choose a different child to get it from its place and bring it to you for lesson time. Remind them this is an honor that must be done respectfully and carefully.

Have a time each week when you open the Bible to teach a verse, lesson or truth. Children are literal thinkers and need help to make a connection that what you're saying is really in the Bible. Seeing you "read" from the Bible reinforces this.

Use the term Bible "lesson" rather than "story" to reinforce the fact that the Bible is a book of true lessons, about real people and events.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY CENTERS

Activity centers provide opportunity for children to imagine, choose and explore. Provide at least three activity centers. Three options are given below and you may use those or develop your own.

DRAMATIC PLAY

Allow the children to dress like one of their favorite Bible characters. Provide old robes, scarves, paper crowns, neckties, rope belts, etc. Clay pots, baskets, baby dolls, etc. will add to the make-believe fun.

PUPPETS

Provide sock, paper bag or finger puppets for the children to re-enact favorite Bible lessons. There are many websites that provide instructions for making various types of puppets. Check out these sites:

www.daniellesplace.com/html/puppets.html

www.montessoriworl.org/Handwork/puppets/puppet6.html

www.teacherhelp.org/puppets.htm

www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Wooden-Spoon-Puppet

HOME LIFE

What would it have been like to visit a carpenter shop, stable, ark, or the palace of Pharaoh's daughter? Provide items

such as brooms, pitchers, money bags, rugs, wooden tools, etc. that the children may use to set up pretend homes where people in one of your Bible lessons might have lived.

WE'VE GOT MAIL

SUPPLIES:

- 9"x11" envelope
- Newsprint
- Marker
- Bible

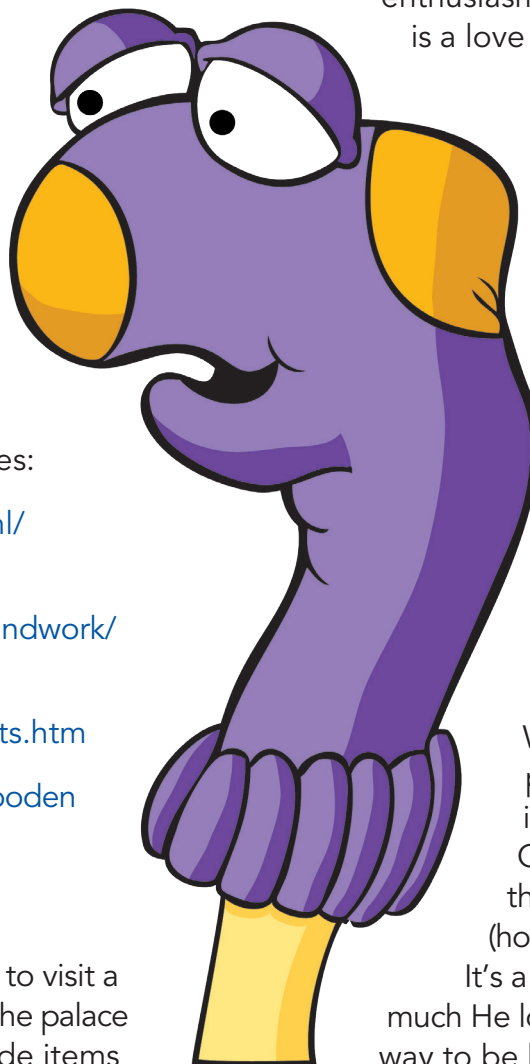
Children love to receive mail. Use their natural enthusiasm to reinforce that God's Word is a love letter written especially to us.

Address a 9" x 11" envelope to your troop. On a large sheet of newsprint write, "I love you." Place it in the envelope.

Hide the envelope in a large bag or box. Let the children take turns guessing what's hidden. To help, give hints such as, "You might get one from your Grandma" or "It's made of paper." If they're really stuck for an answer, say, **The mailman brings these to your house.**

When the children guess the package contains a letter, take it out and read the envelope. Open the envelope and read the message. Tell them the Bible (hold up a Bible) is a letter from God.

