

Toddler COURSE OVERVIEW

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Title	B	I	B	L	E
	Book of Books	Incredible Impact	Bedrock Base	Letter of Love	Exciting to Explore
Treasure Point Lesson Focus	The Bible is the coolest book on the planet, unique in so many ways.	The Bible's message has had an incredible impact on earth.	The Bible is the bedrock foundation to build our lives on.	The Bible has a thrilling theme running throughout its pages.	The Bible is exciting to explore! Let's learn it, love it, and live it.
Bible Passages	The Bible is One-of-a-Kind (Selected Verses)	Saul's Life is Transformed (Acts 9:1-22)	The Wise Man Builds His House on the Rock (Matthew 7:24-29)	The Gospel is a Message with Love (Selected Verses)	Mary Loves to Soak in God's Words (Luke 10:38-42)
Bible Gem	All Scripture is given by inspiration of God . . . 2 Timothy 3:16	Your word is a . . . light to my path. Psalm 119:105	. . . A wise man . . . built his house on the rock. Matthew 7:24	. . . Christ died for us. Romans 5:8	. . . Your word . . . great treasure. Psalm 119:162
Animal Pal	Blizzard the Polar Bear	Snowball the Arctic Hare	Spike the Narwhal	Shaggy the Musk Ox	Dash the Siberian Husky
Apologetics Focus	Did you know the Bible isn't like any other "religious" book?	Did you know the Bible's teachings have positively influenced cultures around the world?	Did you know science, history, and fulfilled prophecies confirm the Bible?	Did you know the earth didn't start out with polar ice caps?	Did you know we need the Holy Spirit to help us understand the Bible?
Exploration Stations	Discovery Center: Copy Cats Touch Table: Let it Snow! Dramatic Play: ACE Coloring Corner: 2 Timothy 3:16	Discovery Center: Caterpillar/Butterfly Touch Table: Bunny Tails Dramatic Play: ACE Coloring Corner: Psalm 119:105	Discovery Center: This Rocks! Touch Table: No Stand in the Sand Dramatic Play: ACE Coloring Corner: Matthew 7:24	Discovery Center: Letters Galore Touch Table: Ice Cold Dramatic Play: ACE Coloring Corner: Romans 5:8	Discovery Center: Dogsled Team Touch Table: Ultimate Treasure Dramatic Play: ACE Coloring Corner: Psalm 119:162
Glacier Gap Games	Stack the Books Scoop the Snow	Build a Burrow Red Light, Green Light	Moving Ice Building on Solid Ground	Fun at the Ice Rink Water Works	Arctic Follow the Leader Bring the Bibles
Discovery Pass Science and Crafts	Icebreaker Fishing Book of Books Soap Bible	Northern Lightscape Saul/Paul Plate	Lil' Log Cabin Memory Game	"White as Snow" Globe Snowflake Station	Treasure Box Catch-Up Day
Klondike Corner Snacks	Scripture Scrolls God's Word Scramble (Psalm 119:18)	Snow Ball Butterflies Arctic Hares (Psalm 19:7)	Happy Hearts Cool Sticks (Psalm 19:8)	Snow S'Mores Honeycomb Cereal (Psalm 19:10)	Husky Puppy Chow Go Bananas for the Bible (Psalm 19:11)
Cool Contests	Frosted Food Fun	Chilly Cheers	Polar Dress-Up Day	Bible Books Challenge	Mission Money Mania

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Toddler Teacher Guide

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HANDY HELPS

LET'S WARM UP!

Beyond thrilling! Exciting to explore! Breathtakingly beautiful! Full of treasure! Words that describe the Arctic for sure, a fascinating region like no other in the world. But go back and read those words again—they can also be used to describe the coolest book on the planet—the Bible. It's mind-blowing to think that the God who made the universe wrote us a book—a book that is *beyond thrilling, exciting to explore, beautiful, and full of treasure*. Now if that isn't worthy of our attention, what is? We here at Answers VBS can hardly contain our excitement as we launch the newest VBS—*Operation Arctic*. Get ready for the thrill of exploring this one-of-a-kind treasure as we build on the following BIBLE acronym each day:

- B Book of Books**—The first day, we'll discover there's just no book like it, unique in so many ways!
- I Incredible Impact**—The second day, we'll explore the impact the Bible's teachings have had upon our world!
- B Bedrock Base**—The third day, we'll see there's no shifting sand here—we've got the Rock of God's Word to base our lives on!
- L Letter of Love**—The fourth day, we'll encounter the best love letter ever, written to us by God Himself!
- E Exciting to Explore**—The fifth day, we'll be challenged to learn it, love it, and live it!

Our explorers will begin warming up to the Word from the very first minute they arrive at *Operation Arctic*. The mission begins at *Snowfall Station* with the Opening Assembly, a high-energy opening with entertaining welcomes, rockin' songs, a mission moment, and prayer.

Toddlers and young preschoolers then head back to their room to experience their own special schedule, which includes Exploration Stations, Lesson Time, Song Time, and Memory Verse/Review Time. They also enjoy snacks, games, and crafts.

After finishing the day's rotations, everyone heads back to *Snowfall Station* for the Closing Assembly that includes more singing, a Creature Feature, contest results, and the greatly anticipated daily drama, which is a highlight of the kids' day. The drama begins in the city with a high-powered executive who is fed up with the rat race. He decides to move to the wilderness for a quieter, simpler existence.

Little does he realize all that's in store—missing treasure, goofy bad guys, unexpected visitors, and plenty of action!

Sound fun? Then let's plunge on in to this cold *world* and God's wonderful *Word*! It promises to be a flurry of fun and excitement at *Operation Arctic*! Let's go!

OUR GOAL

It's been ten years since Answers in Genesis entered the world of VBS, and we are so thankful for how God has chosen to use these programs! 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, ten years later?

Our primary goal has remained the same all these years—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 soft-hearted 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. Jesus said not to hinder the children but 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, our philosophy has always been to combine a biblically rich VBS loaded with substance with off-the-chart, irresistible fun. In a day and age when content sometimes suffers, it's critically important to us not to sacrifice rich content at the expense of fun. But it's also crucial that the most exciting Book in the world doesn't come across as irrelevant or dry. 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 to 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.

YOUR ROLE

Your role as the Exploration Leader is outlined in the following pages and includes planning and preparing lessons, enthusiastically engaging in teaching the lessons, and praying over all aspects of your job. Read this guide carefully and

prayerfully, using our suggestions combined with the ideas the Holy Spirit brings to your mind.

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

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The content of *Operation Arctic* may be new to you. For a list of helpful articles on the topics covered in this VBS program, please visit answersvbs.com/oafaq.

TERMS TO KNOW

Throughout the VBS curriculum, various terms will be used. Here's a list of some of the most common terms to know. Note that toddlers don't rotate around as the older kids do, but stay with their same leaders the whole day.

- **Explorers:** Children at VBS. Explorers will be put in teams named after animals they may see on an Arctic exploration (e.g., polar bears, beluga whales, snowy owls, harp seals, caribou).
- **Guides:** Team leaders who lead the teams from place to place during VBS. No teaching is required of this position.
- **Exploration Leaders:** Teachers at the Treasure Point Lesson Time.
- **Treasure Point:** Rotation site where Bible and apologetics teaching occurs.
- **Snowfall Station:** Spot where everyone joins together for the opening and closing assemblies.
- **Discovery Pass:** Rotation site where crafts are made and science experiments are explored.
- **Klondike Corner:** Indoor or outdoor site where snacks are served.
- **Glacier Gap:** Indoor or outdoor site (outdoor is preferred) for game time.
- **Bible Gem:** Daily memory verse.
- **Animal Pals:** Friendly animal mascots used to emphasize the key point of each day's lesson.
- **Creature Feature:** Daily time during the closing assembly when we marvel together at God's design of various Arctic animals.
- **Toddlers:** 2–4-year-olds.
- **Pre-Primaries:** 4–6-year-olds, or 4-year-olds through children 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–6th teams, we recommend using the material for the Primaries.

TOP 20 TODDLER TEACHING TIPS

1. Pray and study God's Word. This is your most important preparation. "We will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word" (Acts 6:4).
2. Show love. Warmly greet each child every day, and always be ready with smiles, kind words, and appropriate hugs. (Make sure to be aware of your church's appropriate touching policies.)
3. Read through all your lesson plans well in advance. Become familiar with the Toddler section of the Resource DVD-ROM. Begin to pray and plan, and continue to pray during and after VBS. God has given you the awesome privilege of building the foundation of His Word into the lives of these little children. Walk worthy!
In this guide:
 - » Teaching Tips are marked with a ✨.
 - » Materials for each activity are listed next to the activity.
 - » The "teacher says" portion is bolded.
4. A puppet is used each day to reinforce the lesson. It may also be used to help welcome the children, sing a song, or review the lesson or memory verse. The puppet can come out of the cabin half door if there are two of you to do the puppet skit. Or, if working alone, the puppet can come up from inside a bag or from behind a snow mound.
5. Think safety. Read the Child Safety Precautions file on the Resource DVD-ROM for more information.
6. Have parents fill out detailed forms. See the Resource DVD-ROM for a registration form. The more information you have, the better care you can give.
7. Keep decorations out of the way so no one gets hurt. Do not have strings or cords around in which children may become entangled. Be careful of heavy decorations or toys that can fall on a child.
8. Maintain a low child-to-adult ratio for this age group, such as 4:1. Lots of help is important to ensure proper care, safety, and love!
9. Be careful of choking hazards associated with toys, craft materials, and Exploration Station materials. Keep things big and chunky. Items should be bigger than a toddler's mouth to avoid choking.
10. Modify the Exploration Stations as your situation warrants. Use as suggested or incorporate one or more ideas into the Lesson Time instead, so you can do the activities with the whole group at one time.
11. Keep most activities in a self-contained room. Outdoor play time should be in a well-defined space so no one strays. Check with parents to see if you may use sunscreen on their child. Limit the time you are outside, or place your play area in the shade.
12. Keep extra supplies on hand, such as diapers, swim-mies, tissues, and safe snacks.
13. When walking from place to place, consider using double or triple strollers (2-year-olds), or have the children hold onto a rope (3–4-year-olds).
14. Hands-on, sensory activities are important to accommodate these little tikes with their short attention spans. Involve them and their senses!
15. Toddlers and young preschoolers may or may not sit during lesson time. If they sit, it won't be for long! Keep the lesson moving, and keep them moving!
16. Use simple words over and over. This age likes repetition, so repeat the Bible verse and the song words many times throughout the VBS day.
17. Use your Bible as you teach the lessons. Show through your facial expressions and your actions the importance of the Scriptures.
18. Follow your church's check-in and check-out procedures for this age group. Be careful to whom you dismiss a child! Release only to that child's authorized individuals.
19. Use brown lunch bags labeled with the child's name to send everything home each day.
20. At the end of each day, clean the toys and items used by the children. Wash linens. Wipe down tables and other areas of use. Empty trash cans and diaper pails. Set up for the next day.

