

Day 1 Discovery Center: Rain Forest Rubbings

DIRECTIONS

The racers put the leaves under their papers. Show them how to rub their crayons sideways over the paper to get the leaf impression. Write their names on their papers when they're done.

TEACHING TIE-IN

We're racing to South America today where the Amazon rain forest is—a beautiful place filled with lots and lots of trees and other plants. In the beginning of the Bible, we read that God made the world. It may have been like a beautiful rain forest. God made plants and animals and the first two people, and he said everything was very good. God is amazing!

Day 1 Touch Table Water Option: Slithering Snakes

DIRECTIONS

The racers play with the snakes. Use the pipes/tubes for the snakes to slither through.

TEACHING TIE-IN

In the very good world God created in the beginning, the first two people

didn't obey God. The serpent tricked Eve into disobeying God. And Adam disobeyed, too. That's sad. You know what? We don't always obey God, either. When we don't obey God, it's called sin. I'm so thankful our loving God can forgive us of our sin through Jesus!

Day 1 Dramatic Play: Airport/Travel

DIRECTIONS

Pretend to be racers heading to the continent of the day. Set up the station to have the reservation/check-in area and the security checkpoint on one side of the plane. You may also want to set up a souvenir shop with items from the continent of the day.

Today, the racers are pretending to be traveling to South America.

TEACHING TIE-IN

We're traveling to South America today on our plane. The world used to have one big piece of land, and there weren't separate continents. But the big flood of Noah's time changed all that! There was so much water everywhere, it made the land break into different pieces. So what we see today is land that is kind of like puzzle pieces that go together and make one big picture. So now we have to get on airplanes or boats to cross oceans to get to certain places in the world.

Day 1 Touch Table Sand Option: Dig It Up!

DIRECTIONS

The racers dig to find the hidden items. Once they have them all, the leader shares the Teaching Tie-In, and they attempt to put the items in the order they happened.

TEACHING TIE-IN

The Bible tells us at the beginning how sin came into the world. Sin is when we don't obey God. All people sin. First, Adam and Eve ate the fruit when God told them not to. Then came Cain and Abel, who were brothers. Cain got angry and killed his brother!

Then came the time of Noah and the great flood. Everyone was sinning (not obeying) all the time, except for Noah, who found grace from the Lord. And then came the tower of Babel, when the people took bricks and built a tall tower to the sky, even though God told them not to stay together but to live all over the world.

Let's see if we can take the objects we found and put them in order to remind us of how people at the beginning of time didn't obey God. Go through what each item represents and help them figure out the order.

Day 2 Discovery Center: Build It!

DIRECTIONS

The racers look at each example and try to duplicate the structure exactly.

TEACHING TIE-IN

People have been really smart since the day God made the first people.

They've been building since early on. By the time the tower of Babel happened, the Bible tells us they knew how to build not only the tower, but a city, too!

Day 2 Touch Table Water Option: Packing Peanuts

PRE-PREP

Put a shallow amount of water in the water table.

DIRECTIONS

The racers dip one Nuudle® or packing peanut at a time in the water. Instruct them to dip them ever so slightly in the water. (They dissolve if submerged.) Then they can stick them to blank paper to build towers or buildings. Super fun!

Day 2 Dramatic Play: Airport/Travel

DIRECTIONS

Dress up and pretend to be traveling to Asia today on *The Incredible Race*.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Today we're heading to Asia where a big tower was built long ago called the tower of Babel. It was there that the people didn't obey God and ended up having to move all over the earth. It's always important to obey the Bible, which is God's words to us.

Day 2 Touch Table Sand Option: Construction Zone

DIRECTIONS

The racers play with the construction items in the sand.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Sometimes we think people who lived a long time ago weren't very smart and wouldn't have known how to build things. But they were just as smart, if not smarter, than us! They even designed a city and a big tower long ago we call the tower of Babel.

Day 3 Discovery Center: Shade Time

DIRECTIONS

Color the people using different skin-colored crayons/colored pencils.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Some people have darker skin, some people have lighter skin, and some are in between. God put something in our bodies called melanin that helps to make our skin different shades of brown. We don't have different colors of skin, just different shades of brown.

Day 3 Touch Table Water Option: Toy Boat

DIRECTIONS

The racers play with the boats (and people) in the water.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Because the people didn't obey God and went ahead and built the tower of Babel, God made the people move away from there. Have you ever moved? Take responses. **How do you think they got all the way across the world?** Take responses. **They might have walked or ridden on camels or horses. They may have even built boats and floated across the ocean. There were boats at that time. People could have learned about building boats from Noah.**

Day 3 Dramatic Play: Airport/Travel

DIRECTIONS

Dress up and pretend to be traveling to Africa today on *The Incredible Race*.

