

SUMMER BIBLE CLUB'S

The Wacky
World of

Water

Dive into God's Word!



Curriculum Sample

Welcome!

Welcome to The Wacky World of Water! We are so glad you have chosen to invest your time and energy to reach the kids in your church and community with the amazing message of God's love. It is our hope and prayer that the materials you have in hand, coupled with your efforts and God's grace, will make a lasting impact on the lives of the kids you minister to this summer.

As you dive into everything you'll find in these pages and on the resource CD included, you'll find that The Wacky World of Water is an easy-to-implement VBS program that is also easy on your budget. The program has been built on a core ministry philosophy that demands simplicity and fosters relationship building.

Over the years we have found that kids don't really need us to put on a big production for them to learn the truths of God's Word and have fun. In fact, we have found that the most effective ministry to kids takes place when strong relationships are formed. So The Wacky World of Water seeks to help kids develop relationships with one another, caring adults and, most importantly, Christ.

We trust you will find that this program allows for the opportunity and time to build relationships while teaching the truths of God's Word. And we hope you will have fun in the process! As you jump into the material, feel free to add your creativity and special touch. Make it your very own and enjoy watching what God will do as you minister to the kids He brings your way.

I look forward to hearing from you about all that God accomplishes through your efforts. May His blessings be yours in abundance!

In Him,



Brian Ondracek
President/CEO
Pioneer Clubs



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What You'll Find on the Resource CD

Director's Resources

Age Characteristics
Director's Planning Calendar
Registration Form
Small Group Lists
Supply Lists
Volunteer Signup
Recruiting
Bulletin Insert
Job Descriptions

Program Materials

Bible Memory Cards
(4 translations)
Cold Water Crafts
Leader Resources
Elementary Take Home Papers
Preschool Take Home Papers
Parent Plunge Sheets
Sheet Music for VBS Songs
Wacky World of Water
PowerPoint Template

Promotional Items

Artwork	Invitations
• Banner	• Elementary
• Door Hanger	• Preschool
• Postcard	Logos
• Poster	Parent Letter
• Lawn Sign	Promotion Video Clip
• Bulletin Insert	

Day 1: Creation

Splash-Off!



Supplies:

- copy of skit and costume for Dr. Drip (button shirt, bow tie, suspenders, large glasses)
- copy of skit and costume for Drench (white lab coat, colorful mismatched clothes)
- several bottles of water
- 3 large buckets
- water
- confetti or Styrofoam peanuts
- snorkel (or other water related item that could stick out of a back pocket)
- construction paper (2 half-sheets per child) in these 8 colors: black, white, brown, blue, yellow, orange, green, pink
- 8 larger construction paper sheets (1 in each of the above colors) for 4 helpers
- chair
- 4 helpers (small group leaders, teens, older kids); copy of skit for each
- Bible
- for each kid: Day 1 Parent Plunge Sheet from Dr. Drip and Drench folder on CD

Do Ahead

- Read materials, gather supplies, recruit helpers.
- Arrange to play music.
- Make copies of skit for Drip, Drench and helpers.
- For the 3 buckets, have 1 empty, 1 half full of water, 1 full of confetti or Styrofoam peanuts.
- Cut each smaller piece of construction paper in half.
- Put all supplies onstage except for half sheets of construction paper for the kids.
- Print Day 1 Parent Plunge sheets.

👤 Welcome:

As kids come in, give each two half sheets of construction paper in varied colors. Have them hold papers until later. Dr. Drip welcomes everyone and introduces self and Drench (who waves wildly).

