

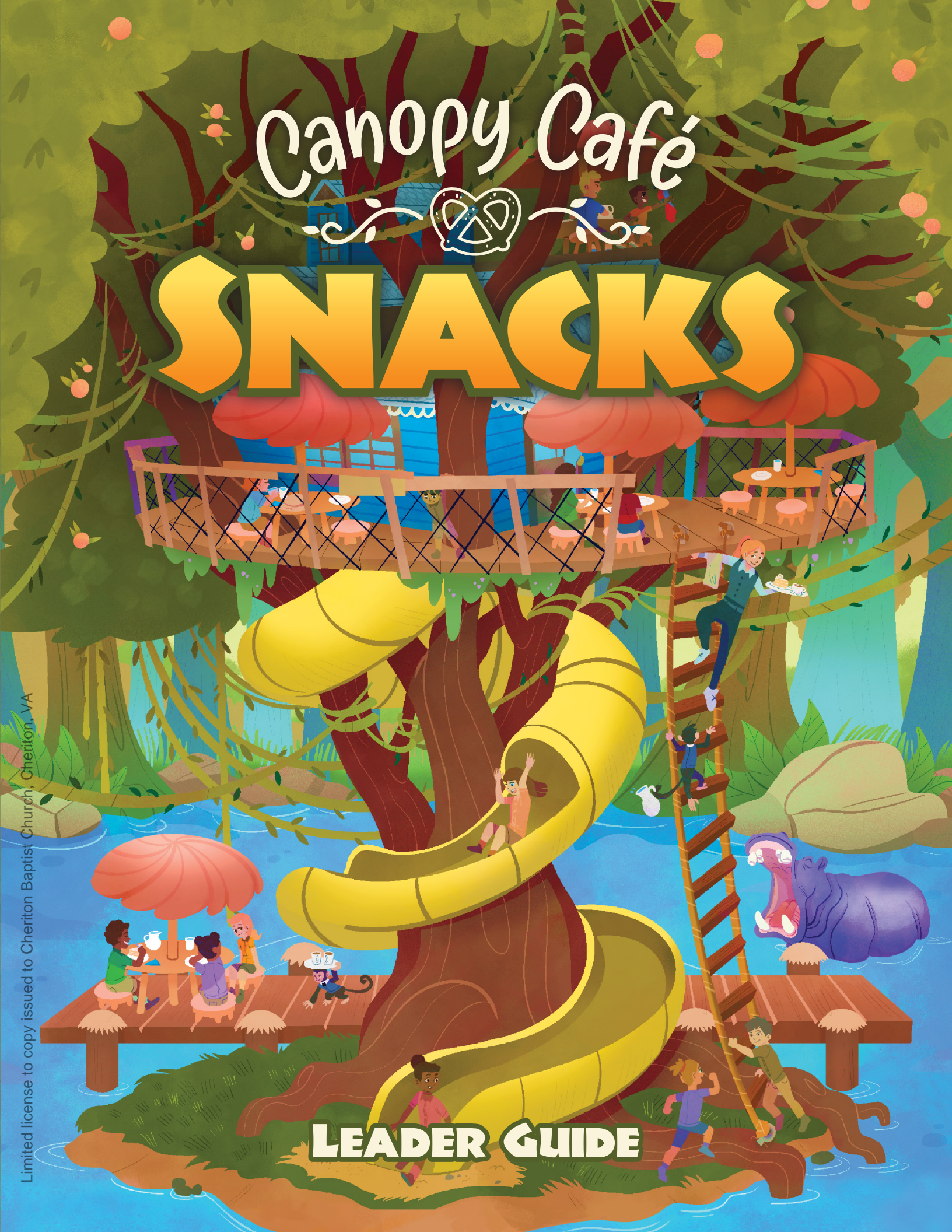
Canopy Café



SNACKS

LEADER GUIDE

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CANOPY CAFÉ SNACKS

COURSE OVERVIEW

Theme Verse: 1 Timothy 1:17

	Day 1 Creation	Day 2 Corruption and Catastrophe	Day 3 Confusion	Day 4 Christ and the Cross	Day 5 Consummation
Title	All Is Good	All Sin	All in Confusion	Savior for All Who Believe	All Is Good Again
Bible Passages	Genesis 1	Genesis 3, Genesis 6–9	Genesis 11	Various Scriptures	Revelation 21–22
Lesson Focus	We cruise to our first C of history— Creation —and head back to the beginning of the universe.	Next come Corruption and Catastrophe as sin enters the world and affects everyone.	The fourth C— Confusion —checks out the world-altering events that began at the tower of Babel.	Christ and the Cross are the next stops. The gospel is shared today.	The last C— Consummation —shows that God wins and all goes back to very good again.
Apologetics Content	Examining how it all began—man’s ideas or God’s Word?	Examining the reality of a global flood	Examining where the people groups came from	Examining the need for a Savior	Examining how it turns out in the end
Memory Verses	Genesis 1:1	Psalms 14:3	Genesis 11:9	John 1:12	Revelation 21:4
Colors	Green	Dark and Blue	Gray	White and Red	Yellow
Animal Pals	Eden the Green Parrot	Tox the Blue Poison Dart Frog	Scatter the Silverback Gorilla	Rose the Pink River Dolphin	Bliss the Bird-Wing Butterfly
Tree-mendous Crafts	Face Planter My Bug Jar	Straw Serpent Rainy Day Rain Gauge	Tricky Triangle Game Toothpick Tower	Christmas Ornament Easter Diorama	7 C’s Bracelet or Necklace Beautiful Butterfly
Tree-mendous Science	Order and Disorder Stack the Layers	Fallen Foliage Catastrophic Eruption	Skin-Deep Tower Test	Don’t Eat Me Ring Around a Tree	Cycling in the Jungle Good Again
Rainforest Recreation	Jungle Obstacle Course Sea & Sky Tag	Rainy Relays Tox Tag	Confusing Competitions Babel Bricks	Capture the Gifts Cross Kickball	Seven C’s Splash Coconut Launch
Canopy Café Snacks	Dirt Dessert Forest Fruit	Serpent Snack Tree Treat	Shades of Pudding Parfaits Wacky Mixed-Up Trail Mix	Gospel Goodies Nativity Nibbles	7 C’s Boat Colorful Bites
Cool Contests	Guess the Beetle Bugs	Team Spirit Day	yaD sdrawkcaB	7 C’s Scavenger Hunt	Mission Money Mania

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Canopy Café Snacks

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For more information, write:

Answers in Genesis

PO Box 510, Hebron, KY 41048

Project Coordinator: Stacia McKeever

Writers: Barb Witt, with assistance from Lisa King, Ilze Calahan, and Amy Quinn

Content Editor: Roger Patterson

Editors: Linda Moore, Angela Carlisle

Interior layout: Diane King

Photographer: Susie Jarvis

Cover illustration and design: Jon Seest

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HANDY HELPS

It's a Jungle Out There!

Listen! Can you hear a howler monkey screeching and insects buzzing? *Look!* Do you see a sloth hanging from a tree and a jaguar crouching, ready to pounce? *Smell!* Is that the aroma of tropical flowers wafting through the air? *Touch!* Do you feel soft grass under your feet and gentle rain on your skin? *Taste!* Is that delicious milk from a coconut and exotic spices from the rainforest?

Join us in a world of wonder that will delight our senses while captivating our hearts and minds at *The Great Jungle Journey: An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation*. We will cruise through jungle rivers, making stops at seven ports of call along the way—each starting with a C. These represent seven key biblical events—the 7 C's of History.

Day 1: Creation—Our first C takes us back to the beginning of time and the creation of the universe when it was all good. Did the universe start with a big bang, or did God create it?

Day 2: Corruption and Catastrophe—Next, Adam sinned, which affected his descendants, who were so wicked that God sent a global flood as judgment for their sin.

Day 3: Confusion—The fourth C checks out the events that began at the tower of Babel. Can this be where all the people groups originated from?

Day 4: Christ and the Cross—At these stops, we realize once again that man is sinful and needs a Savior. Hallelujah, God provides one in his Son!

Day 5: Consummation—The last C shows the thrilling conclusion to history when all goes back to very good again, and—best news ever—God wins against sin and Satan.

Excitement and adventure await from the first minute of each day when kids meet in travel groups. The groups gather at the **Jungle Jam Assembly**, a high-energy beginning that includes wacky intros, lively songs, a Mission Moment, and prayer.

Then they're off to rotate through five fun sites:

Rain or Shine Bible Time, where God's Word is taught in creative, hands-on ways.

Tree-mendous Science and Crafts, where kids make jazzy jungle crafts and explore God's amazing world with science experiments.

Canopy Café Snacks, where travelers go bananas, munching on tropical treats and eats.

Rainforest Recreation, where kids rumble in the jungle with some wet and wild games.

Travelers' Missions, Music, and Memory Verses, where kids sing songs, learn their memory verses with fun

games, or go in-depth with the Mission Moment featuring Children's Hunger Fund.

Finally, everyone heads back to the **Jungle Jam Assembly** for the closing, where there's more singing, contest results, and the highly anticipated daily drama. This follows a jungle river cruise that plans to make stops at different ports of call but faces a catastrophe that affects the plan, resulting in lots of unexpected rainforest adventures.

Prepare to swing into the fun as we head out on our jungle river cruise. See you in the rainforest!