TEACHING TIE-IN

After God confused everyone's language at the tower of Babel and made them move, people started heading out. Some moved a shorter distance away, like to the continent of Africa, and some moved really far away. But everyone moved somewhere.

Day 3 Touch Table Sand Option: On the Move

DIRECTIONS

Using the sand bucket, the racers can make one big "tower" at one end of the sand table, and smaller "homes" with the small plastic cups, located at the other end of the sand table. If using pictures of homes, put them in the sand as well and comment on the different kinds of homes people live in. Have the little people "travel" from the big tower to their new homes.

TEACHING TIE-IN

The Bible tells us God "scattered," or "moved" the people at the tower of Babel when they didn't obey him. They moved all over the world to new homes. Show the "Cave Men" Poster. Some people even lived in caves for awhile. We find drawings and tools and other things sometimes in caves that show that these smart people thought up ways to live well as they were traveling across the world.

Day 4 Discovery Center: Hearts

DIRECTIONS

This works well to do as a group.

Racers look at the board and try to remember all the colors of hearts. Have them close their eyes. Turn the board around and take off one heart. Turn the board back around and have them open their eyes. See if they can

figure out which one is missing. Continue in like manner.

TEACHING TIE-IN

Do you know what a heart shape stands for? Yes, love! God loved us so much he sent his Son, Jesus, so that whoever believes in him can have eternal (forever) life.

Day 4 Touch Table Water Option: Color Mixing

DIRECTIONS

The racers color the coffee filters with two or three colors, then squirt the water on them and see how the colors mix and change.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What color markers do you have? Take responses. **Let's color a little of one color**

on one spot on our coffee filters. Do so, then have them color another spot with another color and so forth. **Now let's use the spray bottles of water to see what happens!** Spray and watch how the colors mix and change and all end up with their own "look." Share how God put a little of this and a little of that in each of us till we all are now our own unique combination that makes us special.

Day 4 Dramatic Play: Airport/Travel

DIRECTIONS

Dress up and pretend to be traveling to Europe today on *The Incredible Race*.

TEACHING TIE-IN

In Europe, people speak different languages. Let's try to say "hello" in some of those languages. Say some of the following, and remind them that everyone spoke the same language before the tower of Babel.

French—Bonjour; Spanish—Hola; German—Guten Tag; Swedish—Hej; Croatian—Bok.

Day 5 Touch Table Sand Option: Crosses

DIRECTIONS

The racers use the craft sticks in a couple ways to make crosses in the sand. One way is to use the craft sticks like a writing utensil and draw a cross in the sand. Another way is to lay a craft stick flat on top of the sand, then press down, then lift it up to make an indentation to represent the vertical part of the cross. Do the same with the crossbar.

TEACHING TIE-IN

What shape are we making? Take responses. **Yes, a cross! Do you know why the cross is so important to us?** Take responses, and explain that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead because he loves each one of them so much.

Day 5 Discovery Center: Step It Up! Concentration Game

DIRECTIONS

Tell the racers to shuffle the cards and place them face down. (Or you can do this ahead of time.) Have them take turns flipping over two cards and seeing if they match.

TEACHING TIE-IN

After the people moved away from the tower of Babel and settled in dif-

ferent places, they took their knowledge of how they had built the tower of Babel and built towers in their areas. These pictures are step pyramids found around the world. Finding step pyramids all over the place shows the truth of the Bible. People from the tower of Babel would have passed on this design to their children and grandchildren, who could then build them!

Day 5 Touch Table Water Option: All Heart

DIRECTIONS

The racers try to scoop up as many hearts as possible. Have them see how many they can get in one scoop.

TEACHING TIE-IN

The Bible tells us God loves us and wants us to take that love and share it with others. A way to show love is to do something kind for someone. Can you think of something you can do to show kindness to someone? Take responses.

Day 5 Dramatic Play: Airport/Travel

DIRECTIONS

Dress up and pretend to be traveling to North America today on *The Incredible Race*.

TEACHING TIE-IN

We're ending our race in North America today, but as you go home, God wants you to remember to love all people, show them kindness, and tell them about Jesus.

Day 5 Touch Table Sand Option: Go!

DIRECTIONS

Racers should make tracks in the sand with the various transportation objects.

TEACHING TIE-IN

The Bible tells us to go and share Jesus with everyone! Whether we walk or ride or run, God wants us to tell people we see about Jesus and his love. Is there someone you can tell about Jesus today?