My Life Can Tell of God's Wonder

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

These additional games and activities can be used with the MY LIFE CAN TELL OF GOD'S WONDER lesson. If you want to integrate more movement and interaction in your lesson, check out these options. We've included tips to make the games and activities inclusive for all kids.

GAME 1: ARE YOU MY BROTHER?

SUPPLIES: tape, slips of paper, writing utensils

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: My Life Can Tell Elementary Spotify playlist (optional)

In this game, kids will look for their assigned "brothers" and "sisters," eventually creating a long chain of "siblings," representing that God invites all of us into His family!

Make It Inclusive

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities

If some kids in your group have mobility limitations, modify this game by playing it in small groups of five or six. Have small groups sit in tight circles. Kids' paper slips will contain the name of someone else in their small groups. They will take turns asking one person in the circle, "Are you my brother (or sister)?" If the answer is "yes," those kids will reach across the circle to hold hands. Soon the circle will be a web of connected hands.

Wonder Ink

Invite kids to write their names on slips of paper. Collect the slips and shuffle them. Tape a slip of paper to each kid's forehead, so the name faces out. Be sure you do not give anyone his own name.

From this point forward, you are only allowed to say four things. You may ask, "Are you my brother?" or "Are you my sister?" and you may answer, "yes" or "no." That's it! Don't say anyone's name. Don't tell anyone else what name she has on her forehead.

Here's your mission: find your brothers and sisters. The name of your brother or sister is written on your forehead. You may move about the room asking each other, "Are you my brother?" or "Are you my sister?" If someone asks you and your name is on his forehead, answer "yes." If not, answer "no" and move on. When you find your brother or sister, link arms with that person and continue the game.

Do you think you can all find your brothers and sisters? Let's find out!

Expect a bit of chaos as the kids move around searching for their "brothers" and "sisters." As they begin to make some of the connections, things will become even more complicated, as larger and larger chains of "siblings" attempt to stay together while the remaining kids search. In the end, every kid in your group will be "related" to each other. Consider playing worship music from My Life Can Tell Elementary Spotify playlist as they try to locate their "siblings."

Once all kids have found their "brothers and sisters," gather kids together. In real life, some of us have siblings and some of us don't. Some people have one or two brothers or sisters, and some may have 12! But God's family is different. God invites all of us into His family. In God's family, we are all brothers and sisters.

Wonder Ink

GAME 2: KNOWS, LOVES, LEADS

Leader Tip: Read through these instructions ahead of time and practice the moves to ensure you're ready to demonstrate them.

Gather the kids to teach them the core values of Wonder Ink and corresponding motions.

God Knows Me. For "God," point to the sky. For "knows," touch the sides of your head with your index fingers. For "me," move both thumbs to your chest.

Jesus Loves Me. For "Jesus," make a small cross with your index fingers. For "loves," place both palms on your heart. For "me," once again, move both thumbs to your chest.

The Holy Spirit Leads Me. For "the Holy Spirit," hook your thumbs together and flap your fingers like a butterfly, symbolizing the Holy Spirit coming down like a dove. For "leads," scoop a hand towards yourself as if beckoning someone to follow you. For "me," move both thumbs to your chest.

I Am a Child of God. For "I Am," use your right index finger to point to yourself. For "a child," put one hand palm-down in front of you at waist level and pretend to gently pat an imaginary child on his head two times. For "of God," point to the sky.

Make It Inclusive

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities

The core value motions are easy to do sitting or standing. If you have kids who cannot stand, invite everyone to do the motions from a sitting position.

OK, for this first round, we'll do it together. Practice several times, saying the four core values and doing the motions together.



This next round is a little trickier. I won't say the middle word or phrase. I'll still make the motion, but let's see if you can remember the words! For example, you say, "God ... Me" or "I Am ... of God." Make the motions for "knows," "loves," "leads," or "a child," and see if kids can remember the words and say them out loud.

Good! Now I'm going to stop saying the last part of each core value, but you keep saying it. Go through a few more times saying only the first part: "God," "Jesus," "The Holy Spirit," or "I Am," and let the kids finish the statements.

Now, for the final round, I won't say anything. I'll just make the motions. Do you think you can remember all four core values? Silently make the motions and see whether kids can say the core values. Vary the order in which you do them.

Does anyone feel you could do all four on your own? Invite one or two volunteers to attempt to say and act out all four core values. Great job! Let's always remember: God knows me. Jesus loves me. The Holy Spirit leads me. I am a child of God.

