

Bits and BYTES Snacks

Course Overview

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Title	Destination: Creation	Destination: Old Testament Locations	Destination: Visitation	Destination: Preparation	Destination: Celebration
Time Tracker	Jesus* Before and at Creation	Jesus* in the Old Testament	Jesus in the New Testament	Jesus Now	Jesus in the Future
Sim Station Lesson Focus	Jesus <i>always has been, always will be</i> with us.	Jesus <i>always has been, always will be</i> a promise keeper, from Old Testament times to forever.	Jesus <i>always has been, always will be</i> ready to love and forgive those who truly want to become his children.	Jesus <i>always has been, always will be</i> caring for his children—even now from heaven.	Jesus <i>always has been, always will be</i> in charge, including when he reigns as King of kings in the new heaven and new earth.
Bible Passages	Genesis 1 John 1:1–3	Genesis 18 Exodus 3	Selected Verses	Acts 1 John 14:2–3	Revelation 21–22
High Voltage Verses	All things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1:16–17	Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8	For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16	In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? John 14:2	At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:10–11
Animal Pals	Flutter the Sparrow	Lottie the Lamb	Sergeant the St. Bernard	Bucky the Beaver	King the Lion
Daily C	Creation	Christophany	Cross	Clouds	Crown
Apologetics Focus	Jesus as a member of the Trinity	Prophecies made and fulfilled about Jesus	Jesus is fully man and fully God	Evidences of the resurrection of Jesus	Jesus on the New Earth
Inventors' Science and Crafts	Experiments: A Work of Art & Rocks That Fizz Main Craft: Eternity Circlet	Experiments: Moments in Time & Time to Shine Main Craft: Burning Bush Light	Experiments: Balancing Act & Don't Lose Your Marbles! Main Craft: Criss-Cross	Experiments: The Hand Is Quicker than the Eye & Blast Off! Main Craft: Time Warp Time Capsule	Experiments: This Is Nuts! & Twister Time Main Craft: Build-a-Bot Pencil Holder
Quantum Leap Games	Garden of Eden Games	Ancient Hebrew Games	Ancient Roman Games	Nowadays Games	Futuristic Games
Bits and Bytes Snacks	Beginning of Time Treats Trinity Trio	Sarah's Cakes Burning Branches	Christmas Cookies Resurrection Brownies	Mansion of Many Rooms Cotton Candy Clouds	King's Crowns Petri Critters
Cool Contests	Back in Time Candy Contest	Backwards Day Team Cheers	Christmas in ____ (month of your VBS)	Dress-Up Day Design-the-Time Challenge	Mission Money Mania Names of Jesus Challenge

* Jesus was given the name "Jesus" at his birth.



Contents

Handy Helps	3
Let's Get Charged Up!	3
Our Goal	3
Your Role	4
Frequently Asked Questions	4
Terms to Know	4
Top 20 Tips for Bits and Bytes Snacks	5
Shopping List	6
Toddler Snacks	7
Day 1	
Beginning of Time Treats	9
Trinity Trio	11
Day 2	
Sarah's Cakes	13
Burning Branches	15
Day 3	
Christmas Cookies.	17
Resurrection Brownies	19
Day 4	
Mansion of Many Rooms	21
Cotton Candy Clouds	23
Day 5	
King's Crowns	25
Petri Critters	27
Healthy Alternatives at a Glance	29
Additional Snack Ideas	30
Drink Labels.	31

Limited license to copy:

A limited license is available to make copies of this book. You may make copies of portions of the book if 1) you are the purchaser, 2) the copies are used exclusively for non-commercial purposes within your church or organization (an entire denomination is not considered a "church" or "organization" under this license), and 3) you follow the instructions provided in the book.

Bits and Bytes Snacks

Copyright © 2017 Answers in Genesis. All rights reserved. Limited license to copy.

Project Coordinator: Stacia McKeever
 Written by MaryLou Atwood and Barb Witt
 Content Editors: Roger Patterson, Dr. Georgia Purdom
 Edited by Mikayla Klein and Anneliese Rumminger
 Interior layout by Diane King
 Cover illustration and design by Jon Seest
 Illustrations by Paul Agner

Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

For more information, write:
 Answers in Genesis
 PO Box 510
 Hebron, KY 41048

Printed in China.