AGE-LEVEL CHARACTERISTICS

Kids are awesome! Each one is unique and is a special creation from the hand of our amazing Creator. With all their uniqueness, however, they also share some common characteristics. That doesn't mean every child always exhibits the following characteristics at the suggested age, but these guidelines can be a benchmark to use when looking at characteristics of children as a whole. It can be helpful to see how God has wired different age groups and can be used to help us be more effective in teaching and interacting with them.

First, you'll see characteristics of children in general and then characteristics of toddlers (ages 2–4 years) specifically.

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN

Children have some common characteristics.

- They are born sinners (Romans 3:23).
- God has given each a conscience, and they (generally) want good to win over evil.
- God has shown Himself to all children through His creation, making it obvious to all that there is a Creator.
- Children enjoy active learning—moving around, seeing things, touching things, smelling and hearing things, and being involved.
- Children need to be loved, encouraged, and praised.
- Children are rapidly growing and changing.
- Children trust the adults who are responsible for them.
- Children can get discouraged with criticism and failure.
- Children are eager to learn and are curious about the world and about God.

CHARACTERISTICS OF TODDLERS

Physical Characteristics

Toddlers are active! They're on the move, running, climbing, and exploring. They're beginning to perform simple tasks, like using scissors. They can easily get hurt as they are rapidly developing physical skills but don't have wisdom to know when to stop running, climbing, etc.

Takeaways for Us

- Keep toddlers moving. Engage them actively as much as possible. Have them do motions to songs and actions to Bible accounts.
- Supervise them carefully.
- Provide chunky, nontoxic supplies.

- Intersperse periods of sitting with something active.

Emotional/Social Characteristics

Toddlers want to do things by themselves, such as picking out their clothes and dressing themselves. They like imaginative, dramatic play. They're testing their powers and saying "no" a lot. They often want to please adults and try to mimic their behaviors. They're affectionate toward others. Toddlers are fearful of things that are loud and out of the ordinary.

Takeaways for Us

- Let toddlers be helpers. Give them simple one-step jobs to do, and have them help pick up things and straighten the room at the end of the lesson. Let them know they've done a good job.
- Be consistently present all week; establish routines and stick with them.
- Be consistent in discipline. Let your "yes" be "yes" and your "no" be "no."
- Give them opportunities to dress up and play imaginatively.
- Adults—don't dress in elaborate costumes that may seem unfamiliar and scary.
- Be careful to walk worthy—act and speak in godly ways. Little eyes are watching and will want to imitate you!

Spiritual/Mental Characteristics

Toddlers are curious and want to touch, smell, feel, see, and experience their world. They have short attention spans and learn/communicate in short sentences. They understand short and simple directions. They believe what you say. Their attitude toward God and others is in the process of being formed during these years.

Takeaways for Us

- Involve toddlers' senses in learning! The more they can touch, smell, see, taste, and feel, the better!
- Give clear, simple directions.
- Keep activities and lessons short. Toddlers' attention spans are only a few minutes long before they need to switch to something new, so keep it moving!
- Be careful to speak accurately and truthfully.
- Show care and respect for your Bible, and help them see your love for it and for the Lord.

SPECIAL NEEDS

The *Special Needs Teacher Supplement* (11-5-053) can help you accommodate and modify these lessons for those who need it, either in your regular classroom or in a self-contained classroom.

TODDLER SCHEDULE

When working with this age group, flexibility is key. In some cases, they are dropped off early and picked up late by parents who have VBS responsibilities. It may be important to revamp the schedule as necessary by removing some activities and allowing for more rest and free play.

Be aware that young ones get tired as the day wears on, and even more so as the week wears on. The schedule may work fine at the beginning of the day or week, but toward the end, less is often better.

Exploration Station Time

There are four Exploration Stations: Discovery Center, Touch Table, Dramatic Play, and Coloring Corner. These stations should be set up in the end of the room opposite where the lesson time is held or in an adjoining room. See the Exploration Stations Supply List on the back cover for a list of all the supplies needed each day.

Note: If stations aren't possible, simply choose one or more of the station activities to incorporate somewhere into your day as a whole group activity.

Children may rotate together through each station every few minutes, or they may independently move from one to another. They don't need to do every station each day. Send the coloring page home daily, colored or uncolored.

Post the signs with each station's name. Consider posting the directions and teaching tie-in for each station as well, so the guides will be able to share the main point with the kids. (See Resource DVD-ROM.) Check the decorating section for more specifics on setting up the Dramatic Play area to look like an Arctic exploration company and the Coloring Corner to look like a bear den. For the touch table, use a small wading pool or a large, clear, under-the-bed storage container. Place it on a plastic tarp or tablecloth to catch the spills.

Bible Learning Time

The Bible Learning Time is divided into three sections:

- Lesson Time
- Song Time
- Memory Verse/Review Time

The lesson time works well with a two-person team. One person serves as Teacher One, and the other as Teacher Two or the Teaching Assistant. The lesson can also be taught alone. If team teaching, decide ahead of time who will do what. If teaching alone, find someone (group guide, staff person, etc.) to help any time you might need an extra set of hands (puppet pal time especially).

Check the Resource Catalog for a fun T-shirt and hat to wear while you teach!

Below is a sample schedule with descriptions of each time period. Check with your director for a copy of your specific schedule and room assignment.

Sample Schedule

Based on a 3-hour VBS

Note: This schedule reflects a 30-minute period before VBS begins to accommodate VBS parents' schedules.

8:30–9:00	Arrival/Free Play Morning VBS Program—Breakfast Snack
9:00–9:15	Snowflake Station Opening Assembly
9:15–9:40	Exploration Stations (Session 1)
9:40–10:05	Bible Learning Time (Lesson Time, Song Time, Memory Verse/Review Time)
10:05–10:30	Glacier Gap Games
10:30–10:45	Discovery Pass Science and Crafts (Session 1)
10:45–11:00	Exploration Stations (Session 2)
11:00–11:20	Klondike Corner Snacks and Rest Time
11:20–11:35	Discovery Pass Science and Crafts (Session 2)
11:35–11:55	Snowflake Station Closing Assembly
11:55–Dismissal	Return to Room/Dismissal

Arrival	In some cases, children in this age group will arrive earlier than the rest of VBS. Therefore, make sure you're there earlier than the rest of the team, as well! Be ready to greet your little ones with smiles, hugs, and love. Follow your church's check-in procedures and safety precautions.
Free Play	Provide inviting toys ready for free play. Help them become familiar with their VBS space.
Breakfast Snack	If you are running a morning VBS, offer a small snack. This helps them get used to their setting as they focus on food rather than being dropped off at the nursery! See page 18 for ideas.
Opening Assembly	Walk the children to the opening assembly. Request to be seated in the front on small chairs or in a special spot so they can see. Plan to leave before or during the last song so you are back in your room before the other children leave.
Exploration Stations (Session 1)	Allow the children to explore the stations or participate in free play during this time. See the Resource DVD-ROM for patterns.
Lesson Time, Song Time, Memory Verse/ Review Time	This is the heart of the day. If some of the other activities need to go, make sure this one <i>does</i> happen! Present the lesson early before fatigue sets in. At the same time, if you notice the kids are especially antsy or tired, remain flexible and switch activities. You can come back later to finish the lesson, or even break it up and finish it the next day.
Glacier Gap Games	Play inside or outside. Just spend time playing! Young children learn as they explore their world. See page 14 for game ideas.
Discovery Pass Science and Crafts (Session 1)	Toddlers and young preschoolers need simple crafts. Gluing sensory items (cotton balls, fabric, sandpaper, etc.) onto papers, attaching stickers, and coloring are always a hit. See page 16 for craft specifics.
Exploration Stations (Session 2)	Allow the children to continue exploring the stations.
Klondike Corner Snacks and Rest Time	Make sure all snacks are bite-sized and not choking hazards. Be alert to any allergies children may have. See page 18 for ideas.
Discovery Pass Science and Crafts (Session 2)	If the children seem up for it, try a second craft before heading out to the closing assembly.
Closing Assembly	Take them to the closing assembly, once again sitting close to the front. Leave five minutes early so they are back in their room when VBS is dismissed. Follow your church's safe dismissal procedures.

MEMORY VERSE SONGS

We have partnered with JumpStart3 (contemporary, NKJV, 11-5-069) and Majesty Music (traditional, KJV, 11-5-063) to create songs for each of the memory verses. They feature the full verses. (Pre-Primaries and Toddlers are taught condensed versions of these verses.) Singing Scripture is an excellent way for children to learn their Bible verses easily. If you choose to use these songs, we suggest using them (either video or audio) during the memory verse time in each lesson. The

Leader Pack comes with the purchase of a Super Starter Kit and can also be purchased separately. You can also purchase and download the songs individually from our online store for use on a handheld device (answersbookstore.com). Student CDs in packs of 10 are available if you would like each student to have a copy of the songs (11-5-070 or 11-5-064). The option you choose will determine which type of media device you use to play it.

STUDENT EXTRAS

Check with your VBS director and choose one or more of these fun optional materials to give to your students so they can take home a review of the daily lesson content.

Simple Songs: The songs referenced throughout this guide that are just for Pre-Primaries and Toddlers are available on the Resource DVD-ROM (you'll need to upload them to an MP3 player) and on a separate *Simple Songs for Kids* CD (11-5-141) that you can play in a CD player. You may want to purchase one of the CDs for each child.

