

# Large Group Leader Guide

## Today's Suggested Schedule

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### Small Group (15 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (35 minutes)

#### Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

#### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

- Opener
- Worship ("Sing Your Praises" from Start The Party, "At The Top of My Lungs" from At The Top of My Lungs, and "You're Right There" from You're Right There single)
- Bible Story
- Bottom Line
- What's Our Part in the Story?
- Prayer

### Small Group (25 minutes)

#### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Bible Story Review: The Story of Jacob (K-1st grade), Super Boost (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (4th-5th Grade)
2. Application Activity: Faith Stones (K-1st grade), Jacob's Ladder Paper Chain (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (4th-5th Grade)
3. Memory Verse Activity: Stepping Stones (K-1st grade), Assemble! (2nd-3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (4th-5th Grade)
4. Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

#### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

## Jacob's Dream Genesis 28:10-22

Supporting: Genesis 25:19-34; 27

### Bottom Line

**You can trust that  
God is with you.**

### Memory Verse

**Faith is being sure of  
what we hope for. It is  
being sure of what we  
do not see.  
Hebrews 11:1 (NIRV)**



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ① Opener

**AUDIO** → Play high-energy music as kids enter.

**SLIDE** → Theme

**OPTIONAL VIDEO** → Theme Loop

→ *Host enters, there's already a cube storage rack onstage filled with prizes and covered with paper.*

**OPTIONAL VIDEO** → Countdown

**OPTIONAL VIDEO** → Theme Intro

**OPTIONAL VIDEO** → Theme Loop

**HOST:** "Hey, everyone! Welcome to [Name of Kids Environment]! I can't wait to learn more with all of you about the origins of our faith! This month we've discovered how God created us and everything in the world. We have another epic story from Genesis today all about faith! The Bible tells us that:

**SLIDE** → Memory Verse

→ *Open the Bible to Hebrews 11:1 (NIRV) and read.*

*Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.*

"So we can have faith in a loving and all-powerful God, even when we can't see Him face to face. We can learn about who He is through the Bible and know I can trust God no matter what! Speaking of powerful, I need a few kids who were created by God to be incredibly strong. We have a hulk-ingly big challenge today that requires some smashing!

→ *Pick 3-5 kids to come up onstage. The number of kids depends on how many options you have for them to smash. Each kid will need at most 2 boxes, and at least 1 (0 if they take the previous kid's prize).*

"You guys will each get a chance to smash one of these boxes to discover what's behind. After your first smash, you have a big decision to make. You can either keep the prize you discovered, or choose to smash one more. If you choose to smash again, you HAVE TO keep the second prize—whether or not it's good.

"Now the next kid in line can choose to keep the item the first kid gave up, or start smashing for themselves. But if they choose to smash instead, the first item is no longer up for grabs to anyone, and they have to follow the same rules for smashing. Everybody ready?"

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

AUDIO → Upbeat Game Music

- *Pick the kids to smash one at a time. Make sure the punch is in the center of the paper so they don't hit the sides of the cube storage. Adding a bullseye or logo in the center will help with this. You can even pre-cut the paper a little in the center to help it tear.*
- *Fill the boxes with a mixture of good things and crazy things, like cans of dog food or cleaning supplies.*
- *Optional: Give out any remaining good or bad prizes to random kids at the end.*

"You had to flex your brain muscles as well as your arm muscles for that one! Let's all stand up and flex our heart muscles together as we worship God and tell Him we love Him!"

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ② Worship

→ *Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Hey! I'm excited to worship with you today! Worship is giving honor to God through singing and dancing. Let's go ahead and worship together.

**AUDIO** → "Sing Your Praises" / track 3 from Start The Party  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO** → "Sing Your Praises" Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video

"We can always praise God! When we are happy, we can praise God; when we are sad, we can praise God. And we can ALWAYS praise God at the top of our lungs!

**AUDIO** → "At The Top of My Lungs" / track 1 from At The Top of My Lungs  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO** → "At The Top of My Lungs" Dance Moves Video or Live Lyrics Video

"That was great! We know we can trust God because He is always with us. Let's go ahead and sing this song together!

**AUDIO** → "You're Right There" / from You're Right There single  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO** → "You're Right There" Dance Moves Video or Live Lyrics Video

"Great job everyone! Let's go ahead and sit down and hear our Bible Story today.