Handy Helps

Let's Get Charged Up!

Wouldn't it be amazing to travel back in time and witness epic events in history? Imagine the thrill of meeting great heroes of the faith like Abraham, Moses, or Gideon. Or the fun of experiencing life in ancient cultures like Rome. Or the fascination of watching famous inventors make discoveries that change the world.

Now imagine traveling through time and meeting *the* most important man ever—a man who was not just a man but who was also God. One who turned the world upside-down. One who existed outside of time.

We'll do just that as we embark on *Time Lab* from Answers VBS. We'll use words beginning with "C" to help us remember that Jesus, our forever faithful, loving, caring, promise-keeping Lord, has been with us always!

Day 1 Creation—Did you know the Son of God has always existed? We'll talk about his existence before time and his activity at creation.

Day 2 Christophany—Big, cool word the kids will love learning that teaches the Son of God didn't start as a babe in a manger but has been around forever, actively involved throughout history, including Old Testament times.

Day 3 Cross—Here's when Jesus comes to earth and is given the name "Jesus." And here's where he lives, dies, and comes back to life. It's the most epic historical account ever! Because of him, we can live forever, too!

Day 4 Clouds—After Jesus rose again, where did he go? He's actively working on our behalf as he sits at the right hand of God the Father, interceding for us, protecting his church, and preparing a place for his children! Wow!

Day 5 Crown—We'll end our tour through time at the new heaven and new earth, where Jesus and his children will live together in the most amazing place forever. Whatever your best day *ever* has been, this will blow it away!

Excitement will be running high from the first minute our time travelers arrive at *Time Lab*. They'll start their day at the **Atomic Assembly**, a supercharged opening complete with entertaining welcomes, rockin' songs, a mission moment, and prayer. Then we're off to four fun rotation sites:

Simulation Station, the teaching time. Here, time travelers discover Jesus throughout all the pages of the Bible and realize he's a joy and thrill to find.

Bits and Bytes Snacks, the snack spot. Time travelers will enjoy having a "byte" of yummy brain food to eat!

Quantum Leap Games, the recreation location. Time travelers realize every nanosecond counts as they race against time and encounter fun physical challenges and games from ancient (and not-so-ancient) time periods.

Inventors' Science and Crafts, the science, craft, music, mission, and memory verse spot. This location features a wide array of activities to choose from: electrifying science experiments to explore, creative crafts to invent, high-energy songs to sing, fun memory verse games to play, and mission time to investigate (for those who want to spend more time than is given during the Assembly).

After finishing the day's rotations, everyone heads back to the **Atomic Assembly** for the closing 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 features an inventor tinkering in his lab as he works on his most important invention—his time machine. Will he get it to work? Will it go back in time? Forward in time? Laughs abound and adventures await in this wacky and entertaining drama.

Time sure will fly while we're having fun. So head this way and get ready to launch into hyperdrive as we take off for *Time Lab*! Let's go!

Our Goal

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

Our primary goal has always been to bring God glory by boldly and unashamedly proclaiming him to a strategic group—young people! From both a biblical and statistical point of view, young people are a big deal! They're not only awesome—we love 'em!—but they're also dearly cherished by our Lord and tend to be 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 to let them come to him (Luke 18:16). We want children to come to Christ and not be hindered in any way from doing so. To that end, we combine a biblically rich VBS loaded with substance with off-the-charts, irresistible fun. In a day and age when content sometimes suffers, it's critically important to us not to sacrifice rich content. But it's also crucial that the most exciting book in the world not come across as boring or irrelevant. We want to reflect our creative, inspiring, joy-giving God who made laughter and fun!

So why do we do it? We want kids around the world to hear about and personally meet our awesome God and 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. We're praying for you!

Your Role

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

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

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

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

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

Frequently Asked Questions

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

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.