💧 **DR. DRIP:** *Walks over to collection of water bottles. I'm a scientist, and Drench here is my new assistant. Can anyone guess our favorite thing to study? DRENCH points dramatically at bottles of water as a hint. DR. DRIP calls on audience. That's right! We love water—wacky, wonderful water! We're bringing you Dr. Drip's Water Tips! Water is important for so many things, like... like... DR. DRIP suddenly realizes DRENCH is stealing the show. DRENCH mimes swimming. Like swimming... DRENCH runs over to three buckets, mimes washing self. And taking baths... DRENCH opens a water bottle, drinks and makes gargling noise. DR. DRIP looks stern. Plus taking drinks, of course! Yes, but—*



🌊 **DRENCH:** *Interrupts. There's one more thing, Dr. Drip—water can really cool you down on a hot day! Dips a little water from one bucket, splashes it on own face. I think these kids look as though they need to cool down! Picks up empty bucket, throws "contents" at audience. Picks up bucket of confetti, throws contents at audience and DR. DRIP. Ha, ha! Fooled you! You thought you were going to get wet! Falls on floor, laughing.*

💧 **DR. DRIP:** Now be serious, Drench! Kids, water is really important. Here's one of Dr. Drip's Water Tips: Did you know that water covers about $\frac{3}{4}$ of our planet Earth? That's most of it! DRENCH looks around floor frantically, runs and perches on top of a chair as if avoiding water. Hmm. I don't think Drench knows how to swim. But it's a good thing we have all that water! Plants need it. Animals need it. People need it. Here's a wacky fact: About $\frac{2}{3}$ of a human body is made of water! DRENCH looks surprised, slides off the chair as if he/she had suddenly turned into liquid. Without water, we'd be dead! DRENCH clutches throat as if dying of thirst. And besides that, some of our favorite Bible stories have water in them!

🌊 **DRENCH:** *Recovers, stands up again. Stories? I do like stories! And can you teach me to swim, too?*

💧 **DR. DRIP:** Not now! DRENCH looks glum. But the stories will be splashtastic! And we'll dive into music, crafts, games and snacks! DRENCH brightens, starts making diving motions. It's time for music now.

🎵 Music and Singing:

Teach the week's theme song, "The Wacky World of Water." Tell kids that today they'll be learning about everything God created on earth—including water! Teach the day's song about creation.

📖 Introduction of Bible Theme

Drench and Dr. Drip reenter.

☀️ **DRENCH:** Dr. Drip, you're not the only scientist here. I want to show the kids a splashtastic discovery that I've made. *Picks up empty bucket.* I can make something out of nothing! I can make a snorkel (or flip flop, swim cap) appear in this bucket! *Holds bucket out to show everyone it's empty.* Meanwhile, snorkel is "hidden" in back pocket or back of DRENCH'S belt. Audience can see it plainly as DRENCH moves and turns.

💧 **DR. DRIP:** Uh, Drench, I don't think you really—

☀️ **DRENCH:** *Swiftly pulls snorkel from behind back and puts into bucket.* Ta-da!

💧 **DR. DRIP:** *Asks kids if Drench really made something out of nothing.* (No!) Drench, you didn't make something out of nothing! Only one Person can do that. Do you want to hear a story about it? **DRENCH** agrees excitedly.

💧 **DR. DRIP:** *Calls four HELPERS up and gives them two large sheets of colored paper each, plus scripts.* Says to audience: Drench can picture this story by using some imagination. And you can help Drench by watching these people up front and doing what they do. If they hold up a color that you have, you hold it up, too. If they wave a color, you wave it, too! Now, let's get started. This story is from the Bible—

📖 Bible Story:

☀️ **DRENCH:** *Interrupts.* Dr. Drip, wait! Do these kids know what a Bible is?

💧 **DR. DRIP:** *Asks audience to explain.* The Bible is God's Word—His message to us. Now, Drench, try to imagine a time long, long, long, long ago. **DRENCH** shuts eyes. Don't close your eyes—you have to open your eyes to imagine this! **DRENCH** opens eyes slowly. Imagine that there was no sun and no moon back then. No stars. No earth. Everything was quiet. Everywhere was dark.

HELPERS hold up brown and black sheets; kids do, too.

☀️ **DRENCH:** It really looks like...nothing!

💧 **DR. DRIP:** It looked like nothing, but the Bible says Someone was there: God! *Opens Bible, reads Genesis 1:1-2a.* Then God said, "Let there be light"—and instantly there was light!