25 MINUTES

# Story

## ③ Bible Story

SLIDE → Theme Background

→ *Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

### SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "Hey, everyone! You might have noticed things look a little different around here! Let's jump right in so you can find out what all these scenes are!

"We just started our journey through the Bible! This year, we're going through the ENTIRE story of the Bible together! Each week, we'll talk about an important story from God's Big Story, and put a picture up on our timeline. **(GESTURE TO TIMELINE.)** We're going to go through God's Big Story!

"A couple of weeks ago, we started at the beginning of God's Story, just like you'd think we should! And this week, we're still in the first book of the Bible, Genesis. **(HOLD UP BIBLE.)**

"Genesis is the story of the beginning. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the Earth, and everything on the Earth—including us! We are all made in the image of God, which means we were created to show each other what God is like. God is loving, so we can love others like He does! God is kind, so we can be kind! God is fair, so we can be fair!

"And God has always wanted to be close to us. Sadly, the first people whom God made, chose not to trust Him. They disobeyed God. They sinned. Sin is anything that goes against God and His ways.

"When they sinned, they ushered in a curse. This curse affected everyone's heart and pulled them away from God. Anyone who was born after Adam and Eve had an affected heart too. It broke everyone's relationship with God.

"Sin didn't just hurt their hearts—it also hurt the world! The curse of sin brought pain, sickness, sadness, and even death. That was never God's plan.

"But God loves us so much! He wants us to be close to Him. So He already had a rescue plan in place and restore our relationship with Him. God chose Abraham and his wife Sarah to be a part of that plan. God told Abraham the entire world would be blessed through their family.

### THE TRICKSTER

**STORYTELLER:** "Abraham and Sarah grew very old, but eventually they had a son named Isaac, just like God had promised. When Isaac grew up, he married a woman named Rebekah, and together they had twins, Jacob and Esau. That's where our story starts today! I invited Jacob to join us today to help us tell the story.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

→ *Host enters dressed as Jacob, or can be another male leader.*

**HOST:** "Hey everyone, I'm JACOB. Got it!?"

**STORYTELLER:** "Yes, yes we get it—even though Jacob died thousands of years ago."

**HOST:** "Wait, what?"

**STORYTELLER:** "Nothing, don't worry about it, Jacob. Jacob could you please go stand by the first picture, the tent?"

→ *Host stands in front of the tent and picks up the cooking pot.*

"As I was saying, Isaac and Rebekah had twins! The first born was Esau."

**HOST:** "Oh dear. Firstborn brother. We really didn't get along at first."

**STORYTELLER:** "Well, yes, you and Esau were very different. The Bible tells us that Esau was a wild man! He was hairy and rugged. He liked to be out in the wild hunting.

"While Jacob (**REFERENCE THE HOST**) he was . . . not hairy, and he liked to stay at home by the tents. He helped with the cooking and was known to be kind of sneaky.

"One day when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the country and he was HUNGRY! He was so hungry and so impatient that Jacob saw an opportunity. When Esau demand Jacob give him some stew, Jacob made him a deal. He said:

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 25:31 (NIV) and read.*

"First sell me the rights that belong to you as the oldest son in the family."

**HOST:** "First sell me the rights that belong to you as the oldest son in the family."

**STORYTELLER:** "Esau was so hungry he thought he was going to die! So he said yes! He agreed to sell his birthright! Can you believe it? His rights as the firstborn son were very important and valuable, and he gave them to Jacob for a lunch.

"Sadly, this was only the beginning of Jacob's sneakiness.

→ *Host rubs his hands together and laughs mischievously. And walks over the second scene inside the bedroom. Puts on the fuzzy jacket.*

"As Isaac grew older, his eyesight began to fail and he couldn't see well. When he was old and weakened, Isaac called for his oldest son, Esau. Issac told Esau he was going to give Esau a special blessing that only the oldest son received, but first Esau should go hunt fresh eat and prepare a meal for Isaac. Esau rushed out to hunt for a wild animal he could bring back.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Rebekah heard what her husband had told Isaac, but this is what she said instead.

