

DAY 3

VBS
CROCK BRIDGE



ALL-STAR ACTIVITIES

ELEMENTARY LEADER GUIDE

BEFORE STELLAR



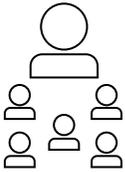
Pray for everyone who will attend Stellar.

Ask God to prepare your heart and the hearts of the kids and leaders who will be part of VBS.



Have a plan, but be flexible.

If you have only a few Crews at each rotation, you may have time for all three game options. **Delays in Large Group, or just varying personalities of kids affect how you will execute each rotation. Know your games and plan well so you can be flexible and make decisions in the moment when necessary.**

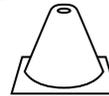


Determine the number of Crews you'll have in each rotation.

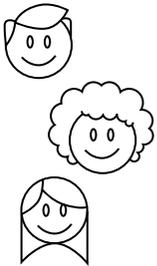
Know how your campus rotation schedule works and how many kids you will have in each rotation. Predecide how many groups you will divide up in for the various games.



Arrive early and check your supplies.



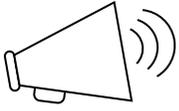
Your supplies should be ready for you each day, but a walk through before service launch will ensure your success!



Coordinate with your Co-Leaders and utilize Crew Leaders.

Teamwork will be invaluable to your success. Prior to each day, review the games so you can **give specific directions to Crew Leaders** to help you prepare, distribute, and collect the game supplies.

DURING STELLAR



Use an attention-getting signal.

Attention-getting signals let kids know when it's time to stop what they're doing and look at you. Examples include:

Leader: "1, 2, 3... Eyes on me!" Kids: "1, 2... Eyes on you!"

Leader: "If you hear me, clap once!" (Clap once and wait.) "If you hear me, clap twice!" (Clap twice and wait.)

Leader: "Mission control to crew!"

Kids: "Ready for launch!" (Sit up straight and freeze like astronauts preparing for takeoff.)



Call on kids to help

Every day, allow kids who are paying attention to pass out supplies, read Scripture, or be your helper.

Kids love feeling important and helpful!



Play Music from the VBS Playlist while kids play.

Music creates a fun atmosphere and, more importantly, reinforces faith!



Repeat the daily Main Point often.

Every activity focuses on one memorable Bible truth called the Main Point. Repeating the Main Point helps kids remember it and apply it to their lives after VBS.



Learn (and use) names.

While you won't have the opportunity to spend one-on-one time with participants, kids and adults will be wearing name badges. Try to call people by name.

TOKENS

This year, our kids will participate in a Token Challenge! To recognize and encourage meaningful participation and positive behavior, we will be rewarding kids with tokens throughout VBS!

- **Who is giving out tokens:** All of our volunteers will receive tokens to reward kids as they catch them engaging well in VBS.
- **What are we doing with the tokens:** Kids will work together to reach an Overall Token Goal and receive a celebration on the last night of VBS! Tokens are used to reward kids for remarkable expressions of love, kindness, great listening, participation, and memorizing our Main Points and Bible verse!
- **When are we passing out tokens:** Immediately! We want to help kids connect their positive attitudes, behaviors, and participation with the reward of the token, so as soon as you see a behavior to celebrate, pass out the reward!
- **Where are we getting tokens from:** We will have tokens available for all volunteers at check-in each night. As we use up our stash, there will be designated spots to go to for more throughout the night.
- **How do we distribute tokens:** Our volunteers will keep their eyes and ears tuned in to our kids so they can immediately reward them with a token to celebrate what we want repeated! They will praise the specific behavior that earned the reward when we give them their token. For example:
 - Active engagement during each rotation
 - Invite kids to “Show Me What You Know!” and let them earn a token by sharing the memory verse, finishing the lyrics to a worship song, sharing today’s “Main Point”, etc.
 - Displays of the fruit of the spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, self-control, gentleness
 - Demonstrating good manners, listening attentively, and following instructions the first time they're asked
 - Being respectful to volunteers, peers, and the VBS environment.
- **When do kids turn in their tokens:** There will be buckets available at each rotation for kids to drop their tokens in. All tokens will be brought to the closing session and combined so we can see how we're progressing towards our goal each night!
- **Remember, the goal of using tokens is to reinforce positive behaviors,** encourage active participation, and create a fun and rewarding experience for all kids attending VBS. Thank you for your commitment to making VBS a memorable and impactful event!



The light of Jesus rescues us!

Bible Story: Jesus died on the Cross and rose again! (John 19–20)

Bible Verse: “Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God.” (John 14:1)

Leader Insights

- Jesus repeatedly spoke words of comfort and kindness from the cross. He forgave his captors (Luke 23:34), welcomed a thief (Luke 23:43), and gave his mother into John’s care (John 19:26-27). His words from the cross offered a glimmer of light in an otherwise dismal and dark day.
- In Luke 2:34-35, Simeon held the infant Jesus and spoke a prophecy and blessing to Jesus’ parents. Ending his message, he turned to Mary and said, “And a sword will pierce your very soul.” Perhaps his words foreshadowed Mary’s heartbreaking grief at the cross.
- Romans used crucifixion to send a grisly message of their power and authority. While Jesus succumbed to death on a cross, ultimately he displayed *his* uncontested power—even over death!
- Joseph of Arimathea could have been excommunicated from the synagogue for his support of Jesus. Instead, he boldly gave Jesus a burial fit for a king. Royal burials used large amounts of myrrh and aloes. Joseph and Nicodemus used a whopping 75 pounds of the mixture as they tenderly prepared Jesus for burial.

