VBS 2019 PRESCHOOL ROTATIONS CONFERENCE PLAN (1 HOUR)

Purpose Statement
This one-hour plan is designed to train teachers to lead preschool rotation activities during LifeWay’s In the Wild™ VBS.

Needed Resources and Resource Preparation
- VBS 2019 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack (005804873)
- VBS 2019 Rotation Signs (005810043)
- VBS 2019 Tablecloths (5) (005809167)
- VBS 2019 Sticky Foam Shapes (005809142)
- VBS 2019 Balancing Butterfly Craft Pack (005810993)
- VBS 2019 On-the-road Magnet Craft Pack (005810995)
- VBS 2019 Trumpeting Elephant Craft Pack (005810990)
- VBS 2019 Jumbo Inflatable Elephant (005810044)
- VBS 2019 Inflatable Frog (005809180)
- VBS 2019 Tiger Backpack (005809154) or gift bag
- Optional: VBS 2019 Kids Wraps (005809145)
- Optional: VBS 2019 Furry Slap Bracelets (005809124)
- Item 1: “Animal Cards” — Copy enough for one animal per person. Cut out each card and place inside the VBS 2019 Tiger Backpack or a gift bag.
- Item 2: “Picture This” — Copy 1 per conferee.
- Laundry items such as detergent boxes and dryer sheets
- Coin envelopes
- Completed crafts for display
- Copies of DVD-ROM teacher helps from the Music Rotation DVD-ROM.
- CD player

Room Setup
Arrange chairs in a semi-circle. Cover a table with a VBS 2019 Tablecloth and display the VBS 2019 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack, and any other VBS 2019 resources. Place a copy of “Picture This” (Item 2) in each seat. Set up four stations around the room for the rotations. Define each station by spreading a VBS 2019 Tablecloth on the floor or a table and posting the appropriate rotation sign.
- Recreation: Lay the Recreation Rotation Cards, and any supplies needed for the chosen game.
- Missions: Place the Missions Rotation booklet, laundry items, and coin envelopes on the table. Position the Jumbo Inflatable Elephant to one side.
- Crafts: Display the Crafts Rotation booklet, prepared crafts, VBS 2019 Sticky Foam Shapes, and all three VBS 2019 Craft Packs.
- Music: Display the Music Rotation booklet, Music for Preschoolers CD, Music Rotation DVD-ROM, and a copy of Teacher Helps from DVD-ROM.

Teaching Steps
1. Welcome (10 minutes)
- Play “In the Wild” (track 1) from the music CD.
- Welcome conferees. Comment, “This year in VBS we are leading kids to have their own personal encounters with Jesus.”
• Ask the group to make the sound of a tiger. Then ask the group to make the sound of an elephant.
• Pass the bag around the group and ask each conferee to take a card. Explain that conferees should make sounds of the animal shown on their cards and then form a group with the other animals in his herd by listening and locating others making the same noise.
• Lead teams to group together at “watering holes.”
• Mention that this is a fun way to form groups during VBS. You can also use the headbands, wristbands, or wraps as a way to group kids in VBS.
• Ask conferees to return to their seats.

2. Why Rotations?
• Mention that animals are all different from each other and so are kids. Give a very short explanation of learning styles.
  o Physical – learn best through lots of activity
  o Logical – need to know the reasons “why;” like organization and schedules
  o Verbal – like to read, but also like to talk; need opportunities to express themselves
  o Visual – enjoy pictures; creativity; colors
  o Musical – learn best through rhythm, melody, sounds
  o Natural – enjoy all things from outdoors; use nature items in learning experiences
  o Relational – like to work with others on projects
  o Reflective – enjoy working alone; need time to ponder and examine
• Explain that this is one reason we have rotations. Not just for fun, but because we need to meet each child where he is. We need to help each child “catch” the point of the lesson in the way God made him to learn best.