Our Goal

We are so thankful for how God has chosen to use the Answers VBS programs over the past years! But why did we decide to embark on such an undertaking in the first place, and why are we still at it by God's grace?

Our primary goal has always been to bring God glory by boldly and unashamedly proclaiming him to a strategic group—young people! From both a biblical and statistical point of view, young people are a big deal. They're not only awesome—we love 'em!—but they're also dearly cherished by our Lord and tend to be softhearted toward spiritual things. Researchers generally agree most people become Christians when they're children, so it's apparent this age group is a huge mission field!

Children are loved by their Creator, and Jesus said to let them come to him (Luke 18:16). We want children to come to Christ and not be hindered in any way from doing so. To that end, we combine a biblically rich VBS with off-the-chart, irresistible fun. In a day and age when content sometimes suffers, we don't want to sacrifice rich teaching. But it's also crucial that the most exciting book in the world not come across as boring or irrelevant. We want to reflect our creative, inspiring, joy-giving God who made laughter and fun.

So why do we do it? We want kids around the world to hear about and personally meet our awesome God and understand how they can receive eternal life through repentance and faith in Christ Jesus. We believe VBS is a great way to introduce them to God, as it is one of the biggest outreaches of the year for most churches.

We pray you will find that every prayer prayed, every minute invested, every dollar spent, and every word spoken will bring God glory as you reach kids for Christ. Just remember—VBS is worth it. May God richly bless your VBS. We're praying for you!

Your Role

Your role as the Snack Coordinator is outlined in the following pages. Your responsibilities may include:

- Planning snacks for all age levels
- Organizing the snack donation sign-up
- Buying supplies that have not been donated
- Preparing daily snacks for VBS and/or overseeing others who are helping with snacks
- Monitoring which children have allergies and planning accordingly
- Coordinating the serving of snacks each day

- Making sure key lesson themes are reinforced through the snacks
- Overseeing the cleanup of the snack area(s) each day
- Praying over all aspects of this job before, during, and after VBS

This is *your* guide. Read it carefully and prayerfully, using our suggestions combined with the ideas the Holy Spirit brings to your mind.

So get ready! Get set! God is about to use you and your church to impact lives.

Frequently Asked Questions

The content of *The Great Jungle Journey* may be new to you. For a list of helpful articles on the topics covered in this VBS program, please visit AnswersVBS.com/junglefaq.

Terms to Know

Throughout the VBS curriculum, various terms will be used. Here is a list of some of the most common terms you should know.

Travel Groups/Travelers: Groups of children (individual classes) named after jungle animals, such as Bengal Tigers, Butterflies, Toucans, or Howler Monkeys.

Group Guides: Group leaders who lead the travelers from place to place during VBS. No teaching is required of this position.

Rain or Shine Bible Time: Bible and apologetics lesson time in the jungle.

River Guides: Teachers of the Rain or Shine Bible Time.

Tree-mendous Science and Crafts: Rotation site where crafts are made and science experiments are explored.

Canopy Café Snacks: Indoor or outdoor location where snacks are served.

Rainforest Recreation: Indoor or outdoor site (outdoor is preferred) for recreation time.

Travelers' Missions, Music, and Memory Verses: Rotation sites where kids can spend additional time learning songs, memory verses, and missions.

Memory Verse: Daily Bible verse to learn.

Animal Pals: Our friendly animal mascots that remind us of the main themes of each day.

Toddlers: 2-4-year-olds.

Pre-Primaries: 4-6-year-olds or children ages 4 through those who have completed kindergarten.

Primaries: 6-9-year-olds or children who have completed grades 1-3.

Juniors: 9-12-year-olds or children who have completed grades 4-6.

For multi-age K-6 travel groups, we recommend using the material for the Primaries.

Top 20 Tips for Canopy Café Snacks

1. Pray! This is your most important preparation. Give all concerns to the Lord and watch *him* do great things.
2. After reading the daily snack choices, including the Super Simple Options, Healthy Options, Toddler Options, and extra ideas listed in the Tip Corners, decide which snack you will serve each day. There are also Additional Snack Ideas at the back of the book.
3. Test each recipe ahead of time to learn how to prepare the snack efficiently. Check out [Pinterest.com/answersvbs](https://www.pinterest.com/answersvbs/) for pictures of the snacks and fun ways to present them.
4. Don't forget to include VBS workers in your calculations. Offer munchies for adult and teen helpers to grab on the run.
5. Plan two snacks per day for toddlers. See the Toddler Snacks list for suggestions to pair with other ideas in this book. When choosing other options, be mindful of small foods that may be choking hazards for young children (e.g., hot dogs, nuts, marshmallows, raisins or dried fruits, grapes, hard or very chewy candies, chunks of cheese or fruit, triangle-shaped chips, and popcorn).
6. Calculate your portions based on the daily snack supply list located on the back cover. (Additional ideas are not included on this list.) Make a snack donation list based on what you've chosen and share it with those in your ministry.
7. Set up a collection area for incoming supplies. Label the supplies for VBS to prevent hungry people from opening unlabeled food. Stockpile your items in a safe place.
8. Check with local restaurants for donations of cups, napkins, and lemonade mix.
9. Assess your stock often. As VBS approaches, purchase what has not been donated.
10. Prepare as much as you are able to ahead of time. Use zippered baggies when possible to hold individual snacks for each child.
11. Be aware of common allergens such as nuts (e.g., peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, and tree nuts), dyes (red, blue, and yellow), dairy items, berries, gluten, wheat, soy, eggs, and corn. Be vigilant and careful regarding all of this! Plan alternate snacks or ask parents to provide an alternative. It's also helpful to make a list of all the ingredients used in each snack so parents can see if there will be any problematic ingredients. Post the daily list in a visible spot (on the entry doors, at the snack location, or at the info counter) and in your Caretaker Handbook.
12. In addition, keep a list of children with allergies and monitor what is being served to them. Make sure all leaders and snack servers are aware of who has what allergies.
13. Enlist help for the preparation station in the kitchen and for the serving station in the refreshment area. If serving indoors, set up the serving station away from kitchen knives, hot pans, and potentially slippery floors. If serving outside, place a table in the shade.
14. Decorate the space so it has kid appeal and hang the "Canopy Café" sign. Post a sign announcing the featured food and drink of the day. Check "Decorating Decisions" in the *Director Guide* for more decorating ideas. Play the VBS music.
15. Check the daily attendance for an accurate number of children. Make extra snacks for latecomers.
16. Use good hygiene. Adults must wash their hands before preparing food. Plastic food-prep gloves should be worn by food staff, and long hair should be pulled back. Children should take a quick bathroom break and wash their hands before snack time. Use wipes or hand sanitizer for quick hand cleanup.
17. Keep drinks cold in large coolers, such as 10-gallon coolers with a pour spigot.
18. Pray and thank God for the snacks before eating.
19. While the children are eating, reinforce the day's lesson using the Teaching Tie-In given for each snack. (Make sure to have a Bible to read verses that are referenced.) Then use the Conversation Starters and Fun Facts to have fun, guided conversations.
20. Place large, wheeled trash cans with trash bags in the area for quick cleanup.

TODDLER SNACKS

Day 1

Dirt Dessert (10 servings)

See picture on page 10.

Use this big kids' snack recipe, except serve smaller portions in smaller cups. Adjust amounts accordingly.

- 2 c. cold milk
- 1 (3.9 oz.) package instant chocolate pudding (4-serving size)
- 8 oz. frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1½ c. crushed chocolate sandwich cookies (about 20), divided
- 20 gummy animals
- 10 punch cups
- 10 plastic spoons
- Whisk and mixing bowls
- Large spoon

Make pudding according to package directions. Stir in whipped topping and ½ c. of crushed cookies. Divide the mixture into 10 punch cups. Top with the remaining sandwich cookie pieces and gummy animals.

Note: Various varieties of gummy animals such as zoo animals, dinosaurs, and bears can be ordered online, but gummy worms work too.

Variation: Another option is to make sea and land pudding cups using vanilla pudding, vanilla sandwich cookies, and whipped topping that's dyed blue. Make the pudding as directed but put blue whipped topping on half the top (for the sea) and crushed vanilla sandwich cookies (for the shoreline) on the other half. Top the blue side with sea creature gummies and the land side with land animal gummies.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Look at your dirt dessert. Do you think it just made itself or did someone make it? *Take responses.* Someone made it! Do you think the world just came about on its own, or did God make it? *Take responses.* God made it! He made all the plants and animals and the sun and moon and stars and people. Let's

praise God for being the amazing Creator, and for this snack. *Do so.*

Green Parrot Pretties (per child)

- 1 kiwi slice (head)
- 1 chocolate chip or edible eye
- 1 tiny piece of fruit leather (beak)
- 1 pretzel stick (branch)
- Small paper plate



Cut the kiwi into circles and put one on each plate. Put a chocolate chip or edible eye and a fruit leather beak on each to make a side view of a parrot. Arrange a pretzel stick under it as if the parrot is perched on a branch. For a more substantial snack, give each child 2 parrots.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What color is our kiwi? *Take responses.* What animal does it look like? *Take responses.* What's our animal pal's name? *Take responses.* It's Eden, because we talked about the garden of Eden. Who can tell me about the garden of Eden? *Take responses.* Let's thank God for this green snack that reminds us of his perfect, good creation. *Do so.*

Day 2

Serpent Snack (per child)

See picture on page 14.

