

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 ("Follow You" from Ready, Set, Move!, "You're Right There" from You're Right There, and "Ready, Set, Move!" from Ready, Set, Move!)
- 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: We're Going on a Scavenger Hunt (K-1st grade), Silent Scenes (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (4th-5th Grade)
2. Application Activity: Superhero Obstacle Course (K-1st grade), Trust Walk (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (4th-5th Grade)
3. Memory Verse Activity: Puzzled (K-1st grade), Super Freeze Dance (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

God Chooses Abram Genesis 12:1-9; 15:1-6

Bottom Line

You can trust that God has a plan.

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 carrying a giant water blaster and swim goggles.*

OPTIONAL VIDEO → Countdown

OPTIONAL VIDEO → Theme Intro

OPTIONAL VIDEO → Theme Loop

HOST: "Hello, heroes! Welcome to [Name of Kids' Environment]. I hope you all are ready today, because I need some heroes who can help me with some target practice today! But you won't be doing the shooting, our aquatic friends will!

→ *Put away the giant water blaster. Take out a squirt gun that looks like a fish, and shoot water over the audience so it rains down over them all—not targeting one kid in particular.*

"That's right! I need some water shooters for our Aquaman challenge! As you may or may not know Aquaman is the greatest hero of the sea, and one of his powers is talking to the creatures of the deep when he needs aid! You guys will use these fishies to squirt water at some enemy jellyfish.

→ *This game can get really wet, so play it outside if possible!*

→ *Set up boxes of varying heights and distances. Place upside down plastic cups on top of the boxes to represent the jellyfish. Have one set of 6 or 8 cups in different colors for each small group. Choose 3 or 4 kids to represent each small group and rotate shooting at the cups.*

"Each group will take turns shooting at the jellyfish. After you hit one, pass your 'fishie shooter' to the next kid on your team. You'll keep rotating until all your jellyfish are down. The first team to knock off all their jellyfish will be the winner.

AUDIO → Upbeat Game Music

25 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

- *Host picks the kids for each small group team. Make sure they all know how to use their squirt gun. Make commentary on the game play. If things are going too slowly, let the teams move closer. Host can jump in and help shoot if a team is really behind or if a kid is struggling.*

"Great shooting, everyone! I think we beat the jellyfish scourge! Let's all celebrate by getting up on our feet and praising the God who made the oceans and everything in them!"

10 MINUTES

Worship

② Worship

→ *Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hey friends! I'm so excited to worship with you! Worship is giving praise and honor to God by singing and dancing. Let's worship together!"

AUDIO → "Follow You" / track 7 from Ready, Set, Move!

OPTIONAL VIDEO → "Follow You" Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video

"Great worshipping! No matter where we are or what is happening, we can trust that God is always with us. Let's go ahead and sing this next 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

"No matter what, you are right there! When we know God is with us, we have the confidence to go and tell other people about Him. Let's go ahead and sing this next song together.

AUDIO → "Ready, Set, Move!" / track 1 from Ready, Set, Move!

OPTIONAL VIDEO → "Ready, Set, Move!" 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 and sets the prop box on the table as Worship Leaders exit. Set the fake tree at the opposite end of the table from the prop box.*

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Greetings, all! Are you guys ready for another outstanding story from the Bible? This year, we're reading through the Bible, talking about some of the important stories in it to get to know God better! We're walking through God's Big Story! **(GESTURE TO THE SLIDE.)**

SLIDE → God's Big Story

"Today's story is going to take us on a little journey. But before we get too far down the trail, let's set things up.

"We're still in the very first book of the Bible, Genesis, the beginning. **(HOLD UP BIBLE.)** There was nothing, then God spoke and created everything. The heavens, the Earth, and every living thing on the Earth: animals, plants, oceans, and finally us!

"God made us in His image, to show the world what He is like. God created us to live in relationship with Him. But the very first people God created chose not to follow Him. They sinned. Sin is anything that is goes against God and His ways—who He is or what He has said.

"When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, when they sinned, they ushered in a curse of sin that affected them and affected everyone who would live after them.

"But God never left us on our own. He loves us! Even from the very beginning, God had a plan to rescue us and to fix everything through Jesus!

A NEW HERO

STORYTELLER: "Last week, we talked about how every person who lived after Adam and Eve had to choose whether or not they would trust God. Sadly, most people didn't. But a man named Noah did!

"So even though God was going to bring a huge flood to stop all of the evil that was on Earth, God told Noah and his family to build an ark, so they and the animals on their boat would survive the huge flood.

25 MINUTES

Story

"After the flood Noah and his family quickly spread throughout the Earth. But sadly, once again, just like before the flood, a lot of people chose not to follow God. Even then, God had a plan to restore the relationship between us and God because of sin.