- **Time Travelers:** The kids at VBS. Time travelers are put in teams named after elements in the periodic table (e.g., Team Beryllium, Team Cobalt, Team Copper, Team Silver, Team Gold).
- **Time Keepers:** Team leaders who guide the time travelers from place to place during VBS. No teaching is required for this position.
- **Scientists (Dr. Slimestein or Dr. Slime, Professor Timely or Professor Time, etc.):** Teachers at the Simulation Station lesson time.
- **Simulation Station:** Rotation site where Bible and apologetics teaching occurs.
- **Atomic Assembly:** Spot where everyone joins together for the opening and closing assemblies.
- **Inventors' Science and Crafts:** Rotation site where kids make crafts, perform science experiments, sing songs, learn memory verses, and explore missions around the world.
- **Bits and Bytes Snacks:** Indoor or outdoor site where yummy snacks are served.
- **Quantum Leap Games:** Indoor or outdoor site (outdoor is preferred) for game time.
- **High Voltage Verses:** Daily memory verses.
- **Animal Pals:** Friendly animal mascots used to emphasize the key point of each day's lesson.
- **Creature Feature:** Daily time during the opening or closing assembly when we marvel together at God's design of various thematic animals.
- **Toddlers:** Ages 2–4 years.
- **Pre-Primaries:** Ages 4–6 years, or age 4 through children who have completed kindergarten.
- **Primaries:** Ages 6–9 years, or children who have completed grades 1–3.
- **Juniors:** Ages 9–12 years, or children who have completed grades 4–6.

For multi-age K–6th teams, we recommend using the material for the Primaries.

Top 20 Tips for Bits and Bytes Snacks

1. Pray! Study God's Word and the VBS lessons! This is your most important preparation. Give all concerns to the Lord, and watch *him* do great things.
2. After reading the daily snack choices, including the additional ideas listed in the Tip Corner, Super Simple Options, Healthy Options, and Toddler Options, decide which snack you will serve each day. Keep in mind that the toddler snack ideas can also be fun choices for older kids and vice versa. There are also yummy additional snack ideas at the back of the book you may want to incorporate. Test each recipe ahead of time to learn how to prepare the snack efficiently. Also, check out [Pinterest.com/AnswersVBS](https://www.pinterest.com/AnswersVBS/) for great pictures of the snacks and fun ways to present them at meetings and VBS.
3. Calculate your portions based on the snack supply list. (See back cover for the main snack options. The other ideas in this book are not included on the back cover supply list.) Make a snack donation list based on what you've chosen, and share it with those in your organization.
4. Don't forget to include VBS workers in your calculations! Offer munchies for adult and teen helpers to grab on the run.
5. Plan two snacks per day for toddlers. (See Toddler Snacks on page 7.)
6. Don't use small foods that may be choking hazards for young children (e.g., whole grapes, peanuts, marshmallows, raisins, round candies).
7. Check with local restaurants for donations of cups, napkins, or lemonade mix.
8. Set up a collection area for incoming supplies. Label the supplies for VBS to prevent hungry people from opening unlabeled food. Stockpile your items in a safe place.
9. Assess your stock often. As VBS approaches, purchase what has not been donated.
10. Prepare as much as you are able to ahead of time. Use zippered baggies when possible to hold individual snacks for each child.
11. Be aware of allergies. Some common allergies include nuts (e.g., peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, and tree nuts), red dyes, milk, eggs, berries, gluten, and wheat. Keep a list of children with allergies and monitor what is being served to them. Plan alternate snacks, or ask parents to provide an alternative. It's also good to make a list of all the ingredients used in each snack so parents can see if there will be any problematic ingredients. Post the daily list in a visible spot (on the entry doors, at the snack location, at the info counter) and/or in your Caretaker Handbook.
12. Decide if you have the time and space to have the kids involved in snack preparation or if it is more practical for the snack workers to prepare the snacks completely beforehand. If involving the kids, see the Class Time Directions each day for their role.
13. Enlist help for the preparation station in the kitchen and the serving station in the refreshment area. If involving the kids in preparation, the ratio should be 1 adult (including leaders—time keepers) for every 6–8 children at the serving station. Provide a sample snack and adequate table space for the children to use.
14. If serving indoors, set up the serving station away from kitchen knives, hot pans, and potentially slippery floors. If serving outside, place a table in the shade. Decorate the space so it has kid appeal and hang the "Bits and Bytes Snacks" sign. Post a sign announcing the featured food and drink of the day. Check "Decorating Decisions" in the *Director Guide* for more decorating ideas. Play the VBS music CD.
15. Check the daily attendance to get an accurate number of children. Make extra snacks for latecomers.
16. Use good hygiene. Adults must wash their hands before preparing food, and children should take a quick bathroom break and wash their hands before refreshment time. Rubber gloves should be worn by food staff, and long hair should be pulled back. Use wipes or hand sanitizer for quick hand cleanup.
17. Keep drinks in large coolers (e.g., ten-gallon coolers with a pour spigot) so they will stay cold.
18. Pray and thank God for the refreshments before eating.
19. Reinforce the day's lesson while the children are eating using the Teaching Tie-In given for the snacks. (Important—make sure to have a Bible to read Bible verses that are referenced.) Try to engage the kids in discussion about the topic. Adjust to fit the age level.
20. Place large, wheeled trash cans with trash bags in the area for quick cleanup.