Use this big kids' snack recipe, but make it with mini doughnuts and use the adjusted amounts listed below, per child, following these directions.

- 1 vanilla or chocolate mini cake doughnut
- 1 vanilla or chocolate cake doughnut hole
- 2 mini M&M's
- Thin red licorice, cut into 1-inch pieces
- Knife
- Kitchen scissors
- Cutting board
- Spoon
- Small paper plate

Cut each doughnut and the doughnut hole in half. Arrange doughnut halves in an S on each paper plate for the serpent's body. Place half of a doughnut hole on each end for the serpent's head and tail. For the tongue, split the end of each licorice piece with kitchen scissors and pull the ends apart to make it forked. Cut two tiny slits for eyes and put the M&M's in.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What does our snack look like today? *Take responses.* Yes, a snake! Does anybody remember what happened in the garden of Eden with a snake? *Take responses.* Eve shouldn't have listened to the snake. She should've obeyed God, and so should we! Let's thank God for forgiving us when we sin, and let's thank him for this snack. *Do so.*

Frog Treats (per child)

- 2 mini pretzels
- 2 Golden Oreos
- 2 edible eyes
- 1 small strip of fruit leather
- White icing (as "glue")
- Green card stock or construction paper for lily pad
- Scissors



Cut the green paper to look like a lily pad. Place the mini pretzels on the paper to look like frog legs and secure the Oreos to the top of the pretzels with white icing. Attach edible eyes to the top Oreo with icing and "glue" the fruit leather between the two Oreos with the icing so it sticks out like a frog's tongue.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What animal is our animal pal today? *Take responses.* Yes, it's a frog. Do you remember his name? *Take responses.* It's Tox, the poison dart frog. Were animals poisonous when God first made the world? *Take responses.* No, because everything was perfect. But then sin entered the world and affected everything, including dart frogs. Let's thank God that even though there is sadness and sin now in our world, we have God and his goodness! And let's thank him for this yummy snack. *Do so.*

Day 3

Shades of Pudding Parfaits (per child)

See picture on page 18.

Use this big kids' snack recipe, except serve smaller portions in smaller cups. Adjust amounts accordingly.

- ¼ c. chocolate pudding
- ¼ c. butterscotch pudding
- ¼ c. vanilla pudding
- Milk to make pudding
- Whipped topping
- 1 honey and 1 chocolate Teddy Graham cracker
- Bowls, whisks, and stirring spoons
- Plastic punch cup

Make each kind of pudding according to package directions. Layer the puddings in the punch cups, ¼ cup total per child. Put a dollop of whipped topping on top. Refrigerate. Before serving, add 1 honey and 1 chocolate Teddy Graham cracker on top of each parfait.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Have you ever wondered why people have different shades of skin? *Take responses.* It's sort of like these different shades of pudding. This is all pudding, but it comes in a lighter shade, a medium shade, and a darker shade. That's similar to people's skin, which God made from light to dark. We're not different colors—just different shades of the same color—brown. Let's thank God for making each of us our own special shade, and then we'll eat this fun snack. *Do so.*

Gorilla Faces (per child)

- Fruit cup or applesauce cup
- Permanent marker to draw a simple gorilla face on the cup
- Spoon



Draw a gorilla face on each cup. After students have enjoyed looking at them and talking about the gray (silverback) gorilla (see Teaching Tie-in), help them take off the lids and give each child a spoon to eat with.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What animal does our snack look like? *Take responses.* Our animal pal today is a gray (silverback) gorilla. Do you remember his name? *Take responses.* His name is Scatter because he reminds us how the people at Babel were scattered all over the world. Who can tell me about that? *Take responses.* Let's thank God for this gorilla snack, and then we'll eat. *Do so.*

Day 4

Gospel Goodies (per child)

See picture on page 22.

Use this big kids' snack recipe, except serve smaller portions. Adjust amounts accordingly.

- 1 brownie, store-bought or homemade
- White icing
- 7 red M&M's or 2 strands of thin red licorice
- Knife for icing and cutting brownies
- If making brownies from scratch: mixing bowls, measuring cups and spoons, and pans
- Spatula
- Small paper plate

Buy brownies or make them according to package directions. Ice brownies with white icing. Cut brownies but leave them in the pan. Arrange the red M&M's or thin red licorice into a cross shape on top of each brownie. Before snack time, put each brownie on a small paper plate. Note: Cut the brownies into heart shapes if desired to add to the theme of the day.

TEACHING TIE-IN

We have three colors on our Gospel Goodies. What color is the brownie? *Take responses—dark brown (dark) which reminds us of Corruption.* How about the icing? *Take responses—white, which reminds us of Jesus Christ.* And the licorice? *Take responses—red, which reminds us of the blood Jesus shed on the cross to pay for our sins.* Let's thank God for Jesus coming and loving us and for our Gospel Goodies, and then we'll eat. *Do so.*

Dolphin Banana (per child)

- ½ unpeeled banana
- Handful of grapes (cut in half) or blueberries
- Permanent marker
- Plastic punch cup



Draw a dolphin face on the banana half near the stem. Split the stem and stick half a grape or a blueberry in its mouth. Put the dolphin in a punch cup and fill in with grape halves and/or blueberries.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What animal does our snack today remind you of? *Take responses.* Yes, a dolphin. Who remembers our animal pal's name? *Take responses.* She's Rose, the pink river dolphin. Rose reminds us Jesus rose from the dead! Let's thank God for Jesus and for this special snack. *Do so.*

Day 5

7 C's Boat (per child)

See picture on page 26.

Use this big kids' snack recipe, except serve smaller portions. Adjust amounts accordingly.

- Green food, such as a couple grapes (cut in half), green apple slices, or pear slices
- Dark food, such as a few chocolate chips (or chocolate anything) or a couple blackberries
- Blue food, such as a couple blue corn chips or blueberries
- Gray food, such as a spoonful of chia seed pudding
- White food, such as a couple thin pieces of white cheese, banana, or white yogurt melts
- Red food, such as a couple small pieces of watermelon, raspberries, or strawberries
- Yellow food, such as a couple thin yellow cheese pieces and crackers
- Food boat (like hot dogs are served in)

Decide which items you will use and place a portion of each in color order in the food boat.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Our treat today is a 7 C's boat. Can you remember the 7 C's? Let's see if we can say them all! **Take responses:** Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, Consummation. **Let's thank God for our 7 C's boat and for this yummy snack. Do so. As the children eat, discuss the colors of the 7 C's and the foods representing them.**

Butterfly Bags (per child)

See note below for other possible ingredients.

- 5-6 grapes or strawberries, cut in half OR cheese, several thin pieces
- Crackers, pretzels, or Goldfish
- Snack-size baggie
- Spring-style clothespin
- Permanent marker
- Optional: half of a pipe cleaner



Put one type of food in one side of the baggie, such as sliced grapes or cheese, and put another food in the other side, such as crackers. (Make sure they are cut small and are not choking hazards.) Seal the baggie and attach the clothespin in the middle of the baggie. Draw a face on the clothespin and add antennae out of half of a pipe cleaner if desired.

Note: Other possible combos are Cheerios and Goldfish; Fruit Loops and Pretzel Goldfish; or Chocolate Teddy Grahams and oyster crackers.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What animal is our snack today? **Take responses.** Yes, a butterfly! What do butterflies start out as? **Take responses.** Caterpillars! But God changes them into beautiful butterflies, just like he will change his children someday and give us beautiful new bodies when we get to heaven. Let's thank God for the promise of life in heaven with him through Jesus and for this beautiful snack. **Do so.**

DAY 1

DIRT DESSERT

Ingredients (for 10 servings)

- 2 c. cold milk
- 1 (3.9 oz.) package instant chocolate pudding (4-serving size)
- 8 oz. frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1½ c. crushed chocolate sandwich cookies (about 20), divided
- 20 gummy animals

Green Gulper Ingredients

- Green drink (e.g., green fruit punch, green powdered drink mix, limeade, or green sports drink), 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- 10 punch cups
- 10 plastic spoons
- Mixing bowls
- Whisk
- Large spoon
- Measuring cups
- Optional: ice cream scoop
- Napkins and cups, 1 of each per child
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Prep

1. Make pudding according to package directions.
2. Stir in whipped topping and ½ c. of crushed cookies.
3. Divide the mixture into 10 punch cups. A measuring cup or ice cream scoop works well for this.
4. Top with the remaining sandwich cookie pieces and gummy animals.
5. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Before eating, say,

Who thinks these dirt dessert cups just formed themselves on their own? *Take responses.* It's crazy to think all the ingredients for these—the milk, the pudding ingredients, the flour, sugar, salt, and other cookie ingredients, the whipped topping, the gummy animal ingredients—all just happened to come together to form into this dessert all on their own, right? Someone with intelligence followed a recipe and assembled the ingredients, which were made by other intelligent people, in the right amounts to create it.

It's even crazier to think the whole world just happened to come about all on its own. Instead, God created the heavens and the earth! Can you imagine nonliving things like dirt eventually turning into



living things like all the animals and even us? No, the world didn't just come about on its own, but God made it. That's what we're talking about today at our first stop, Creation.