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 27:8-10 (NirV) and read.*

"My son, listen carefully. Do what I tell you. Go out to the flock. Bring me two of the finest young goats. I will prepare tasty food for your father. I'll make it just the way he likes it. I want you to take it to your father to eat. Then he'll give you his blessing before he dies."

"Rebekah and Jacob worked together to trick Isaac into giving Jacob Esau's blessing. (REFERENCE THE HOST.) Jacob covered his arms with fur so he'd feel hairy like his brother was, and even wore some of Esau's clothes. Then he went to see Isaac with the food Rebekah had made. Isaac couldn't see it was really Jacob, so he gave Jacob, Esau's blessing instead!

## JACOB FLEES

**STORYTELLER:** "As you can imagine, when Esau got home and found out, he was FURIOUS! He was so angry he actually planned to kill his own brother, Jacob. Rebekah quickly sent him away to her brother Laban who lived in Haran.

→ *Host flees to the wilderness scene looking over his shoulder scared.*

"Jacob fled from his home, scared and alone. Now he was on the run from his own brother. He had a LONG journey ahead of him. It would take him weeks to walk the about 500-mile line trip to Haran. As night began to fall, Jacob was alone in the wilderness and far from home. He had no bed, so he took a stone and placed it under his head and lay down to sleep on the ground.

→ *Host should lay down on the ground with a rock under his head. Snoring loudly.*

"While he slept, Jacob had a dream.

→ *Host jumps up and rushed to the next scene, the stairway.*

"In his dream there was a long stairway that reached from the Earth all the way to heaven. And Jacob saw angels going up and down the stairway, to and from Earth. And God stood right next to the stairway!

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 28:13-15 (NirV) and read.*

He said, "I am the LORD. I am the God of your grandfather Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your children after you the land you are lying on. They will be like the dust of the earth that can't be counted. . . . All nations on earth will be blessed because of you and your children after you. I am with you. I will watch over you everywhere you go. And I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"That was a lot of the same promises God had given to Abraham, Jacob's grandfather! But there were some new promises too. God promised to be with Jacob and to watch over him everywhere he went!

→ *Host should head back to the wilderness scene. Lay down on the rock again.*

## JACOB'S FUTURE

**STORYTELLER:** "Jacob surely knew about the one true God, because his dad Isaac and grandfather Abraham still worshipped Him. But we don't know if Jacob himself followed God before this dream.

"When Jacob awoke, he was astounded! He said to himself:

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 28:16 (NIRV) and read.*

"The LORD is surely in this place. And I didn't even know it."

**HOST: (WAKES UP)** "The Lord is surely in this place. And I didn't even know it."

→ *Host should pantomime the next part as the Storyteller says it.*

**STORYTELLER:** "Early the next morning, Jacob got up and turned his stone pillow into a sacred rock. Jacob poured oil over the stone and named the place Bethel, which means 'House of God.'

"Then Jacob made a promise to God, he said:

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 28:20-21 (NIRV) and read.*

"May God be with me. May he watch over me on this journey I'm taking . . ."

**HOST:** "May God be with me. May he watch over me on this journey I'm taking . . ."

**STORYTELLER:** "May he do as he has promised so that I can return safely to my father's home. Then you, LORD, will be my God." (NIRV)

**HOST:** "May he do as he has promised so that I can return safely to my father's home. Then you, Lord, will be my God."

**STORYTELLER:** "After that, Jacob continued on his journey. Thanks [Host's Name] for helping us out as Jacob."

**HOST:** "I surely don't know what you mean! I AM Jacob!"

→ *Host exits.*



25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ④ Bottom Line

### WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "After his dream, Jacob continued his long journey to Harran. He lived with his uncle Laban for around 20 years. He got married there and had most of his thirteen children there! Eventually Jacob did return home to face his brother Esau, just like God promised he would.

"Jacob made a lot of mistakes and bad choices in his life, and he didn't always trust God. But God was still with him through it all. Jacob's story shows us that God can work through anyone, no matter how many bad choices they make. God will always be with them, as He is with us!

SLIDE → Bottom Line

**[BOTTOM LINE]** "You can trust that God is with you. Say that with me."

**STORYTELLER and KIDS:** **[BOTTOM LINE]** "You can trust that God is with you."

→ Host enters.