Toddler Snacks

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

For a morning VBS, consider offering a breakfast snack shortly after arrival (e.g., mini-muffins, half a banana, doughnut holes, or toasted oat cereal).

For the main snack time, arrange with the Toddler Coordinator to serve the snack 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. (These optional ideas are not included in the snack supply list on the back cover.) Remember to use the teaching tie-ins listed on this page rather than the “big kids” teaching tie-ins. There are other food options in this book that would work for toddlers, too, such as some of the healthy alternatives listed on page 29, so check them out for additional ideas. And of course, pray before eating!

Day 1

TRINITY TRIO

See Day 1 in this guide for directions. You may want to fill the cups to only half full for the toddlers, or use smaller cups, but make sure the triangle-shaped chips fit in whatever cups you choose.

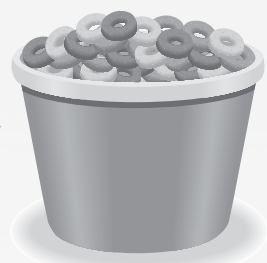
Teaching Tie-In: What shape are your chips? Take responses. **Yes, they're triangles! And how many sides does a triangle have?** Take responses. **Right, three! That reminds me of the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. They are three persons but one God. Let's thank God for being the one and only God, and let's thank him for these Trinity Trios!**



ETERNITY RINGS

Bag up Fruit Loops®, Apple Jacks®, or other ring-shaped cereals into individual snack baggies. You will need approximately ½ c. per child.

Teaching Tie-In: What shape do you see in your eternity rings? Take responses. **Yes, a circle! Does a circle begin somewhere?** Take responses. **Does it end somewhere?** Circles remind me of God because they don't begin or end. God doesn't begin or end, either! Let's thank God that he is with us forever, and then let's eat!



Day 2

SARAH'S CAKES

See Day 2 in this guide for directions.



Teaching Tie-In: Hey, our snacks are called Sarah's Cakes. Do you know who Sarah was in the Bible? Take responses. She was the wife of a man named Abraham, and one day, they had some special visitors—including the Son of God himself! She prepared a special meal and cakes for him. Let's thank God for these special cakes that are a little like the cakes Sarah made for Jesus, the Son of God.

SHEPHERD'S RODS

Serve pretzel rods, 1 per child. This is your shepherd's rod. If you want, you can also add “milk and honey” by giving each child a small amount of vanilla yogurt with a little honey drizzled over it in a small paper or plastic cup. They can dip their “rods” in the “milk and honey.”

Teaching Tie-In: Today's animal pal is Lottie the Lamb. Back in Old Testament times, we hear about shepherds who were out in the fields taking care of lambs. Sometimes the lambs would run away and the shepherds would use their rods to pull them back to safety. Those rods had a hook on the end.

One person we hear about in the Bible who was a shepherd was Moses. One day, when he was out caring for the lambs, he saw a bush that was *burning* but not *burning up*. The Lord God was in the bush! Let's thank God for caring for us as the Great Shepherd, and let's thank him for our Shepherd's Rods!

Day 3

RESURRECTION BROWNIES

See Day 3 in this guide for directions. Use a small cross cookie cutter.

