
Music, Movement & Memory Activity

Intake or Response Activity to learn the Big Question, Bible verse and Unit music

Musical Squares

Materials

- CD of unit music
- Carpet Squares, enough for all of the children (or chairs)
- Hide 'n' Seek Kids Discussion Questions (optional)

What to Do

1. Set out the squares/chairs in a circle. Ask the children to sit down on their square/chair.
2. Tell the children they will march around behind the squares/chairs as you play the Big Question Song/Bible verse song/Hymn/Praise Song/etc. When the music stops, they are to sit down on the nearest square/chair island.
3. Play the music, sing the song as the children make swimming motion with their arms to it. Stop the music and have the children sit down on the nearest square/chair.
3. If desired, you can ask the children a question related to the verse/the songs (or the lesson concepts) they are singing, using the Hide 'n' Seek Kids Discussion Questions, after each time (or every few times) they sit down.

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Lullabies, Bells and Lions

Materials

- CD of unit music
- Bell
- Hide 'n' Seek Kids Discussion Questions (optional)

What to Do

1. Tell the children: "We're going to pretend to go to sleep as children, but wake up like an animal. Everyone sit down and let's sing our lullaby before we go to bed. When you hear the morning bell ring, you can pretend to be the animal I say until you hear the bedtime bell ring and you have to sit back down."
2. Ring the bell and say, "It's time for bed, it's time for bed! Sit down where you are, you sleepy heads!" Have all the children sit down in place. Then say, "Before we go to sleep, we have to sing our bedtime lullaby. Let's sing our Bible verse song/Big Question song/Praise Song/Hymn." Have the children sing the song with you, then tell them, "Shhh. Lay down! It's time for bed!"
3. Have all the children lay down and be very still and quiet like they are sleeping for a few minutes. Then say, "Sleeping, sleeping, look at all the sleeping children. But when the morning bell rang, they all woke up, and were lions (or whatever animal you choose) all day!"
3. All the children will get up and pretend to be the animal. After a few moments, ring the bell and say, "It's time for bed, it's time for bed! Sit down where you are, you sleepy heads!"
4. If desired, you can ask the children a question related to the verse/the songs they are singing, using the Hide 'n' Seek Kids Discussion Questions after each time (or every few times) you sing the lullaby song.

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Thumping Drums

Materials

- CD of unit music
- Hide 'n' Seek Kids Discussion Questions (optional)
- 1 Oatmeal container/coffee can with lid per drum
- Tape
- Popcorn, rice, beans, etc.
- Wooden spoons, dowels, unsharpened pencils, if desired, for mallets

How to Make

1. Tape the lid of empty oatmeal or coffee cans in place. (If want to make a snare drum, add popcorn, rice, etc. in the empty container before taping shut.)
2. Children can either tap drum with hands or you can give them 2 wooden spoons, wooden dowels or unsharpened pencils with wooden spools glue gunned to an end as mallets.

What to Do

1. Show the children the thumping drums. Tell them. "I'm going to say God's Word and make a joyful noise to Him with these thumping drums. Come and join me!"
2. "First, let's sing our Bible verse song/Big Question song/Praise Song/Hymn together (say the verse a couple of times, if using it.)"
3. "Now let's make that joyful noise to the LORD!" Hand out the drums (and mallets) and let the children beat them awhile. Quiet them, then repeat.
4. If desired, you can ask the children a question related to the verse/the songs they are singing, using the Hide'n' Seek Kids Discussion Sheet after each time (or every few times) you sing the song/say the verse.

NOTE: Younger children may need to sing the Bible verse/Big Question song/etc, then thump. But, as the children get older, they may be able to sing the song(s) AND thump at the same time.

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Say, Spring Up and Shout

Materials

- CD of unit music
- Hide 'n' Seek Kids Discussion Questions (optional)
- Optional: Bean bags, one per child

What to Do

1. Tell the children: "We're going to sing our Bible verse/Big Question/other song and make a joyful noise to God, crouching down like this (Crouch down). Then at the end, we're going to spring up and shout, "Amen, I agree!"
2. "So first, let's sing our Bible verse/Big Question Song together as we crouch down." (Crouch down, say the verse a couple of times.)
3. "Now let's jump up and say, "AMEN! I agree!" After everyone springs up and says "Amen," quiet them, then repeat.
4. If desired, when the children get the crouching and jumping down, you might give them a bean bag to toss in the air as they spring up. Practicing tossing up in the air rather than AT others.
5. If desired, you can ask the children a question related to the verse/the songs they are singing, using the Hide n' Seek Kids Discussion Sheet after each time (or every few times) you sing the song/say the verse.

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Freeze Frame

Materials

- CD of unit music
- Hide 'n' Seek Kids Discussion Sheet Questions (optional)
- Some kind of fun hat or clothing for the leader to wear

What to Do

1. Tell the children. "I'm going to sing God's Word and make a joyful noise to Him...but I'm going to freeze in place in between songs. Come and join me!"
2. Choose one child to be the leader. Help them put on the leader hat/clothing.
3. Have the kids march around behind the leader, singing the song of your choice.
4. Have the children freeze in place when you stop the song at a random point.
5. When everyone is frozen, have the children tell you what the next word/phrase to the song.
6. If desired, you can ask the children a question related to the words or another question from the Hide 'n' Seek Kids Discussion Sheet after each time (or every few times) you freeze the song.
7. Choose another leader and play the song again, stopping on a different word from the song to highlight.