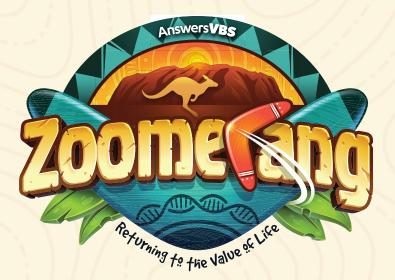
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LEADER GUIDE

TOP KOALA-TY TREATS

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Title	The Beginning of Life: Made in God's Image	The Wonder of Life: Made with Amazing Design	The Value of Life: Made with Worth	Eternal Life: Made for Relationship	Using Your Life: Made for a Reason
Area of Australia	Outback Life at Uluru	Great Barrier Reef Life	Coastal Life	Forest Life	Outback Life at Coober Pedy
Land Down Under Lesson Focus	The Creator of the universe created <i>you</i> ! You didn't evolve from an apelike creature.	You are fearfully and wonderfully made, with a body full of awe-inspiring design features.	God values <i>you</i> greatly! Each and every person—young, old, healthy, sick—is a priceless treasure.	God loves <i>you</i> ! He loves you so much he sent his only Son to die for you.	<i>You</i> are created on purpose for a purpose.
Bible Passages	Genesis 1:26–28, 2:7–23	Psalm 139:13–16	Matthew 1–2 Luke 2	Select Scriptures	Acts 1:6–11 1 Corinthians 12:12–26
Fair Dinkum Verses	So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27	I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. Psalm 139:14	And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. Luke 6:31	Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live." John 11:25	For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10
Apologetics Focus	They can't make a monkey out of me! (Ape-men Frauds)	God thought of everything! (Design Features of Our Bodies)	Be a defender of the defenseless! (Protecting and Respecting Life)	SMYLE! God loves you! (Only One Way to Eternal Life)	All I want to do is live each day for you! (Life Has Meaning and Purpose)
Animal Pals	Jumpin' Jack the Kangaroo	Shimmer the Coral	Bill the Platypus	Paula the Koala	Ringo the Dingo
Turtle-y Terrific Science	Bonzer Boomerang Fossil Handprint	Pick Your Brain Making Sense of Senses	Stellar Stethoscope Toothpick Heartbeat	Let's Get "A-Lung" Blood Sample	Mining Cereal Fabulous Fingerprints
Turtle-y Terrific Crafts	Rockin' Dot Art Hop-a-Shot	Crocs and Kangaroos Fitness Game Manta Ray Bookmark	Life Is Precious Photo Frame Playful Platypus	Southern Cross Ornament Koala Pen	Straya Sun Pillow Clay Echidna
Hoppin' Good Games	Jumpin' for Jesus Aussie Rules	PS139 Obstacle Course Reef Thief	King of the Court Let Me Help You	SMYLE! Kickball Animal Pal Dash	Teamwork Towers Dingo Fence
Top Koala-ty Treats	Outback Hat Funky Monkey	Coral Cup Thumbprint Cookie	Celebration Cake Baby in a Blanket	SMYLE! Pizza Koala-fied Cookie	Dingo Puppy Chow Boomerang Bread
Cool Contests	"Lollies" Guessing Game	Team Cheers	Dress-Up Day	"Beaut" of a Bible Challenge	Mission Money Mania



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Top Koala-ty Treats

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Handy Helps

Welcome to "Aus-some" Australia!

G'day, mate! Are you ready for the trip of a lifetime as we zoom off to the Land Down Under? Be prepared to experience the jaw-dropping beauty of the Great Barrier Reef, the arid temperature of outback afternoons, the architectural marvels of Australia's modern cities, and the fascinating eucalypt forest, home of the koalas.

At *Zoomerang*, the newest Answers VBS, you'll marvel at the unforgettable wildlife, culture, and beauty of Australia while exploring the wonder and value of life, from the lives of preborn babies to eternal life in the kingdom of God.

- **Day 1: The Beginning of Life**—As we explore the Genesis account that describes the creation of man and woman, we will find that people didn't evolve from ape-men. Instead, we'll discover that Jesus is the author of life.
- Day 2: The Wonder of Life—We'll check out the words of King David, who expressed the wonder of being formed by God even before he was born. As we look at the special design features of our bodies, we'll learn that we're fearfully and wonderfully made in God's image.
- Day 3: The Value of Life—The book of Matthew tells the account of Jesus' birth and the subsequent killing of Bethlehem's baby boys. As we look at this passage, we'll discover that God wants us to protect and respect all life—no matter how old, young, smart, or physically fit someone is. Every life is precious to God!
- Day 4: Eternal Life—As we explore the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we will see there is only one way to have eternal life with God—through repenting of sin and believing in his Son.
- Day 5: Using Your Life—When Jesus ascended into heaven, he left his followers with an important mission. We will take a closer look at the truth that we are created for a reason—to glorify God through the good works he has prepared for us to do. Our main mission is to tell others about our Creator and Savior, Jesus Christ!

