

File 21 Preschool Rotations Conference Plan

Purpose Statement

This 45-minute plan is designed to prepare preschool leaders for using LifeWay's *Galactic Starveyors 3s-Kindergarten Rotation Pack*.

Resources to Collect, Prepare & Copy

Resources to Collect

1. Welcome

- *VBS 2017 Preschool Starter Kit* (005787682)
- *VBS 2017 3s-Kindergarten Rotation Pack* (005787681)

2. Music Under the Stars

- Music Leader Guide from Rotation Pack
- 3s-K Music Rotation Pack DVD-ROM
- *VBS 2017 Music for Preschoolers CD* (005790520)
- CD Player
- DVD Player and TV or computer and screen

3. Missions Under the Stars

- Missions Leader Guide from Rotation Pack
- Missions DVD
- DVD Player
- Items for "Nighttime Comfort Pack," such as:
 - Backpack
 - New stuffed animals
 - Lap blanket
 - Socks
 - Toothbrush and toothpaste
 - Combs or brushes
 - Travel-size toiletries
 - Crayons and paper
 - Soap

4. Arts and Crafts Under the Stars

- Arts and Crafts Leader Guide from Rotation Pack
- *VBS 2017 Kaleidoscope Craft Pack* (005791179)
- *VBS 2017 Moon Gazers Craft Pack* (005791180)
- *VBS 2017 Astronomical Frame* (005791173)
- *VBS2017 Starry Night Card Craft Pack* (005791175)

5. Recreation

- Recreation Cards from Rotation Pack

- Various building materials as suggested on Rec Card 5
- Blindfold or sunglasses lined with black paper.
- Small plastic swim pool or hula hoops if smaller room
- Wadded paper balls or soft sponge balls

6. Conclusion

- No resources needed

Resources to Prepare

1. Welcome

- No preparation needed.

2. Music Under the Stars

- Set the CD to “God Made Me” (track 1)

3. Missions Under the Stars

- Set the DVD to play The Rigney Family (Day 1)
- Put together a “Nighttime Comfort Pack” for demonstration and discussion

4. Arts and Crafts Under the Stars

- Assemble and display the following craft pack items
 - *VBS 2017 Kaleidoscope Craft Pack* (005791179)
 - *VBS 2017 Moon Gazers Craft Pack* (005791180)
 - *VBS 2017 Astronomical Frame Craft Pack* (005791173)
 - *VBS2017 Starry Night Card Craft Pack* (005791175)
- Display sample preschool crafts

5. Recreation Under the Stars

- “Help the Starvevor”
 - Place the building materials and blindfold in a bucket near the front of the room
- “Meteor Shower”
 - Place the small plastic swim pool or hula hoops near the front of the room
 - Place wadded paper balls or soft sponge balls into 2 separate piles on either side of the pool or hoop

6. Conclusion

No preparation needed.

Resources to Copy

- Preschool Rotations Handout (1 per conferee)

Focal Wall Description

- Place *VBS 2017 Rotation Signs* (005791064) on the focal wall.

Room Setup

- Set up a long table beside the focal wall and cover it with a *VBS 2017 Tablecloth* (005790517). Display the VBS Preschool Starter Kit and VBS 2017 3s--Kindergarten Rotation Pack, and Craft Packs on the table.
- Place sample crafts on table.
- Place chairs in rows or semi-circle.

Decoration Suggestions

- Hang a *VBS 2017 Star Curtain* (005790542) in the doorway and place the *VBS 2017 Visual Pack* (005791066), *VBS 2017 Wall Art* (005791064), and *VBS 2017 Decoration Punch-outs* (005791065) around the walls and door.

Audio Visual Needs

- DVD player
- CD player
- Speakers
- Screen or TV

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Welcome conferees to the Preschool Rotation Conference.
- Distribute a handout to each conferee.
- Say: "This year at VBS we are going to help kids discover the God of the Universe Who created the everything there is and Who wants a relationship with them!"
- Show conferees the 3s--Kindergarten Rotation Pack.
 - Point out the new booklets that have replaced the folders with cards.
 - Note that this provided space to put artwork and templates inside the books.
- Explain how the Pack includes Teaching Plans for:
 - Music Under the Stars
 - Missions Under the Stars
 - Arts and Crafts Under the Stars
 - Recreation Under the Stars
- Briefly discuss how one Rotation Pack is included in each VBS 2017 Preschool Starter Kit.
- Share options and tips on using the Rotation Pack:
 - Rotation Options:
 - Teachers lead kids to each rotation, stay with them during the activities, and lead them back to the main classroom for closing group time.
 - Teachers are enlisted to come to the room to teach the rotation activities.
 - Children and teachers remain in the room for all activities.

- o Rotation Tips:
 - Locate rotation sites close to each other.
 - Maintain appropriate teacher/child ratios (1:4) when traveling to and from rotations.
 - Use a walking rope or buddy system to keep kids together.
 - Keep the focus on the Bible story, Bible verse, Today's Point, and Kid Connection statements.
 - Each rotation should last 25 minutes, which includes time for transition.