Teaching Tie-In: What shape is our brownie? Take responses. **Yes, a cross. Today, we're talking about when Jesus was born and lived on**



earth. What sad thing happened to him at the end of his life on earth? Take responses. Yes, he died on a cross. But the great news is, he didn't stay dead! He rose from the dead and is alive today! Let's thank God for that amazing news, and then let's eat!

BREAD AND GRAPE JAM

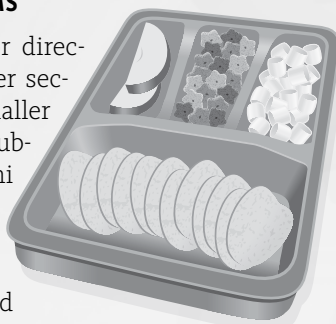
Serve bread with grape jam, either homemade (check recipes online) or store-bought. You may want to explain how, back in Jesus' day, they would step on clumps of grapes to squish them up and make them into food and drink items.

Teaching Tie-In: Back when Jesus was on the earth as a man, he would have eaten a lot of bread. It was a very popular food of the time, as it still is. Jesus is God, but he was also a man who needed to eat, just like we do. Maybe Jesus ate bread and grape jam as a boy, like you are doing today! Let's thank God for sending his Son Jesus to earth, then let's eat our bread and jam!

Day 4

MANSION OF MANY ROOMS

See Day 4 in this guide for directions. You may want smaller sectioned containers, or smaller portions of each item. Substitute something for mini marshmallows (which can be choking hazards for young kids), such as carrot chips and dip or bite-sized apple pieces.



Teaching Tie-In: Today's animal pal is Bucky the Beaver. Bucky likes to prepare his home, and guess what? There's someone else out there preparing a special place—Jesus! The Bible tells us Jesus is in heaven preparing a place with many rooms. It's going to be the most amazing place ever, and someday, all God's children will get to live there with King Jesus himself. Let's thank Jesus for preparing a place for his children and for our Mansion of Many Rooms snack.

BUCKET OF BOLTS

Make small "buckets" from silver paper cups that are hole punched at the top in two spots across from each other. Then have a silver chenille stem threaded through the holes. (See illustration.) Put in "gear"-looking cereals, such as Honeycombs® or Rainbow Crunch™.

Teaching Tie-In: Did you know Jesus' dad on earth was a carpenter who built things? Jesus would have learned how to build things, too. He wouldn't have had the exact same tools and nails and bolts and things like we have, but he would have had his own version of them. And isn't it cool to know Jesus is in heaven right now making a beautiful place with many rooms for his children? Let's thank Jesus for doing that as we eat our Bucket of Bolts.

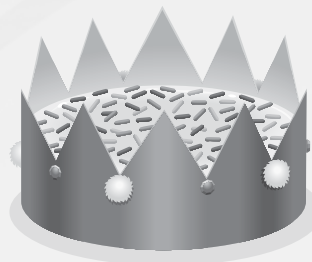


Day 5

KING'S CROWNS

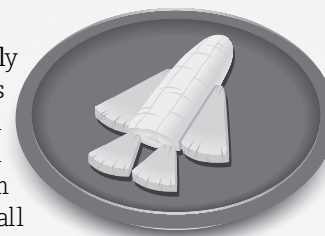
See Day 5 in this guide for directions.

Teaching Tie-In: What do kings wear on their heads? Take responses. Right! Crowns can be fancy, with jewels, can't they? Did you know Jesus is a king? Take responses. In fact, the Bible tells us he is the King of all kings. There's no greater king than Jesus! Someday, all God's children will live on the new earth with Jesus, the King of all kings. Let's praise God for being the King of kings and thank him for this King's Crown treat!



ROCKET TIME

Cut a banana in half vertically and horizontally so it ends up with four pieces. (Each banana will make enough for four children.) Place each piece on a separate, small paper plate. Cut canned pineapple into triangle shapes to make fins on the sides and boosters on the bottom.



Teaching Tie-In: Look at our little rocket here! Do you think it would be cool to fly in a rocket way up into the heavens? Well, someday, anyone who is God's child won't need a rocket to get to the new heaven and new earth. We will be taken there and will live forever with Jesus. It's going to be wonderful! Let's thank God for this future time God's children have to look forward to, and then we'll eat our rockets.

