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## **Bible Verse Game**

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*intake or Response Activity to learn Bible verse*

### **Meet, Greet and Keep It Up**

#### **Materials**

- Bible Verse sign from the curriculum
- Deep Down Discussion Questions (optional)
- 16 oz. cups, 1 per child (with some extras)
- 2 pieces of rope as long as a line of children
- Masking tape

#### **Preparation**

1. Line up the 2 pieces of rope about 6' apart.
2. Put down a piece of masking tape the same length as the ropes, running parallel to the ropes midway between the 2 ropes.

#### **Learning the Verse**

Choose the whole verse or an appropriate length portion of the verse to learn. Read the verse slowly and explain it to them. A simple explanation is included on the back of the Bible Truth sign. Practice saying the verse with the children a few times.

#### **Playing the Game**

1. Split the children into partners. Have them stand in two long lines, with their partners facing each other about 6' apart.
2. Tell the children they will be meeting and greeting their partners with a handshake at the masking tape in the middle, then turning around and going back to their place along the rope. Have them practice this.
3. Now tell them, that they will also be balancing a cup on their head while they do this.
4. Give out a cup to everyone. Have them practice balancing the cup on their heads.
5. Now play the game. Have everyone say the verse together. Then have them put the cups on their heads. At your signal, have them walk to the middle, greet their partner with a handshake, turn around and go back—trying to keep the cup balanced on their head the whole time. (There is no penalty for cups falling off.)
6. Have everyone settle back in place in the line, with the cups off their heads. Say the verse together again, put the cups back on their heads, then walk to greet partner again, etc.
7. You can move the ropes back gradually so the children can try to do it from further and further apart.
8. If desired, you can also ask them a question about the verse after every few turns. See the Deep Down Detective Discussion Sheet for possible questions.

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### **Bean Bag Catch**

#### **Materials**

- Bible Verse sign from the curriculum
  - Deep Down Discussion Questions (optional)
  - 1 bean bag per every 2 children (or every child)
- NOTE: Can also fill socks with beans and tie open end to make beanbags.

#### **Preparation**

None.

#### **Learning the Verse**

Choose the whole verse or an appropriate length portion of the verse to learn. Read the verse slowly and explain it to them. A simple explanation is included on the back of the Bible Truth sign. Practice saying the verse with the children a few times.

#### **Playing the Game**

1. Pair the children with a partner.
2. Have the children stand in two long lines, with their partners facing each other at arm's length apart.
3. Give out a bean bag to each person in one of the long lines. (Partners will not have one.) Have everyone say the verse together, then throw the bean bag to their partners, trying to catch the bean bag. (NOTE: no one is "out" if they don't catch it.)
4. Have both lines of children take a step back.
5. Say the verse altogether again, then throw the bean bags again.
6. Repeat as frequently as desired. If desired, you can also ask them a question about the verse after every turn or every few turns. See the Deep Down Discussion Sheet for possible questions.

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### Animal Cube

#### Materials

- Bible Verse sign from the curriculum
- Deep Down Discussion Questions (optional)
- Cube-shaped cardboard box
- Paper, glue, and a marker

#### Preparation

1. Cut the paper into the size of one side of the cube. Use it as a pattern to make six pieces (one for each side of the cube) Draw a simple animal picture on each piece of paper. Possibilities would be: rabbit, monkey, elephant, bird, fish, and a horse. Glue each picture onto each side of the cube.

#### Learning the Verse

Choose the whole verse or an appropriate length portion of the verse to learn. Read the verse slowly and explain it to them. A simple explanation is included on the back of the Bible Truth sign. Practice saying the verse with the children a few times.

#### Playing the Game

1. Tell the children they will be playing a game in which they must move like six different animals. Have them practice the movements for each of the animals on your cube. (Rabbit: leaping; monkey: scratching under arms and saying "ooh-ooh, ahh-ahh"; Elephant: swinging arms like a trunk and making trumpet sound; Bird: flapping arms like wings; Fish: palms together, weaving them in a serpentine action, saying "blub-blub"; horse: galloping/prancing and neighing).
2. Show the children the cube with the animal pictures on it, just like the ones they've practiced. Tell them that you will roll the dice and everyone (at your signal) will begin making the movement for that animal. Tell them that they must stop in place and be very quiet when they hear a certain noise (such as a whistle, a bell ring, clap, etc.). Tell them that you will be watching them. And that children who are very good at listening and stopping when you say so will get a chance to toss the cube for everyone. Practice tossing the cube, making the movements and stopping with the children.
3. Now it's time to play the whole game. Choose a child to roll the cube and say which animal is picked and what action they will do for the animal. Have everyone say the verse, then at your cue, let the children act out the animal until you tell them to stop (a bell or whistle can be used to give the start and stop signals).
4. Choose another child and repeat. If desired, you can also ask them a question about the verse after every turn or every few turns. See the Deep Down Discussion Sheet for possible questions.

**Other Option:** If children get really good at this, you can challenge them by saying the verse while they make the movement.