2. Music Under the Stars (10 minutes)

- Say: "We're going to take a look at Music Under the Stars."
 - o Show conferees the Music Book from the Rotation Pack. Explain:
 - o DVD in front contains 4 songs – instructional and demonstration videos for each
 - o Seven songs included on Music for Preschoolers CD:
 - Bible Verse Song
 - Two movement songs (children create their own movements)
 - Theme Song
 - o DVD contains Print Resources
 - Star Template
 - Amazing Sky Cards
 - Bible Story Pictures
 - Lead Sheets
- VBS at a Glance gives overview of the week
- Each teaching plan has Bible Verse, Today's Point, and Bible Story synopsis. It also includes a teaching plan with instructions on how to teach the songs to preschoolers.
- Motions and words are provided on pages in the back of the folder as well as on the DVD.
- Say: "Let's learn two of the songs you can use every day."
- Show the instructional video for "God Made Me" (track 1).
- Invite conferees to learn the motions and move and sing with the song.
- Play "Everything in the Universe" (track 5). Pictures for motions are not included in the pack. The kids are asked to create their own motions. Ask conferees to sing and move, as they believe a preschooler might move.

3. Missions Under the Stars (10 minutes)

- Say: "Next, we're going look at Missions Under the Stars."
- Show conferees the Missions Book from the Rotation Pack. Explain:
- Again this year—there is only one video segment each day.
 - o Days 1 through 3 will be "The Rigney Family"
 - o Days 4 and 5 will be "The Mandrell Family."
 - o Having just one short video day and focusing on just one family each day should be less confusing for preschoolers and the teacher will have more time to focus on the one story line for the day.
 - o Share information about the Mission Project

- Preschoolers will be encouraged to bring items to include in comfort packs that will be given to boys and girls who sometimes must move to another place to be safe at nighttime and don't have much time to gather their own belongings.
- Show sample of "Nighttime Comfort Pack"
- Parent Letter is included to send home with kids on Day 1.
- Show the Day 1 and Day 4 video segments to the conferees.
- Make note of the activities that are included in each day's plan.

4. Arts and Crafts Under the Stars (10 minutes)

- Show conferees the Arts and Crafts Book from the Rotation Pack. Explain:
- Share how each day's teaching plan offers a Bible-related activity as well as two theme-related activities for a total of three activities.
- Suggestions for a Free Art Center are offered each day. The Center allows time for free-art expression and experimentation with a variety of art media.
- Mention coloring pages that are available at the back of the guide.
- Craft Packs available for:
 - *VBS 2017 Kaleidoscope Craft Pack* (005791179)
 - *VBS 2017 Moon Gazers Craft Pack* (005791180)
 - *VBS 2017 Astronomical Frame* (005791173)
 - *VBS2017 Starry Night Card Craft Pack* (005791175)
- Several templates are also provided for the other activities.
- Teaching plans are full of Teacher Tips to help leaders every step of the way.
 - Options for Kindergarten added when applicable.
 - Point out the Arts and Craft samples available.

5. Recreation Under the Stars (15 minutes)

- Show conferees the Recreation Cards from the Rotation Pack. Explain:
 - 1 Bible related game suggestion for each day
 - Other sections include: Theme Games, Water Games, and a Free Play card
 - Administrative Cards at the end, including Leader Responsibilities, Kid Characteristics, Teaching Tips, and Decorating Ideas.
- Invite conferees to stand and play:
 - Help the Starveyor (Day 5)
 - Ask for four volunteers and pair them up.
 - Explain that the two pairs will each build a starveyor backyard observatory with the building materials supplied.
 - Instruct the pairs that they will have 1 minute to build their observatories.
 - Announce that one person from each pair will be blindfolded and will be the builder.
 - The other person on each team will be directing his partner.
 - Show conferees the "Make the Point" statement on the back of the Bible

Games card.

- o Read the statement for “Help the Starveyor” aloud.
 - Ask: Was it easier to build when your partner could help you?
 - That’s right! It is easier when we have help! Jesus told His disciples God would send a Helper for them. God will help you, too.
- o Meteor Shower (Rec Card 6)
 - Ask for several volunteers and create at least 2 teams. (More, if you have a large group.)
 - Guide teams to stand about 5 feet away from the pool or hoop.
 - Assign each team a different color of balls or wadded paper.
 - Explain that when you yell “Meteor Shower” teams should throw their balls toward the pool as fast as they can.
 - Call time after 30 seconds or when teams run out of balls to throw.
 - Count the number of balls each team got into the pool or hoop.
 - Mention that this game is a “theme” game, which will not have a direct tie back to the story.

6. Conclude (5 minutes)

- Allow time for questions.
- Thank conferees for helping kids discover God’s truths through music, games, missions, arts and crafts, and fun!