Let's pray and thank our Creator God for this food.

Thank God for the snack. While the kids eat, share the conversation starters below.

Conversation Starters

- If you lived in the jungle, what would you like about it? What wouldn't you like as much?
- Do you like to make stuff? Would you call yourself creative? Did you know there are different ways to be creative?
- God is the Master Creator. What's something in the jungle you think is a cool creation of God's?

Tip Corner

- Various varieties of gummy animals such as zoo animals, dinosaurs, and bears can be ordered online, but gummy worms work too.
- We used 9 oz. clear punch cups.

- Another option is to make sea and land pudding cups using vanilla pudding, vanilla sandwich cookies, and whipped topping that's dyed blue. Make the pudding as directed but put blue whipped topping on half the top (for the sea) and crushed vanilla sandwich cookies (for the shoreline) on the other half. Top the blue side with sea creature gummies and the land side with land animal gummies.
- Drink boxes or water bottles can be used any day this week if you prefer drinks that do not require cups and preparation.
- Green or jungle-themed napkins can be fun for today.

Super Simple Options

Anything Green—Buy green food and talk about the color of the day (green) and what it stands for (Creation). Possible green foods are mint chocolate chip ice cream, green ice pops, green licorice, or green veggies or fruit.

Creation Cupcakes—Buy green-iced cupcakes and have the kids add decorations on top.

Day 1 Overview

Creation

Lesson Focus

We cruise to our first C of history—Creation—and head back to the beginning of the universe.

Bible Passage

Genesis 1

Memory Verse

Genesis 1:1

Animal Pal

Eden the Green Parrot

Cool Contest

Guess the Beetle Bugs

Science and Crafts

Experiments: Order Disorder / Stack the Layers
Crafts: Face Planter / My Bug Jar

Treats

Dirt Dessert
Forest Fruit

Games

Jungle Obstacle Course
Sea and Sky Tag

DAY 1

FOREST FRUIT

Ingredients (per child)

- 3 pieces each of several green fruits, such as green apples, green grapes, honeydew, kiwi, or green pears

Green Gulper Ingredients

- Green drink (e.g., green fruit punch, green powdered drink mix, or green sports drink), 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Long coffee stirrers, 1 per child
- Plates, napkins, and cups, 1 of each per child
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Prep

1. Wash the fruit and cut it into bite-size pieces.
2. Thread the pieces onto a long coffee stirrer to make a green fruit kabob.
3. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Pray and thank God for the snack. As everyone munches, say,

What do all these pieces of fruit have in common?

Pause. Yes, they're all green. That's today's color.

What does it remind you of? Green reminds us of the beautiful creation God made in the beginning.

As students eat, share the conversation starters below.

Conversation Starters

- What's your favorite color?
- In ten seconds, how many things can you think of that are green? Ready? Shout them out!
- Do you know what God made on each day of creation?

Tip Corner

- Pears and apples can brown quickly. Dip them in lemon-lime soda, lemon water (1 T. lemon juice in 1 c. water), or honey water (2 T. honey in 1 c. water) to avoid browning.
- Drink boxes or water bottles can be used any day this week if you prefer drinks that do not require cups and preparation.
- Green or jungle-themed napkins can be fun for today.

Super Simple Options

Anything Green—Buy green food and talk about the color of the day (green) and what it stands for (Creation). Possible green foods are mint chocolate chip ice cream, green ice pops, green licorice, or green veggies or fruit.



Healthy Options

Note: See pictures on page 30.

Flower Fun—Wash and peel kiwi and cut into circle slices. Rinse strawberries and cut in half vertically. Put a kiwi slice in the center of a plate and arrange the strawberries around it for petals. Rinse blueberries and place a few in a column for the stem.

Creation Cutouts—Using cookie cutters, cut out animal, flower, sun, star, and moon shapes from slices of cheese or from fruit such as watermelon. Or serve veggies with hummus and talk about God's wonderful creation of plants on day three of creation.

Tropical Tidbits

Every day, a food found in the rainforest is featured to give the kids one little bite to try.

Avocados—Try a bite of avocado, perhaps on toast. Avocados are grown in the tropical rainforest regions of many countries and are nicknamed “alligator pears” because of their pear shape and rough-looking skin. They are also green, our color of the day.

Toddler Options

Check the Toddler Snacks for daily suggested snacks with Teaching Tie-Ins.

If you choose to serve other snack options included in this book, make sure they are safe for toddlers, with no choking hazards.

DAY 2

SERPENT SNACK

Ingredients (per child)

- 1 vanilla or chocolate doughnut
- 2 vanilla or chocolate doughnut holes
- 2 mini M&M's
- Thin red licorice, cut into 1-inch pieces

Dark Drink Ingredients

- Dark drink (e.g., grape juice, grape powdered drink mix, dark colas), 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Knife
- Kitchen scissors
- Cutting board
- Spoon
- Small paper plates, napkins, and drink cups, 1 of each per child
- Stirring spoon
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Prep

1. Cut each doughnut in half.
2. Arrange doughnut halves in an S on the paper plate. This will serve as the serpent's body.
3. Place a doughnut hole at each end. These will serve as the serpent's head and tail. To get them to sit flush with the rest of the snake, it helps to slice just a tiny bit off each doughnut hole "head" and put the straight edge against each end of the snake.
4. Split the end of each licorice piece with kitchen scissors. Gently pull the ends apart to make it forked. This will serve as the serpent's tongue. Cut a tiny slit in the doughnut hole and put the licorice tongue in.
5. Cut 2 tiny slits in the doughnut hole "head" for the eyes and put the M&M's in.
6. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Thank God for the snack, then share the following while everyone is munching.

What does our snack look like today? Take responses. Yes, a snake (serpent). What's one thing you can remember about the garden of Eden and a serpent? Take responses. Eve shouldn't have listened to that serpent. She should've obeyed God, and so should we! Let's thank God for forgiving us through Jesus when we sin, and let's thank him for this snack. Do so.

As students eat, share the conversation starters below.



Conversation Starters

- Have you ever seen a snake up close and personal?
- Do you like reptiles? Would you like to own a reptile? What kind of animal would you most like to have as a pet?
- What is something or someone you find hard to obey? Why do you think that is?

Tip Corner

- Use doughnuts that are smaller in size for this treat.
- Powdered doughnuts/doughnut holes don't work as well as vanilla or chocolate cake or glazed.
- Use a sticky edible substance like honey or marshmallow fluff to stick the snake pieces together.
- One 11-oz. package of peel-apart thin licorice strands will make 300 serpent tongues. Cut each 6-inch bunch in half before pulling apart.

- One 12-oz. package of mini M&M's contains about 600 pieces, enough for 300 serpents.
- Kids can assemble their snakes, if desired.
- Dark or blue napkins can be fun for today or ones with snakes on them.

Super Simple Options

Anything Dark and/or Blue—Buy dark or blue food and talk about the colors of the day (dark and blue) and what they stand for (Corruption and Catastrophe). Possible dark and blue foods are chocolate ice cream, fudge bars, chocolate cookies, blue ice cream with chocolate cookie crumbles, blue freezer pops, blue corn chips, blackberries, or dark grapes.

Serpent Gummies—Buy snake gummies and serve.

Day 2 Overview Corruption and Catastrophe		
Lesson Focus	Bible Passages	
Next come Corruption and Catastrophe as sin enters the world and affects everyone.	Genesis 3, Genesis 6–9	
Memory Verse	Animal Pal	Cool Contest
Psalm 14:3	Tox the Poison Dart Frog	Team Spirit Day
Science and Crafts	Treats	Games
Experiments: Fallen Foliage / Catastrophic Eruption Crafts: Straw Serpent / Rainy Day Rain Gauge	Serpent Snack Tree Treats	Rainy Relays Tox Tag

DAY 2

TREE TREAT

Ingredients (per child)

- Half a pretzel rod
- Baggie of pretzel sticks (approximately 10–12 per child)
- Edible decorations that represent leaves or fruit on a tree such as:
 - Blueberries
 - Fruit Loops or Cheerios
 - Fruit-shaped gummies or cut-up pieces of fruit leather

Dark Drink Ingredients

- Dark drink (e.g., grape juice, grape powdered drink mix, dark colas), 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Snack-size baggies, 1 per child
- Bowls
- Spoons
- Optional if making individual kits: gallon-size baggies, 1 per child
- Dinner-size paper plates, napkins, and cups, 1 of each per child
- Stirring spoon
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Prep

1. Bag up the pretzel sticks and half a pretzel rod.
2. Assemble the other supplies into bowls—a bowl of each chosen leaf or fruit (based on the choices above) per station or table. Or you can make up individual kits with a pretzel rod, some pretzel sticks, a paper plate, and the chosen leaves or fruit items all in a baggie for each child.
3. Make a sample tree that they can base theirs on. (See photo.)
4. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Pray and thank God for the snack. Have kids assemble their trees based on the sample tree, then share the following while munching.

Do you have any fruit trees in your yard? Take responses. Today, we talked about a particular fruit tree Adam and Eve weren't supposed to eat from. **Did they obey God?** Take responses. They disobeyed God's command. **Why was that a big deal?** Take responses. They sinned.

They disobeyed God. This is called sin. We all sin. But the beautiful thing is, God is willing to forgive those who sincerely ask for forgiveness through Jesus.