Student Guides: These age-appropriate guides feature a lesson review on the front of each daily take-home paper, and the memory verse, verse review game suggestion, and "Go and Do" section on the back that parallels the Memory Verse/Review Time part of the lesson. You can either go over these during class time or send them home with the students to be completed with a parent or caretaker, depending on your time constraints. The student guides are available in packs of 10.

- Toddler NKJV (11-5-074)
- Toddler KJV (11-5-135)

Explorer Guides: These fun interactive booklets feature the daily memory verse, fun phrase, stickers, and a place to stamp (11-3-093) for attendance. They can receive them at any time during the first day, and you can review them with the kids during the Memory Verse/Review Time section of the lesson. These are available in packs of 10.

- Pre-Primary/Toddler NKJV (11-5-090)
- Pre-Primary/Toddler KJV (11-5-138)

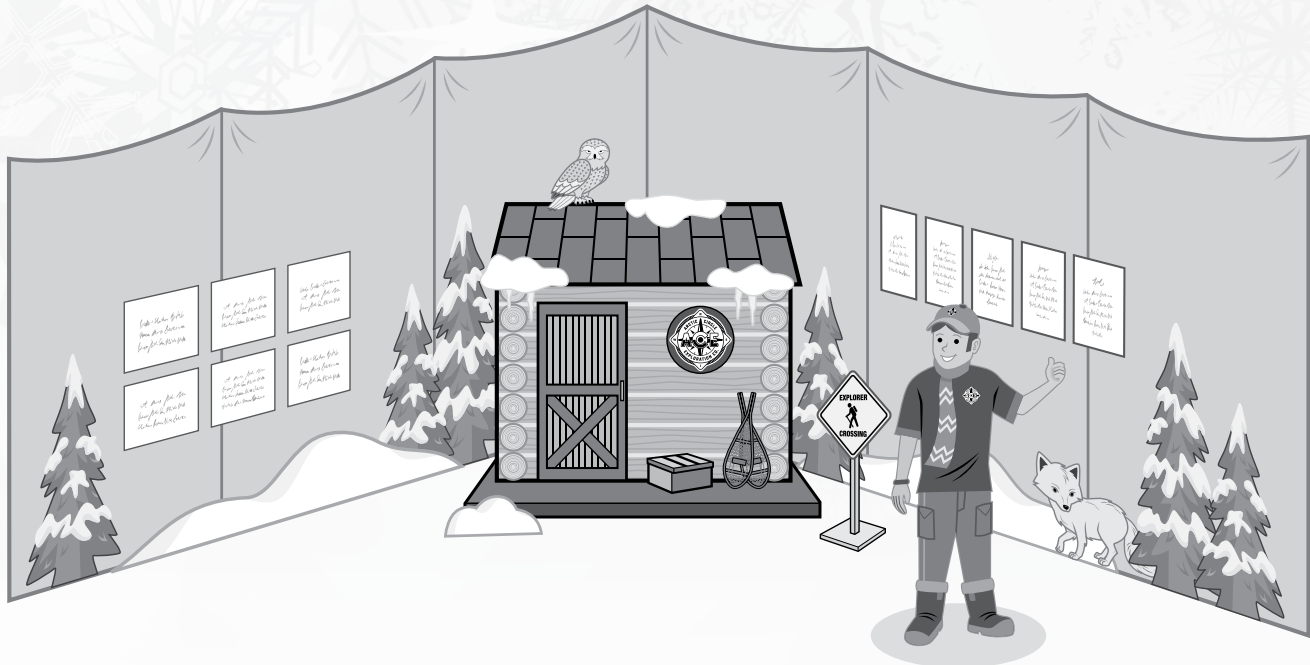
Bookmarks: These are available in packs of 10 and can be passed out at the end of each day.

- Animal Pals series—one for each day (NKJV 11-5-078; KJV 11-5-140)—Days 1–5
- Gospel (11-5-076)—Day 4
- Books of the Bible (11-5-077)—Day 5

DECORATING DECISIONS

The Arctic is a vast and intriguing wilderness with breathtaking scenery and fascinating creatures. Be creative and use the tools and ideas in this section to capture the imagination of the kids with your classroom decorations.

Remember that a fun and exciting environment helps children learn better, remember more, and leave with happy memories.



KEY DECORATING ELEMENTS

Your *Operation Arctic* classroom design features an Arctic exploration company outpost as the focal point for the teaching. The set consists of a small log cabin along with some snow-covered pine trees, snow mounds, a few animals, and various props to enhance the surroundings and bring it to life. On one wall, display the daily teaching posters and on the other wall, the fun phrase and memory verse posters.

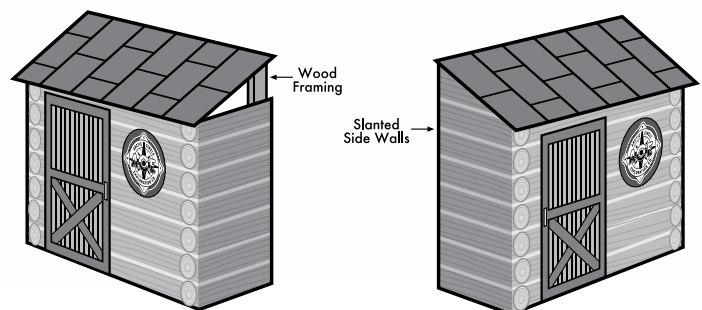
Wall Covering

You'll need a backdrop for your set, so after you've decided in which corner to place the cabin, cover the two adjacent walls with light blue (or white) roll paper or plastic tablecloths to create a wintry background.

Log Cabin

Use corrugated cardboard sheets or large appliance boxes to make a small, three-sided cabin. The side walls of the cabin don't need to be very deep, but to support the angled roof, the tops should slant upward. Another way to support the roof is to add some wood framing to the back of the cabin.

To paint the logs for the cabin, use a standard sized roller and apply medium brown paint using straight, horizontal strokes, leaving a 2-in. gap between the logs for the "chinking" (the broad, light colored bands that you see between the timbers). And don't forget to leave an area designated for the front door of the cabin. After the logs are painted, apply a band of light tan paint to the gaps between them using a small 2 to 3-in. roller or paintbrush. Then, after the logs are dry, add some texture and definition, using a "dry brush" technique (see next page) with 2 or 3 other shades of brown (darker brown and lighter brown).



“DRY BRUSH” TECHNIQUE

The “dry brush” technique requires very little paint on the brush with any excess paint brushed off onto scrap cardboard or a test surface before applying paint to the cardboard. With what little paint remains on the brush, apply textured strokes sparingly and intermittently for the desired effect.

The door should resemble a rustic barn door and should be painted with a base color that contrasts with the rest of the log cabin, like brick red. Then, after the base coat has dried, add thin black lines to define the door planks and use the “dry brush” technique with white paint to add some texture.

Finally, add a cardboard roof of appropriate size. You can shingle the roof with rectangular pieces of dark brown or black poster board or add a shingled texture using a concrete texture roller (available at home improvement stores) and a two-color painting technique. For the two-color technique, start with a base coat of medium brown. Then, pour two colors of paint (tan and black) into a paint tray side by side. Pick up the tan paint with one end of the roller and the black paint with the other end of the roller so both colors are on the roller at the same time. Some minor mixing of the two colors may occur, but this is not a problem. Then, in a repetitive fashion, roll the paint onto the cardboard with long vertical strokes, one column of paint beside the next, until you’ve moved from one side to the other. The result will be a tan/black, tan/black, tan/black textured pattern on top of the brown base coat, giving the roof a shingled appearance. Whichever method you use, don’t forget to add some “snow” to the roof by sponging on some white paint.

ACE Logo

The ACE (Arctic Circle Exploration Co.) logo should be mounted to the front of the cabin. Find the image on the Resource DVD-ROM and print large using a color printer. Then cut out the logo and mount it onto a round piece of cardboard or poster board for added stability. Or, a set of decorating posters, including the ACE logo, is available for purchase. The logo would just need to be mounted.



Prop up your freestanding decorations with wooden jacks made from 2x4, 2x3, 2x2, or 1x2 boards. Smaller decorations will need smaller jacks and larger decorations will need larger ones.

Evergreen Trees

To supplement the landscape, add a few evergreen trees. Use artificial trees lightly spray-painted white or make your own two-dimensional trees out of roll paper, poster board, or corrugated cardboard. See the Resource DVD-ROM for pine tree clip art images.

Snow Drifts

Snow drifts of various shapes and sizes can really add to the frosty look of your classroom decorations. Make simple, two-dimensional drifts from white roll paper or poster board. Or, make freestanding drifts from corrugated cardboard propped from behind with wood supports. Paint them all white or light blue with white texture using a sponge or paintbrush.

Resource Posters

Contained in the Teacher Resource Kit are the daily teaching, fun phrase, and memory verse posters. These are important visuals for the explorers and should be displayed in an organized fashion. Large display areas can be created on one or both sides of the cabin.

Explorer Crossing Sign

Next to the cabin, add an “Explorer Crossing” sign. Find the image on the Resource DVD-ROM and print large using a color printer. (Or, a set of decorating posters, including the Explorer Crossing Sign, is available for purchase.) Then cut out the sign and mount it onto a piece of cardboard or poster board for added stability.

Assemble a wooden post and base for the sign using a 2x2-in. board for the post and a 1x12-in. board for the base. Simply cut the 2x2-in. board to a height of 42-in. to 48-in. and the 1x12-in. board so it forms a square base. Attach the post to the base, paint it black, then attach the Explorer Crossing sign.



HOW TO ENLARGE AND TRANSFER CLIP ART

1. Photocopy the clip art onto transparencies.
2. Place roll paper or a rigid material against a wall.
3. Using an overhead projector to enlarge the clip art, shine the image onto the paper or rigid material, adjusting it as necessary for the size desired.
4. Trace the image outlines onto the paper or rigid material.
5. Paint the image, if necessary, and cut out.

Check out [Pinterest.com/AnswersVBS](https://www.pinterest.com/AnswersVBS) for colorful photos of decorations from our test churches!
Visit [YouTube.com/AnswersVBS](https://www.youtube.com/AnswersVBS) for how-to decorating videos!

