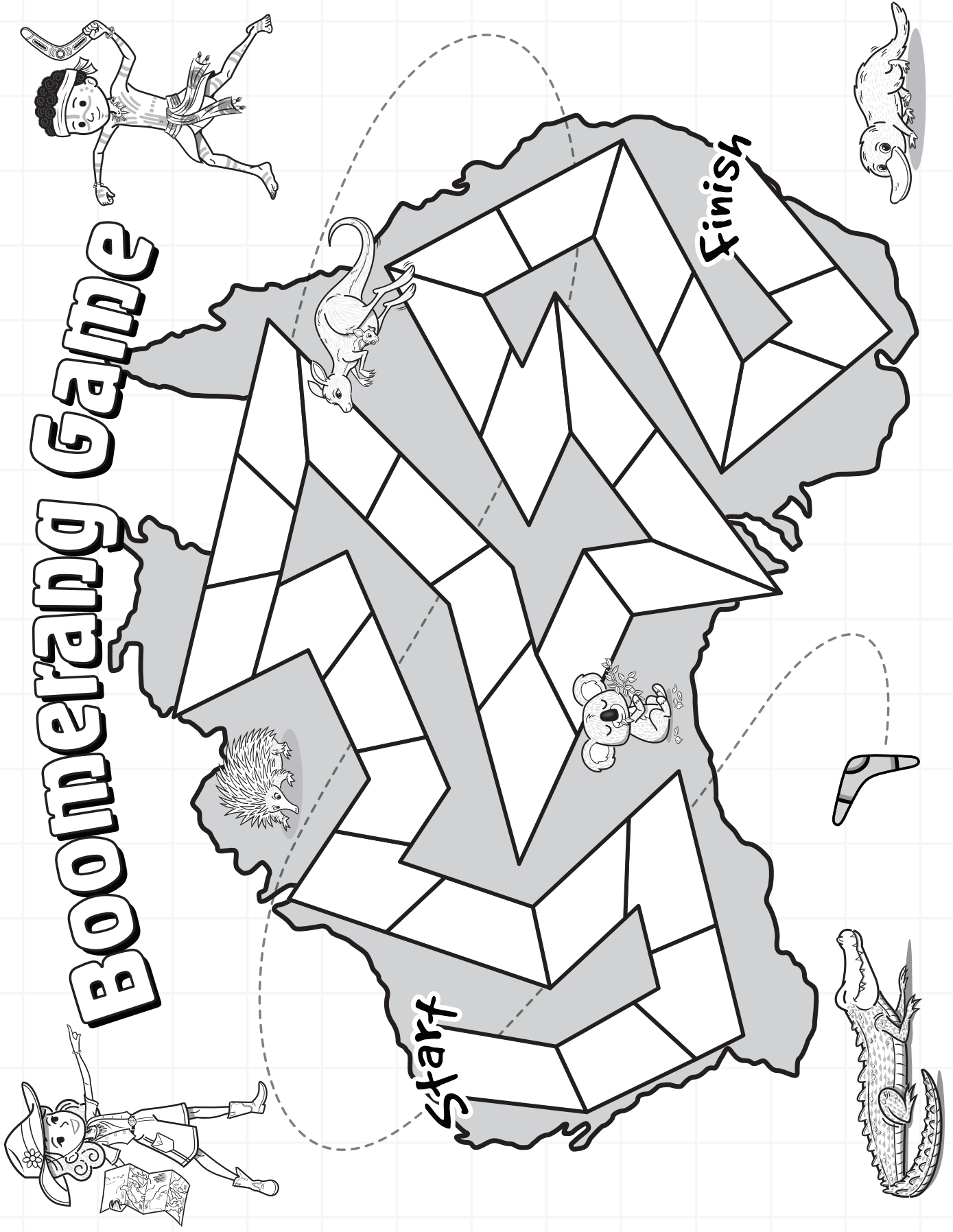


Boomerang Game



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Boomerang Game Clues

Directions

There are two ways to play this.

1. Give each person a Boomerang Game Pattern, a game piece, and a die. You can use just one die for the teacher, but it works better for each player to have a die.
2. Play as a class, dividing into two teams (boys and girls) and using the Boomerang Game Poster, two game pieces, and one die.

Read the examples below in any order. You won't have time for all of them, so choose the ones you want to talk about.

If playing individually, each person should give either a thumb up if God would say the person acted in a way that valued life, or thumb down if the person acted in a way that didn't value life. If playing as teams, the team decides.