→ *Reach into the prop box and take out the hiking boot to represent Abram and a pink colored sneaker to represent Sarai.*

"God's plan began with a couple, Abram and his wife, Sarai. For years Abram and Sarai traveled really far with Abram's father, and his nephew Lot.

→ *Take out a kid-size boot to represent Lot. Walk all three about a third of the way across the table.*

"Together they settled in a place called Harran. Can you guys say that?"

STORYTELLER and KIDS: "Harran."

STORYTELLER: "Great job! They lived in Harran for a very long time, and while they did, their flocks of sheep and herds of livestock grew through God's blessings.

→ *Add 4-6 white baby booties next to the boots to represent their flocks and herds.*

"Still, they didn't have any children because they couldn't. But don't worry, God still had a plan for them!"

A NEW PROMISE

STORYTELLER: "When Abram was 75 years old, God spoke to him."

→ *Open the Bible to 12:1-3 (NirV) and read.*

"Go from your country, your people and your father's family. Go to the land I will show you.

"I will make you into a great nation.

And I will bless you.

I will make your name great.

You will be a blessing to others.

I will bless those who bless you.

I will put a curse on anyone who puts a curse on you.

All nations on earth

will be blessed because of you."

"Wow, can you imagine? You're hanging with your flocks or maybe eating dinner, and the God of the WHOLE universe makes you that kind of promise. Incredible! But that meant they had to pack up everything they had and travel into the unknown. But Abram chose to listen to God and trust in His promise. So Abram packed up, he took his wife and his

25 MINUTES

Story

nephew Lot with them, and all their sheep and herds, and they headed toward the land of Canaan.

- *Clumsily grab all the props on the table and walk them toward the other end. If one falls or gets left behind, hastily grab them and return them to the group. Make jokes like: "Wow, that's a lot of sheep!" or "Don't get left behind, you."*

"After a long while, they arrived in the land of Canaan. They set up their tents near a tree called Moreh in the land of Shechem. Again, God spoke to Abram.

- *Open the Bible to Genesis 12:7 (NIV) and read.*

The LORD appeared to Abram at Shechem. He said, "I will give this land to your family who comes after you." So Abram built an altar there to honor the LORD, who had appeared to him.

"Abram was encouraged to know he was on the right path. He wanted to honor God, so he set up an altar to honor Him.

- *Take a shoebox out of the prop box and place it next to the tree on the table.*

"Abram and Sarai continued to travel.

- *Clumsily grab all the props on the table and walk them toward the opposite end again, away from the tree.*

"Traveling with all their stuff and all those people must have been hard. And, they didn't know where they would finally settle. Abram must have trusted God a lot! When they arrived in the hills outside of Bethel, Abram built another altar to honor God there.

- *Take a second shoebox and place it on the table at the opposite end of the table.*

A NEW HOPE

STORYTELLER: "Abram and Sarai traveled around the land of Canaan, and sometimes into Egypt, for many, many years, yet they still had no children!

"I wish I could say they always trusted God and His promise to make Abram's family a great nation. But sometimes Abram and Sarai made the wrong choices while they waited for God to fulfill His promise. They let fear guide them instead of God. But God was still faithful to the end—He kept His promise and His plan to bless the world through their family.

"One night, God appeared to Abram again. He told Abram to go outside and to look up at the stars.

25 MINUTES

Story

→ *Open the Bible to Genesis 15:5-6 (NirV) and read.*

"The LORD took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky. Count the stars, if you can." Then he said to him, "That's how many children will be born into your family."

Abram believed the LORD. The LORD was pleased with Abram because he believed. So Abram's faith made him right with the LORD.

"Despite how old Abram and Sarai had become, they chose to trust God again and put their faith in Him. And because of Abram's faith, the Bible says it made him right with God, no matter what bad decisions he had made.

"As a sign of His promise, God changed their names to AbRAHAM, and SarAH. Though they still made some bad decisions, finally when Sarah was 90 years old and Abraham was 100 years old, God gave them a son and He told them to name him Isaac."

→ *Take out the baby sneaker and put it between the Abram and Sarai shoes.*

④ Bottom Line

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "You know what? Abraham and his family eventually DID become a great nation, just like God had promised! After many generations, Abraham's family became known as the Israelite people. These were God's people. And God was going to bring His great rescue plan through a family—that family!"

"You know what the really cool part of this is? God had a plan many, many, many years later. When God sent Jesus to Earth, He was born into Abraham and Sarah's family."

"And Jesus would break the curse of sin, pay for it, and make a way for us to be in a relationship with God again.

"Even though Abraham and Sarah didn't know where God was leading them, He was working on His great rescue plan. God is always up to something good. So even when YOU don't know what's going to happen ...