Other Props, Tips, and Miscellaneous Ideas

- Check the Resource DVD-ROM for numerous clip art images, including a snowy owl and Arctic fox. Use an overhead projector to enlarge and transfer the images onto paper, poster board, or corrugated cardboard.
- Hang snowflakes of various sizes, shapes, and textures from the ceiling.
- Make paper or foil icicles and hang them throughout your classroom. Icicle templates are readily available online.
- String white or blue Christmas lights and/or icicle and snowflake lights from the ceiling to enhance the Arctic feel.
- Add “snow” to the ground and all your decorations using batting, gossamer, white sheets, white plastic tablecloths, white roll paper, white paint, snow spray, etc.
- Display props that explorers would need to have on their trek through the Arctic. Items might include boots, hats, gloves, goggles, snowshoes, parkas, duffle bags, backpacks, skis, ski poles, sled, etc.
- Add a thin (½-in.) black border to your painted props (trees, snow drifts, animals, signs, etc.). This helps them stand out better and makes the colors appear more vibrant.
- Because corrugated cardboard tends to curl when only one side is painted, first apply a quick, single coat of paint to the back.

Puppet Stage

Because puppets are used daily in the Toddler rooms, you will need a puppet stage. Use the top half of the cabin door for this purpose by cutting a small puppet door that opens. However, if you are using a scene setter that’s attached directly to the back wall, then make a puppet stage out of a large snow mound that’s mounted on a jack. The puppet can come up from behind the mound. Or, for a more generic approach, use a large cardboard box or tri-fold presentation board. Just cut a rectangular hole and cover the opening with fabric. Then decorate the outside as desired.

Classroom Scene Setter



As a quick and easy alternative to making your own classroom backdrop, a scene setter is available for purchase (11-5-126) from the Resource Catalog. Simply mount it to cardboard or foam sheets using clear packing tape or staples, or attach it directly to the wall with sticky tack or mounting putty. Another alternative for easy cleanup and wall protection is to apply strips of painter’s tape to the wall, then put double-sided tape over the painter’s tape, and attach the scene setter to the double-sided tape.

To add dimension to your cabin scene, we recommend placing the mountain scene behind your cabin (11-5-123).



EXPLORATION STATIONS

Toddler classes will also enjoy Exploration Stations, which will include a dramatic play area, a touch table, a discovery center, and a coloring corner. Further information about these stations can be found on p. 7, but check below for details on how to make the dramatic play area and coloring corner.

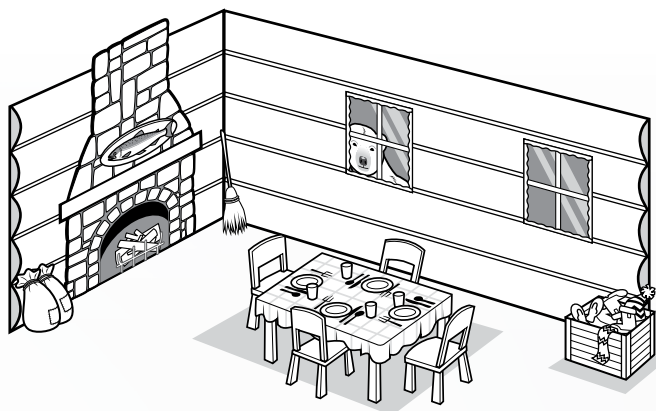
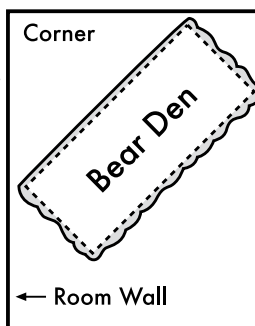
Dramatic Play Area

Your dramatic play area should resemble the inside of the ACE (Arctic Circle Exploration Co.) cabin. First, designate a corner of your room for the play area. Then cover the walls with 12-in. wide horizontal strips of brown roll paper. Be sure to leave a 2-in. gap between the strips to simulate the timbers of a log cabin. Add a fireplace to one wall and a window or two to the other wall. See the Resource DVD-ROM for clip art of a fireplace and a polar bear peering in the window. Windows can be made easily by hanging squares of blue roll paper or poster board and adding window frames and grids made from strips of white, brown, or black poster board. Then add a child's play table and chairs with place settings and play food. Finish the room with other props, including a play broom, a play lantern, a rolled up sleeping

bag, play binoculars, and a good supply of winter dress-up clothes and accessories.

Coloring Corner

In another corner of your room, set up a bear den coloring corner. Starting with a standard 8-ft. table, wrap both ends and the front—from the table top to the floor—with corrugated cardboard, leaving about a 2-ft. opening in the center for a doorway. The back of the table should remain open and uncovered. Tape the cardboard in place with clear packing tape. Then cover the table, top-to-bottom and side-to-side with crumpled white roll paper to make it look “cave-like.” Cover the floor of the den with white sheets or blankets. Then finish it off by placing one or more large plush bears at the front of and/or inside the bear den, along with some bear paw prints. (See Resource DVD-ROM.)



GLACIER GAP GAMES

Play is what this age group does best! While they're playing, they're learning, so enjoy this time together.

If you have a safe area, consider having an outdoor play time. It's nice to break up the day and have a new location to explore. The outdoor location should be enclosed so no one wanders off. If you don't have a safe area, use hay bales or snow fencing to create one. Ask church families to bring in plastic slides, big wheel riding toys, and other young child outdoor equipment. Make sure they're labeled so they can easily be returned after VBS.

You may also want to consider having wading pools with a small amount of water for outdoor playtime. (Supervise carefully.) Make sure parents are notified ahead of time to bring swim floats, a swimsuit, a towel, and extra clothes. Ask if it's okay to use sunscreen on their child, and apply it at least ten minutes before going outside. If possible, locate the pools in a shady area.

For recreation time, use the following suggestions or other games from the game guide. Any of these ideas may be repeated throughout the week as time allows.

THEMATIC GAME IDEAS

Day 1

STACK THE BOOKS

Find many books—as many as you can reasonably come up with. Only one should be a Bible. Keep it separate. At the far end of the room, make a rectangular box on the floor with tape. Divide the box in half so there are two sections. To play, have the kids take turns picking up one book at a time and putting it in one (the same one) of the taped sections at the other end of the room. Then at the end of the game, very carefully take the one Bible and put it by itself in the other section.

Teaching Tie-In: Wow! Look at all those books! They might be good books, but there's one book in the world that's different than all the rest. Do you know what it's called? Yes, the Bible. There's no other book like it because it's written by God! It's in a class all by itself!

SCOOP THE SNOW

Divide the kids into two teams. Push a white balloon (your pile of snow) using a small plastic shovel or a paper plate (your shovel). Move the "snow" a short distance, around a cone, and back to the start.

Teaching Tie-In: There's lots of snow in the Arctic, and each snowflake that God makes is unique and wonderful—just like you!

Day 2

BUILD A BURROW

Divide the kids into pairs. Have them sit opposite each other holding a hula hoop that's touching the ground (one sitting to the left of the hoop, and one to the right). The pairs of kids should be in a long line so the hula hoops make a long tunnel effect. Take turns crawling through the tunnel of hula hoops from one end to the other. Once one child finishes, he changes places until all have crawled through.

Teaching Tie-In: Today's animal pal is Snowball, an Arctic hare. Arctic hares are rabbits that make burrows (tunnels) in the snow to keep warm. They didn't think up that idea themselves. God is the one who made them know to do it! Otherwise, they would freeze. God thought of everything!

RED LIGHT, GREEN LIGHT

Have everyone stand against the wall with the teacher at the other wall. With her back turned from the kids, she says, "Green light!" They all start walking toward her. When she turns around and says, "Red light!" they all stop where they are. They're trying to get all the way across the room to the teacher.

Teaching Tie-In: The Bible tells us about a man named Saul who saw a light from heaven and heard the voice of God. That experience changed Saul forever. He became a child of God!

We're going to play a game about a light called Red Light, Green Light.

Day 3

MOVING ICE

Put hula hoops or ropes formed into circles down on the ground close to each other. Have the kids walk from one to the other to the other. Next, have them jump from hoop to hoop, then try hopping.

Teaching Tie-In: There isn't land at the top of the world, just moving ice that's on top of water. It's always moving and changing, but God's Word is like solid ground. It never changes!

BUILDING ON SOLID GROUND

Each explorer needs to wear a pair of gloves or mittens. Divide them into two teams. Each team gets DUPLO®-sized blocks

with which to build a house or tower. The first team to use all their blocks and build something wins.

Teaching Tie-In: People build houses in the Arctic and live there year-round, even though it's very cold. They have to make sure they build on solid ground and not on ice so the houses don't fall down.

Did you know God's Word is like solid ground, too? It will always be a sturdy, safe place that never changes.

Day 4

FUN AT THE ICE RINK

Use pool noodles (cut to half the size) as your "hockey sticks." Have rubber balls as your "pucks." Have fun hitting them around.

Teaching Tie-In: There's lots of ice at an ice rink, right? And there's lots of ice at the Arctic, too. But did you know the earth didn't start out with icy, very cold places? It was a beautiful warm world at first when God made it!

WATER WORKS

Divide into two teams. Give each starter a cup. At the signal, they dip the cup in a bucket of water (Bucket A) and walk to the other end, dumping it into a new bucket (Bucket B). Then the kids run back to the start, giving the cup to the next player. The team with the most water in Bucket B in the designated time wins.

Teaching Tie-In: Lots of the earth's water is up at the top of the world. God put water on earth, and we need it to stay alive. Isn't God kind to take good care of us?

Day 5

ARCTIC FOLLOW THE LEADER

Pretend to be on an expedition. Get in a line and move through the Arctic, with the teacher as leader doing certain motions and the kids following those motions. Possibilities include ice skating, weaving on a snowmobile, running from a bear, jumping from ice chunk to ice chunk, taking small and careful steps so you won't fall, or hiking through thick snow. Other movements reminiscent of animals can include walking like Blizzard the polar bear, hopping like Snowball the Arctic hare, swimming like Spike the narwhal, galloping like Shaggy the musk ox, or running like Dash the dog.

