



January 2019

Preschool

### Growing Authentic Followers of Jesus

Sundays  
9:30am/11:00am

Wednesdays  
6:30pm

Dianne Davis  
Preschool Minister

Dianne.Davis@magonline.com  
951-544-3920



### TEACHABLE SNACK MOMENTS

Preschoolers learn best by doing—the messier the better! Of course, preschoolers also love snacks! Here is an idea that you can use with your preschoolers to help initiate fun Bible teaching. Whenever you share a Bible story, it's a good idea to have your Bible open to the passage. Even though preschoolers cannot yet read, this helps them connect that this teaching comes from the Bible.

Share the following Bible story with your preschooler. Jesus was staying at the house of some friends. Lots and lots of people had come to listen to Him and to ask Him to heal them from sickness or injury. The house was so crowded, no more people could fit inside. Four men had a friend who could not walk. He wanted to ask Jesus to heal him, but he couldn't get close to where Jesus was. He had four friends who laid him on a mat, then they carried him up to the roof of the house. Now what? They wanted to see Jesus so much, they cut a hole in the roof and lowered their friend on his mat down to Jesus! Jesus said, "Your sins are forgiven. Take up your mat and go home." Jesus was so happy to see that the man and his friends believed Jesus could help them.

**Gather: canned white icing, E. L. Fudge sandwich cookies, graham crackers.**

Help your preschooler spread icing on the graham cracker, then lay a cookie on top.

**Ask:** What was the man lying on? This is like the man lying on the mat. Why did the man's friends want him to see Jesus? What does it mean to be healed? Why did Jesus heal the man? How do you think the man felt? Just like Jesus loved the man, He loves you!

### Everything God Made Is Good!

After creating the world, God called it good. What an understatement! In fact, God's work is *incredible!* Whether you look at creation up close or from far off, you must admit it's amazing. God thought up the tiniest bug and the largest planet. And he created people—not merely to populate his world but to share him and his love with others. We've never needed God's love more. Although human sinfulness marred his perfect world, God never gives up on us. Instead, he faithfully continues working through his imperfect creations to fulfill a perfect plan.

**Time to Create!** Make clay by squishing together for five minutes 1 cup flour, 1/3 cup salt, and 1/3 cup tap water. Create a never-seen-before animal or plant. Name the creation and compare it to something God made in Genesis 1.

**Wonderfully Made** Read aloud Psalm 139:14. Call out body parts, and have family members name good uses for each one. For example, "God gave me hands to help others," or "I use my ears to listen to teachers." Then hold hands and repeat the first part of the verse four times.

**Creation Snack Mix** Make a treat to represent what God created:  
Day 1: Light and dark (*mini Oreo cookies*)  
Day 2: Sky and ground (*Frosted Mini-Wheats cereal*)  
Day 3: Trees, grass, and flowers (*stick pretzels, green and red M&M's candies*)  
Day 4: Sun, moon, and stars (*orange and yellow M&M's candies*)  
Day 5: Birds and fish (*Goldfish crackers*)  
Day 6: People, plus all animals that walk on the ground (*animal cookies*)  
Day 7: God rested (*marshmallow "pillows"*) and saw that everything he made was good (*enjoy!*).

**Follow God's Plans** Cut a large red paper heart into 10 pieces. Put each piece in a separate envelope. Tape five envelopes in easy-to-see places and five in hard-to-see places (inside cabinet doors or under chairs). Tell family members to search for 10 envelopes while following your traveling instructions (hop, tiptoe, crawl, etc.). Lead the group to all the envelopes, then assemble the pieces. Ask: "How does God show us his love?" Read aloud Jeremiah 29:11. Say: "God loves us and has good plans for us. If you hadn't followed my instructions, you wouldn't have found all these pieces. Let's follow God so we don't miss the great things he has planned for us!"

**A Perfect Plan** Display a globe. Say: "We can see only a small part of the world at a time, but God always sees his entire creation—and has a plan for every creature." Ask what jobs God gave cows, dogs, and mosquitoes. Say: "Although they're pesky to us, mosquitoes even have a place in God's world, as food for bats and birds." Read aloud Psalm 89:11. Say: "This Bible verse reminds us that God has a plan for everything he made—even mosquitoes!" Put your hands on the globe and pray, thanking God for the whole world.

### God Created You With a Purpose

#### POWERSOURCE

##### ASK JESUS:

1. To help your children realize they are wonderfully made—in God's image.
2. To remind family members they each have a God-given purpose.
3. To reveal his plans for each person, no matter his or her age.

As parents of preschoolers, I know that your time is packed full every single day and at the end of the day, you feel exhausted. If you are like I was when I had preschoolers, no matter how early I tried to get up for a quiet time, my kids' radar kicked in and they were awake five minutes after I woke up.

I remember a story about a mother of preschoolers who was struggling. A kind older lady said, "Honey, you just need time alone with God." Someone else said, "Time alone with God? She probably can't get time alone in the bathroom!" That's life with preschoolers, isn't it?