As students eat, share the conversation starters below.

Conversation Starters

- Do you like going to the zoo? Have you ever seen a snake in a zoo or in the wild?
- Have you ever fallen for an April Fool's trick? What was it?
- If you had been in the garden of Eden when Satan came disguised as a wily serpent, do you think you would have fallen for his tricks?
- What should we do when we sin? Why is it so great that Jesus offers forgiveness through his death and resurrection?

Tip Corner

- Swap the pretzel rod for a cheese stick and the pretzel sticks for apple slices if desired.
- Aldi has "fruit loop" cereal that is dye free.
- Add marshmallow fluff on your sample (if desired) to hold things together. It is not suggested for use on the kids' version, however, because it takes too long and isn't necessary.
- Dark or blue napkins can be fun for today, or ones with a fruit or ocean theme.

Super Simple Options

Anything Dark and/or Blue—Buy dark or blue food and talk about the colors of the day (dark and blue) and what they stand for (Corruption and Catastrophe). Possible dark

and blue foods are chocolate ice cream, fudge bars, chocolate cookies, blue ice cream with chocolate cookie crumbles, blue freezer pops, blue corn chips, blackberries, dark grapes.

Healthy Options

See pictures on page 30.

Healthy Serpent Snack—Buy red grapes and long coffee stirrers. Thread the grapes on a coffee stirrer like a skewer. Make a snake face on the first grape out of edible eyes or use an edible food marker.

Cheese and Apple Boat—Cut apples into slices. Note: You may need to dip the apple slices in lemon-lime soda to keep them from browning. Put a pretzel stick in each apple slice. Add a small cheese "sail." Remind students that Noah built a large ship and filled it with animals.

Tropical Tidbits

Acai—Give each person a few acai berries. These grow in the Amazon jungle and are considered a superfruit because of their health benefits. They are great to throw into smoothies or smoothie bowls, cereal, or granola bars.

Toddler Options

Check the Toddler Snacks for daily suggested snacks with Teaching Tie-Ins.

If you choose to serve other snack options included in this book, make sure they are safe for toddlers, with no choking hazards.

DAY 3

SHADES OF PUDDING PARFAITS

Ingredients (per child)

- ¼ c. chocolate pudding
- ¼ c. butterscotch pudding
- ¼ c. vanilla pudding
- If making pudding: milk to add to instant dry pudding mixes
- Whipped topping, a dollop
- 1 honey and 1 chocolate Teddy Graham cracker

Muddled (Gray) Drink Ingredients

- Various flavors of drink mixes mixed together, 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- If making pudding from scratch: bowls, whisks, and stirring spoons
- Plastic punch cups, 1 per child
- Napkins, spoons, and cups for serving, 1 of each per child
- Stirring spoon
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Prep

1. If making the pudding, follow package directions for each flavor.
2. Layer the puddings in the punch cups, ¾ c. total per child. Top each cup with a dollop of whipped topping. Refrigerate.
3. Before serving, add a honey and a chocolate Teddy Graham cracker to the top of each layered parfait.
4. Make various flavors of powdered drink mixes and mix together to get a grayish color.

Teaching Tie-In

Pray and thank God for the snack, then share the following while everyone is munching.

Have you ever wondered why people have different shades of skin? **Take responses.** It's sort of like these different shades of pudding. This is all pudding, but it comes in different shades. We have a lighter shade, a medium shade, and a darker shade. That's similar to people's skin. There are many different beautiful shades of skin, from light to dark and everywhere in between. Our skin shade comes from the way a pigment called melanin interacts with our skin. So instead of saying we're different colors, we should say we're different shades of the same color—brown. The different people groups with different skin shades came about as a result of the C for today—Confusion.

As students eat, share the conversation starters below.



Conversation Starters

- Let's try some crazy, confusing tongue twisters just for fun. Say each of these three times fast: unique New York, rubber baby buggy bumpers, toy boat.
- How would you describe your skin shade? **Take responses.** Have you ever thought about how God made us all in his image and as one family? **Pause.** How should that affect how we treat each other? **Take responses.**

Tip Corner

- We used 9 oz. clear punch cups. This recipe partially fills the cups. Adjust amounts if wanting to serve a bigger portion of pudding per child.

- If time, have kids make their own parfaits by dishing the pudding from big bowls into their clear cups.
- Gray napkins or napkins featuring kids from around the world can be fun for today.

Super Simple Options

Anything Gray—Buy or make a gray food (which is a little harder to come by) and talk about the color of the day (gray) and what it stands for (Confusion). Possible gray foods are gray macarons, gray cake pops, gray ice cream, the gray variety of guavas, dragon fruit (inside is gray), or chocolate crinkle cookies (dipped in powdered sugar).

Simple Shades of Pudding Parfaits—Substitute prepackaged single-serving pudding cups with chocolate and vanilla layers for an easier alternative.

Day 3 Overview

Confusion

Lesson Focus

The fourth C—Confusion—checks out the world-altering events that began at the tower of Babel.

Bible Passage

Genesis 11

Memory Verse

Genesis 11:9

Animal Pal

Scatter the Silverback Gorilla

Cool Contest

yaD sdrawkcaB

Science and Crafts

Experiments: Skin-Deep / Tower Test
Crafts: Tricky Triangle Game / Toothpick Tower

Treats

Shades of Pudding Parfaits
Wacky Mixed-Up Trail Mix

Games

Confusing Competitions
Babel Bricks

DAY 3

WACKY MIXED-UP TRAIL MIX

Ingredients (per child)

Trail mix ingredients of your choice, such as any of the following:

- Chex cereal (regular or vanilla and chocolate)
- Cheerios
- M&M's
- Chocolate chips
- Yogurt melts
- Gummy snakes or frogs
- Gray Sixlets
- Mini pretzels
- Goldfish crackers
- Oyster crackers
- Banana chips
- Dried acai berries
- Dried pineapple
- Other dried tropical fruits

Muddled (Gray) Drink Ingredients

- Various flavors of drink mixes mixed together, 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Bowls and stirring spoons
- 4 oz. gray paper coffee cups, 1 per child
- Optional: international or footprint stickers or rubber stamps and ink pads
- Napkins and cups, 1 of each per child
- Stirring spoon
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Prep

1. Put the stickers on the cups or stamp footprint images on them.
2. Mix together the trail mix ingredients.
3. Before snack time, put trail mix in individual cups.

4. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Pray and thank God for the snack, then share the following while everyone is munching.

Have you ever had trail mix when you've gone hiking? *Take responses.* What do you think the people at Babel took with them as they headed away from there? *Take responses.* How do you think they traveled—on foot, by boat, by animal? *Take responses.* Because this happened just about 100 years after the flood, they would have known about Noah's ship and would perhaps have made smaller boats as one way to get around, along with riding animals and walking.



Because of that confusing time when God confused their language and scattered them, people live all over the world now and speak different languages and have different cultures and physical features. This all was a result of the event that started at the tower of Babel.

As students eat, share the conversation starters below.

Conversation Starters

- Do you like to travel? How would you most like to get to your destination: car, boat, plane, or train?
- What's the farthest away from your home you've ever traveled?
- Have you ever been hiking? What do you remember about it?

Tip Corner

- You may want to make a trail mix bar and let the kids make their own mix in their cups.
- Gray Sixlets can be ordered online.
- A footprint rubber stamp is available at Hobby Lobby at the time of this writing.
- Substitute zippered baggies with stickers for the individual cups to portion out ahead of time or get cups with lids.
- For added fun, use gray napkins or napkins with kids around the world on them.

Super Simple Options

Anything Gray—Buy or make gray food (which is hard to come by) and talk about the color of the day (gray) and what it stands for (Confusion). Possible gray foods are gray

macarons, gray cake pops, gray ice cream, the gray variety of guavas, dragon fruit (inside is gray), or chocolate crinkle cookies (dipped in powdered sugar).

Simple Mixed-Up Trail Mix—Buy prepackaged trail mix and serve.

Healthy Options

Chia Seed Pudding—For this gray food, gather the following per child: 2 T. chia seeds, ½ c. milk of choice, 1 t. honey or sweetener of choice, berries for topping, plastic punch cup, a piece of plastic wrap, and a spoon.

Directions: Pour the first three ingredients into a cup. Let it settle for 3 minutes and mix again to make sure it doesn't clump up. Cover the cup with plastic wrap and let it sit in the fridge for 2 hours or overnight. Top with berries when ready to eat.

Revised Wacky Trail Mix—Make trail mix as suggested, but just use all healthy ingredients.

Tropical Tidbits

Sea Salt Cassava Strips or Cassava Tortilla Chips—Buy cassava strips or chips and serve 1–2 per child. Cassava (also known as yuca) is a rainforest staple. It can be boiled, fried, roasted, or ground into flour and baked.

Toddler Options

Check the Toddler Snacks for daily suggested snacks with Teaching Tie-Ins.

If you choose to serve other snack options included in this book, make sure they are safe for toddlers, with no choking hazards.