It's a special book that tells us how much He loves us. It also tells us the best way to be happy and how to treat others.



Ask the children if they know a Bible lesson. Explain that during Moonbeams they'll have many opportunities to hear lessons from the Bible, God's special book.

OPTIONAL: Provide paper, envelopes and stickers. Ask the children to write (or draw) letters to God. Provide a cardboard "mailbox" for them to "mail" their letters.

BIBLE VILLAINS

SUPPLIES:

- *Wanted Poster* (one per child) from *Leaders' Resource Pages*
- Crayons or pencils

Have the Moonbeams pretend to be superheroes going on an adventure to hunt down bad guys. Look at familiar Bible stories and have the children identify the wrong-doers.

Tell them to gather evidence about the villain, which they'll use to make wanted posters—compete with a picture of the villain, their dastardly deeds, amount for their reward, etc. The children may need to dictate ideas to an adult.

CRAFTS

BIBLE ART

SUPPLIES:

- Paper
- Crayons
- Paint
- Heavy string or twine
- Clothespins

Provide paper, crayons and paints to the children and have them draw pictures of favorite Bible lessons. String a clothesline in the art area and provide clothespins so they can "hang" their masterpieces.

BIBLE FRIENDS

Make Bible character paper dolls. Go online to download free doll and clothes patterns to color and cut, at: www.makingfriends.com/friends/f+bible.htm.



COLORING SHEETS

Provide a Bible coloring book or coloring sheets. Ask the children to share the lesson they're coloring with the group.

There are a few coloring pages are provided in the *Leaders' Resources Pages*. Also, many websites have free coloring pages available for downloading. Check out these sites:

www.biblestudyplanet.com/bible-teaching-for-kids/childrens-bible-studies/

www.christianpreschoolprintables.com

NOTE: The lessons on the *Christian Preschool Printables* website are too detailed for the Moonbeams but their coloring pages can be used. The coloring pages are in the lessons themselves, not separate.

SONGS & RHYMES

In Biblical times, people often sang praises to God. Provide home-made instruments to use during song time. Some choruses to use with this unit:

"The B-I-B-L-E"

"Jesus Loves Me, This I Know"

"Stories" by Go Fish Guys

GAMES

BIBLE HERO CARDS

SONday'sCool® SuperHero trading cards are available from Supplies and Purchasing Department in your territory. There are three sets are available. Each set contains twelve each of eight different Bible hero cards.

BIBLE TOSS

SUPPLIES:

- Pictures of familiar Bible lessons

Spread pictures of familiar Bible lessons on the floor, face up. (Your corps officer or the preschool Sunday school teacher may have pictures available from previous Sunday school lessons.)

Have the Moonbeams to take turns tossing bean bags at the pictures. When a bean bag lands on a picture, allow the child to tell what they know about that Bible lesson.

SNACKS ✱

Be creative and choose snacks to match the Bible lesson. Serve fruit snacks to go with the story of Adam and Eve. If the lesson is about Jonah, goldfish crackers make a good snack.

Serve foods that people during Bible times might have eaten, such as raisins or olives with unleavened bread (crackers) and honey.

