

LESSON 4

DANIEL AND THE LIONS' DEN

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Can Protect Us in Amazing Ways

SCRIPTURE: Daniel 6

GOD'S BIG STORY: When Daniel is thrown into a den of lions for praying to God, God sends an angel to shut the lions' mouths, protecting Daniel in an amazing way.

Activity: Magnetic Tile Forts

Activity: Shut the Lions' Mouths

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Lion Hunt

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Activity: Magnetic Tile Forts

SUPPLIES: magnetic tiles, small toy person figure, pom-poms

Before kids arrive, set out magnetic tiles, the small toy person figure, and pom-poms.

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! I'm so happy you're here! Come see what we have today.

Encourage kids to build forts of protection using magnetic tiles. Have kids hide a small plastic toy person inside the fort. Encourage kids to toss pom-poms at their fort to see if they made it strong enough to protect the toy inside.

We built a strong fort to protect our toy person. Today we'll learn in our story how God protected Daniel in an amazing way!

Activity: Shut the Lions' Mouths

In God's big story today, we'll hear about a time when God sent an angel to shut the mouths of some lions to protect someone. Have kids practice roaring like a lion. Then have kids pretend to be lions by walking on hands and knees and roaring. **When I say, "Shut the lions' mouths," you stop moving and roaring. When I say, "Go," pretend to be lions and roar again. Ready?**

Play several rounds of the game with the kids.

Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD CAN PROTECT US IN AMAZING WAYS.**

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD CAN—Point up.

PROTECT US—Hug your body.

IN AMAZING WAYS—Hold your hands up in front of you, palms open.

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [God with Us Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today we're learning that God can protect us in amazing ways. God is always with us. Let's praise Him and thank Him for how amazing He is.

Play songs from the [God with Us Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible

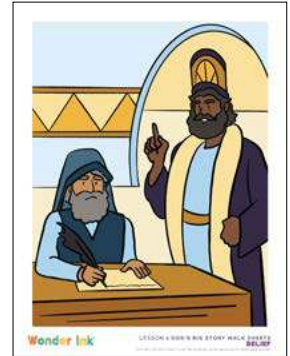
Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [God's Big Story Video](#), God's Big Story Walk Sheets

Before the story, print the God's Big Story Walk Sheets.

God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about a person named Daniel. Encourage the kids to say, "Daniel." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Daniel!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the script provided.

Today we'll take an inside walk to learn about God's big story. Show the first picture of the king writing the law.



Daniel was a follower of God who lived in a land called Babylon. King Darius ruled Babylon. Daniel was honest and did a great job with everything the king gave him to do, but some people were jealous of Daniel.

They told the king he should tell people not to pray to any god or person except him. Anyone who prayed to anyone else would be thrown into the lions' den. King Darius said OK, so that became the new law in that land.

Show the picture of Daniel praying.

Daniel heard about the king's new law. Daniel did not stop praying to God. The men who were jealous of Daniel saw him praying. They told the king that Daniel had broken the new law.

Show the picture of Daniel in the lions' den.

Daniel was thrown into the lions' den. No one could stop what happened to Daniel now, not even King Darius.

Show the picture of the king talking with Daniel.

Early in the morning, King Darius ran to the lions' den.

"Daniel!" the king called out. "You serve the living God ... faithfully. So has he been able to save you from the lions?" (Daniel 6:20).

Daniel said, "My God sent his angel. And his angel shut the mouths of the lions" (Daniel 6:22).

God had protected Daniel! The lions had not hurt him. The king was so happy!

He brought Daniel out of the lions' den. Then King Darius wrote a new law saying that everyone in his land must respect and honor God and follow Him like Daniel did.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

God, thank You for always being with us, even when we're scared. Be with us and help us at home, the park, or anywhere we go this week. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May God remind you how much He loves you and how He will always be with you. May you see the amazing ways He can protect you—at home, school, and everywhere you go. He will never leave you.

Activity: Lion Hunt

SUPPLIES: stuffed animals (lions, if possible)

Hide stuffed animals (lions, if you have them) around the room for kids to find. Make sure the stuffed animals are easy to see.

In God's big story, we learned God protected Daniel in the lions' den! We don't have to be scared because God can protect us in amazing ways. He is always with us! Let's play Lion Hunt together.

Gather kids together and pretend to go on a lion hunt around the room. **Stuffed animals are hidden around the room! Let's go on a lion hunt to find them.** Use hands as binoculars and find the stuffed animals as a group.

Optional: As you hunt, sing the following words to the tune of, "Going on a Bear Hunt," encouraging the kids to repeat each line after you:

We're going on a lion hunt.

We've got our binoculars.

We're not scared.

Once you find a stuffed animal, set off again until all stuffed animals are found.