Beginning of Time Treats

Ingredients

- ☐ Hostess Ding Dongs®, 1 per child
- ☐ Optional: Melted chocolate (see Pre-Prep)
- ☐ White icing (in piping bag with tips, or in zippered baggies)

Moving Molecules Drink Ingredients

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

Basic Supplies

- ☐ Food-safe craft sticks, 1 per child
- ☐ Napkins and cups, 1 of each per child
- ☐ Stirring spoon
- ☐ Drink pitchers or coolers

Pre-Prep

1. To make the craft sticks fit a little more securely, melt the chocolate and put a little on the end of each stick, then immediately push each stick into the Hostess Ding Dong®. It will harden and make the stick more secure. Other options are to put the craft stick in without the melted chocolate (the cake will wiggle a little more on the stick), or skip the stick altogether.
2. Put white icing in a piping bag or a zippered baggie with the tiniest bit of the tip cut off. Pipe the hands of the clock on each Hostess Ding Dong®.
3. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Today's snack is called a Beginning of Time Treat. God lives outside of time, and there was actually a time when there wasn't time! Time started at creation, when God created it. Isn't that cool? Let's thank God for creating time for us to live by, and for this cool treat!

Pray for the Beginning of Time Treat and eat. As everyone munches, have them share what time they do var-

ious things. What time do they normally get up? Start their school day? Eat lunch? Go to bed?

Do they make time to read their Bibles each day? Spending time in God's Word learning about Jesus is the most important time of every day!

Class Time Directions

As time allows, have the kids put their craft sticks in their treats and pipe on the clock hands. You will need more piping bags or zippered baggies if doing this.

Tip Corner

- Make round sugar cookies or crispy rice treats and dip them completely in melted chocolate for a home-made option.
- Use chocolate-covered Oreos® and skip the craft stick, only piping on the clock hands. Plan for 2 each.
- Check out the Super Simple Options, the Healthy Options, and the Toddler Options on page 7. Any of these can work for Day 1 or other days or meetings. They are all lots of fun!

- If you prefer individual drinks any day, substitute juice boxes, pouches, or water bottles that are labeled “H₂O.” (See the back of the book or the DVD-ROM for

a pattern.) They're more expensive but require no prep and no cups.

Day 1 Overview

Destination: Creation

Lesson Focus		Bible Passages	
Jesus <i>always has been, always will be</i> with us.		Genesis 1, John 1:1-3	
High Voltage Verses	Animal Pal	Cool Contest	
Colossians 1:16-17	Flutter the Sparrow	Back in Time Candy Contest	
Inventors' Science and Crafts	Bits and Bytes Snacks	Quantum Leap Games	
Experiments: A Work of Art & Rocks that Fizz Main Craft: Eternity Circlet	Beginning of Time Treats Trinity Trio	Garden of Eden Games	

NOTES

Trinity Trio

Ingredients (serves 24)

Note: The chips need to be triangle-shaped.

- ☐ Triangle-shaped regular tortilla chips, 12 oz. bag
- ☐ Triangle-shaped ranch-flavored tortilla chips, 12 oz. bag
- ☐ Triangle-shaped blue chips or nacho cheese-flavored tortilla chips, 12 oz. bag

Moving Molecules Drink Ingredients

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

Basic Supplies

- ☐ Large bowl
- ☐ Containers for Trinity Trio, 1 per child (see Tip Corner)
- ☐ Napkins and cups, 1 of each per child
- ☐ Stirring spoon
- ☐ Drink pitchers or coolers

Pre-Prep

1. Mix the three kinds of chips in a large bowl.
2. Fill each container with the chips.
3. Prepare the drink according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Today's snack is the Trinity Trio. Do you know what the word *Trinity* means? Take responses. Do you know what the word *trio* means? Take responses. Why do you think this is called a Trinity Trio, then? Take responses. Yes, each triangle-shaped chip has three sides to remind us of the three persons of the Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. And the trio of chips reminds us of the Trinity because the chips are alike, yet different, with three different flavors. Please note: no explanation or reminder of the Trinity will be a perfect explanation, and there are inherent drawbacks to any explanation of the mystery that is the Trinity. The chips simply provide a reminder and are not intended as a complete illustration.

