

Ruckus at Recess

By Kay Mathwig

Emma brushed dirt off her knees and hands. "I'm tired of playing horses," she whined. "Let's do something else."

"But we all like horses," Kate said. "And the slide and swings are too crowded."

Ariella's eyes lit up. "Hey, I know—I have a library book with flying horses in it. Let's look at it next recess."

After lunch, Ariella showed Kate and Emma her book.

"Oh!" Emma pointed at the horse with wings. "I'd love to ride him. Do you think there ever really were flying horses?"

Ariella squinted at the words. "I'm not sure. This book has a lot of strange names and big words."

She turned to the cover and read the title. "Greek gods . . ."

Kate frowned and flipped through some pages. "Gods? That's a weird thing to call these funny-looking animals."

Emma pointed again. "Oh! Look at that strong man. He's holding up the whole world!"

Suddenly, someone snatched the book away from them.

Ariella jumped up. "Boyd Webster, give it back!" she ordered.

Boyd grinned and held the book just out of her reach. He showed it to his friend. "Nate, check this out. This page has a flying baby!"

Nate laughed. "He's too young to shoot arrows." He flopped his arms like wings. In a baby voice he said, "Hi, I'm hunting for my bottle and diaper!"

Emma stomped her foot. "How dare you take



Ariella's library book. We're telling Miss Parker."

Boyd's smile faded. He tossed the book to Ariella. "It's just a bunch of made-up stuff. You probably even believed it. You think those cartoon gods made you."

Ariella frowned at him. "Of course not. This is just art. We listen better in class than you, and we know about real science."

Emma added, "Yeah, we learned humans started in a soupy ocean a bazillion years ago."

Kate's hands felt clammy. "Help me tell them the truth," she said quietly to God. "I'm scared they'll all laugh at me."

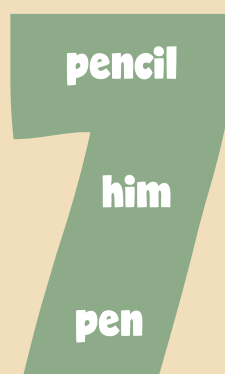
Kate cleared her throat. "Um . . . actually, guys, what we heard about in science class is wrong too."

Everyone stared at her. Kate took a deep breath and went on. "The one true God made us and our world. He says that in His Book, the Bible. He sent His Son, Jesus, to live on earth and then die for us on the cross. He's the Savior of the world."

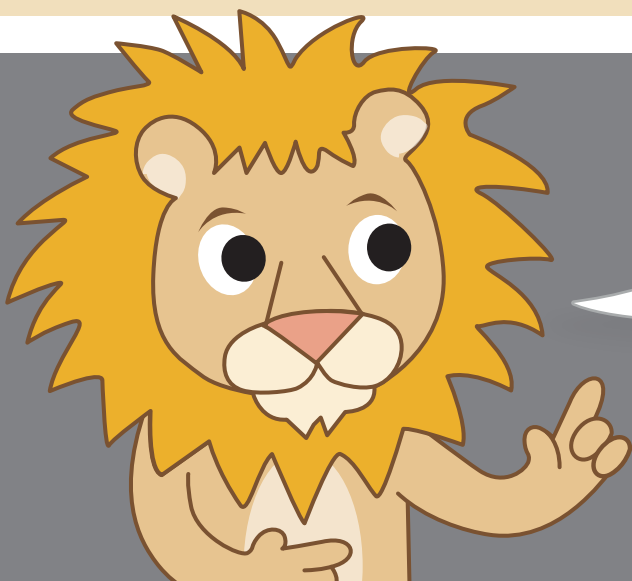
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Preparing the Way

Draw a circle around the word in each number that does not fit with the other words. Write each circled word on the numbered line below that matches it.



"[5] saw 2 coming toward 7, and said, 6,
the 1 of God, who takes 3 the 4
of the 8" (John 1:29)!



MEMORY VERSE

"[John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
(John 1:29).

Gospel Caterpillar Magnet

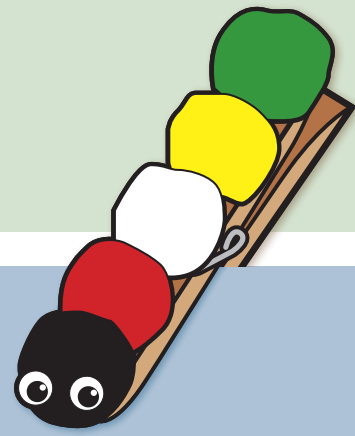
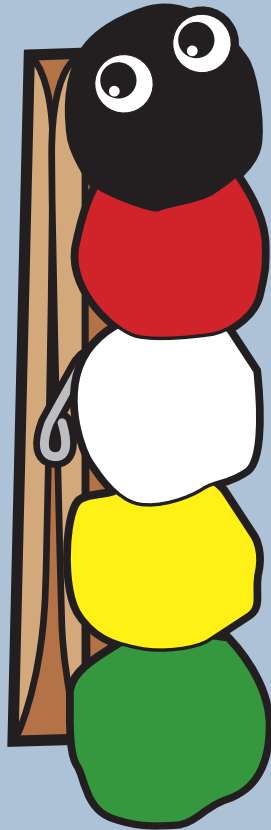
Follow the steps below to make this special caterpillar, then use it to share the gospel of how Jesus came to be the Savior of the world!