From the minute our mates step off the plane onto Australian soil, they will find themselves on a trip they'll never forget! The day begins at the **Aussie Assembly**, the thrilling opening complete with entertaining welcomes, "aus-some" songs, a mission moment, and prayer. Then we're off to four fun rotation sites:

- Land Down Under Lessons—the teaching time. Here, our mates will unearth the value and wonder of all life created by God and for God.
- **Top Koala-ty Treats**—the snack spot. Mates will enjoy delicious tucker (food) at this much-anticipated stop.

- Hoppin' Good Games—the recreation location. At this location, mates "av a go" (put in a good effort) at working together as teams and trying out various physical challenges.
- Turtle-y Terrific Science and Crafts—the science, craft, music, mission, and memory verse spot. This location features a wide array of activities to choose from: engaging science experiments to explore, appealing crafts to invent, rockin' songs to sing, fun memory verse games to play, or mission time to explore (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 **Aussie 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 Aussie game show called Zoomerang. Before the game show goes on the air each day, the kids will witness some drama between the staff members who work on the show. Then, when the announcer gives the countdown, the show begins, complete with kids being called from the audience to be contestants.

So grab your Aussie hat and "sunnies," and let's begin our fun-filled adventure at *Zoomerang*!

Our Goal

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

Our primary goal has always been to bring God glory by boldly and unashamedly proclaiming him to a strategic group—young people! From both a biblical and statistical point of view, young people are a big deal. They're not only awesome—we love 'em! but they're also dearly cherished by our Lord and tend to be 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 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 teaching. But it's also crucial that the most exciting book in the world not come across as boring or irrelevant. We want to reflect our creative, inspiring, joy-giving God who made laughter and fun.

So why do we do it? We want kids around the world to hear about and personally meet our awesome God and understand how they can receive eternal life through repentance and faith in Christ Jesus. We believe VBS is a great way to introduce them to God, as it is one of the biggest outreaches of the year for most churches. We pray you will find that every prayer prayed, every minute invested, every dollar spent, and every word spoken will bring God glory as you reach kids for Christ. Just remember—VBS is worth it. May God richly bless your VBS. We're praying for you!

Your Role

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

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

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

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

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

Frequently Asked Questions

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

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.

- **Mates:** Friends or buddies are often called "mates" in Australia. Mates at VBS will be the kids.
- **Tour Groups:** Classes of kids will be put in tour groups named after Australian animals (e.g., Kangaroos, Wombats, Sugar Gliders, and Kookaburras).
- **Group Guides:** Adult and teen leaders will be the group guides who get the mates from place to place during VBS. No teaching is required for this position.
- **Tour Guides:** This refers to the teachers at the Land Down Under Lessons.
- **Aussie Assembly:** At this location, everyone joins together for the opening and closing assemblies.
- Land Down Under Lessons: This rotation site is where Bible and apologetics teaching occurs.
- **Turtle-y Terrific Science and Crafts:** At this site, mates participate in exciting science and crafts. There are also options for singing songs, learning memory verses, and exploring missions around the world.
- **Top Koala-ty Treats:** The mates will enjoy some yummy outback eatables at this rotation.
- **Hoppin' Good Games:** At this indoor or outdoor site (outdoor is preferred), the mates will "av a go" (put in a good effort) at fun land and water games.

- **Fair Dinkum Verses:** "Fair dinkum" is an Australian term meaning something that is 100% genuine and truthful. Mates at VBS will learn their fair share of fair dinkum memory verses.
- **Aus-some Songs:** Mates will be singing along with the catchy music of VBS.
- **Animal Pals:** These are our friendly animal mascots used to emphasize the key point of each day's lesson.
- **Creature Feature:** During opening or closing assembly, mates will hear of real-life Australian animals and the amazing design features God has given them.
- Toddlers: These are mates who are 2–4 years old.
- **Pre-Primaries:** These are mates who are 4–6 years old or kids who are age 4 through those who have completed "kindy" (kindergarten).
- **Primaries:** These are mates who are 6–9 years old or kids who have completed grades 1–3.
- Juniors: These are mates who are 9–12 years old or kids who have completed grades 4–6.