SLIDE → Bottom Line

25 MINUTES

Story

[BOTTOM LINE] "You can trust God that God has a plan. Say that with me."

STORYTELLER and KIDS: **[BOTTOM LINE]** "You can trust that God has a plan."

→ *Host enters.*

STORYTELLER, HOST, and KIDS: **[BOTTOM LINE]** "You can trust that God has a plan."

SLIDE → Theme

OPTIONAL VIDEO → Theme Loop

⑤ What's Our Part in The Story?

HOST: "Wow, these boots did a lot of walking! Abram and Sarai had to trust God and move around a lot. Yeah, they had to have faith that God would keep His promise. God wants us to take steps of faith with Him every day too! Faith is trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see."

"We may not be the father of a great nation like Abram would become, but when God calls us to take small steps of faith, we can think about how He kept His promise to Abram and Sarai, and we can have confidence in Him! From the very beginning God had a plan to restore what the first people had broken. Throughout the Bible we can see God working on that plan through people like Abram. As we'll see, God was working out His rescue plan for a long, long time. And later we see how God's promises to bless EVERYONE through Abraham's family came through in Jesus!"

"We are still in the middle of the story. There's still a lot of pain and darkness in the world. But when we go through hard times, remember **[BASIC TRUTH]** I can trust God no matter what and He WILL make it right for us too, eventually. The Bible tells us this:

→ *Open the Bible to Romans 8:28 (NirV) and read.*

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him. (NirV)

"Even when times are hard, we can trust in God's plan. NOTHING will stop Him from making good things come out of the bad, and making everything right in the end! We just don't know how long we have to wait to see God bring His plan to a conclusion."

"Abram and Sarai—oh sorry, AbRAHAM and SaRAH—had to wait until they were over 90 to see God answer His promises that He had made to them years before.

25 MINUTES

Story

"Let's hang up the picture that goes with this part of 'God's Big Story!'

SLIDE → God's Big Story

SLIDE → Week 3 Timeline Image

"This week we saw that in Abraham and Sarah's story, God was always working on His plan, even though they had to trust Him for years to see His promises to them come true. And even though they weren't always perfect while they waited. But even after all that time, God kept His promise! And in keeping His promises to Abraham and Sarah, He was working on our great rescue.

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

STORYTELLER: "Let's pray and ask God to help us in the waiting."

⑥ Prayer

HOST: "Dear God, we know You have an incredible plan to make everything right in the end. Thank You! But life can get so hard. Please help us to keep our faith in You when we are facing tough times. Help us hold Your hand and trust Your heart when life gets dark. 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
- ☐ Fish Shooters 1 per Small Group (see What You Do)
- ☐ Giant Water Blaster
- ☐ Goggles
- ☐ Tarps
- ☐ Cardboard Boxes (see What You Do)
- ☐ Buckets of Water (for refills)
- ☐ Plastic Cups (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

Optional Videos (available for purchase)

- ☐ Theme Loop
- ☐ 30 Second 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.
- Set up the boxes in varying heights and distances from the kids. Place the "Jellyfish" all around the Boxes. Try to make sure each team has to shoot a "Jellyfish" from the same distances and heights.
- You'll need 6-8 plastic cups in different colors. One set per small group that's playing.
- Fish Shooters like [these](#)

Alternative Game Instructions:

- If you do not have multiple small groups, make it a challenge and take turns for each kid in your space to try and knockdown the cups.

APlay

Get the most out of your curriculum with APlay! 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

- ☐ "Follow You" from Ready, Set, Move!,
- ☐ "You're Right There" from You're Right There
- ☐ "Ready, Set, Move!" from Ready, Set, Move!

Optional Videos

Available at Store.ThinkOrange.com

- ☐ "Follow You" Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video
- ☐ "You're Right There" Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video
- ☐ "Ready, Set, Move!" 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

- Refer to week 1 to confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform or play music and sound effects in your kids' environments.
- 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
- ☐ Prop Box
- ☐ Table
- ☐ 1 Hiking Boot
- ☐ 1 Pink Sneaker
- ☐ 1 Baby Sneaker
- ☐ 1 Kid Size Hiking Boot
- ☐ 4-6 White Baby Booties
- ☐ 1 Fake Tree
- ☐ 2 Shoe Boxes
- ☐ 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
- ☐ God's Big Story Slide
- ☐ Week 3 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.
- Collect or purchase white baby booties [such as these](#) to represent the sheep.

Alternative Teaching Options:

- If you are not able to get that many options for shoes, print off a label for each shoe and use kids' shoes that are in your environment:
 - Abram
 - Sarai
 - flocks of sheep and herds of livestock (use an image of this)
 - A tree

Getting Ready

Video Enhancements for Your Environment

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