HELPERS: *Brown and black down quickly; white and yellow up.* **DRENCH** acts amazed.

💧 **DR. DRIP:** God made the light—out of nothing—just by saying the words! He saw that the light was good! Then He made the sky...

HELPERS: *Yellow down, blue and white up.* **DRENCH** comments on what he/she sees.

💧 **DR. DRIP:** And also the water...wonderful water!

HELPERS: *Make blue and white papers sway side to side.*

DRIP'S TIP

Teaching songs is simple with a CD. Have the songs playing as background music during registration, crafts and snacks, and kids will start becoming familiar with them. When you're ready to teach, play a song through, asking kids to just listen. Then play it through again, letting them join in as they can. Play it a third time, or simply come back to it at the next Splash-Off.



DRENCH: *Sways side to side, also.* I think I'm going to get seasick....



DR. DRIP: *Gestures while talking.* Yes, water glides in the ocean waves. Water vapor floats above us in the clouds. Frozen water stands tall in icebergs. All those things make the Earth a perfect place for.... But wait—I'm getting ahead of the story! *Looks at Bible again, reads Genesis 1:9.* Ahoy, Drench! I see land!

HELPERS: *Blue and white down, brown and orange up.*



DRENCH: It looks kind of muddy to me.



DR. DRIP: God saw that all this was good, too! Then He told the land to grow things—and it did! Grass and all kinds of trees, delicious fruit and beautiful flowers.

HELPERS: *Brown and orange down. Bring up green and pink slowly, as if growing.*



DRENCH: I can see things growing!



DR. DRIP: Next God made the sun, moon and stars to shine. But it was still very quiet on Earth. Then God spoke to the ocean and asked it to have fish—and it did! Little wrigglers and slippery giants all leaped and swam in the sea.

HELPERS: *Green and pink down. Make black, blue and yellow bob up and down with splashing sounds.*



DR. DRIP: Above the earth, God commanded birds to come and swoop across the sky—and they did! Imagine how that must have sounded!

HELPERS: *Black, blue and yellow down. Make green, orange and brown "fly," with bird sounds.*



DR. DRIP: And then He told the land to produce all kinds of creatures. You wouldn't believe how many! With legs and tails, hooves and claws, running and digging and climbing everywhere! *Motions.*

HELPERS: *Green and orange down. Hold up black, white, pink and brown. Stomp feet.*



DRENCH: Boy, they're really noisy!



DR. DRIP: God saw that all these things were *really* good!

HELPERS: *Bring all papers down and sit on floor.*



DR. DRIP: But He wasn't done. He wanted to create one more thing—something He loves very much. *DRENCH scratches head and thinks.* He wanted to make someone who could know Him and love Him: human beings. He made Adam and Eve, and then us! *Reads Genesis 1:27.*

HELPERS: *Stand up and motion to kids to stand, too. DRENCH comments on all the people.*



DR. DRIP: The Bible says: *Reads Genesis 1:31a.*



DRENCH: It's *awesome!* And He made all of this from nothing? Hooray for God! *Leads kids in clapping and cheering.*



DR. DRIP: *Motions to audience to sit.* The story of creation *is* awesome. You'll learn more about it later in your small groups. But first let's talk about water again. Here's a Dr. Drip's Water Tip: Many kids in the world don't have clean water to drink like we do!



🕒 Missions Focus:

Introduce the missions focus, Living Water International *on* (see page 21). Tell kids how they will be having tap water to drink at snack time, and the money that's saved from the drinks that normally would have been purchased will go to Living Water International to help drill a well in Africa so kids can have clean water. Explain how they can help, too, and challenge them to give this week.

Missions Memo

Tell kids that in poor countries, the only water many kids have is dirty and makes them sick. When they get sick, they miss school, can't do their usual activities and sometimes even die from diseases in the water. So your VBS kids are not only helping kids have good, clean water, but they're also helping them get a good education so they can have a better life, and they're literally helping save lives!