Materials

- Clothespin.
- Small magnet.
- Glue.
- 5 small pompoms, one of each color: black, red, white, yellow, green.
- 2 wiggly eyes.

Steps

1. Starting at the closed end of the clothespin, glue the pompoms on the clothespin in order: black, red, white, yellow, green.
2. Glue the wiggly eyes to the black pompom.
3. Glue or stick the magnet on the bottom of the clothespin.
4. Use the caterpillar to tell your friends about Jesus, the Savior of the world! The meaning of each color is listed to the right. Be sure to look up and read the Bible verses that go with the meanings.



BLACK represents the sin in our hearts (Romans 3:23).

RED is for the blood Jesus shed when He died on the cross for our sin (Romans 5:8).

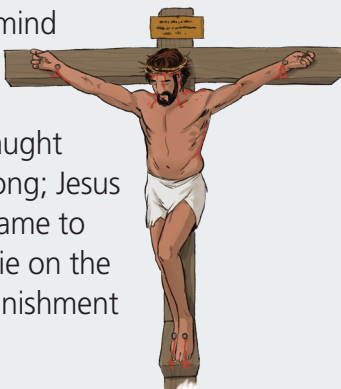
WHITE shows us that our hearts are clean from sin when Jesus forgives us (Psalm 51:7).

YELLOW stands for the streets of gold in Heaven, where we will one day live with Jesus (Revelation 21:21; Romans 6:23).

GREEN reminds us to grow in our Christian lives just as green plants grow (2 Peter 3:18).

Growing at Home

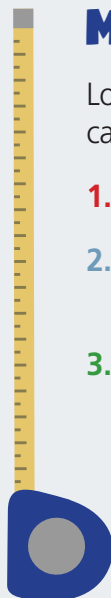
The Primary lesson for this week introduced your child to the beginning of Jesus' ministry on earth, as well as His purpose for coming. The significance of the events around Jesus' baptism affirms His mission and His identity. Remind your child that Jesus wasn't just a good man who taught about right and wrong; Jesus is God's Son Who came to be our Savior and die on the cross to take the punishment for our sin.



Measurables

Look for the following indicators that your child believes Jesus came to earth to be the Savior of the world.

1. **My child understands that Jesus is the Son of God.**
2. **My child has placed his or her trust in Jesus as Savior from sin.**
3. **My child recognizes the importance of telling others the truth about Who Jesus is and what He has done.**



Josh Finds Ways to Help (continued)

donation of washcloths.

"We have a bunch of mismatched washcloths in the back room that we can't sell anymore," the manager said. "You may pick twenty from the bin."

Josh was excited about all the donations. But he still needed soap.

"I have an idea," Mom said. Josh did what Mom suggested, and two days later, each student in his classroom at school brought in a bar of soap. That added up to thirty-two bars!

Josh's arms were full the next Sunday at church. His

heart was even more full as he prayed, "Thank You, God, for showing me how to serve the kids in Haiti. And thank You for all the people who helped me to help them." ■

Answer the story questions.

1. What did Josh find out about orphan kids in Haiti?
2. How did Josh help the kids?
3. By helping the kids in Haiti, Who was Josh really serving?



Jesus Called His Fishers of Men

Mark 1:16–20; 2:13–17; 3:13–19; Luke 9:1, 2, 6, 10



Everywhere Jesus went, people came to hear Him teach and to see Him do miracles. His teachings and miracles showed that He was sent from God and that He is the Son of God.

Jesus wanted some men to help Him with His work. It was important that He choose the right helpers.

Jesus called Peter, Andrew, John, and James (John's brother) to leave their fishing boats to do work for Him. He also chose Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, and Thomas. Then Jesus called James (the son of Alphaeus), Thaddaeus, Simon, and Judas. These twelve men were just ordinary

men, but Jesus chose them in order to teach them how to serve Him. Then the disciples could teach others how to follow Jesus too.

After going up on a mountain, Jesus called to Him the twelve men He had chosen. These men would be Jesus' special disciples, chosen to do the work Jesus assigned to them. Jesus told them, "I want you to be with Me so you can learn the work you are going to do. Then I will send you out to preach, heal the sick, and cast out evil spirits." The disciples understood that they would be able to do these things only because Jesus, the Son of God, would help them.

Jesus sent the men out into the towns and villages. These disciples knew it was the Son of God Who gave them power to teach and do special works for God.

Imagine how excited Peter, Andrew, and the other disciples must have been when they came back to tell Jesus, "Listen to all we have been able to do for You in Your name!" Jesus' disciples were glad to serve Him. ■