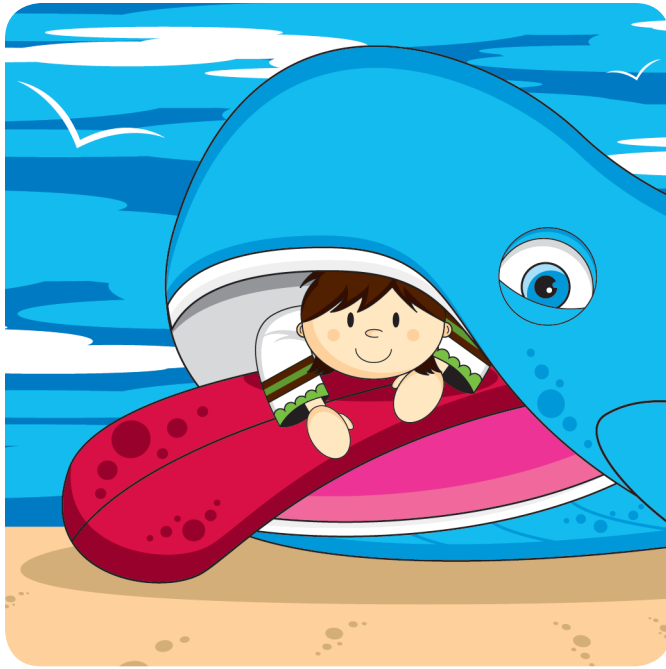
BIBLE LESSON

ALL TRUE ✱

"All your words are true." Psalm 119:160a (NIRV)

SUPPLIES:

- Pitcher of lemonade (in a clear container)
- Cups
- Box of salt (Before the meeting, empty the salt and replace it with ¼ to ½ cup of sugar)
- Long-handled spoon
- Food coloring



Before class, prepare lemonade and add food coloring drops to make it look very unappealing. Set the pitcher, spoon, cups, and box of "salt" aside so they're ready to use.

Say: **I made us a treat. It doesn't look very nice, does it? I think I'd better try some to be sure it's good.**

Taste a small drink and make a face to show it's not good.

Say: **I think it's too sour. I better add something to it.**

Stir in the "salt." This can be done all at once or repeat this step several times tasting in between each step.

After all of the "salt" has been added declare it to be just right and then ask the children if they believe you're telling the truth. Ask for a volunteer who knows they can believe you to try a drink.

After the volunteer approves the drink, allow other children to test it, too.

Ask: **Why did you believe me when I said it tasted good? You can believe me because you know I love you. Why can we believe God when He says every word in the Bible is true? We can believe and trust God because He loves us, too.**

BIBLE CHILDREN

Teach at least three familiar Bible lessons about children, using a children's Bible or Bible story book. Some lessons to consider:

"Baby Moses" (Exodus 2)

"Jesus in the Temple" (Luke 2)

"Miriam Helps Her Family" (Exodus 2)

"The Boy Who Shared" (John 6)

"Samuel Listens" (1 Samuel 3)

"Jairus' Daughter" (Mark 5)

"A New King" (1 Samuel 16)

CELEBRATIONS

Two of the most important Bible lessons are those of Jesus' birth and resurrection. Teach the Moonbeams these lessons from a children's Bible or Bible story book.

Help them understand why Christmas and Easter are important days. Plan to celebrate at least one of these special days with your troop.

- Celebrate Jesus' birth by having a birthday party for everyone. Reinforce the truth that Jesus is the best gift of all.
- Hunting colored eggs is fun anytime of the year. Make certain the children understand this is the day to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.



LEADERS' RESOURCES

CURRICULUM

Check out the WordAction *Faith Builders* Sunday school curriculum for preschool and kindergarten. Reinforce the Bible lessons the children are hearing on Sunday. They'll love being able to share parts of the story with you.

BOOKS

Big Thoughts for Little Thinkers: The Scripture
by Joey Allen

100 Bible Stories/100 Bible Songs: Book and CDs
by Stephen Elkins

My Good Night Bible: 45 Bedtime Bible Stories for Little Ones
by Susan Lingo

The Beginner's Bible: Timeless Children's Stories
by Zondervan Publishing

DVDS/VIDEOS

Kickin' It Old School by Go Fish Guys

This DVD is sure to please children and leaders, alike, whether they're learning the books of the Bible or rocking to familiar Sunday school choruses. Order from your local Bible bookstore or online at: <http://store.gofishguys.com>.

WEBSITES

www.biblestoryprintables.com

www.childrensministry.com

www.christianbook.com

www.nph.com/nphweb/html/waol/innerpage.jsp?catalogId=WAOL&catSecCd=RESOU&nid=lcol