💬 Bible Memory:

💧 **DR. DRIP:** Welcome back to Dr. Drip's Water Tips! *DRENCH* strikes a ta-da pose.

🌸 **DRENCH:** Thanks for the story, Dr. Drip!

💧 **DR. DRIP:** I'm glad you liked it! You know, every day we're also going to memorize a new verse from the Bible, to help us remember what we've learned.

🌸 **DRENCH:** *Looks worried.* Rememo...Rememberize...Memberize.... Uh, I'm not sure I can do that!

💧 **DR. DRIP:** Don't worry—you and the kids can do it together! Today's is short. I'll say a few words. Then you echo back what I said. *Starts Genesis 1:31a, "And God saw." Points to DRENCH and kids; they repeat. Continues through verse, and then says reference; kids repeat. DR. DRIP says entire verse and reference at once; DRENCH and kids repeat.*



🕒 Wrap Up:

Pray. Play theme song on CD while kids head off to small groups, *carrying colored papers with them.*

Day 3: The Wise and Foolish Builders

Small Group Time (Grades 3-4)



Goals:

For kids to:

- form relationships with leader and one another.
- know that it's important to build your life on what's true and right.
- desire to know and practice what God's Word says.



Supplies:

- cookie sheet (or other flat object) if outdoors in grass
- empty 2-liter bottle
- 2 index cards (one labeled True, one False)
- Bible for each kid
- beanbag
- Day 3 take-home papers (from Small Group Leader folder on CD)
- markers
- pencils/pens
- sheets of paper with memory verse and reference (1 word per sheet)
- optional: tablet or smart phone, audio Bible recording or Bible app

Do Ahead

- Collect supplies, read lesson materials.
- Write memory verse and reference on sheets of paper (one word per sheet in large letters).
- Be prepared to share a few kid-sized examples of how the Bible has helped you.
- Option: Bring an audio Bible recording or Bible app on a smart phone or tablet.
- Print take home paper for each kid.

Get-to-Know-You Time:

Let's play "What's the Real Number?" I'll call someone's name and a topic. That person will tell us a fake number about himself or herself. Let's say I call _____ and "number of pets." _____ might say, "I have 3 cats." Then you have to guess how many cats _____ *really* has! Let everyone have a turn. Reuse topics as needed.

Topics: your age, number of pets, number of brothers, number of sisters, number of baby teeth lost, number of stuffed animals.

Thinking about God's Word:

Put the 2-liter bottle in front of you, the False card on one side of you, and the True card on the other (with the cookie sheet if you're outdoors in lumpy grass).

Open Bibles to Matthew 7. **We just saw Jesus' story about two houses. But it wasn't really about houses! It's about building your life on what's true and right. Let's act out how that looks. One of you will come up here, and I'll say something. You tell me if it's true or not. If it's true, that means it's solid—we can count on it! You get to put the bottle on the firm foundation of the cookie sheet (or table) by the True card—and it will stand. If it's false, we *can't* count on it! You'll put the bottle on the sort-of-lumpy foundation of my hand by the False card and see if it falls.** When kids pick False, set your hand palm down and a little curved by the False card for them to try to balance the bottle on.

Start calling kids forward. Mix up the true and false statements. Comment when appropriate ("Boy, if you believe that, you'll have a big problem!"). Continue until each kid has had a turn.

False statements: People have three legs, paper is good to eat, vegetables are bad for you, it's okay to steal if you don't get caught, marbles are soft, God only loves people who are rich.

True statements: Dogs need to drink water, God made the world, brushing your teeth is good for you, you can learn about God at church, horses have four legs, cheating is wrong.

You knew all these answers—they were easy! But what if you *didn't* know something? Pretend you had a question about cats.

- **Who would you ask?** (A cat owner, the pet store, the vet.)
- **Who would you talk to if you had a question about baseball?** (A coach, a teacher, a parent.)

Right! These are people who know about cats and about baseball.

Kids your age wonder about other things too—like right and wrong, cheating, drugs, being cool and making friends.