3. Photo Journaling
• Comment, “When you have a great trip, you don’t want it to end. This is why we take photos constantly. We don’t want to forget those details, so we capture them in a picture.”
• Point out that in each rotation, you will find a way to point back to the Bible Story, Bible Verse, or Point for the day. This is because we know that children learn in different ways. A child will “get it” when we teach in the way he learns best.
• Introduce the term Photo Stops, as something that lets you compare and produce the image you want. Talk about the following “photo stop” numbers that help each church decide the best way to use the rotation pack.
  o 1 pack per church (unless in a larger church). However, you could also choose to use one per classroom. Mention that a rotation pack is included in the Preschool Starter Kit.
  o 3 ways to use the pack — self-contained; rotate in; rotate out
  o 4 rotations — art, recreation, missions, music. You may do all four every day or decide to use 2 one day and 2 the next … whatever works best for your schedule.
  o 1:4 (ratio of teachers to kids) — Remember that additional teachers need to stay with rotation leader … don’t leave her alone with a group of kids!
25 minutes (including transition) — 20 minutes for teaching time plus time for transition and bathroom if needed. This is what is recommended. You may choose more or less, depending on your schedule.

4. Rotation Sites

- Say, “This year, you and your kids have the opportunity to take photos at some beautiful locations!”
- Walk to each station in the room and describe the rotations.
  - Beluga Bay (Recreation)
    - Bible Story Game — Explain that there is a game that reinforces the Bible Story and Point for each day. Emphasize that this is one that should be used each day to ensure that those physical learners who may not have “gotten it” during group time can connect and understand the story better through a game.
    - Theme games — There are 15 additional games that are more “themed” for the week.
    - Play a game (choose a game best suited for your conference group)
  - Cockatoo Canopy (Crafts)
    - Talk about the crafts that are displayed.
    - Mention that there is at least one craft each day that ties to the Bible story.
    - Several crafts this year use paper plates.
    - Stress that crafts offer opportunities for preschoolers to be creative and make things their own.
    - Show the Craft Packs suggested for preschoolers:
      - Balancing Butterfly
      - One-the-road Magnet
      - Trumpeting Elephant
  - Pachyderm Path (Missions)
    - Two missionary stories:
      - Jorge Santiago in Puerto Rico
      - The Harrell Family in Mozambique
    - There are videos for all 5 days. A DVD is included in the front of the missions guide. There are two videos for Jorge Santiago’s story and three for the Harrell family. If you choose not to use the video, the stories are also written out in the leader guide each day.
    - Activities each day coordinate with the missions stories. Templates are included in the back of the guide.
    - Mission project:
      - C.L.E.A.N. — Show or talk about the Mission Project Letter in the guide. Explain that this is a suggested local mission project. Your church may choose another project for your community.
      - This year, LifeWay has partnered with the IMB to offer Project Mozambique. This corresponds with the mission project shown in the daily Worship Rally drama videos. There is a short video on the DVD-ROM giving details about this project.
  - Bullfrog Bog - Music
    - Show the Music DVD-ROM located in the front of the leader guide. This includes instruction and demonstration videos for six songs including an abbreviated version of the theme song for preschoolers.
• Show the teacher helps from the DVD-ROM.
• New this year! 5 outlines for a daily Preschool Worship Rally are included on the DVD-ROM.
• Mention that a Music for Preschoolers CD is included in the pack.
• Songs are also available for digital download for those whose computers do not have a disc drive. There is a one-time redemption code included on a card in the pack.
• Teach the song, “These Words are Written.” Explain that this is the Bible verse song for the week.
• Teach the simplified version of the theme song, “In the Wild.”

5. Closing (5 minutes)
• Answer any questions or clarify any information as needed.
• Pray for VBS teachers before dismissing.
Item 1: Animal Cards
PICTURE THIS

BELUGA BAY

COCKATOO CANOPY

PACHYDERM PATH

BULLFROG BOG

Item 2. Picture This