



Suggested Adaptations for Teaching Lessons to Address Social Distancing Grades 3-4

These suggestions are written with the presumption the reader is familiar with the teaching material. You are encouraged to review the Leader Guide for Grades 3-4 and view the video posted on the EBA website for Grades 1-4 prior to reading the suggestions below. These are a few ideas of how you might implement a teaching strategy to help mitigate the spread of the corona virus and other viruses. Please use additional precautions to ensure the health of families in your community as you host your VBS. As you plan your lessons you may modify these suggestions and develop other ideas that are uniquely suited for your situation, but will provide a safe and clean environment for VBS. Please contact the EBA 2020 VBS Team if you would like help. We are here to serve!

General Classroom Suggestions

- The 6 ft distance between people is still recommended. Assign kids a space for the time they will be in VBS. If you are doing a week long VBS, kids should use the same space the entire week.
- Prepare daily packets of materials for kids ahead of time to minimize contact between people and sharing of materials during the lesson. You may want to place these materials in gallon size storage bags with the kids' names or you may want to invest in plastic storage shoe boxes or some other similar storage basket that will be easy to check and replenish materials. Some items, like pencils, will be used every day, while others, like pom-poms will be used once and can then be removed. You can have the kids either take items that will not be re-used home or throw away.
- If your classroom is outdoors then providing a hard surface for writing will be beneficial for the kids. Clipboards purchased at the Dollar Tree have worked well for other teachers.

Day 1 Foundation of Love

Daily Pack Items: Philippians 1:6 printed on paper or cardstock
Pen or thin line marker (e.g. Papermate Flair)
Memory Maker Carabiner, Logo Tag and Day 1 Tag (if doing Memory Maker Tags)
Permanent Marker (if doing Memory Maker tags)
1 sheet of construction paper and 1 roll of decorative tape OR 4 sheets of construction paper and glue stick (additional activity only)

Start It Rather than distribute pictures for the matching game as directed in the Leader Guide, which has kids come in close contact with each other, hold up a few of the cards (pack item 3) and ask kids to name the tool. Discuss how it is necessary to have the correct tools in order to build something well. Another idea is to show the kids an actual tool e.g. drill, screwdriver, level, etc. rather than the cards provided in the Leader Pack.

Learn It No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary for telling the Bible story. If you have spread your kids out across the teaching area, be sure to move around during the story so that you make eye contact with all kids during the story and that each one can see the Day 1 Bible Story Picture (pack item 4).

You can adjust the story by using items from step 9 (coins, small flip flop or sandal, plastic food, scroll, band-aids) as you tell the story.

Know It No adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary, but it is a good idea to have the verse printed on cardstock so that kids can have a copy to take home, especially if they do not have their own Bibles. Help those kids who do have Bibles to mark the verse in their Bibles.

Live It If you are not using the Memory Maker tags or the Kids Activity Book, you can still do the activity described in the Leader Guide. Here is one source of a free printable tape measure: <https://www.inchcalculator.com/printable-tape-measure/> Be sure to have the kids write “Jesus chooses to love me. I can’t earn it.”, on the tape measures. Kids can use the tape measure to mark Philippians 1:6 in their Bibles.

Finish It Consider having kids place the Memory Maker Carabiner back in the daily pack and leaving it, rather than taking them up each day. If you are not using the Memory Maker tags be sure to review that we have a foundation of love and the point “Jesus chooses to love me. I can’t earn it.” Finally, complete step 3 as directed in the Leader Guide.

Day 4 Foundation of Promise

Daily Pack Items: Strip of cash register tape (approximately 18" long)
Pencil, pen or marker
Individual emoji poster (optional)
Paper sack of "rubble"
Copy of Response Card (pack item 19)
Day 4 Tag and Gospel Tag (If doing Memory Maker Tags)
Copy of claw catcher pattern (pack item 20) (additional activity only)
Scissors (if square pattern is not pre-cut for kids) (additional activity only)
Colored marker (additional activity only)
Construction/tool stickers (additional activity only)

Start It Play the game of "Love It or Like It" as directed in the Leader Guide but have kids stay in their designated space. If kids "Love It" they should raise their hands with a fist, like a hammer. If kids "Like It" they should raise their hands with fingers together and hands flat, like a saw blade. If you want kids to be more animated they can act out the motion of hammering or sawing.

Learn It Acting out a story is not conducive to social distancing. The grades 1-2 Leader Guide notes that there are many emotions involved in the story for Jesus' Resurrection and Promise. Print out a page of emojis that include all the emotions involved in the story. (I have attached one I created using free clip art). Give the kids a strip of cash register tape. Instruct kids that they should draw an emoji for each part of the story. Not every emoji on the chart I created will be used, but there are options from which the kids may choose. As in previous days, be sure that all kids are able to see the Day 4 Bible Story Picture (pack item 16). Remember to complete the Learn It portion of the lesson with step 4 listed in the Learner Guide.

Know It If possible use brown or gray construction paper for the following activity. Cut the construction paper into pieces large enough to write words of the scripture Philippians 1:6, one word per each piece. Leave some of the pieces blank. Wad each piece of paper into a ball to create "rubble" and place 4-5 pieces in brown paper sacks. Give each kid one paper sack. Ask kids to come one at a time and put the scripture in order. Throw the blank pieces of "rubble" in the trash.

Live It No significant adaptations from the Leader Guide are necessary. Be sure to allow enough time for the activity so that kids are not congregating at the "skyscraper" at the same time. If time is an issue, let the kids hand you the sticky notes and you place them on the "skyscraper."

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