- **Where do kids get answers about things like that?** (Friends, parents, church, teachers, TV, movies, music Internet.)

Have a kid read Matthew 7:24. **Jesus is talking.**

- **What is he telling us? Put it in your own words.**

Jesus says if we want to learn how to live life, we should listen to His words—God's Word, the Bible. Hold up Bible.

- **Why? How would God know about people?** (God made us, God is wise, God loves us.)
- **What is the Bible?** (God's words to us, God's story.) **What does it have in it?** (Exciting true stories, Jesus' words, things God wants us to know.)

God's Word has the answers for how to live our lives in the way God wants us to. Have a kid re-read the first part of Matthew 7:24.

- **Why is it important to put what we read into practice?**

Let's have an example. Have a kid read Ephesians 4:25a. Bring out

beanbag. **Let's say we're playing a game. I say the rules are very**

important. I say whoever drops the beanbag is out. Toss the

beanbag to someone who tosses it back. You drop it.

I'm still in the game. You misunderstood me!

- **What would you say to me about practicing what I preach?**

- **What other kinds of things does the Bible tell us to do?**
(Be kind, forgive people, obey parents.)

Have a kid read John 14:23a. **Jesus is talking about knowing and obeying His words!** Say you will memorize the verse later.

If Time Permits

- Let kids make up scenarios to act out of kids putting into practice some Bible commands.
- Teach kids how to look up Bible verses using references. If they know this already, call out references for them to practice finding.

Response:

On this sheet, you'll find cool ways you can learn God's Word and obey it. Pass out take home paper and pencils. Have kids unscramble the words and circle their answers. As they work, share examples of how the Bible has helped you. Ask kids for specific examples of how they could obey God's Word in the ways listed. Option: Share an audio Bible recording or Bible app on a tablet or smart phone.

Let volunteers turn their answers into prayers (I will obey your Word by...). Close by thanking God for the Bible that tells us what is right and true.

Bible Memory:

Place the John 14:23a papers in order in a circle on the floor. **We're going to learn this verse by "walking" through it.** Demonstrate by saying each word of the verse as you step beside the paper. Have the kids repeat each word after you. Next, let 1-2 kids do what you did with all the words still visible. Later, turn over a paper or two during each round, and see if the kids can still say the verse. Make sure everyone has a turn.

Drip's Tip

If kids walk beside the papers rather than on them, they will hold up better.

Elementary - Day 1

Cold Water Crafts

Wacky World of Water T-Shirts

Object:

To reaffirm to kids that God made water and provide a fun, unifying outfit for the week.

Instructions:

Today we learned that God made water. Hand out logos. We're going to have some wacky fun with water this week. Look at our fun logos. This shows water in the liquid form. One wacky thing about water is that it can take many forms.

- What are some of them? (Steam, snow, ice.)
- What are some fun things you like to do with water in some of its wacky forms? (Swim, tube, snowboard, ice hockey.)

Let's make T-shirts to celebrate God's Wacky World of Water this week. First write each kid's name on the *back* of the transfer so you don't get them mixed up. Have each kid write his or her name on a piece of masking tape and put it on the appropriate shirt.

Then help kids follow the directions on the back of the Color-Ons to color their creations. If they change their mind about an area they colored, they should use a wad of masking tape to gently dab away the color without damaging the transfer.

Help kids check the back of their paper for any crayon pieces and remove. Otherwise the crayon might stick to the iron and transfer onto a shirt. Or cover each transfer with a piece of paper before ironing.

Small group leaders iron the logos onto T-shirts according to the directions (or help older kids do so). You'll need about 3 minutes per shirt. Do as many as possible in the Craft time and continue after kids go on to another activity. Hand them out at the end of the day. Note: Don't peel the tape off (with the names) until kids are ready to put on or take home their shirts.

Do Ahead

- Order Wacky World of Water Color-Ons logos at www.store.wackyworldofwater.org.
- Decide how to provide a T-shirt for each kid. You could ask kids to bring their own or include them in the registration fee and ask for sizes at preregistration. You'll want extras on hand for kids who forget and walk-ins.