DAY 4

GOSPEL GOODIES

Ingredients (per child)

- 1 brownie, store-bought or homemade
- White icing
- 7 red M&M's or 2 strands of thin red licorice

Pink Drink Ingredients

- Pink lemonade powdered drink mix and water, 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Optional: heart cookie cutter
- Knife for icing and cutting brownies
- If making brownies from scratch: mixing bowls, measuring cups and spoons, and pans
- Spatula
- Napkins, cups, and small paper plates for serving, 1 of each per child
- Stirring spoon
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Prep

1. Buy brownies or make them according to package directions.
2. Ice brownies with white icing.
3. Cut brownies but keep them in the pan OR use the cookie cutter to cut them into hearts.
4. Arrange the red M&M's or thin red licorice into a cross shape on top of each brownie.
5. Before snack time, put each brownie on a small paper plate.
6. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Pray and thank God for the snack, then share the following while everyone is munching.

We have three colors on our Gospel Goodies. What does the dark brownie stand for? Take responses—sin

(Corruption). How about the white icing? Take responses—Christ. And the red licorice? Take responses—Cross. Jesus came to earth to pay the penalty for our sin by dying on the cross and rising from the dead. When we repent of our sins and believe in him, we have eternal life with God in heaven.

As students eat, share the conversation starters below.

Conversation Starters

- Besides getting presents, what's something you love about Christmas?
- What would be a present you'd like to receive?
- People say Jesus is the greatest gift. Why do you think that is?



Tip Corner

- If making the brownies from a box mix, use an 8 x 8 pan and cut into nine 2.5-inch squares.
- If you have time for the kids to make the crosses during snack rotation, bag up seven M&M's or two strands of thin red licorice ahead of time in snack-size baggies, 1 baggie per child.
- Ask your church family to donate 9 x 13 pans of uncut homemade brownies covered with vanilla icing, bringing them the day before.
- Before VBS, during Valentine season, buy bags of red, white, and pink M&M's to use for the cross on each brownie.

- For added fun, use white and red plates, napkins, or cups, or some with crosses or hearts on them.

Super Simple Options

Anything White or Red—Buy white or red food and talk about the colors of the day (white and red) and what they stand for (Christ and the Cross). Possible white or red foods are white popcorn, white ice cream with red strawberries on it, white corn chips with red salsa, white or red veggies or fruit, vanilla yogurt with red raspberries, red freezer pops, pizza, red licorice, or candy canes.

Simple Gospel Goodies—Purchase premade vanilla-iced brownies and just add the red cross on top.

Day 4 Overview

Christ and the Cross

Lesson Focus		Bible Passage	
Christ and the Cross are the next steps. The gospel is shared today.		Various Scriptures	
Memory Verse	Animal Pal	Cool Contest	
John 1:12	Rose the Pink River Dolphin	Seven C's Scavenger Hunt	
Science and Crafts	Treats	Games	
Experiments: Don't Eat Me / Ring Around a Tree Crafts: Christmas Ornament / Easter Diorama	Gospel Goodies Nativity Nibbles	Capture the Gifts Cross Kickball	

DAY 4

NATIVITY NIBBLES

Ingredients (per child)

- 4 rectangular crackers, such as Club Crackers, or 2 pretzel rods
- 2 pretzel sticks
- 1 Chex square
- 2 oval green grape halves or long Moon Drop grape halves
- Several pieces of popcorn (store-bought or pop yourself)
- Part of a slice of cheese

Pink Drink Ingredients

- Pink lemonade powdered drink mix and water, 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Optional: **Nativity Nibbles Placemat Map**, 1 per child (see Tip Corner)
- Tiny star cookie cutter
- Optional: pot, lid, and oil for popping popcorn
- Knife
- Snack-size baggies, 2 per child
- Large paper plates, napkins, and cups, 1 of each per child
- Stirring spoon
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Prep

1. Use a tiny star cookie cutter to cut out the stars from the cheese.
2. Cut the grapes in half vertically. These will serve as Mary and Joseph.
3. If using kernels, pop the corn. The popcorn will be the sheep.
4. If using pretzel rods for the structure, break one of the rods in half.
5. Break one of the pretzel sticks in half for the manger.

6. Put together a sample nativity scene for students to base their creation on. (See photo.)
7. Download the **placemat map** from [AnswersVBS.com/junglesnacks](https://www.answersvbs.com/junglesnacks). Print one copy for each student.
8. Make individual kits by bagging up the dry ingredients in one baggie and the wet ingredients in another.
9. Prepare the drink mix according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Pray and thank God for the snack, then have everyone quietly assemble their nativity scene while you talk. When done, eat!



Let's put together our nativity scenes. Here's an example. [Show it](#). The crackers make the structure, the pretzel sticks make the manger, the Chex square makes baby Jesus, the grapes make Mary and Joseph, the popcorn is the sheep, and the cheese is the star. Now here's a little quiz.

- What kind of structure was Jesus born into? [Take responses](#). It was likely the guest room in a house belonging to Mary and Joseph's family.
- Who came first to visit—the shepherds or the wise men? [Take responses](#). The shepherds. The wise men may have been much later.
- What direction was the star shining from—the north, east, south, or west? [Take responses](#). The east.
- How long ago (approximately) did this happen? [Take responses](#). It was around 2,000 years ago.
- Why do you think we're still talking about it today? [Take responses](#).

[As students eat, share the conversation starters below.](#)

Conversation Starters

- Besides getting presents, what's something you love about Christmas?
- What would be a present you'd like to receive?
- People say Jesus is the greatest gift. Why do you think that is?

Tip Corner

- Be as simple or elaborate as desired with your nativity scene, adding or taking away various foods.
- Tiny star cookie cutters were available at Dollar General at the time of this writing.
- If you are using the exact food listed, each child can use a [Nativity Nibbles Placemat Map](#) to arrange his food on. Download the map from [AnswersVBS.com/junglesnacks](#).
- Use Christmas napkins and cups for fun.

Super Simple Options

Anything White or Red—Buy a white or red food and talk about the colors of the day (white and red) and what they stand for (Christ and the Cross). Possible white or red foods are white popcorn, white ice cream with red strawberries, white corn chips with red salsa, white or red veggies or fruit, vanilla yogurt with red raspberries, red freezer pops, pizza, red licorice, or candy canes.

Strawberry and Banana Candy Canes—Shortly before eating, horizontally cut strawberry and banana circles and place in a baggie. Have the kids make them into a shepherd's crook shape, alternating the strawberry and banana pieces.

Healthy Options

See pictures on page 30.

Yogurt Yummies—Serve vanilla Greek yogurt with fresh, cut strawberries on top to represent the white and red colors of today. Or use pink strawberry yogurt.

Babybel Fish—Cut out a small wedge through the red packaging and the cheese. Put a small edible eye above the wedge space on the packaging or use a permanent marker to draw an eye on the packaging. Use the cut-out cheese to make the fins and tail. Talk about baby animals, baby people (which are not animals), and the most special baby ever—Jesus.

Tropical Tidbits

Coconut Milk—Give each child a taste of coconut milk in a mini cup or condiment cup.

Toddler Options

Check the Toddler Snacks for daily suggested snacks with Teaching Tie-Ins.

If you choose to serve other snack options included in this book, make sure they are safe for toddlers, with no choking hazards.

DAY 5

7 C'S BOAT

Ingredients (per child)

- Green food such as a couple green grapes, green apple slices, or pear slices
- Dark food such as a few chocolate chips (or chocolate anything) or a couple blackberries
- Blue food such as a couple blue corn chips or blueberries
- Gray food such as a spoonful of chia seed pudding or gray Sixlet candies
- White food such as a couple white cheese cubes or white yogurt melts
- Red food such as a couple pieces of pepperoni, raspberries, or strawberries
- Yellow food such as a couple pieces of pineapple, yellow corn chips, or yellow cheese cubes and crackers

Golden Gulper Ingredients

- Lemonade powdered drink mix and water, 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Disposable paper food boats (like hot dogs are served in) or Styrofoam hot dog containers cut in half, 1 per child
- Flag on a toothpick, 1 per child
- Paper plates, napkins, and cups, 1 of each per child

Prep

1. If using Styrofoam hot dog containers, cut them in half.
2. Make the toothpick flags by taping a triangular piece of colored paper to each toothpick.
3. Decide which foods you want to use and get them ready to serve by removing packaging and washing as needed.

4. Before the kids arrive, put a little of each item on a paper plate for each child in random color order. Place a food boat near each plate as well.
5. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Share the following before anyone eats.

We've been cruising to seven different C's this week, haven't we? **Pause.** Before you eat, let's see if you can arrange your food in the right order. Find the first color on the paper plate and put it first in your food boat. Then put the second color in and so forth. Let them do so, then see if they can remember the words that go with each color. Creation—green;



Corruption—dark; Catastrophe—blue; Confusion—gray; Christ—white; Cross—red; Consummation—yellow.

Pray and let students eat as you continue to review. Then share the conversation starters below.

Conversation Starters and Fun Facts

- What’s your favorite color? What’s your favorite candy?
- What’s one of your favorite things you did this week at VBS?
- What’s one of your favorite things you learned this week at VBS?

Tip Corner

- Disposable paper food boats or trays can be found online or at restaurant supply stores.

- For added fun, use yellow plates, napkins, and cups, or napkins in all of the colors (green, dark, blue, gray, white, red, and yellow).

Super Simple Options

Anything Yellow—Buy yellow food and talk about the color of the day (yellow) and what it stands for (Consummation). Possible yellow foods are yellow corn chips, Golden Delicious apples, pineapple, golden kiwi, lemon bars, yellow cheese and crackers, butter-flavored popcorn, or cornflakes.