For multiage K-6 teams, we recommend using the Primaries material.

Top 20 Tips for Top Koala-ty Snack Time

- 1. Psalm 139 teaches that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God. Treat every child with kindness and respect, remembering each is a precious image bearer of God. Our attitude toward and treatment of others will speak volumes.
- 2. Pray! This is your most important preparation. Give all concerns to the Lord, and watch *him* do great things.
- 3. After reading the daily snack choices, including the Super Simple Options, Healthy Options, Toddler Options, and extra ideas listed in the Tip Corners, decide which snack you will serve each day. There are also Additional Snack Ideas at the back of the book. Test each recipe ahead of time to learn how to prepare the snack efficiently. Also, check out Pinterest.com/AnswersVBS for pictures of the snacks and fun ways to present them.
- 4. Don't forget to include VBS workers in your calculations! Offer munchies for adult and teen helpers to grab on the run.
- 5. Plan two snacks per day for toddlers. See the Toddler Snacks list for suggestions to pair with other ideas in this book. When choosing other options, be mindful of small foods that may be choking hazards for young children (e.g., hot dogs, nuts, marshmallows, raisins or dried fruits, hard or very chewy candies, chunks of cheese or fruit, and popcorn).
- 6. Calculate your portions based on the daily snack supply list located on the back cover. (Additional ideas are not included on this list.) Make a snack donation list based on what you've chosen, and share it with those in your ministry.
- 7. Set up a collection area for incoming supplies. Label the supplies for VBS to prevent hungry people from opening unlabeled food. Stockpile your items in a safe place.
- 8. Check with local restaurants for donations of cups, napkins, and lemonade mix.
- 9. Assess your stock often. As VBS approaches, purchase what has not been donated.
- 10. Prepare as much as you are able to ahead of time. Use zippered baggies when possible to hold individual snacks for each child.

- 11. Be aware of allergies. Some common allergens include nuts (e.g., peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, and tree nuts), dyes (red, blue, and yellow), dairy items, berries, gluten, wheat, soy, eggs, and corn. Be vigilant and careful regarding all of this! Plan alternate snacks or ask parents to provide an alternative. It's also helpful to make a list of all the ingredients used in each snack so parents can see if there will be any problematic ingredients. Post the daily list in a visible spot (on the entry doors, at the snack location, at the info counter) and in your Caretaker Handbook.
- 12. Keep a list of children with allergies and monitor what is being served to them. Make sure all leaders and snack servers are aware of who has what allergies.
- 13. Enlist help for the preparation station in the kitchen and for the serving station in the refreshment area. If serving indoors, set up the serving station away from kitchen knives, hot pans, and potentially slippery floors. If serving outside, place a table in the shade.
- 14. Decorate the space so it has kid appeal and hang the "Top Koala-ty Treats" 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. Plastic food prep gloves should be worn by food staff, and long hair should be pulled back. Children should take a quick bathroom break and wash their hands before snack time. Use wipes or hand sanitizer for quick hand cleanup.
- 17. Keep drinks cold in large coolers, such as 10-gallon coolers with a pour spigot.
- 18. Pray and thank God for the snacks before eating.
- 19. While the children are eating, reinforce the day's lesson using the Teaching Tie-In given for each snack. (Make sure to have a Bible to read verses that are referenced.) Then use the Conversation Starters and Fun Facts to have fun, guided conversations.
- 20. Place large, wheeled trash cans with trash bags in the area for quick cleanup.

SNACK GUIDE Shopping List

Toddler Snacks

Day 1

Aussie Fairy Bread

Just three ingredients make up this favorite treat of Aussie kids: white bread, room-temperature butter (1 T. per bread slice), and colorful sprinkles (about 2 T. per bread slice). Remove the crusts from the bread and spread each slice with butter.



Put the buttered bread in a container (to catch the stray sprinkles), then shake on a thick layer of sprinkles. Gently press the sprinkles. Cut each slice into triangles. Serve 1–2 pieces per child.

TEACHING TIE-IN

The kids in Australia like to eat this treat called Aussie Fairy Bread. It's a special treat we're excited to have all you special children try. While you're eating it, we hope you remember that each and every child is special to God!

Let's thank God for creating each person in this world, and then we'll eat our yummy Fairy Bread.

Day 2

Skeleton Pretzel Frame

Print the Skeleton Pretzel Frame sheet, one per child. Have children place stick pretzels (about 10–15 per child) and mini pretzels (2–3 per child) on the skeleton. Or you may want to cover pretzel sticks in white chocolate to resemble bones.