Teaching Tie-In: Just as we obey the leader's commands, we need to obey the Bible's commands, too.

BRING THE BIBLES

Stack several Bibles at one end of the room. Demonstrate how to carefully pick one up and bring it to the teacher at

the other end of the room. Take turns "treasuring" the Bible as they carefully carry it to you.

Teaching Tie-In: The Bible is a treasure. It's God's special book. We must always handle it with care.

Anytime Games

PARACHUTE FUN

Leaders and children hold a parachute or a sheet. Try any of these options or make up some of your own.

IT'S SNOWING

Have the kids simulate snow falling using cotton balls or ping pong balls. First, shake the parachute gently for a gentle snowfall. Next, shake a little faster for more snow. Finally, shake the parachute vigorously for a snowstorm.

SNOW FALL

Have two kids at a time go under the parachute and lie down. They will try to knock white balls they feel off the parachute. Keep rotating kids who are shaking the parachute and kids under the parachute.

SUPERSIZE SNOWBALL

On your signal, have the kids bring their arms straight up to make the parachute go straight up, filling itself with air. Then, the kids should take two steps in, bend over, and touch the ground. Pretend they've now made a supersize snowball.

ICE HOLE

Roll white balls around on the top of the parachute and try to get them in the hole in the center.

IT'S SNOWING

Have the kids hold on to the parachute and close their eyes. Tell them not to peek. Have a leader place several hundred cotton balls in the middle of the parachute. Have the kids begin to gently shake the parachute as they open their eyes. The cotton balls will look like snowflakes. The kids can also follow leader commands of "up" (raise their arms up high over their heads), followed by "down" (return the parachute to waist level). This will pop the "snow" up high and look like snow flurries.

ARCTIC ANIMALS

Have the kids move in various ways to imitate Arctic animals. They can raise the parachute up and down like the tail of an orca whale. Next, hold the parachute tightly and walk in a clockwise direction, pretending they are gliding along like a narwhal. Then change directions. Next, try other locomotor skills as they hold the parachute: hop like an Arctic hare, walk like a polar bear, or run like a musk ox. (Believe it or not, a musk ox can reach speeds of 60 mph!)

DISCOVERY PASS SCIENCE AND CRAFTS

Simple. Simple. Simple. Young children need simple crafts that are fun to touch and explore. More pre-prep needs to take place so the children are left with decorating, attaching stickers, and gluing.

As with all other items used with the toddlers and young preschoolers, watch carefully that items are not choking hazards and that all items are nontoxic. Use chunky crayons. Remember to put names on all crafts as they work on them.

Plan two craft times a day, but be prepared to skip one or both if the children need more rest time. Some of the crafts follow the “big kids” craft time but are simplified for this level. Some are designed only for the little ones.

Decide whether you or the Craft Coordinator will be in charge of preparing the craft materials. Whatever ideas you choose, have fun with them and use them to reinforce the big themes of the week.

THEMATIC CRAFT IDEAS

Day 1

SESSION 1—ICEBREAKER FISHING

See the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* and follow the directions for the Toddler/Pre-Primary version of the Day 1 craft.

Teaching Tie-In: The fish at the top of the world have to live in icy cold water. Brrr! But God made them special so they can survive in that one-of-a-kind place. God knows just how to make animals and people and things one-of-a-kind, including you and His Word! There’s nobody like you, and there’s no book like the Bible!

SESSION 2—BOOK OF BOOKS SOAP BIBLE

See the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* and follow the directions in the “Extra Crafts” section for the Book of Books Soap Bible. Attach the ribbon to the Soap Bible. The explorers will put the glue on the front and back of the soap block, attach the felt, and attach the cross sticker.

Teaching Tie-In: The Bible is the most special book. It’s the Book of books!

Day 2

SESSION 1—NORTHERN LIGHTSCAPE

See the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* and follow the directions for the Toddler/Pre-Primary version of the Day 2 main craft, Northern Lightscape.

Teaching Tie-In: At the top of the world, the dark sky gets lit up by something called the Northern Lights. And the

Bible is like a light, too. It’s not a light in the sky or anything, but it helps us to see bad things to stay away from and good things to do.

SESSION 2—SAUL/PAUL PLATE

Each child needs 2 small paper plates and one jumbo craft stick. On one plate, have them draw an angry face. On the other plate, have them draw a smiling face. Tape the craft stick to the back of the Saul plate, then glue or tape the backs of the two plates together. On the craft stick, write the word “Saul” on the Saul side, and “Paul” on the Paul side.

Teaching Tie-In: Show me your Saul plate. Show me your Paul plate. Saul and Paul were the same man, weren’t they? He started as Saul, then his name changed to Paul at one point.

Before Saul became a child of God, he was a mean and nasty man, putting Christians in prison. After he became a child of God, he was happy because he was the Lord’s!

Let’s play a game and see if you can put the right side up when I say something.

His name was Saul. (Saul)

His name was Paul. (Paul)

He put Christians in prison. (Saul)

He was mean and nasty. (Saul)

He was stopped by a light that was the Lord. (Saul)

He was a child of God. (Paul)

He wasn’t mean and nasty anymore. (Paul)

Day 3

SESSION 1—LIL' LOG CABIN

See the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* and follow the directions for the Toddler/Pre-Primary version of the Day 3 main craft.

Teaching Tie-In: This looks like a strong house, doesn't it? You know, the Bible is nice and sturdy and strong, too. It will never change or break or let us down!!

SESSION 2—MEMORY GAME

See the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* and follow the directions in the "Extra Crafts" section for making the game and playing it. Prep it to the point where the toddlers are left with just coloring the cards.

Teaching Tie-In: Look at all these awesome animals God made! Let's try to match them up. Explain how to flip two over and do so. Try to get two that match!

Day 4

SESSION 1—"WHITE AS SNOW" GLOBE

See the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* and follow the directions for the Toddler/Pre-Primary version of the Day 4 main craft, "White as Snow" Globe.

Teaching Tie-In: Look at the cross on your snow globe. Who died on the Cross? Yes, Jesus! Jesus loves you!

SESSION 2—SNOWFLAKE STATION

See the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* and follow the directions in the "Extra Crafts" section for the Snowflake Station. Have toddlers make the simpler snowflake possibilities. You may want to hang these around their room.

Teaching Tie-In: Every snowflake is special and one-of-a-kind, and each one of you is special and one-of-a-kind, too! God made you and loves you!

Day 5

SESSION 1—TREASURE BOX

See the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* and follow the directions in the "Extra Crafts" section for the Treasure Box.

Teaching Tie-In: Today's craft is a little treasure box. When you use it, remember that the best treasure in the whole world is the Bible. God wants us to treasure His Word!

SESSION 2—CATCH-UP CRAFT DAY

No extra craft option is listed today, allowing time to finish any crafts from prior days. If you are caught up and the kids are still going strong, make souvenir picture frames to put a picture of each child in as a keepsake. Make sure to put the name and date on the back of each one. Or, check out the *Discovery Pass Science and Crafts Guide* for other fun ideas.

KLONDIKE CORNER SNACKS

Yum! Yum! Snack time is always a hit, no matter what the age.

With this age group, it is especially important to check with parents about allergies, as little ones will not always be able to communicate such things. Also, make sure all food is safe and in bite-sized pieces.

If you are running a morning VBS, consider providing a breakfast snack shortly after arrival (e.g., mini-muffins, half a banana, or toasted oat cereal).

For the main snack, arrange with the Snack Coordinator to bring the snack in at the appropriate time and for the appropriate numbers. Serve smaller portions of what the “big kids” are having, or serve one of the optional ideas listed below.

Keep this time calm and quiet. Pray before eating. As they eat, listen to a story or watch a quiet, Christian video. Children may bring blankets or rest mats for a short rest time. They have been going all day, so this is a good time to rest. Remind the children that Jesus made them and loves them.

THEMATIC SNACK IDEAS

Day 1

Scripture Scrolls

INGREDIENTS

- ☐ Pretzel rods or cracker sticks (3–5 inches long), 2 per child
- ☐ Thin ham or turkey slices (preferably square or rectangular), ½–1 slice per child (see Tip Corner)
- ☐ Thin slices of cheese (any kind), 1 per child

GLACIER PUNCH DRINK INGREDIENTS

- ☐ Blue-colored powdered drink mix, 1 quart for every 5 children

BASIC SUPPLIES

- ☐ Optional: twine and small plates (see Pre-Prep #3)
- ☐ Cups and napkins, 1 per child
- ☐ Stirring spoon
- ☐ Drink pitchers or coolers

PRE-PREP

1. If using rounded slices of meat and cheese, cut the edges to create a square. If using rectangular slices, cut the rectangles in half lengthwise.
2. Place the cheese on top of the meat and roll onto the pretzel or cracker rod from each end to form a scroll.
3. Optional: scrolls can be tied with twine to hold them together, then placed on a small plate.
4. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

TEACHING TIE-IN

The Bible looks like this now. Hold up a Bible. **But it used to be in a different shape called a scroll, which was rolled up and looked a little like our snack. The shape of the Bible may look different on the outside, but the words in the**

Bible haven't changed. They will never change. They are the same forever! Read Psalm 119:18.

Pray for the Scripture Scroll snack and eat.

CLASS TIME DIRECTIONS

If time allows, have the kids assemble their own Scripture Scrolls.

TIP CORNER

- Another way to make Scripture Scrolls is to use fruit leather rolls (e.g., Fruit by the Foot™) and small pretzel rods instead of the ham, turkey, and cheese. Roll the fruit leather onto the pretzel rods instead of the meat and cheese.
- We used Kroger honey wheat pretzel rods. Their size is in between a typical pretzel rod and a pretzel stick. They're shorter than a pretzel rod but thicker than a pretzel stick. But in a pinch, you can use pretzel rods and break them in half.
- Thin lunch meat rolls better than thick slices.
- If you want to make this gluten free, use gluten-free pretzel rods, such as Glutino®. Use two pretzel rods on each side. Make sure your lunch meat is gluten free as well.
- If you want to simplify, eliminate the cheese. They still taste good!
- Make sure to check out the Super Simple Options, the Healthy Options, and the Toddler Options on page 12 of the snack guide for other possible ideas.
- If you prefer individual drinks any day, substitute juice boxes, pouches, or water bottles that are labeled “Melted Snow.” They're more expensive but require no prep and no cups.