One way you can get time with God is doing a devotion with your preschoolers. I used a book called *Big Thoughts for Little People* by Kenneth

Taylor with my preschoolers. (Stop by my office if you would like to look at it). It has brightly colored illustrations and short devotions that preschoolers can understand.

I would encourage you to open the Bible to the verse in each devotion so your little ones can see it comes from the Word of God. There are a lot of other resources out there for you to use with your preschoolers to establish a family devotion time. The important thing is you and your children will have time to read a Bible verse and think about God's love. Every time they see you pick up the Bible, you are telling them "This is important."

~ Dianne Davis

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."  
—Jeremiah 29:11

# MEDIA MADNESS



## MOVIE

**Title:** *A Dog's Way Home*  
**Genre:** Adventure, Family  
**Rating:** PG  
**Cast:** Bryce Dallas Howard, Ashley Judd, Edward James Olmos  
**Synopsis:** In this movie, based on a novel by W. Bruce Cameron, Bella the pitbull travels 400 miles to return to Lucas, her owner. The loyal dog must survive the Colorado wilderness to make it back to her "person."  
**Our Take:** As with Cameron's book and movie *A Dog's Purpose*, expect this to tug on your heartstrings. The perilous situations may be tough for some children to watch. Discuss the concepts of being "lost and found"—especially how Jesus searches for us, his lost sheep. Also talk about what it means to have unwavering devotion.



## TV

**Title:** *Let's Go, Luna!*  
**Network:** PBS Kids  
**Synopsis:** This new TV series for kids ages 4 to 7 introduces viewers to cultures throughout the world. As three friends (a wombat, a butterfly, and a frog) travel with their parents' performance troupe, Luna the Moon helps them learn about each region and its people, food, music, and folktales. Each episode contains two 11-minute stories.  
**Our Take:** PBS continues to make education fun and age-appropriate. This series encourages curiosity about our diverse world and teaches basic social-studies concepts. It also shows children the importance of global citizenship and cultural appreciation—lessons you can reinforce when you travel as a family, even close to home.

## Games, Sites & Apps

**Super Mario Party**  
 This Nintendo Switch game offers the original board-game-style play of *Mario Party* but with upgraded strategic elements. It also has 80 skill-based mini-games and Toad's Rec Room, which lets you pair up two gaming systems. Up to four people can play. Rated E, with mild cartoon violence.

**Grimm, Grimmer, Grimmet**  
 This podcast from Pinna, an ad-free app for ages 3-8, features Grimm fairy tales with a twist. A classroom of grade-schoolers tries to predict plot points, reacts to enchanting creatures, and challenges the tales' logic. Reviews call the podcast fun, daring, and highly interactive.

**Bully Alert**  
 Researchers developed this free Android app to combat cyberbullying. The app tracks a child's public Instagram account for signs of bullying and alerts parents within two hours of the onset of any problems. Parental feedback helps the app become personalized over time.

This page is designed to help educate parents and isn't meant to endorse any movie, music, or product. Our goal is to help you make informed decisions about what your children watch, read, listen to, and play.



A support group for parents & grandparents of children with special needs. Meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month.  
 Contact [tenderhearts@magonline.com](mailto:tenderhearts@magonline.com) for more information.

Childcare is provided by reservation only. To reserve childcare, contact:

Dianne Davis at [dianne.davis@magonline.com](mailto:dianne.davis@magonline.com) or (951) 689-5700.

Reservations must be made no later than 12 pm the day before the meeting.

## Blessed Beginnings

A ministry for expectant mothers. Let one of our team members bless you and your family during this very special time. We will pray for and with you, and would love to help you throughout your pregnancy and after the baby is born!

For more information, contact Dianne Davis



## MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS BIRTH- KINDERGARTEN

Thursday Mornings  
 9:00-11:30AM  
 January 31 – April 25

\$60/Mom \$30/Child - Scholarships Available

For more information and registration visit [www.magonline/mops](http://www.magonline/mops)

# MagKIDS Preschool January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6 MagKIDS 9:30am/ 11:00am	7	8	9 MagKIDS 6:30pm	10	11	12
13 MagKIDS 9:30am/ 11:00am	14	15	16 MagKIDS 6:30pm	17	18 Parent's Night Out 6-10pm Register online by Jan. 16	19
20 MagKIDS 9:30am/ 11:00am Parent Child Dedications	21 MLK Jr. Day	22	23 MagKIDS 6:30pm	24	25	26
27 MagKIDS 9:30am/ 11:00am	28	29	30 MagKIDS 6:30pm	31 MOPS Spring Session 9:00-11:30am		

## Well Child Policy

This time of year brings with it the "joys" of cold and flu season. If your child has been ill with fever, runny nose with yellow or green mucus, cough, vomiting or diarrhea, they must be symptom free for at least 24 hours before they can attend Sunday or Wednesday night classes. We can help minimize the spread of colds and flu by making sure children are well when they come to church. Thank you!