TEACHING TIE-IN

Touch your knuckles on your

hands. Demonstrate where knuckles are. What do you think those hard things are under your skin? Take responses. Your bones! You have bones from your head to your feet. All your bones together are called your skeleton. Let's see if you can put the bones on your skeleton with pretzel sticks before we eat. Do so, then say:

Let's thank God for making our skeletons in our bodies, and then let's eat.

Day 3

Gingerbread Girls and Boys

Use your favorite gingerbread recipe and girl and boy cookie cutters (available online) to make gingerbread girls and boys. Ice the cookies as

pictured. Let the kids add a couple

decorations, such as candies and chocolate chips. (Use extra icing as needed for "glue.")

TEACHING TIE-IN

Look at these cute gingerbread girls and boys! We're going to decorate them, but first, listen to this from God's special book, the Bible: Read the first part of Genesis 5:2. God is the one who makes boys and girls like you! And you are very loved and valued by him.

Let's thank God for loving us, and then we'll decorate our cookies and eat!

Day 4

All Smiles

Use various pre-packaged items that are smiley-face foods, or make your own smiley-face goodie. Store-bought possibilities include McCain Smiles Potatoes, Great Value Fruit Smiles, and Gerber Banana Cookies. DIY options include smiley-face sugar cookies, rice cakes with chocolate chip eyes and string licorice mouths, or round crackers with a spray cheese smiley face.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Can you give me a big smile? Pause. It's fun to smile. Do you smile when you see your mom? Your dog? Your friend? Take responses. The best thing that makes me smile is knowing that Jesus loves me and gave his life to save me.

Let's thank God for his love, and then we'll eat our smiley treats.

Day 5

Cloudbursts

Gather a cloud-shaped cookie cutter (available online), watermelon, and blueberries. Cut the watermelon into thin slices, and use the cookie cutter to cut cloud shapes. Place on a paper plate and add several blueberries as "raindrops" coming down from the "cloud" of watermelon.



TEACHING TIE-IN

What does your watermelon look like? Take responses. Yes, a cloud. Our Bible account today teaches us that after Jesus came back to life, he went up to heaven and was hidden in a cloud. Wouldn't that have been amazing to see him leave the ground and go up to heaven? Now he lives in heaven, and someday all his children will live there with him, too. But for now, we have his work to do here on earth.

Let's thank God for giving us jobs to do here for him, and then we'll eat our cloudbursts.

DAY 1 Outback Hat

Ingredients (about 48 cookies)

- □ 13.1-oz. Oreo Thins
- □ 48 Rolo chewy caramels
- □ 16-oz. can chocolate frosting
- □ 16-oz. can white frosting

Lemon Squash Drink Ingredients

Powdered lemonade mix and water, 1 quart for every 5 children

Note: "Lemon Squash" is another name for lemonade in Australia.

Basic Supplies

- Piping bag OR zippered baggie and pair of scissors
- □ Napkins and cups, 1 of each per child
- □ Stirring spoon
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Pre-prep

- 1. Mix half the chocolate and half the vanilla frosting well. Place the frosting in a small piping bag or a zippered baggie with a small hole cut diagonally in one of the bottom corners.
- 2. Pipe some frosting on the bottom of a Rolo and place it in the center of the cookie.
- 3. Pipe a ring of frosting around the base of the Rolo.
- 4. Prepare the drink mix according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

We're visiting the outback today as we talk about how human life began. Aboriginal people have lived in the outback for a long time—since the people spread out from the tower of Babel. But they aren't the very first people who ever lived on earth. How do you think the very first people came to be? Take responses.

The Bible is where we turn for answers like this. God's Word is always true (John 17:17) and always perfect.



Let's thank God for the Bible, and then we'll eat our Outback Hats.

Pray, then while eating, share the Conversation Starters and Fun Facts below.

Conversation Starters and Fun Facts

- Have you ever visited Australia? Would you like to?
- If you were going on a trip to Australia, who would you want to go with? Where might you want to go first?
- God created all the different animal kinds, which the animals that now live in Australia came from. Which Australian animal would you most want to see? Why?
- There are more kangaroos that live in Australia than people. Does that make kangaroos more special than people?
- Are people and animals equal? Are animals made in God's image?

