

Round 2 Additional CONNECT Options

New Testament

Lesson 1

Small Motor Skills Center

Items Needed: TE 1-21

Marker

Construction paper scraps

Scissors

Glue sticks

Before class, make a copy of TE 1-21 and write a large letter *J* in the center of the page. Make copies of the coloring frame with the letter *J* on it for each child. Distribute TE 1-21, construction paper scraps, scissors, and glue sticks to the children. Have them cut the construction paper scraps into small pieces and glue them to the letter *J*. Set aside to dry.

CONNECTION POINT: We just made a craft with the letter *J*. The word *joyful* begins with the letter *J*. Today we are going to learn Paul chose to be joyful and we can choose to be joyful too. We can use our craft to remind us to choose to be joyful like Paul did.

Lesson 2

Play-Doh Center

Items Needed: Red, pink, and purple Play-Doh

Heart cookie cutters

Let the children use the cookie cutters to make heart shapes with the Play-Doh.

CONNECTION POINT: Today we are going to learn more about what Paul wrote to the Christians in Philippi. One of the things Paul encouraged the believers to do was to do everything with a joyful heart. Jesus cared for, loved, and served others with a joyful heart. We can do the same.

Lesson 3

Visual Perception Center

Items Needed: Magnifying glasses and binoculars

Small items to view (leaves, dead bugs, flowers, etc.)

Allow the children to use the magnifying glasses to inspect and explore the different items. Let the children use the binoculars to see things that are far away.

CONNECTION POINT: We just looked at these different items using magnifying glasses. They help us focus on the item and make the smaller things look bigger. We used the binoculars to help us better see things that are far away. Paul was able to choose to be joyful while in prison because he focused on the bigger picture—helping others be more like Jesus.

Lesson 4

Art Center

Items Needed: TE 1-21

Crayons

Before class, copy TE 1-21 so each child will have one. Distribute TE 1-21 and crayons to the children. Allow time for them to draw a picture of themselves on the coloring frame.

CONNECTION POINT: This month we have been learning to be joyful. Today we are going to learn about some advice Paul gave the Christians in Philippi to help them remember to be joyful. We can use our picture to remind us to choose to be joyful in everything.

Book Center

Items Needed: Age-appropriate books about teams, encouragement, choices, prayer, and Paul

Picture or easy-reader Bibles

The librarian at your local library can help suggest some good books on these topics.

Provide throw pillows or beanbag chairs for the children to lounge on as they look at the books and Bibles.

CONNECTION POINT: This month we are going to learn about choosing to be joyful. Paul chose to be joyful even when he was in prison. He continued to serve God and pray for his friends. We can choose to be joyful no matter where we are and what is happening in our lives.

Special Topic

Lesson 1

Play-Doh Center

Items Needed: Play-Doh

Plastic toy food

Allow the children to make some vegetables with the Play-Doh as they arrive to class. Provide toy food as examples for the children to use.

CONNECTION POINT: Today in our lesson, we are going to learn about some young men who made good choices with their food because they lived for God.

Lesson 2

Drama Center

Items Needed: Dress-up items (crowns, robes, slippers, chair/throne, etc.)

Allow the children to play with the dress-up items. Since the children haven't heard the lesson, just allow them to free-play with the items to encourage creativity.

CONNECTION POINT: You just dressed up as kings and queens. Today we are going to learn about a dream that the king had. We will also learn more about Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and how they chose to live for God.

Lesson 3

Art Center

Items Needed: TE 2-35

Crayons

Before class, copy TE 2-35 so each child will have one. Distribute TE 2-35 and crayons to the children. Allow them to draw a picture on the coloring frame. Display the different pictures around your room.

CONNECTION POINT: Each one of you had to choose what to draw on your coloring frame. Today, we are going to about an important choice that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had to make. Listen carefully to the lesson to hear what that choice was the men had to make.

Lesson 4

Art Center

Items Needed: TE 2-35

Cardstock

Red and yellow finger paint

Paint smocks

Small paper plates

Hand wipes

Before class, copy TE 2-35 on cardstock so each child will have one. Put a paint smock on each child. Gather the children around the craft table. Distribute TE 2-35 to each child. Make the finger paint available to the children. Allow the children to use their fingers to paint the different

colors on the coloring frame. Set the picture aside to dry and wipe the paint off of their fingers.

CONNECTION POINT: We painted a picture with red and yellow paint. What happened when you mixed the red and yellow paint? Encourage response. It turned orange and the colors looked like fire. Today we will learn what happened to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they were thrown into the fiery furnace because they would not bow down to the king's golden statue.

Book Center

Items Needed: Age-appropriate books about Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and the fiery furnace, obedience, and fire safety

Picture and easy-reader Bibles

The librarian at your local library can help suggest some good books on these topics.

Provide throw pillows or beanbag chairs for the children to lounge on as they look at the books and Bibles.

CONNECTION POINT: This month we are going to learn how to live for God by studying the examples of Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They lived for God and we can too.

Old Testament

Lesson 1

Dress-up Center

Items Needed: Dress-up items (crown, robes, slippers, etc.)

Allow the children to use the items to dress up and pretend to be the king and Daniel.

CONNECTION POINT: Daniel was a helper to King Darius. The king cared for Daniel and gave him very important jobs. Daniel loved God and knew God helped Daniel help the king. But everyone did not love Daniel. Listen to our lesson to find out what the people who were jealous of Daniel did.

Lesson 2

Stuffed Animal Center

Items Needed: Small plastic lions, lion puppets, or stuffed animal lions

Allow the children to play with the lions.

CONNECTION POINT: Last week we learned some men who were jealous of Daniel tricked the king into signing a law that people could only pray to him. The punishment for praying to someone other than the king was the person would be thrown into a lions' den. Daniel lived

for God and prayed to Him three times each day. The jealous men told the king what Daniel had done. Listen carefully to learn what happened to Daniel.

Lesson 3

Puzzle Center

Items Needed: Age-appropriate puzzles

Let the children work together to put the puzzles together. Encourage the children to help each other find the pieces that go together.

CONNECTION POINT: We have been learning *God Helps His Children*. We just helped each other put puzzles together. We can remember to pray and ask God for His help and know He is there for us.

Lesson 4

Dramatic Play Center

Items Needed: Toy food

Canvas grocery bags

Toy grocery cart (optional)

Toy cash register

Play money

Set the toy food up as if in a grocery store. Make the grocery cart and bags available for the children. Place the cash register off to the side. Allow the children to use the items to pretend they are shopping at a grocery store. Allow the children to check out at the cash register.

CONNECTION POINT: Today we are going to hear about a time when Rosie was grocery shopping with her mommy. Listen to hear about a choice she made and how God helped in the situation.

Lesson 5

Small Motor Skill Center

Items Needed: Foam letters

Bins

Packing peanuts

Before class, place the foam letters inside the bin and cover with packing peanuts. Let the children find different letters in the bins and name the different letters.

CONNECTION POINT: We just played with some letters. Words are made up of letters. Today

we will hear a Webster Family story where Annie is nervous about a test she has to take in school that involve words. She and her family prayed God would help her with her test. We can pray to God for help too. *God Helps His Children*.

Book Center

Items Needed: Age-appropriate books about Daniel in the lions' den, helping others, lions

Picture and easy-reader Bibles

The librarian at your local library can help suggest some good books on these topics.

Provide throw pillows or beanbag chairs for the children to lounge on as they look at the books and Bibles.

CONNECTION POINT: This month we are going to learn how *God Helps His Children* by studying how God helped Daniel when he was in a very dangerous situation. We can learn from this true story how Daniel trusted God and God helped him.