So triangles can be a reminder of the Trinity. Now when you look at the top of your container, what shape do you see? Take responses. Right, a circle! What can a circle remind us of? Take responses. It never starts and it never

ends, like God. So let's remember our forever God who is three in one as we eat our Trinity Trio.

Pray for the Trinity Trio snack and eat. As everyone munches, play *I Spy* with shapes. Have them try to find something triangle-shaped, then circle-shaped. Then move on to other shapes for fun such as squares, diamonds, rectangles, ovals, and stars.

Class Time Directions

Let the kids mix the three flavors of chips in the big bowl and put the chips in the containers.

Tip Corner

- We used a store brand of the three different flavors of triangle-shaped chips, but Doritos® also makes three different flavors. Blue chips are a nice contrast for one kind, but any three kinds of tortilla chips work.
- If you want to use fewer chips, use smaller containers. Make sure they're big enough to fit triangle-shaped chips, however.
- We used treat cups from Froyo Gelato Supplies online. A 1,000-piece case was \$78 with free shipping at the



time of this writing. They have lots of fun patterns. We used the Pixels pattern. Many other places sell treat cups as well. They were large and fit about 13–15 chips per cup, which was a good amount for Primary and Junior kids. Smaller cups would be better for younger kids, with fewer chips. (Another pilot church used clear 8 oz. plastic deli cups that were donated.)

- You may want to put chips in zippered baggies ahead of time and then dump into cups on Day 1.
- Check the ingredient lists on the chip bags. Surprisingly, many chips have dyes in them that can be an allergy issue.
- Check out the Super Simple Options, the Healthy Options, and the Toddler Options that follow. Any of these can work for Day 1 or other days or meetings. They are all lots of fun!
- Juice boxes or water bottles can be substituted any day if you prefer individual drinks. They are more expensive but require no prep and no cups.

Super Simple Options—Grab and Go

The Super Simple Options this year all have fun stories of how they were accidentally invented. Share the story with the kids if you are choosing to serve this option, accentuating the fact that God created all these ingredients first from nothing! That's the most amazing thing of all!

Potato Chips—Did you know potato chips are the number one salty snack? But did you also know they were an accidental invention? The inventor's name was George Crum. (Kind of a funny last name for the inventor of potato chips, huh?) Crum was a chef in a fancy restaurant. One of the diners complained about the soggy potatoes he served, so to get back at him, George Crum sliced some potatoes as thin as he could, fried them so they'd be hard and crunchy rather than soggy, and loaded them with salt. To his surprise, the diner loved them and wanted more!

Of course, what's more amazing is that God invented potatoes (and salt) in the first place! It's one thing to take potatoes and salt and come up with potato chips. It's a whole other thing to create a potato and salt out of nothing! God thought of it first—we just use what he has already invented!

Healthy Options

Garden of Eden Edibles—Into small zippered baggies, place a few fresh veggies on one side (carrots, snow peas, pepper sticks) and a few pieces of fruit on the other (grapes, apple slices, orange segments). Cut grapes in half for toddlers. Wind a chenille stem around the middle, making sure to leave a little stem up in the back so it will be easier to unravel. The baggie should now be in the basic shape of an hourglass, a timer used in ancient times. (See illustration on p. 29.)

Remind the kids that at the beginning of time, God hadn't given permission for us to eat meat yet. That came later. So everyone would have eaten their fruits and vegetables. As they munch, discuss who likes which fruits and vegetables. Remind them that the Son of God was there at creation, creating all these wonderful foods.

Toddler Options

Check the Toddler Snacks section on page 7 for two daily suggested snacks with teaching tie-ins and illustrations. The first one is one of the main snacks of the day. The other is a new idea (also written below). Keep in mind, however, that most of the above Day 1 suggestions can work with slight modifications.

Eternity Rings—Bag up Fruit Loops®, Apple Jacks®, or other ring-shaped cereals into individual snack baggies. You will need approximately ½ c. per child. Remind them that just like the rings don't have a beginning or end, God doesn't have a beginning or end, either. He has been around forever.