Tip Corner

- Check out the Super Simple Options, the Healthy Options, and the Toddler Options on the following pages. Any of these can work for Day 1 or other days or meetings. They are all yummy and lots of fun!
- If buying the frosting in cans, the easily spreadable variety is great to use.
- Individual drinks are more expensive but require no prep and often no cups.
- For individual drinks any day, substitute juice boxes, juice pouches, or water bottles with "Aussie Agua" or "Ocean Water" printed labels.
- For added fun, use outback-themed napkins and cups.

Day 1 Overview							
The Beginning of Life: Made in God's Image							
Lesson Focus							
The Creator of the universe created <i>you</i> ! You didn't evolve from an apelike creature.							
Anim	al Pal	Cool Contest					
Jumpin' Jack the Kangaroo		"Lollies" Guessing Game					
Top Koala-ty Treats		Hoppin' Good Games					
Outback Hat Funky Monkey		Jumpin' for Jesus Aussie Rules					
ŗ	ng of Life: Made in ^{u!} You tre. Anim Jumpin' Jack Top Koala Outba	ng of Life: Made in God's Image B U! You Ire. C Animal Pal Jumpin' Jack the Kangaroo C Top Koala-ty Treats Outback Hat					

DAY 1 Funky Monkey

Ingredients (8 servings—3 crackers per serving)

- 24 round snack crackers, such as Ritz
- □ Slices of white cheese cut into twenty-four 1 to 1½-inch circles
- □ 24 mini pretzel pieces broken into smile shapes
- □ 48 Cheerios
- □ 48 chocolate chips

Lemon Squash Drink Ingredients

 Powdered lemonade mix and water, 1 quart for every 5 children

Note: "Lemon Squash" is another name for lemonade in Australia.

Basic Supplies

- □ Zippered baggies, 1 per child
- □ 1 to 1½-inch round cookie cutter or round measuring tablespoon
- D Plates, napkins, and cups, 1 of each per child
- □ Stirring spoon
- Drink pitchers or coolers

Pre-prep

- 1. Cut the white cheese into 1 to 1½-inch circles with the cookie cutter or round tablespoon.
- 2. Put the supplies in bags so the kids can assemble the monkeys before they eat them.
- 3. For each child to make three monkey crackers, place the following in a zippered baggie: 3 round crackers, 3 round pieces of white cheese, 3 smile-shaped pieces of pretzel, 6 Cheerios, and 6 chocolate chips.
- 4. Prepare the drink mix according to package directions.

Teaching Tie-In

Have you ever seen something at a zoo you found particularly interesting or fun? Discuss. Have you ever seen a monkey or an ape at a zoo? Take responses. Today, we're talking about how we don't share an ancestor



with apes. God made all the awesome kinds of animals, and then he made his most special creation—Adam and Eve. There's no missing link between apes and man. People are people, and apes are apes.

Pray and thank God for being made in his image and for the Funky Monkey snack. Have the kids assemble their three funky monkeys, then eat. While eating, share the Conversation Starters and Fun Facts below.

Conversation Starters and Fun Facts

- Have you ever visited Australia? Would you like to?
- If you were going on a trip to Australia, who would you want to go with? Where might you want to go first?
- God created all the different animal kinds, which the animals that now live in Australia came from. What Australian animal would you most like to see and why?
- What does it mean to be made in God's image? Answers can include being able to create, enjoy beauty, talk in full sentences, and have a relationship with God.

- One animal you won't see in the wild is a monkey. They don't live in Australia.
- Do you think a monkey is made in God's image? A kangaroo? A sea turtle? Only people are made in God's image.

Tip Corner

• Any 1 to 1½-inch food-safe kitchen object or mini cup can be used as the circle cookie cutter. Our cheese circles were 1¾ inches.

Super Simple Option

"Icy Poles"—Ice pops are called "icy poles" in Australia.

Healthy Options

"Rockmelon"—Cantaloupe is called rockmelon in Australia. When serving the rockmelon, talk about Ayers Rock (also called Uluru—OO-loo-roo).

Banana Mini Muffins or Aussie Bites—Bake your favorite banana mini muffin recipe or buy Aussie Bites,

which are available at Costco or online. As you serve up these delicious snacks, remind the mates that we don't share an ancestor with apes—"They can't make a monkey out of me."

Bite of Australia Option

Every day, a famous Australian favorite is mentioned. Give each child one bite so they can try it!

Vegemite—This iconic Australian food is a favorite among locals. Spread 1–2 T. on a piece of toast, cut into small, onebite squares or strips, and enjoy. Don't be surprised if the mates don't love it; it's an acquired taste. But it's good to try such an Aussie classic.

Toddler Option

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

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