Supplies:

- for each kid: plain white T-shirt
- Wacky World of Water Color-Ons logos: www.store.wackyworldofwater.org
- pens/pencils
- 2 inch (5 cm) wide masking tape
- towels, tables, irons
- crayons
- black permanent markers
- optional: plain paper



During the ironing, play get-acquainted games to get to know the special people God made.

Miming. Remind kids of the Bible memory verse, Genesis 1:31a, and say that God made each of us special in different ways. Let kids take turns acting out something they're good at while the others guess. For younger kids, let them whisper it to you and you lead them in acting it out, if necessary.

I Like. Each kid tells the group his or her name and a favorite item. Example: "My name is Cody, and I like pizza." For older kids, make it more challenging by having each successive person try to repeat the names and items of all the people who have already spoken.

Call Your Neighbor. Players form a circle with IT in the center. IT spins around, points to a player, calls out, "Right!" (or "Left!") and counts to 10. The player pointed to must respond with the name of the person to the right (or left) before IT reaches 10. When players get good at this, add challenge by having them try to name the thing that player said in a previous game.

Personal Trivia. Have kids get in their small groups and find out an interesting fact about each other in various categories: Sports, Vacations, Early Memories, Pets.

The Best Thing. Have kids say names and the best thing that happened to them this week. Option: Add a "Worst Thing" round and have kids pray for each other.

Elementary—Day 2

Rush-n-Gush Games

Sponge Flood

Outdoor
Energy Level: high



Supplies:

- for each kid: sponge of the same size (or cups and tarps if playing indoors)
- empty jar(s) of the same size
- bucket(s) of water



Do Ahead

- Fill bucket with water and place at the starting point for each team.
- Place empty jar several paces away from the bucket.

Game:

- How much water do you think it took to flood the whole earth?

Explain that kids are going to make their own flood today. They will see how much water it takes to fill the empty jar.

Divide kids into teams and hand each kid a sponge. Each kid will dip sponge into bucket of water and place dripping wet sponge onto his or her head. Player then runs to the jar with sponge, takes the sponge off head and wrings out the sponge over the empty jar. The first team that fills the jar to overflowing wins.

Drip's Tip

If you need an indoor game, set out tarps and pass cups of water down an assembly line to fill the jar. Have paper towels on hand for spills.

- We had fun flooding our jars, but how do we know that God will never flood the whole earth with water again? (God promised this and put a rainbow in the sky as a sign of His promise.)

Sin is still a big problem in our world but God made a plan to forgive us. His plan is Jesus! Come back to VBS to find out about that.

Creative Options

Instead of using sponges, use small paper cups.

Instead of children walking to the target with sponges/cups on their heads, use an assembly line system where they hand the sponges/cups to the next person.

Elementary - Day 3

Splatterific Snacks

Sand and Rocks Dessert

Instructions:

Gather kids around mixing bowl and ask a kid to empty box(es) of pudding mix into the mixing bowl.



Supplies:

- instant pudding mix (one serving per kid)
- milk
- chocolate bars
- whisk(s)
- tap water
- mixing bowl(s)
- table knives
- measuring cup(s)
- for each kid: cup of ice, cup for pudding, spoon
- napkins/serviettes

- What does that remind you of in today's Bible story—rocks or sand?

Let's put houses on top of this sand and see what happens. Have another kid or two chop up a chocolate bar into pieces. Another kid puts pieces onto pudding mix. **Here comes the rain.** Another kid pours milk onto the pudding mix so "houses" float away. (Do the pouring for younger kids.) Kids take turns stirring pudding until mixed well and thickened. Other kids serve the pudding to the rest.

Hand out cups of ice.

- What does the ice remind you of in today's story?

Let's see what happens when a storm comes on these "rocks."

Let kids take turns pouring water onto their ice. Point out that the rocks barely move.