God's Word Scramble

Bag up Alpha-Bits® cereal into individual baggies.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What book is written by God? The Bible! **What book is the greatest book ever?** The Bible! **What book is a treasure?** The Bible! **Let's see if we can find a letter B in our snack letters. B stands for "Bible" and "Book of books!"** Then we'll pray and eat.

Day 2

Snow Ball Butterflies

INGREDIENTS (SERVES 32)

- ☐ 2 8 oz. packages cream cheese, softened
- ☐ ½ C. grated mozzarella cheese
- ☐ ¼ t. salt
- ☐ ½ C. finely grated parmesan cheese
- ☐ Crackers, approximately 5 per child

COOL QUENCHERS DRINK INGREDIENTS

- ☐ White grape juice mixed with ginger ale (equal parts of each), 1 quart for every 5 children

BASIC SUPPLIES

- ☐ Mixing bowl and spoon
- ☐ Measuring cups and spoons
- ☐ Snack-size zippered baggies and chenille stems, 1 each per child
- ☐ Plastic spoon or knife for spreading cheese onto crackers, 1 per child
- ☐ Napkins, 1 per child
- ☐ Regular cups or "earmuff cups" (see the snack guide for how-tos), 1 per child
- ☐ Stirring spoon
- ☐ Drink pitchers or coolers

PRE-PREP

1. Mix together the softened cream cheese, mozzarella cheese, and salt. Form into 1-inch balls, roll, and coat with parmesan cheese. These are your "snow balls."
2. Put one snow ball in one side of the zippered baggy and the crackers in the other side. Take the chenille stem and twist in between, forming to look like the body and antennae of a butterfly. (See illustration in snack guide.) Keep refrigerated until near serving time.
3. Prepare the drink.

TEACHING TIE-IN

As we take our little snow ball butterflies (cheese balls) and use them to change our crackers from plain to extra yummy, let's thank God that His Word can change us, too!

Pray for the Snow Ball Butterflies snack and eat.

CLASS TIME DIRECTIONS

Have the baggies ready with the butterfly antennae, except let the kids curl the ends of the chenille stems to curl the antennae.

Arctic Hares

Serve small cups or zippered baggies of Annie's Bunnies snack crackers, found at most grocery stores or online.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Today's animal pal is Snowball, the Arctic hare. Snowball changes colors at different times of the year. Sometimes she's brown and sometimes she's white! Isn't that cool? It reminds me that God can change us, too. We won't change colors, like Snowball, but God can change us so we're more loving and kind and good. Let's pray and thank God that He can change us, and let's thank Him for our Arctic Hares snack.

Day 3

Happy Hearts

INGREDIENTS (SERVES 12)

- ☐ 1 package Pillsbury® bread dough, cut into 12 strips
- ☐ 1 12 oz. jar marinara sauce, 1 oz. per child

BASIC SUPPLIES

- ☐ Cookie sheets
- ☐ Optional: small portion cups for marinara sauce
- ☐ White cookie bags or small plates or napkins with heart stickers on them, 1 per child

PRE-PREP

1. Form strips of dough into heart shapes.
2. Bake according to package directions and let cool.
3. Optional: put 1 oz. of marinara in individual portion cups. Otherwise, just put on small plates.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Pray and thank God for the Happy Heart snack. As everyone enjoys their treat, have them share times they felt really happy. Maybe it was on vacation, at an amusement park, or when they had their birthday.

The Bible tells us in Psalm 19:8 that following God's rules can make us happy. Did you realize your heart will be happy if you're following God's rules, by His grace? Let's thank God that He gave us the Bible and showed us how to live a joy-filled life, and let's thank Him for these Happy Hearts!

CLASS TIME DIRECTIONS

Have the kids decorate their bags or napkins with heart stickers before eating.

TIP CORNER

- Find the small portion cups for the marinara sauce at a restaurant supply store.
- Find cookie bags at craft stores or online if using them for the bread hearts. These look great with heart stickers or heart fun foam stickers decorating them!

Cool Sticks

Serve yummy GO-GURT® sticks, one per child.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Let's pray and thank God for all the cool animals He made that live in the Arctic, like the polar bear and the narwhal. And let's thank Him for our Cool Sticks, too!

Day 4

Snow S'Mores

INGREDIENTS

- ☐ Keebler® Deluxe Grahams cookies, 2 per child
- ☐ Vanilla icing, 1 T. per child

ICY COLD LEMONADE DRINK INGREDIENTS

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

BASIC SUPPLIES

- ☐ Small plates, cups, and napkins, 1 each per child
- ☐ Table knife
- ☐ Stirring spoon
- ☐ Drink pitchers or coolers

PRE-PREP

1. Take the icing and spread it on a graham cracker. Put the other graham cracker on top.
2. Continue in like manner to make the number needed.
3. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Pray and thank God for the Snow S'More snack. As everyone munches, ask what they would want if they could have anything. Then say:

Did you know the Bible tells us that God's Word is a much greater treasure than all the gold in the whole wide world, or all the greatest sweet treats? We hope you'll want s'more and s'more of the Book of books, the Bible.

CLASS TIME DIRECTIONS

Have the kids assemble their Snow S'Mores themselves, but use craft sticks or flat wooden throw spoons for spreading the icing on the graham crackers.

TIP CORNER

- These can be made a day ahead of time and stored in an airtight container.

Honeycomb Cereal

Serve small cups or zippered baggies of Honeycomb cereal.

TEACHING TIE-IN

God wants us to enjoy our yummy Honeycomb cereal, but He tells us we should care more about His Word than sweet honey. Let's pray and ask God to help us love the words of the Bible more and more, and let's thank Him for this Honeycomb cereal.

Day 5

Husky Puppy Chow

INGREDIENTS (SERVES 9)

- ☐ Frosted toasted oats cereal, 12 oz. box
- ☐ Chocolate Chex™ cereal, 12 oz. box
- ☐ Optional: mini M&M's®, 1 t. per child (see Tip Corner)
- ☐ 1 lb. powdered sugar

BASIC SUPPLIES

- ☐ Mixing bowl and mixing spoon
- ☐ Styrofoam side dish containers, 1 per child

PRE-PREP

1. Mix all the ingredients except the powdered sugar together.
2. Toss with powdered sugar. If making before the day of use, store in airtight containers until serving day.
3. The day of, put approximately 4 oz. of the chow into each cup or bowl.
4. Get the water bottles ready with "Melted Snow" labels.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Today's animal pal is Dash the dog. Dash is always eager and excited to go exploring! Wouldn't it be great to be excited like Dash, but our excitement would be about the Bible? Let's pray and ask God to help us love Him and His Word more and more, and let's thank Him for our Husky Puppy Chow. Pray for the snack. As everyone eats, have them share what they've enjoyed this week at VBS.

CLASS TIME DIRECTIONS

Have them put a scoop of Husky Puppy Chow in the "dog dish."

TIP CORNER

- For a sweet touch, add a teaspoon of mini M&M's® to each cup after the cups are loaded with the mix (so they don't sink to the bottom).
- For a less sticky mix, skip the powdered sugar.
- Serve in zippered snack baggies for a faster option.

Go Bananas for the Bible

Serve whole bananas with the peels still intact. Write "Go bananas for the Bible!" on the peel with a skinny permanent marker.

TEACHING TIE-IN

It says, "Go bananas for the Bible" on our banana peels. That means we want to be excited about God's Word. It's a treasure! Let's pray and ask God to help us love the Bible, and let's thank Him for the bananas He's made.

Day 1

BOOK OF BOOKS

BIBLE PASSAGES

The Bible is One-of-a-Kind (Selected Scriptures)

BIBLE GEM

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God . . ." 2 Timothy 3:16

ANIMAL PAL

Blizzard the Polar Bear

TREASURE POINT LESSON FOCUS

The Bible is the coolest book on the planet!
It's completely unique in many ways, including being written by God Himself.

Today's Exploration Stations

- Discovery Center: Copy Cats
- Touch Table: Let it Snow!
- Dramatic Play: ACE (Arctic Circle Exploration) Company
- Coloring Corner: 2 Timothy 3:16

Today's Lesson at a Glance

- Lesson Time
Part 1: Blizzard the Polar Bear
Part 2: Puppet Pal—It's a Superstar!
- Song Time
Song 1: "Book of Books"
Song 2: "The B-I-B-L-E"
- Memory Verse/Review Time
Part 1: Bible Gems
Part 2: Go and Do
Part 3: BIBLE Handshake

Preparing for the Lesson

- Read Psalm 19 and Psalm 119 several times. Marvel at this one-of-a-kind book.
- Read this lesson several times and prepare the materials.
- For more information on how the Bible is unique and how it came to be, visit answersvbs.com/oafaq.
- Pray.

Lesson Materials

FROM TEACHER RESOURCE KIT

- ☐ Theme Verse poster
- ☐ Day 1 Memory Verse poster
- ☐ Day 1 Fun Phrase poster
- ☐ Arctic Circle poster
- ☐ Coolest Book poster

FROM RESOURCE DVD-ROM

- ☐ Exploration Station Names signs
- ☐ Day 1 memory verse coloring sheet (Expl. Station)
- ☐ 2 copies of today's puppet script
- ☐ "Book of Books" and "The B-I-B-L-E" songs

OTHER MATERIALS

- ☐ Exploration Station supplies (see back cover)
- ☐ Bible or children's Bible
- ☐ Costumes for exploration leaders (teachers)
- ☐ Treasure chest
- ☐ Any children's picture book
- ☐ Boy or girl puppet (in costume) and puppet stage
- ☐ Star stickers
- ☐ Clipboard
- ☐ Mounting putty or tape
- ☐ Memory Verse/Review Time supplies
- ☐ Memory verse music CD and player

STUDENT EXTRAS

- ☐ Student guides (11-5-074, 11-5-135), 1 per child
- ☐ Explorer Guides (11-5-090, 11-5-138), 1 per child
- ☐ Stamp for Explorer Guides (11-5-093)
- ☐ Blizzard bookmarks (11-5-078, 11-5-140), 1 per child

DEVOTION 1

BOOK OF BOOKS

"I will speak of Your testimonies also before kings and will not be ashamed." Psalm 119:46

During the early spring of 1524, a young priest slipped away from London and, without the king's leave, made his way to the European continent. He was never to see his homeland again, and for the next eleven years his life was an elaborate hide-and-seek as he was pursued, at one time, by four government agents. His crime and his life's ambition were one and the same: to translate the Bible from the original Hebrew and Greek and present it, printed and bound, so that even the boy who drove the plough could understand God's Word.