**STORYTELLER, HOST, and KIDS:** **[BOTTOM LINE]** "You can trust that God is with you."

SLIDE → Theme

OPTIONAL VIDEO → Theme Loop

## ⑤ What's Our Part in The Story?

**HOST:** "Wow, Jacob was a pretty sneaky guy! That's not cool. Actually, Jacob got tricked by his uncle later, so he learned how it felt to be tricked too. It just goes to show that God can use us no matter what.

"In his dream, Jacob was reminded of the promise God had made to his grandfather Abraham, so he could see that God was still working. God also gave Jacob some new promises, about always being with him. Jacob had a chance to put his faith in God!

"God spoke great promises to Jacob personally. But we don't have to have that same experience to trust God. We can trust God because we know that He is trustworthy and He has always been trustworthy. Just like our Memory Verse for this month says:

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

SLIDE → Memory Verse

→ *Open Bible to Hebrews 11:1 (NirV) and read.*

*Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see. (NirV)*

"God spoke to Jacob through a dream to remind him of His goodness. But we have the Bible today. And it's so wonderful to read about all of the examples we have in the Bible of how God has kept His promises. God has been so faithful for so long. The Bible is such a record of how deeply God loves us. It's all written down in here. **(HOLD UP THE BIBLE.)** In this book and in my life, I can see proof that **[BASIC TRUTH]** I can trust God no matter what."

"The Bible is filled with so many stories of how God showed up to help His people. And as He was helping His people, He was always working to bring us the greatest rescue we needed—Jesus."

"Let's add our story to our timeline! This week we learned about a sneaky man who wasn't always faithful, but God always was. Even if Jacob made sinful decisions, God was faithful to keep His promise. God kept His promises to Jacob, but He also was working on His great rescue plan. Because, generations later, from Jacob's big family, would come Jesus. And Jesus would rescue us all."

SLIDE → God's Big Story

SLIDE → Week 4 Timeline Image

→ *If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's timeline image on the clothesline.*

"Even though Jacob made mistakes, God was still with him. God promised that He would always be with Jacob, and it's true for you too!"

"We'll talk more about this later in God's Big Story, but after Jesus' resurrection, when He went to heaven, He sent His Holy Spirit to live inside of His followers. When you become a follower of Jesus, the Holy Spirit came to live inside of you too! So the promise God made to Jacob, is true of all Jesus-followers too! "I am with you."

"So God is always, always, always with you! He is IN you! He is closer than close. So that is something you can trust—that God is always, always with you. That might be a brand-new idea to some of you, and that's okay! Let's pray and ask God what that means in our daily lives!"

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ⑥ Prayer

**STORYTELLER or HOST:** "Dear God, thank You for this story of Jacob! Thank You that You can still work Your good plans through us, even when we make bad choices. And thank You that You are always with us. Thank You that You send Your Holy Spirit to live in us, so we are never alone. Please teach us to trust that You are always with us. Thank You for loving us so much. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

→ *Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

**AUDIO** → Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

**SLIDE** → Theme

**OPTIONAL VIDEO** → Theme Loop

# Getting Ready: Opener

## What You Need

- ☐ Host
- ☐ Cube Storage Shelf (see What You Do)
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Various Prizes (see What You Do)

## Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room
- ☐ Upbeat Game Music

## Large Group Visuals

- ☐ Theme Slide
- ☐ Memory Verse Slide

## Optional Videos

- ☐ Theme Loop
- ☐ Countdown
- ☐ Theme Intro

## Opener

### What You Do

- Download the slides or optional videos and have them ready to use. If you do not have screen capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- Refer to week 1 to confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform or play music and sound effects in your kids' environments.
- Select enough prizes to fill all the cubes for the storage containers you've chosen. Some prizes should be good, like gift cards or stuffies, but some should also be bad ones that are still usable like toothpaste or a single banana.
- Place the items in your cube storage shelf. Cove the face of each square individually with paper. Consider adding a bullseye or superhero logos to give the kids somewhere to aim their punches.

## APlay

Get the most out of your curriculum with APlay! [JoinAPlay.com](https://JoinAPlay.com) is an all-in-one media organization and presentation tool. Experience all of your Orange Curriculum media assets, now pre-built and fully customizable. No more sorting through multiple download folders.