Say a grace for kids to repeat: Thank you, God, for food we eat. / Thank you, God, for this good treat!

- How can we be like the ice rocks that barely moved when the storm came? (Read or listen to God's Word, the Bible; do what it says; obey Jesus.)



If Time Permits

Reprise the "Wise or Foolish Tag" game from Rush-n-Gush Games time:

Play like tag, but when the leader calls "Foolish," players have to move in slow motion. When the leader calls, "Wise," players can go into fast motion.

Small Group Preschool Leader

Thank you for being a small group preschool leader! You're serving in a job that provides a wonderful opportunity to get to know a small group of VBS preschool kids. Your day will involve guiding and leading a group of 3-5 kids through all the VBS activities. Here's what you'll do each step of the way:

Splash-Off

Round up the kids in your group at the start of the day and sit together for the large group music and Bible story time. Try to keep your preschoolers interested and engaged with the Bible Story, singing, etc.

Bible Fun—Small Group Time

This is the time that you really get to know your kids while also leading them through a Bible story follow-up session. You'll have fun activities, motions and visual cues to keep your group's attention. On the next several pages you'll find scripts and instructions that will tell you what to do. You'll help kids get to know each other, feel comfortable in the group and participate. You'll also be doing a daily handout paper with the kids during the Bible Fun time.

Activity Stations

Rotate through the crafts, games and snack stations with your group. You'll help them stay focused on the station leader's instructions, clarify instructions, stay with your group and help them do projects and activities. You'll be the station leader's extra set of hands.

Squirt-n-Soak Sendoff

Sit with your group for this large group closing time. Your enthusiasm for reviewing each day's memory verse, singing songs and learning Bible truths will be contagious to the kids.

Tips for Leading

Make a sign. Make a picture for your small group name on poster board so kids can find you on the first day. Consider being silly! Give your kids a group identity with a funny group name or let the kids come up with one.

Review your part. Read each day's small group instructions beforehand. They're designed to minimize preparation, but you'll want to be familiar with what you're going to say and do so you can move through the small group time smoothly. Review tips on maintaining good behavior in the Recruiting and Training chapter.

Listen up. It may be tempting to let your mind wander when the kids are listening to Dr. Drip or a station leader. It's important for you to listen, too, so you can help kids understand the Bible story or station instructions.

Show interest in your kids. This basically means—get to know your group of kids! Ask about their summer vacation, family, pets, sports and so on.

Be enthusiastic about the activities. Kids will pick up on it and get excited, too. If you can think about how the Bible story applies to you, you'll be in a better position to help kids discover how it applies to them. Let your love for Jesus show through!

DRIP'S TIP

Ideas for getting supplies:

- See if your VBS director has recruited a supplies coordinator for collecting and preparing supplies.
- Put a supplies list in the church bulletin so people can lend or donate items.
- Decorate a large box for donations of supplies and put it in a prominent spot in church.

Day 1: Creation

Preschool Bible Fun

Goals:

For kids to:

- form relationships with leader and one another.
- understand that our powerful God made a good world.
- want to thank God for His creation.



Supplies:

- beanbag
- for each kid: ½ cup play dough (see Creative Option for recipe)
- construction paper sheets from Splash-Off
- Bible
- scissors
- glue sticks
- take-home papers (2 per kid) Day 1 from Preschool Small Group Leader folder on CD
- crayons
- optional: binoculars (real or made from cardboard tubes)

Do Ahead

- Collect supplies, read lesson materials.
- Option: Make play dough.
- Option: Make binoculars by taping together two cardboard tubes. Make several.
- Print Day 1 take home papers for each kid.

Creative Option

Make play dough to use instead of buying it.

Recipe:

- 1 cup cold water
- 1 cup salt
- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil
- 3 cups flour
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- food coloring

Mix salt, oil and water. Mix in food coloring as desired. Add flour and cornstarch gradually until you get the consistency of bread dough. Store in covered container.

Get-to-Know-You Time:

Collect kids' construction paper from Splash-Off and set aside.