By the constitutions of Oxford of 1408, it was illegal—to pain of death—to read the scriptures in English without a bishop's license. To reinforce this, in April 1519, one woman and six men were burned to death at Coventry for teaching their children the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Apostles' Creed in English.

William Tyndale was born in Gloucestershire, England, studied at Oxford, and later Cambridge, and spent two years teaching the children of Sir John and Lady Walsh in their small manor house at Little Sodbury. Here he began to translate the New Testament, and by the time he arrived on the continent it was complete. The first ever printed New Testaments in English were smuggled back into England early in 1526. Though the bishops burned the Bibles and often their owners, the Word of God became an unstoppable force across the land—England had the Bible in the vernacular at last.

(Excerpted with permission from *Travel with William Tyndale* [Day One Publications] by Brian H. Edwards. See answersingenesis.org/articles/am/v2/n4/tyndale-and-english-bible.)

What drove William Tyndale to risk life and limb so that his fellow Englishmen could read the Bible in their own language? He knew the Bible was the "Book of books." No other book—or person—held the keys to eternal life. No other book laid out the prescription for godly living. No other book contained the true history of the universe and explained why the world is the way it is. No other book was God's written revelation to mankind.

Sadly, however, the English-speakers of Tyndale's time lacked even a rudimentary knowledge of what the Scriptures actually said. Investigations by a reforming bishop in

Tyndale's hometown of Gloucestershire revealed the following about the ignorance of the ministers in the area.

Of the unsatisfactory clergy in 1551, nine did not know how many commandments there were, 33 did not know where they appeared in the Bible (the gospel of St Matthew was a favourite guess) and 168 could not repeat them. Concerning the [Apostles'] Creed, 10 could not repeat it and 216 were unable to prove it; a large number of these said that they were perfectly satisfied that it was right because the king and Mother Church said so. Most extraordinary of all, perhaps, were the results of the Lord's Prayer part of the examination: 39 did not know where it appeared in the Bible, 34 did not know who was its author, and 10 actually proved unable to recite it. (David Daniell, *William Tyndale: A Biography* [Yale University Press, 1994], p. 78.)

Lest we come down too harshly on these clergymen of 400 years ago, let's ask ourselves how well we know the Book of books. Are we ardent students of the Word of God, mining jewels from its depths, or do we have a more casual relationship with the life-giving book, merely admiring the sparkle from afar? Consider this: how much are you willing to risk to bring the Word of God to the children in your care?

Today, as we study the uniqueness of this God-breathed collection of books, let's meditate on the words of the psalmist who realized that the Bible was set apart from all other books—it is the Word of God.

Forever, O LORD,
Your word is settled in heaven.
Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
You established the earth, and it abides.
They continue this day according to Your
ordinances,
For all are Your servants.
Unless Your law had been my delight,
I would then have perished in my affliction.
I will never forget Your precepts,
For by them You have given me life.
I am Yours, save me;
For I have sought Your precepts.
The wicked wait for me to destroy me,
But I will consider Your testimonies.
I have seen the consummation of all perfection,
But Your commandment is exceedingly broad.

Psalm 119:89–96

EXPLORATION STATIONS

Note: Make sure any exploration station supplies you use are chunky and age-appropriate—nontoxic and not a choking hazard.

Discovery Center: Copy Cats

MATERIALS

Note: Use any or all of the following—whatever you want to gather. Or check the Super Simple Idea below for an alternate option.

- ☐ Flat rocks
- ☐ Styrofoam meat trays and craft sticks (“stylus”)
- ☐ Copy paper
- ☐ Vellum (to simulate papyrus)
- ☐ Parchment (scraps of suede)
- ☐ Quill pens (see directions below)
- ☐ Washable markers
- ☐ Index cards

PRE-PREP

1. Gather whatever supplies you are using. Write the word “God” on one index card and “Bible” on another. Make a few quill pens, using inexpensive stick pens, feathers, and black masking tape.
2. First, take the lid off the pens. Next, starting above the point, wind the black masking tape halfway up the barrel of the pen. Place the feather against the barrel of the pen and continue winding the black tape to the top.

DIRECTIONS

Explorers use the various writing implements to copy the words “God” and “Bible” on the various materials.

TEACHING TIE-IN

The Bible has been written or carefully copied on many different kinds of materials over the years: rocks, clay, papyrus, paper. The original writings were perfect! We can trust every word of the Bible because every word comes from God, who cannot lie. The Bible is true!!

SUPER SIMPLE IDEA

Use just paper and markers. Write out Bible words ahead of time and have the explorers carefully copy them, like the scribes carefully copied the books of the Bible. The youngest explorers may want to just copy the “B” for “Bible.”

Touch Table: Let it Snow!

MATERIALS

- ☐ Under-the-bed storage container, small wading pool, or “official” touch table

- ☐ Tarp or plastic tablecloth
- ☐ “Snow”: sea salts with cut-up tinsel mixed into it
- ☐ Plastic little people

PRE-PREP

Cover the floor under the touch table with a tarp or plastic tablecloth. This will be used all week. Mix the sea salts and the tinsel in the touch table.

DIRECTIONS

Explorers play with the “snow.”

TEACHING TIE-IN

Isn't it fun to play in our pretend snow? It's amazing to think that when snowflakes fall outside, every one is different. Each is special and one-of-a-kind, and so is the Bible! It's the most special book ever because it's written by God Himself and it's perfect!

Note: There are commercial instant snows you can buy that just require water. There are also tutorials online of various ways to make your own fake snow for kids. You may want to try some of them as well as this option.

Dramatic Play: ACE (Arctic Circle Exploration) Company

MATERIALS

- ☐ Exploration Company backdrop with bear looking in the window (see Decorating Decisions)
- ☐ Scarves, mittens, boots, and other cold weather dress-up clothes
- ☐ Possible Props: sleeping bags and blankets rolled up, plastic sled, skis, snowshoes, kids' table and chairs, play camera, play first aid kit, backpack on a frame, water bottles, play cell phone, play ski goggles, camping pots and pans, play binoculars, (Day 2) flashlights and/or play lanterns, (Day 3) play food, tin cups, canteens, white paper plates, (Day 4) pretend “mail”/mailbags, (Day 5) play brooms and other play cleaning supplies

PRE-PREP

Put up the backdrop. This will be used all week. Gather the costumes, which will also be used all week. Gather whatever suggested props you want, which can be borrowed, made, or bought from thrift stores, garage sales, or online companies like Oriental Trading Company or Rhode Island Novelties.

DIRECTIONS

Pretend to be explorers in the Arctic getting ready to set out to explore.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Did you see the bear looking in the window? He reminds me of Blizzard our polar bear. Polar bears are special and one-of-a-kind. They aren't like any other animal. And the Bible is special and one-of-a-kind, too. It's not like any other book. It's God's very words!

Coloring Corner: 2 Timothy 3:16

MATERIALS

- ☐ Bear den supplies (see Decorating Decisions—paw prints, stuffed animal bears, etc.)
- ☐ Day 1 memory verse coloring sheet (Resource DVD-ROM)
- ☐ Markers or crayons
- ☐ Optional for marker and crayon storage: galvanized metal pail with snowflake stickers or fun foam snowflakes on it
- ☐ Optional: Additional supplies to glue on, glue sticks, and stickers

PRE-PREP

Photocopy the coloring sheet, 1 per child. Make or gather the decorating supplies and set them up. These will be used all week. Gather additional supplies to glue on if desired, such as cotton balls for “clouds” or blue celophane pieces for “sky.”

DIRECTIONS

Color the sheet. Add additional supplies if desired.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Practice saying the memory verse on the sheet. Discuss its meaning.

Additional Exploration Station Ideas

- ☐ Cozy Book Nook—Make a cozy reading spot by making a pretend fireplace. Put some blankets by

the fireplace. Add books about people of the Arctic, animals of the Arctic, snow, ice, etc. Also make sure to have children's picture Bibles or books with individual Bible accounts in them.

- ☐ Letter of the Day—Provide activities that have to do with the letter of the day (Day 1—B; Day 2—I; Day 3—B; Day 4—L; Day 5—E). Have them trace the daily letter in trays of salt (to simulate white “snow”) and say, for example, “B is for Book of books.”
- ☐ Building Site—Provide LINCOLN LOGS® to make mini log cabins, and/or have bigger boxes to build bigger cabins or snow forts with.
- ☐ Animal Puppets—Animal puppets are a great center idea, so have a small puppet stage along with Arctic animal puppets for the kids to play with. These may include any of the following: polar bear, brown bear, Arctic fox, Arctic hare, beluga whale, humpback whale, blue whale, moose, reindeer (caribou), snowy owl, Siberian husky, etc.
- ☐ Glittery Snow Dough—Make uncolored play dough and add iridescent or silver glitter into it. Set up a station with the glittery snow dough, cookie cutters, play rolling pins, etc. Snowflake cookie cutters in various sizes are particularly fun.

How to Make Snow Dough

2 c. flour	4 t. cream of tartar
½ c. salt	2 t. oil
2 c. warm water	Iridescent or silver glitter

Mix the first five ingredients in a saucepan, blending well. Stir over low to medium heat until the dough is formed and is no longer sticky. Remove from the pan and knead until smooth, adding the glitter. After it has cooled, store in an airtight container.