7 C’s Freezer Pops—Buy freezer pops in as many of the colors as you can find (green, dark, blue, gray, white, red, yellow). Have the kids figure out which colors are missing if you can’t find every color. Discuss the colors and what they stand for.

Day 5 Overview		
Consummation		
Lesson Focus		Bible Passage
The last C—Consummation—shows that God wins and all goes back to very good again.		Revelation 21–22
Memory Verse	Animal Pal	Cool Contest
Revelation 21:4	Bliss the Bird-wing Butterfly	Mission Money Mania
Science and Crafts	Treats	Games
Experiments: Cycling in the Jungle / Good Again Crafts: 7 C’s Bracelet or Necklace / Beautiful Butterfly	7 C’s Boat Colorful Bites	Seven C’s Splash Coconut Launch

DAY 5

COLORFUL BITES

Ingredients (per child)

- Waffle pretzels, 4–7 per child
- Milk chocolate kisses, 4–7 per child
- M&M's, 4 random or 7 (one of each color) per child
- Optional: gray M&M's and white M&M's

Golden Gulper Ingredients

- Lemonade powdered drink mix and water, 1 quart for every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Cookie sheets
- Parchment paper
- Small plates, napkins, and cups for serving, 1 of each per child

Prep

1. Preheat the oven to 200 degrees.
2. Put parchment paper on a cookie sheet and arrange a single layer of waffle pretzels on it.
3. Unwrap the chocolate kisses and place one on top of each pretzel.
4. Put the cookie sheet in the oven for a few minutes until the kisses are just starting to soften. (Keep an eye on them so they don't melt too much.)
5. Take out and immediately place an M&M on top of each one.
6. Allow them time to harden. Putting them in a freezer for a little bit speeds it up if you have the space.
7. Make additional batches as needed.
8. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Before eating, say,

We've been cruising to seven different C's this week, haven't we? Before you eat, let's see how

many of the colors from this week you've got on your Colorful Bites. Have students call out the colors they have and see if they can remember the C each color stands for. Creation—green; Corruption—dark; Catastrophe—blue; Confusion—gray; Christ—white; Cross—red; Consummation—yellow.

Pray and let the students eat. Continue to review as they are eating.

Share the conversation starters and fun facts below.

Conversation Starters and Fun Facts

- What's your favorite color? What's your favorite candy?
- What's one of your favorite things you did this week at VBS?



- What's one of your favorite things you learned this week at VBS?

Tip Corner

- The normal bag of M&M's has 5 of the 7 colors we talked about this week. Use the brown to represent dark (Corruption). If you want to have all 7 colors, order gray M&M's and white M&M's online.
- If using all 7 colors, bag up 7 per child ahead of time, or have them get one of each from bowls. Before they eat, see if they can put them in color order and share the C word that goes with each color.
- Use thematic plates or cups in seven colors for added fun.

Super Simple Options

Anything Yellow—Buy yellow food and talk about the color of the day (yellow) and what it stands for (Consummation). Possible yellow foods are yellow corn chips, Golden Delicious apples, pineapple, golden kiwi, lemon bars, yellow cheese and crackers, butter-flavored popcorn, or cornflakes.

M&M Bags—Buy individual bags of M&M's and have the kids see if they are missing any of the seven colors (green, dark, blue, gray, white, red, and yellow). Discuss what the colors represent.

Healthy Options

See pictures on page 30.

7 C's Healthy Boat—Adjust the 7 C's Boat main snack idea to have just healthy food options, such as the fruits and cheeses. Review the 7 C's.

Strawberry Butterflies—Cut a strawberry in half vertically and use each half as one of the butterfly's wings. Put half a pretzel stick in the middle for the body, along with two slivers of strawberry for the antennae. Serve a few per person and talk about how those who have repented of their sin and believed in Jesus have new life in Christ and how God is going to make all things new—even a new heaven and earth.

Tropical Tidbits

Plantains—Buy or make plantain chips (search online for a DIY plantain recipe) and serve one or two to each child.

Toddler Options

Check the Toddler Snacks for suggested snacks and Teaching Tie-Ins.

If you choose to serve other snack options included in this book, make sure they are safe for toddlers, with no choking hazards.

HEALTHY ALTERNATIVES AT A GLANCE

Daily

Instead of sugary drinks, offer ice water every day. Download drink label patterns from AnswersVBS.com/junglesnacks.

Day 1

Flower Fun—Wash and peel kiwi and cut into circle slices. Rinse strawberries and cut in half vertically. Put a kiwi slice in the center of a plate and arrange the strawberries around it for petals. Rinse blueberries and place a few in a column for the stem.



Creation Cutouts—Using cookie cutters, cut out animal, flower, sun, star, and moon shapes from slices of cheese or from fruit such as watermelon. Or serve veggies with hummus and talk about God's wonderful creation of plants on day three of creation.



Day 2

Healthy Serpent Snack—Buy red grapes and long coffee stirrers. Thread the grapes on a coffee stirrer like a skewer. Make a snake face on the first grape out of edible eyes or use an edible food marker.



Cheese and Apple Boat—Cut apples into slices. Note: You may need to dip the apple slices in lemon-lime soda to keep them from browning. Put a pretzel stick in each apple slice. Add a small cheese "sail." Remind students that Noah built a large ship and filled it with animals.



Day 3

Chia Seed Pudding—For this gray food, gather the following per child: 2 T. chia seeds, ½ c. milk of choice, 1 t. honey or sweetener of choice,



berries for topping, plastic punch cup, a piece of plastic wrap, and a spoon.

Directions: Pour the first three ingredients into a cup. Let it settle for 3 minutes and mix again to make sure it doesn't clump up. Cover the cup with plastic wrap and let it sit in the fridge for 2 hours or overnight. Top with berries when ready to eat.

Revised Wacky Trail Mix—Make trail mix as suggested, but just use all healthy ingredients.



Day 4

Yogurt Yummies—Serve vanilla Greek yogurt with fresh, cut strawberries on top to represent the white and red colors of today. Or use pink strawberry yogurt.



Babybel Fish—Cut out a small wedge through the red packaging and the cheese. Put a small edible eye above the wedge space on the packaging or use a permanent marker to draw an eye on the packaging. Use the cut-out cheese to make the fins and tail. Talk about baby animals, baby people (which are not animals), and the most special baby ever—Jesus.



Day 5

7 C's Healthy Boat—Adjust the 7 C's Boat main snack idea to have just healthy food options, such as the fruits and cheeses. Review the 7 C's.

Strawberry Butterflies—Cut a strawberry in half vertically and use each half as one of the butterfly's wings. Put half a pretzel stick in the middle for the body, along with two slivers of strawberry for the antennae. Serve a few per person and talk about the new life we have in Christ and how God is going to make all things new—even a new heaven and earth.



ADDITIONAL SNACK IDEAS

The snacks suggested here are great additional ideas to use for meetings, training workshops, the carnival, or VBS week itself. For meetings, make card labels for each snack on the food table. Serve food on jungle-themed plates. See [Pinterest.com/answersvbs](https://www.pinterest.com/answersvbs) for great pictures of thematically decorated snack tables.

Canopy Café Snacks: Serve any of the snacks suggested in this book for meetings or after events, as well as during VBS week.

Taste of the Jungle: Try some foods that grow in the jungle, such as coconut, acai, mango, citrus fruits, plantain, avocado, okra, banana, guava, spices (cinnamon, pepper, all-spice, cardamom, etc.), and of course, coffee and cola.

Snake or Crocodile Eggs: Gather a bowl of grapes and label them as “Snake Eggs” or “Crocodile Eggs.”

Paw Print Cookies: Make and ice sugar cookies to look like bear or tiger paw prints.

Snake Sub Sandwiches: Take long sub sandwiches and cut into small sections. Fan them out on a large serving tray to make them into an S shape that looks like a snake. Add eyes (2 half black olives) and a forked tongue (red pepper) for the face.

Serpent Snack Tray: Cut cheeses into circles the size of pepperoni slices. Make a snake from the cheese circles and pepperoni slices. Add veggies around the snake. (See photo.) Serve with crackers.

Spider Crackers: Transform crackers into spiders by sandwiching two round crackers, such as Ritz, with spray cheese between. Insert half pretzel sticks in the sides (4 per side) and stick two chocolate chip eyes on with spray cheese.

Ants on a Log: Spread spray cheese, ricotta cheese, cream cheese, or sun butter on celery sticks or pretzel rods. Add raisins or chocolate chips to be the “ants” that are on the celery or pretzel “log.”

Tiger Cuties: Draw a tiger face on the bottom of a Cutie orange with a black permanent marker.

Dragonfly Wings, Tiger Tails, and Jaguar Claws: Put out a bowl of potato chips and label it “Dragonfly Wings.” Add a bowl of Cheetos and label it “Tiger Tails.” A third bowl can have Bugles labeled “Jaguar Claws.”

Monkey Bread: Make your favorite monkey bread recipe (check for recipes online) and label it “Monkey Bread.”

Creation Cupcakes: Make or buy bakery cupcakes with white icing and add a few animal crackers, Teddy Grahams, or animal gummies to the top.