After they've decided, share the Scripture and the explanation.

They will each roll (or the teacher rolls) and move according to the following:

- If they got the answer right, they move forward the number on the die, either 1, 2, 3, or 4—5s and 6s don't count.
- If they got the answer wrong, they have to go back to the start. (They may get them all right. The questions are easy.)

Play as time allows. If playing as teams, winners are whichever team finishes first. If playing individually, the winners are when all the girls or all the boys finish first.

If playing with individual boards, tell the mates this is on the honor system. It is not honoring to God to cheat to win.

Clues

1. My name was John Newton. I was a slave trader. I captured people and sold them as slaves. Later, God saved me and I learned that slavery was wrong. I then worked to end slavery.

Thumb up—God created each person in his image; we are all equal. We should not buy or sell other people. When we see injustice happening, we should work to bring it to an end.

Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. Colossians 3:11

2. My name was Corrie ten Boom. I chose to forgive the man who hurt me when I was in prison camp during World War II.

Thumb up—Corrie forgave an enemy who had treated her badly. We show that we have been forgiven by God and value others when we forgive people. Is there anyone you need to forgive?

Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Colossians 3:13

3. I volunteer with the Special Olympics, encouraging the athletes as they play their sports. The Special Olympics are for people with intellectual disabilities. I enjoy making friends with the athletes and learning from them, finding out what we have in common.

Thumb up—All people are made in God's image and are of great value. We show we value others when we look for ways to be friends with other people.

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share. 1 Timothy 6:18

4. My name was Adolf Hitler. I ordered the killing of millions of people. I felt that the German "race" was better than others.

Thumb down—There is only one race of people—the human race (Acts 17:26). We are all part of Adam and Eve's family and all made in God's image. All people groups are related—one is not better than another.

For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Romans 13:9–10

5. When I see someone who isn't "cool," I send messages to my friends so we can laugh at them.

Thumb down—Every person is made in the image of God. The way we treat others reflects how we feel about our Creator. Do we see every person as a precious image-bearer of God? Do we treat them as fellow image-bearers? Do we defend those who can't speak for themselves?

With [our mouth] we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. James 3:9–10

6. My name was Amy Carmichael. I started an orphanage in India to rescue children from a bad life.

Thumb up—God loves for us to defend the defenseless—to help those who may not be able to take care of themselves, such as orphans and widows and those who are oppressed and mistreated.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. James 1:27

7. Over 3,000 years ago, I was a Hebrew midwife—I helped to deliver the babies of Jewish women. When Pharaoh said to kill the baby boys, I chose to hide them instead. I would do the same thing today if someone told me to kill a baby.

Thumb up—This happened when Moses was a baby. The Hebrew midwives risked their own lives to save the lives of babies. They were brave and their actions pleased God! Can you be brave to stand up for those who can't speak for themselves, including babies?

But the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but let the male children live. Exodus 1:17

8. When I see someone who has more stuff or money than I do or things that I want, I think it's okay to steal from them.

Thumb down—Stealing is a sin. We show we value others when we respect what they have and don't try to take it. We can learn to be content with what God has given us and to be happy for others for what God has given them.

You shall not steal. Exodus 20:15

9. I was a Roman father about 2,000 years ago. When my child was born, if I didn't want to keep him, the baby would be killed. This was our culture's custom.

Thumb down—Murder is a sin because we are harming someone who is made in God's image. God is the giver of life—we are not to take the life of another image-bearer. It is also a sin to harm someone emotionally (bully him) or to harm his reputation (make others think badly about him).

You shall not murder. Exodus 20:13

10. I am praying for my enemies who put me in prison because I said I believe in Jesus.

Thumb up—It can be hard to show love toward others when they are mean to you or treat you unjustly. Yet God wants us to pray for those image-bearers who hurt us. (However, we also need to get help when others hurt us by telling a teacher or trusted adult. If you are living with someone who is hurting you, please let a trusted adult know.)

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. Matthew 5:44

11. My name was Jim Elliot. I was willing to risk my life to share the love of Jesus with a group of people, who were made in God's image, called the Huaorani. They lived in the jungle of Ecuador. They killed me, but after my death, they eventually became Christians.

Thumb up—Even though he knew this group of people was dangerous, Jim valued them and cared enough about them to go and tell them how they could have eternal life through Jesus.

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

12. My name was William Hornaday. I was the director of the Bronx zoo in the early 1900s. I put a man (Ota Benga, an African pygmy [a very short person]) in a cage on display at the zoo, along with a monkey, as an exhibit of someone who was close to a supposed ape-man.