- ☐ Bible or children's Bible
- ☐ Costumes for exploration leaders
- ☐ Arctic Circle poster (Teacher Resource Kit)
- ☐ Treasure chest
- ☐ Any children's picture book
- ☐ Day 1 Fun Phrase poster (Teacher Resource Kit)
- ☐ Mounting putty or tape (for hanging posters)

PRE-PREP

1. Prepare your costumes.
2. Put Bible in treasure chest.

✿ Be familiar with the lesson, but don't memorize it. Place it on a clipboard to use as a reference. Decorate the back of your clipboard (the side the kids will see as you hold it) with snowflake stickers.

✿ The Bible and mounting putty or tape are usually listed just once in each day's lesson, but plan to use them throughout.



- ☐ Boy or girl puppet (in costume) and puppet stage
- ☐ Star stickers
- ☐ Coolest Book poster (Teacher Resource Kit)
- ☐ Clipboard
- ☐ 2 copies of today's puppet script (Resource DVD-ROM)

PRE-PREP

1. Photocopy the script. Tape one inside the puppet stage and place the other one on the clipboard.
2. Dress the puppet in a mini VBS T-shirt and/or a hat and scarf.
3. One teacher should be in front of the puppet stage with the clipboard and one should be behind it ready to work the puppet.

LESSON TIME

Part 1: Blizzard the Polar Bear (5 minutes)

Teacher One: Hi, explorers! My name is _____ (Explorer Eddie, Snowflake Susie, or whatever name you choose).

Teacher Two: And I'm _____ (name of your choice). We're glad you're here at *Operation Arctic*.

Teacher One: Show the Arctic Circle poster. **The Arctic is a cold place at the top of the world. It's beautiful and unique, which means extra special and one-of-a-kind.**

Teacher Two: Let's take a couple minutes and get ready for some Arctic fun. Since it's cold there, let's pretend to put on our winter coats. Do so.

Teacher One: We're going to need hats and gloves, too. Let's pretend to put them on. Do so.

Teacher Two: And we can't forget boots! Put on your boots, explorers! Do so.

Teacher One: Now we're ready to start exploring! We're going to explore a special, special book. Does anybody know the name of the most special book?

Note: While Teacher One has the kids' attention with the treasure chest in the next little bit, Teacher Two should slip behind the puppet stage.

Slowly open up the treasure chest and pull out the Bible. **Did you say the Bible? It's the greatest treasure ever. It's a one-of-a-kind book. It's not like any other book.** Pull out another book. It can be any children's story book—maybe even *Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?* **Here's a different book. See the words and pictures inside? It's a nice book, but it's not the most special book like the Bible because it isn't written by God! No other book is written by God. That makes it the most special book ever!**

Show the Day 1 Fun Phrase poster. **Our animal pal Blizzard reminds us the Bible is special. What letter is Blizzard showing us? Take responses. It's a B for "Bible" and "Book of books!"**

Let's meet our puppet pal, and he'll tell us more about this special, superstar Book!

Part 2: Puppet Pal—It's a Superstar! (5 minutes)

Each day, the puppet pal will be used to teach or reinforce the lesson. If you don't have a teaching assistant or co-teacher, enlist someone (a group guide or other volunteer) ahead of time to work the puppet each day. If you're alone, have the puppet come up from behind a snow mound.

The puppet can be a boy or a girl. Use a consistent voice for the puppet all week. Speak clearly and exaggerate words and expressions. For instance, draw out certain words for emphasis, or make an exaggerated action for things like groaning, turning its head, or sneezing. Use your free hand to do things with the puppet's hands or arms. For example, if the puppet is "thinking," put the puppet's hand on its chin. When the puppet is talking, make sure the mouth is open. (This is the opposite of what people often do!) In other words, the mouth should be open on most syllables. You don't have to open very wide, which will help you move the mouth faster and more naturally.

Your puppet should come out of the door of the ACE Company building. (See *Decorating Decisions*.) When entering, hold your arm back and down and have the puppet take three steps forward, getting higher each time, until the puppet is out and visible. When exiting, turn the puppet toward you and take three steps down until out of sight.

Puppet: Hey there, everybody!

Teacher: Hi, Kai! Boys and girls, let's say, "Hi, Kai!" to our puppet pal. Do so. Can you tell us something you like to do, Kai?

Puppet: Well, I like to go exploring with Dad on my dogsled with my dogs. But I also love to explore something else—my Bible!

Teacher: The Bible sure is a treasure!

Puppet: Yep. It's one-of-a-kind. That makes it extra special.

Teacher: It's a one-of-a-kind book all right, written by God! In fact, it deserves a star! Slap a star sticker on Kai's shirt. **God wrote us a book! Let's sing about that Book.**

The B-I-B-L-E (Remain sitting, putting hands together to form a closed book.) I stand alone on the Word of God (Stand up.)

Yes, that's the book for me (Form an open book.) The B-I-B-L-E (Bounce on each letter.)
The BIBLE! (Shout it enthusiastically.)

Puppet: But that's not all. Did you know the Bible is true? God can't tell a lie (Titus 1:2), so since He wrote the Bible, that means every word is true!

Teacher: Wow! Here's another star for being true. Stick a star on Kai's arm.

Puppet: And did you know more people have read the Bible than any other book in the whole world?

Teacher: Another star for being the most read book. Put a star on Kai's other arm.

Puppet: And guess what? God changes people's lives as they read the Bible!

Teacher: God sure has used the Bible to change my life! I love God's Word. Hug your Bible. That deserves a star. Put a star on Kai's forehead.

Puppet: And the Bible will never go away. Read Matthew 24:35, which talks about heaven and earth passing away, but God's words never passing away.

Teacher: I think we could go on and on, Kai, but at this point, I'm sure the boys and girls see that the Bible is different than every other book. It's a superstar! Place the last star on Kai's mouth.

Puppet: Talk in a muffled voice. It's the Book of books! Well I've gotta show my mom these stars! See you later!

Teacher: See you later, Kai! Let's see if we can remember some of the special things about the Bible. Pull out the Coolest Book poster and read the statements one at a time, having them say, shout, or whisper them back to you.

✿ The name "Kai" rhymes with "Hi!"



☐ "The B-I-B-L-E" and "Book of Books" songs (Resource DVD-ROM or 11-5-141)

☐ Media player

✿ Simple sing-along versions of the songs listed here are available on the Resource DVD-ROM. Download them to an MP3 player and use them to accompany your song time. They are also available on a CD (11-5-141).

✿ You may want to use all the songs suggested this week (in the daily Song Time section), or just repeat the same one or two all week long. There are lots of options!

SONG TIME

Song 1: "Book of Books"

Here's a fun song to incorporate into any part of your day. Sing this one to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes."

The Bible is the Book of books (Make a Bible with your hands.)

Book of books! (Fist pump and shout on "Book of books!")

The Bible is the Book of books (Make a Bible with your hands.)

Book of books! (Fist pump and shout on "Book of books!")

Written by God, come take a look (Point up, then beckon to “come!”)
The Bible is the Book of books (Make a Bible with your hands.)

Book of books! (Fist pump and shout on “Book of books!”)

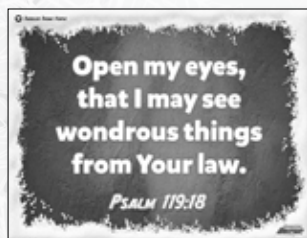
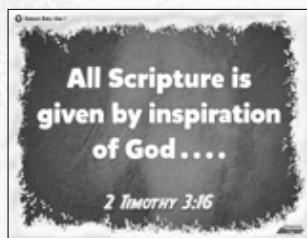
Song 2: “The B-I-B-L-E”

The B-I-B-L-E (Remain sitting, putting hands together to form a closed book.)
Yes, that’s the book for me (Form an open book.)

I stand alone on the Word of God (Stand up.)
The B-I-B-L-E (Bounce on each letter.)
The BIBLE! (Shout it enthusiastically.)

- ☐ Memory verse music CD and player
- ☐ Student guides and supplies for Part 1 and Part 2
- ☐ Explorer Guides, 1 per child
- ☐ Stamp for Explorer Guides
- ☐ Blizzard bookmarks, 1 per child
- ☐ Day 1 Memory Verse poster (Teacher Resource Kit)
- ☐ Theme Verse poster (Teacher Resource Kit)

✿ You may want to make up motions each day to the key words of the verse.



MEMORY VERSE/REVIEW TIME

In the remaining time, complete one or more of the following ideas in class. Supplies for this section are not included in the supply list on the back cover since they will vary depending on the activities you choose, so decide what you will do and add them to your supply list accordingly.

Pass out the Blizzard bookmarks, one per child, or have guides do so at the end of the day. Put a stamp in the Explorer Guides (or do so at snack time), and/or review the student guides.

Part 1: Bible Gems

Today’s Verse: “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God . . .” 2 Timothy 3:16

Explain the following words.

All—All means all. Every single word in the Bible is from God.

Scripture—Scripture is another name for the Bible.

Inspiration—Inspiration means men wrote down the words as God told them to (2 Peter 1:21).

Practice the verse several times by playing the appropriate song from the memory verse CD and using the Memory Verse poster as a reference, then try the following challenge.

Challenge: Make up motions to key words in this verse and do them as you say it.

Tomorrow’s Verse: “Your word is a . . . light to my path.” Psalm 119:105

Try the challenge again, this time using tomorrow’s verse. You may also want to practice the week’s theme verse, using the Theme Verse poster as a reference.

Part 2: Go and Do

- Every person in the Bible was a real person who lived a long time ago. Draw a picture of someone in the Bible.
- Talk to God (that’s prayer!) and ask Him to help you love Him and love His Word more and more.
- Ask an adult who follows Jesus to show you her Bible and read Psalm 1 to you. What does she love about it?

Ask yourself this question: Do I have a Bible at my home?

Part 3: BIBLE Handshake

Today, explorers learn the first letter of the BIBLE handshake, *B*. Each day, they'll add another letter. For today, form the thumb and index finger into a circle and link them with another explorer's fingers, forming a *B* with the two circles together. Say, "Book of books." Remind them that we will be spelling the word "Bible" this week, and the *B* is the first letter in the word "Bible."

Check [YouTube.com/AnswersVBS](https://www.youtube.com/AnswersVBS) for a demonstration of the BIBLE handshake!

And remember—the student guide is great to send home as a fun review!