Choco/Vanilla Dessert Bar: Because both chocolate (from the cacao seeds) and vanilla grow in the jungle, set up a chocolate-and-vanilla-themed dessert bar. Include a picture of the cacao seed and vanilla growing in the jungle.

Tropical Smoothies: Make your favorite tropical smoothie recipe and serve in clear punch cups with a mini umbrella.

Bug Juice: Label any juice, lemonade, or colored drink mix “Bug Juice” and serve in bug-themed cups.

The Watering Hole: Make a drink bar with water, bug juice, tropical smoothies, Roaring Water Capri Suns, or any other drinks of interest.



LEADING A CHILD TO CHRIST

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” Romans 1:16

VBS presents an ideal opportunity to share the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ with all attending. Every leader and team member should be ready to clearly present the gospel and counsel those wanting to learn more. Children are usually soft-hearted toward things of the Lord, and some will be interested in becoming a follower of Christ. Be ready, because eternal matters matter most!

Before

- **Pray.** Salvation is God’s work, not ours. We cannot bring about salvation for anyone. We need to ask God to prepare the children and open their hearts to him.
- **Be prepared.** Learn more about presenting the gospel and counseling a child about salvation.

During

The gospel will be presented during the lesson time. Opportunities may arise, however, to share with a child one-on-one or with a small group of children. If so, keep the following in mind:

- Becoming a child of God involves repenting of one’s sin and having faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Repentance involves understanding what sin is (disobeying God’s commands) and desiring to turn from that sin.
- You can use the booklet *How Can I Become a Child of God?* along with your Bible to explain the plan of salvation. Children need to see and hear God’s Word, so have your Bible opened and marked ahead of time with the appropriate scriptures.
- Avoid abstract phrases like “asking Jesus into your heart.” Instead, use terminology like “becoming a child of God.” Most children still think in concrete terms and need examples that are easy to understand.
- If a child indicates an interest to know more after hearing the gospel presentation, ask questions (such as the following) that require more than a “yes” or “no” answer:
 - » What do you want to talk to me about?
 - » Do you know what sin is?
 - » Can you think of a specific sin (wrong) you have done?
 - » Are you bothered by your sin?

These questions are important. A child who cannot verbalize a sin or does not seem to be repentant about being a sinner may not fully understand his need for a Savior. In this situation, you might list some child-oriented examples of sin and ask him to notice any time he catches himself sinning over the next few days. Give him the *How Can I Become a Child of God?* booklet. Pray with him, then send him on his way. Check back a day or two later, if possible.

- If the child does seem to be sincerely sorry for his sins, you can proceed with more questions like the following:
 - » Why did Jesus come to earth? Why did Jesus need to die? Why did Jesus rise again?

- » Why do you want Jesus to be your Savior?
- » Why should God let you into his family? (Make sure the child understands that salvation is not based on what he does but is a gracious gift of God through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus.)
- Pray for discernment while listening to a child’s answers.
- When a child seems to have a basic understanding of salvation (belief in Jesus’ death and resurrection, admission of and repentance from sin, and a desire to follow the Lord), encourage him to talk to his parents about what it means to become a child of God (if they are followers of Christ). Encourage a child who comes from a non-Christian home to verbalize his understanding to the Lord through prayer. There is no one prayer that should be prayed. Encourage him to ask the Lord to forgive him and help him know he is a child of God.
- Let him see in your words and your face that you are excited that he wants to become a child of God! Read Luke 15:10 to him.
- Some children may not want to make decisions but may want to learn more, to be assured of salvation, or to confess sin. Read Romans 10:9–10 and John 10:28–29 with children who are seeking assurance of their salvation. Encourage them to ask the Lord to help them know they are his children. If a child wants to confess sin, read 1 John 1:9 with him and encourage him to ask the Lord to help him know he is forgiven when he repents.

After

- Review what it means to be a child of God.
 - » How long does God keep his children? (Hebrews 13:5; John 10:28–29)
 - » Can anything separate God from his children? (Romans 8:38–39)
 - » What happens when God’s children sin? (1 John 1:9)
 - » What do children of God believe? (Romans 10:9)
- Explain that Jesus loves his children and wants to spend time with them. Discuss practical ways to grow as a child of God. Provide him with the *Growing Up in God’s Family* booklet and share the following:
 - » Read your Bible and obey what you read. You can start your Bible reading with the short Bible study book you will receive the last day of VBS. (Provide a Bible if he doesn’t have one. Be sure to fill out the presentation page.)
 - » Pray every day. Prayer is talking to God.
 - » Go to a church that believes and teaches the Bible as the Word of God.
 - » Tell others about Jesus. Tell your friends, family, and neighbors how they can become children of God.
- Fill out a Decision Card and turn it in to the VBS director.
- Stay in touch with the child through postcards, visits, or phone calls. Invite him to upcoming church events.

SUPPLY LIST

Day 1

DIRT DESSERT (FOR 10 SERVINGS)

- 2 c. cold milk
- 1 (3.9 oz.) package instant chocolate pudding (4 serving size)
- 8 oz. frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1½ c. crushed chocolate sandwich cookies (about 20), divided
- 20 gummy animals
- 10 punch cups
- Optional: ice cream scoop

FOREST FRUIT (PER CHILD)

- 3 pieces each of several green fruits such as green apples, green grapes, honeydew, kiwi, or green pears
- Long coffee stirrer

GREEN GULPER

- Green drink (e.g., green fruit punch, green powdered drink mix, limeade, or green sports drink), 1 quart for every 5 children

Day 2

SERPENT SNACK (PER CHILD)

- 1 vanilla or chocolate doughnut
- 2 vanilla or chocolate doughnut holes
- 2 mini M&M's
- Thin red licorice, cut into 1-inch pieces

TREE TREAT (PER CHILD)

- Half a pretzel rod
- Baggie of pretzel sticks (approximately 10–12)
- Edible decorations that represent leaves or fruit on a tree such as:
 - Blueberries
 - Fruit Loops or Cheerios
 - Fruit-shaped gummies or cut-up pieces of fruit leather
- Optional if making individual kits: gallon-size bags

DARK DRINK

- Dark drink (e.g., grape juice, grape powdered drink mix, dark colas), 1 quart for every 5 children

Day 3

SHADES OF PUDDING PARFAITS (PER CHILD)

- ¼ c. chocolate pudding
- ¼ c. butterscotch pudding
- ¼ c. vanilla pudding

- If making pudding: milk to add to instant dry pudding mixes
- Whipped topping, a dollop
- 1 honey and 1 chocolate Teddy Graham cracker
- Punch cup

WACKY MIXED-UP TRAIL MIX (PER CHILD)

- Trail mix ingredients such as the following:
 - Chex cereal (regular or vanilla and chocolate)
 - Cheerios
 - M&M's
 - Chocolate chips
 - Yogurt melts
 - Gummy snakes or frogs
 - Gray Sixlets
 - Mini pretzels
 - Goldfish crackers
 - Oyster crackers
 - Banana chips
 - Dried acai berries
 - Dried pineapple
 - Other dried tropical fruits
- 4 oz. gray paper coffee cups, 1 per child
- Optional: international or footprint stickers or rubber stamps and ink pad

MUDDLED (GRAY) DRINK

- Various flavors of drink mixes mixed together, 1 quart for every 5 children

Day 4

GOSPEL GOODIES (PER CHILD)

- 1 brownie, store-bought or homemade
- White icing
- 7 red M&M's or 2 strands of thin red licorice
- Optional: heart cookie cutter

NATIVITY NIBBLES (PER CHILD)

- 4 rectangular crackers such as Club Crackers, or 2 pretzel rods
- 2 pretzel sticks
- 1 Chex square
- 2 oval green grape halves or long Moon Drop grape halves
- Several pieces of popcorn (store-bought or pop yourself)
- Part of a slice of cheese
- Nativity Nibbles Placemat Map, 1 per person
- Tiny star cookie cutter

- Optional: pot, lid, and oil for popping corn

PINK DRINK

- Pink lemonade powdered drink mix and water, 1 quart for every 5 children

Day 5

7 C'S BOAT (PER CHILD)

- Green food such as a couple green grapes, green apple slices, or pear slices
- Dark food such as a few chocolate chips (or chocolate anything) or a couple blackberries
- Blue food such as a couple blue corn chips or blueberries
- Gray food such as a spoonful of chia seed pudding or gray Sixlet candies
- White food such as a couple white cheese cubes or white yogurt melts
- Red food such as a couple pieces of pepperoni, raspberries, or strawberries
- Yellow food such as a couple pieces of pineapple, yellow corn chips, or yellow cheese cubes and crackers
- Disposable paper food boats (like hot dogs are served in) or Styrofoam hot dog containers cut in half, 1 per child
- Flag on a toothpick, 1 per child

COLORFUL BITES (PER CHILD)

- Waffle pretzels, 4–7
- Milk chocolate kisses, 4–7
- M&M's, 4 random or 7 (one of each color)
- Optional: gray M&M's and white M&M's

GOLDEN GULPER

- Lemonade powdered drink mix and water, 1 quart per every 5 children

Basic Supplies

- Mixing bowls, stirring spoons, and whisks
- Measuring cups and spoons
- Spatulas
- Drink pitchers or coolers
- Knives and cutting boards
- Kitchen scissors
- Cookie sheets
- Parchment paper
- Plates, snack-size baggies, napkins, spoons, and/or cups for serving