Why It Matters Today

As we share the message of the gospel with kids, a message of hope is important because, even at a young age, they experience sadness, fear, and uncertainty. They might feel lonely, struggle with friendships, face disappointments, or deal with loss. Knowing that Jesus’ light shines even in the darkest moments gives them a solid foundation to hold onto.



Hope in Jesus means that they are never alone, that God’s love never changes, and that there is always a reason to keep going, even when life is hard. It reminds them that sadness and tough times won’t last forever—Jesus has already won the victory, and His love brings joy and peace. Just like a bright star shines in the night sky, Jesus’ light is always there to guide them, no matter what they face.

Day 3 Supplies:

- Large paper or foam stars
 - a set of words of the memory verse written on them (you'll need to separate the verse into 4-6 parts) per group
 - 15-20 words not in the memory verse per group
- Large hula hoops to represent craters
- Large car wash sponges (2 per group, plus extras in case of damage).
- Sewing elastic bands (to secure around sponge)
- aluminum foil balls and other items to represent "moon rocks" and space debris
- Spotify Playlist
- 5-7in Craft foam balls (one per group/rotation)
- Aluminum foil (to wrap foam balls)
 - (optional: paint the foam balls grey)
- flashlight (1 per group)

Before You Blast Off

- Decide how many groups you will have in each rotation.
- Prepare word stars: Write each word of the memory verse on the large paper or foam stars.
 - For younger groups, consider writing short phrases instead of word for word. (e.g., "I am the light," "of the world," "Anyone who follows me," etc.)
- Create 15-20 random word stars per set with words that are not in the verse.
- Place "moon rocks", space debris, memory word stars and random word stars into the hula hoop "craters" at the finish line. Shuffle around.
- Create a starting line and a "space station" (kids starting point)
- Create "moon boots" by attaching elastic bands around them.
- Wrap large craft foam balls with aluminum foil to create "moon rocks"



VBS @ ROCK BRIDGE ACTIVITIES PLAYLIST

Let's Play!

Welcome Crews back to All-Star Activities!

SAY

Let's play some games as we work together to memorize our memory verse and remember today's story!

Today we are learning **The light of Jesus rescues us!**

Game 1: Moon Walk Word Search

SUPPLIES: Large paper or foam stars, memory verse stars, 15-20 random word stars, Large hula hoops to represent craters, Large car wash sponges (attach elastic bands to create "moon boots"), aluminum foil balls and other items to represent moon rocks and space debris, Spotify Playlist

SAY

Today we're going to work together to find the words of our Bible verse! **Jesus is the light of the world, and He rescues us from the darkness! We'll need to search the galaxy to find the words and put them in the right order.**

Today you will do a moon walk, looking through the craters for stars with the words of our memory verse on them. When you find one, bring it back to your space station (the starting point). But watch out, there is space debris and other words not in your verse in the craters! Be sure to only bring back words from our verse!

How to Play:

- When the music starts (or when you say "go!"), one kid from each group will put on their "moon boots" and run to their crater and search for a star with words from the memory verse.
- When they find a star, they will bring it back to the starting point (called their space station).
- Once they bring a word back, leaders will check to make sure it's part of the memory verse. If it is one of the random words, the next person will need to take it back to the crater!
- The next kid will then put on the moon boots to find the next word.
- Once all the words are found and brought back to the base station, work together as a group to put the verse in the correct order. You can ask a few volunteers to help, or make it a group effort, depending on their ages.
- Once all the words are in the correct order and the verse is recited together, celebrate with excitement! Praise the kids for their teamwork and understanding of the memory verse.
- Practice saying the verse together several times.

Game 2: Moon Rock Rescue

SUPPLIES: 5-7in Craft foam balls (one per group/rotation), Aluminum foil (to wrap foam balls), flashlight, Spotify Playlist

Set Up:

- Prepare one foam ball per group and wrap each one in aluminum foil. This will represent the “moon rock” in the game.

Welcome to Day 3, Today we're going on a mission to pass the moon rock—but we have to be quick! Just like Jesus' light rescues us, we need to keep that light moving! When the music stops, the person holding the moon rock will be out for that round.

Remember, teamwork is important, and we need to make sure the moon rock gets passed safely to the next astronaut. Are you ready to begin the Moon Rock Rescue mission?

Let's remember: **The light of Jesus rescues us!**

How to Play:

- Gather kids in a circle with a flashlight in the middle. (create multiple circles for large groups).
- Begin by playing music. The kids will start passing the moon rock (foam ball wrapped in aluminum foil) around the circle. The goal is to pass the moon rock as quickly as possible without dropping it, symbolizing how Jesus' light keeps moving to rescue people.
- Randomly stop the music during the game. When the music stops, the person who is holding the moon rock will be "out." Have them go to the middle, pick up the flashlight and say "The Light of Jesus Rescues Us!" That kid can then go back to the circle and keep playing.
- Restart the music, and the game continues as the kids pass the moon rock again.
- After a few rounds, you can start asking review questions when the ball stops.

Review Questions:

Here are examples of questions you could ask kids:

- In the Bible story today, who rescued us?
Answer: Jesus rescued us!
- Who is Jesus?
Answer: God's Son
- What did Jesus do to rescue us?
Answer: Jesus died on the cross and rose again to rescue us!

- What does the moon rock represent in the game?
Answer: The light of Jesus.
- What did the soldiers put on Jesus' head after they arrested him?
Answer: a crown of thorns
- How long was Jesus in the tomb?
Answer: Three days.
- What happened on the third day?
Answer: Jesus rose again!
- What did Mary do after she heard the news?
Answer: She ran to tell all her friends!
- How do we shine Jesus' light?
Answer: Share Jesus' love and the story of how He rescues us!