Form a circle. Show the beanbag. **Let's sing a song to get to know each other. We're going to sing our name and our favorite animal. I'll go first, and then I'll pass the beanbag. When you get the beanbag, it's your turn!** Take one step forward and "sing" your name and favorite animal using just two notes (like a doorbell sound): **"My name is _____; I like _____."** Pass the beanbag to the kid next to you. Continue until everyone has a turn.

Activity Time:

- What animals did God make when he made the world?

Pass out play dough. **Let's make animals from God's world.** Suggest ideas (horse, giraffe, shark, bird, elephant). Let kids hold up their animals and share what they created.

- Was it hard to make your animal? Would it be hard to make a real live animal?
Set animals aside.



Exploring God's Word:

Bring out a Bible and pieces of construction paper from Splash-Off. **Let's see if you remember the true Bible story.** Open Bible to Genesis 1.

- **What did things look like a long, long time ago—before there was a world?** Point to a black paper (There wasn't anything; it was dark.)

Right! It was dark and quiet. Close your eyes and imagine that everything is dark. Everything is quiet. Let kids imagine for a moment with eyes closed. **Even though it looks empty, Someone is there.**

- **Raise your hand if you know who was there.** (God!)

Then God started making things. Hold up a piece of play dough.

- **How did He make things? Did He use play dough? (No.) How did He do it?** (He just did it, He made things out of nothing, He spoke and things were made.)

Let's talk about some of the things God made. Hold up yellow paper.

- **Tell me some things God made that are yellow.** (Sun, banana, flowers.)

Hold up other colors. For each color, have kids name things God made, or act them out for them to guess (sky, water, grass, animals, people.)

- **Do you think it would be hard to make all those things? Point to your head if you think God must be pretty smart. Point to your muscles if you think God must be pretty strong.**
- **Point to play dough animals. How did you feel after you made your animal?** (Happy, proud.)

Let's see how God felt after He made the world. Read Genesis 1:31a. **God was happy about the good world He'd made! He especially loved people—you and me!**

Let's look outside to see things God made! Go outside for a short time or look out a large window. Have kids point out things God made and tell what color they are (white clouds, green tree, brown squirrel.) Let kids take turns using the real or pretend binoculars, if you brought them.

Responding to God:

We're going to tell God "thank you" for His good world! Pass out take home papers, scissors, glue sticks and crayons. Let kids cut out pictures and glue them wherever they would like on the scenes. Tell them what the letter says. Help them write their names on the bottom.

Help kids "read" their letters as prayers to God.

Memory Verse:

Form a circle. Hold the beanbag. **Our Bible memory verse is Genesis 1:31a. I'll say it a few words at a time. You echo them back to me.** Say the two halves of the verse and the reference and have them echo. **I'm going to give the beanbag to someone. When it gets to you, see if you can echo the verse back to me by yourself.** Continue until everyone has had a turn. End by saying the verse all together.

Drip's Tip

Tell kids that God let Adam name all the animals. Have them sculpt Adam and animals with the play dough and act out his naming them, making up funny new names.



And Much More!

Ways to Use The Wacky World of Water VBS

Flexibility is something VBS directors have told us they value. And so, when it comes to when and where to hold The Wacky World of Water VBS for your church, there are several options.

VBS programs often run Monday-Friday. We have primarily designed The Wacky World of Water to run that way. However, you may find that Sunday-Thursday, for instance, works nicely. The key is what works best for your church.

Here are some ideas:

- Run The Wacky World of Water for one week, five consecutive days.
- Run it one day a week for five weeks in the summer.
- Run as a “Summer Sunday” event for children of all ages for five weeks on Sundays in lieu of your regular Sunday children’s ministry programming.
- Run as a midweek option in the summer instead of your usual midweek ministry program.
- Share the program with families in your church and have each family run their own backyard Wacky World of Water Bible club in their neighborhood.
- Use as your week-long day camp Bible and activity program along with the other camping activities you plan. *Use as a children’s Bible club program for teen missions and service programs.