Thumb down—There are no ape-men. God made different kinds of apes and then God made Adam and Eve in his image on the same day as he made the apes. We do not show that we value others when we treat them like animals. People are made in God's image; they are not just another animal.

Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. Genesis 2:7

13. I live in Malawi, Africa, and believe widows to be the lowest class of society, so I do not care for them in any way.

Thumb down—God wants us to care for widows and defend those who aren't able to speak for themselves.

Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause. Isaiah 1:17

14. I collect boxed and canned foods from friends and family to give to the local food pantry.

Thumb up—God wants us to help the poor, the hungry, and those who aren't able to provide for themselves. We show that we value all people when we treat them kindly. We show that we know they are made in God's image when we do things in the name of Jesus to help.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. Matthew 25:35

15. When someone is mean to me, I choose to be kind to them.

Thumb up—Choosing kindness, even in the face of meanness, shows that we value people because they are made in God's image.

A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. Proverbs 15:1

16. My name was James Blake. I was a bus driver in 1955 who asked Rosa Parks to give up her seat on the bus because she had a darker shade of skin than I had. Others felt they were better than Rosa and should have her seat because of their lighter skin shade.

Thumb down—We are all related—people with a lighter skin shade, people with darker skin shades, and people with every shade in between! We should value each person because each person is made in God's image with great care and purpose.

And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place. Acts 17:26

17. I am a baby in my mommy's tummy. My mommy is going to get rid of me before I am born.

Thumb down—We are fully human from the moment of fertilization. We need to stand up for those who can't speak for themselves like tiny babies in the womb.

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. Psalm 139:13, 16

18. I am a scientist who is working on the cure for cancer. My son lives with intellectual disabilities. He is gifted in ways that I am not and I have learned a lot from him. God made each of us in his image with great care and purpose.

Thumb up—God creates each person the way he wants them to be with the gifts and talents he wants them to have. Every person is wonderfully made in his image. We are all equal before our Creator. We can celebrate our uniquenesses and look for ways to learn from others who may have different abilities than we do and also find out what we may have in common.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27

19. My name was Harriet Tubman. I escaped from slavery and then led other slaves to freedom because I wanted them to be free as well. I risked my life to help others.

Thumb up—Harriet could have stayed safe in the north once she made it to freedom but she cared about other people and wanted to help other slaves gain their freedom. She was a defender of those who couldn't defend themselves. She spoke out for what she knew to be right and helped to bring an end to slavery. Standing up for others can be difficult but we always need to do what is right, no matter the cost.

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. 1 John 3:16

20. I am old and sick, living in a nursing home. Some think I am not worth the time and money it takes to care for me, so they are planning to let me die.

Thumb down—We are made in God's image from the beginning of our lives to the time of natural death. Because each person is made in God's image, everyone has value, no matter how old or young or what abilities we have or don't have. We need to care for others and honor those who are older than we are. We need to be defenders of those who can't care for themselves or defend themselves.

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:17-18

21. I make fun of homeless people who are cold and hungry.

Thumb down—Every person is made in the image of God, including those who are poor and struggling. God wants us to have compassion on others and treat everyone with kindness and respect. We need to be defenders of those who may not be able to defend themselves.

Blessed is the one who considers the poor! In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him. Psalm 41:1

22. My name is Joni Erickson Tada. I use a wheelchair to get around because I was paralyzed in a diving accident. I started a ministry called Joni and Friends to help people who live with disability. They need to be loved and know their life has purpose.

Thumb up—Joni knows that each person is made in God's image. She values those who are nonverbal, who use wheelchairs to get around, and who tend to be cast aside by society. She has been an advocate for people who live with disability, speaking up for those who aren't able to speak for themselves and working to bring a better quality of life for many people living with disability. She is a defender of the defenseless. Part of her ministry is giving wheelchairs to people who need them. Maybe you could help raise money for Wheels for the World!

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7

23. I am missionary who started a school in Guatemala for children who live in the city dump. We feed these children, teach them a skill so they can find a job and get out of the dump, and teach them about Jesus and his love.

Thumb up—Jesus calls us to tell others about him so they can receive the gift of eternal life. We show that we value others when we share this gift with them. This includes friends at school, family members, neighbors, and people who live in other countries. Every person is made in God's image and needs to hear about their Creator and Savior. Who can you tell about Jesus?

Whoever receives one such child in my [Jesus] name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me. Mark 9:37