APlay is free with your curriculum subscription and packed with features to help your weekly experience run smoother. APlay gives you more time to focus on what truly matters — more ministry, less media management with Apple TV-based media solutions.

# Getting Ready: Worship

## What You Need

- ☐ Worship Leader(s)

## Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ "Sing Your Praises" from Start The Party
- ☐ "At The Top of My Lungs" from At The Top of My Lungs
- ☐ "You're Right There" from You're Right There single)

## Optional Videos

Available at [Store.ThinkOrange.com](https://store.thinkorange.com)

- ☐ "Sing Your Praises" Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video
- ☐ "At The Top of My Lungs" Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video
- ☐ "You're Right There" Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video

## Worship

A Worship Leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

## What You Do

- Prepare all songs and have them ready to use. Note: Make sure your church has obtained licensing rights to play or perform music. You can obtain a license to perform worship music from Christian Copyright Licensing International ([www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)). It covers over 200,000 worship songs for congregational singing. You are responsible for including the copyright information on all songs reproduced under the Church Copyright License (including song lyrics projected onscreen). This includes the song title, writer credit(s), copyright notice, and your church's CCLI license number. You can include this information on one of the lyric slides, or you can create a separate slide detailing this information, but the copyright information must appear at least once for each song you play or perform. For example:

Hallelujah" words and music by John Doe  
 ©2000 Good Music Co.  
 CCLI License # 0000

- Dance Moves Videos and Live Lyrics Videos are available for many Orange Kids Music songs. For more information, visit [Store.ThinkOrange.com](https://store.thinkorange.com).

# Getting Ready: Bible Story

## What You Need

- ☐ Storyteller
- ☐ Host
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Biblical style Robe for costume for Host
- ☐ Biblical Style Hat for costume for Host
- ☐ Cooking Pot and Spoon
- ☐ Fuzzy or Fur Jacket
- ☐ Large Fake Rock
- ☐ Backdrops for reference in the LG printables folder: (see What You Do)
  - ☐ Tent
  - ☐ Inside the bedroom
  - ☐ Wilderness of Haraan
  - ☐ Stairway to Heaven
- ☐ Clothesline and clothespins for the timeline in your room (see "What You Do")

## Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

## Large Group Visuals:

- ☐ Theme Background Slide
- ☐ Bottom Line Slide
- ☐ Theme Slide
- ☐ Memory Verse Slide
- ☐ God's Big Story Slide
- ☐ Week 4 Timeline Image Slide

## Optional Videos

- ☐ Theme Loop

## Bible Story

### What You Do

- Download the slides and have them ready to use. If you do not have screen capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- Confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform or play music and sound effects in your kids' environments (see above under Opener).
- We recommend that you create a timeline in your Large Group room that you can add to throughout this curriculum year as we travel through the Bible. This can be a simple clothesline or a section of the wall where you can hang the printed timeline images in order, week by week. We'll provide a timeline image for each week of curriculum. A [God's Big Story poster](#) is available as well in the Orange Store.
- Use the Large Group Assets from week 4 found in the printables folder as an example of what each setting should look like of the backdrops. Display the four backdrops in different places around the room and place the props next to them

### Alternative Teaching Options:

- If you do not have a host. You can either use an older kid as a host and let them read the script or choose a kid to act out the scene as you read the line.

# Getting Ready

## Video Enhancements for Your Environment

Available for additional purchase at [Store.ThinkOrange.com](https://Store.ThinkOrange.com).

**FEATURE PRESENTATION:** Everything you need to pull off a dynamic video storytelling experience, including video Bible presentations to complement 252 Kids and 252 Preteen curriculum.

Our Large Group scripts are interchangeable with these videos so you can plug and play the way you need to each week.

**For 252 Kids (kindergarten through 3rd grade):**

→ StoryLab: Invite elementary kids to engage with inquisitive young hosts as they explore core biblical truths and stories in a STEAM-inspired setting.

**For 252 Preteen (4th and 5th grade):**

→ The So & So Show: Guide preteens to explore questions of faith through a YouTube-style show full of humor and lots of zany fun.

**Additional environment enhancements including:**

- Motion graphics, including loops
- Themed audio transitions
- Countdown videos (30 seconds, 60 seconds, and 5 minutes)
- Dance moves music video for an additional worship song related to the monthly virtue