

## VBS 2018 SNACK ROTATION CONFERENCE PLAN (1 HOUR)

### Purpose Statement

This one-hour conference is designed to explore the more than 30 snack options available to serve during LifeWay's VBS 2019 In the Wild.™ Conferees will learn how to incorporate biblical content into snacks rotation, review all snack options, build theme-related suppers, and make the most of the time kids spend in snack rotation each day.

### Needed Resources

- VBS 2019 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards
- VBS 2019 Tablecloth
- VBS 2019 Music for Kids CD
- Item 1: "Handout" — Copy 1 per conferee (double-sided).
- Marker
- Hand sanitizer
- Small cooler (to store food until needed for Step 2)
- Ingredients and needed supplies for at least one of each day's Bible-related snack  
**TIP:** Place supplies in smaller containers, such as ziplock bags, and place them in gift bags rather than placing full containers in bags. Keep refrigerated items in the small cooler until use. For the "Storm Sea Cups," use a prepackaged gelatin cup and prepare the orange slices ahead of time and place in a small container or baggie.
- 5 brown paper gift bags — Write one of the following daily points and Bible story titles on the outside of each gift bag. Place the corresponding recipe card, ingredients, and supplies in each bag.
  - Day 1: *Encounter in the Temple*
  - Day 2: *Encounter at the River*
  - Day 3: *Encounter on the Water*
  - Day 4: *Encounter at the Tomb*
  - Day 5: *Encounter on the Road*
- Sticky notes (Optional: Paw-print shaped sticky notes) — Write the name of each of the snacks (1–25) on a separate sticky note.
- 3 pieces of poster board — Write each of the following terms on a separate poster board: *Sweet Snacks*, *Savory Snacks*, and *Snacks That Could Be Supper*.
- 10 large index cards — Write one of the Dinner Options from the recipe cards (1–10) on each card. Do NOT include the suggested recipe cards listed under each option, only the main menu suggestions. Tape to focal wall to display.
- Supplies and ingredients for EITHER Recipe 6 ("Animal Mix-Up Munch") or Recipe 15 ("Cheetah Chow Mix").
- Snack-size ziplock bags — Prepare the mix, scoop a small amount/individual serving into each bag, and seal the bag. Prepare enough for each conferee to receive a bag.
- Sticky labels — Write each of the following on a separate label and attach each label to a prepared bag of mix: *Initiate*, *Names*, *Teach*, *Help*, *Encounter*, *Why?*, *Include*, *Listen*, *Discuss*.
- Animal-print bag or bowl — Place prepared snack bags in the bag or bowl. Make sure the labeled bags are on top, so they will be chosen by conferees.
- Index cards — Write each of the following phrases on a separate index card: *Supplement*, *Delegate*, *Organize*, *Pray*, and *Be Aware*.
- CD Player

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### Room Setup

Arrange chairs in a semi-circle. Cover a table with a *VBS 2019 Tablecloth*. Use any items gathered for the conference as decorations. Display the five prepared bags, the three prepared posters, and prepared Dinner Options cards. Check out the “Snacks at Grizzly Gulch Decorating Ideas” card in the *VBS 2019 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards* for more ideas for decorating the room.

### Teaching Steps

#### 1. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Play the *VBS 2019 Music for Kids* CD as conferees enter the room. Welcome conferees to “Snacks at Grizzly Gulch” and share that today you’ll review everything they need to know to be prepared for kids to have an amazing time while enjoying some tasty snacks.
- Announce that to kick things off, you’ll call out some names of snacks. If conferees believe the snacks you name are for kids to enjoy during VBS, they should raise one hand in the air. But if they believe the snack you call out is a snack reserved exclusively for grizzly bears, they should make their hands look like claws and raise them in the air. If they believe the snack is for both kids and bears, they should raise a hand and a paw.”
- Call out the following snacks (note *H* is for hand and *P* is for paw): Tree Bark Treats (H), Honey (P), Snails and Caterpillars (H & P), Bat Bites (H), and Grass (P).
- Note that honey *could* technically be a snack for kids, but it isn’t listed as a stand-alone snack on the snack rotation cards.
- Congratulate conferees on sorting their snacks. Note that there are lots of snacks to cover today (and provided on the recipe cards), including Bible-related snacks, 25 snack ideas, and several dinner suggestions for snacks.

#### 2. Bible-Related Snacks (15 minutes)

- Display the prepared snack bags and supplies. Keep hand sanitizer nearby.
- Invite three volunteers to make each day’s Bible-related snack. (NOTE: If time is short, prepare each snack simultaneously, then talk about each one.) Ask one volunteer to read aloud the directions on the recipe card while the other two volunteers make the snack. Invite audience participation as needed to offer advice while making each snack. Choose three new volunteers before making each snack.
- Add each of the five snacks to the display table. Review each snack and briefly summarize each day’s Bible story and main point. Emphasize the importance of talking with kids about each day’s Bible story during snack rotation. Ask conferees to think of ways to incorporate the Bible story and the point into conversation during snack. Make sure conferees understand how each snack ties to a Bible story.
  - Day 1: Encounter at the Temple—Traveling Trail Mix
  - Day 2: Encounter at the River—Camera Cheese & Crackers
  - Day 3: Encounter on the Water—Stormy Sea Cups
  - Day 4: Encounter at the Tomb — Tiny Tomb
  - Day 5: Encounter at the Road—Travel Sandals
- Say: “We have 25 more snacks and some dinner ideas to review, but let’s enjoy the snacks we’ve created as we share ideas and tips.” Distribute snacks for conferees to enjoy.
- Remind conferees that feeding kids is important, but feeding kids is only a tool that is used to help kids learn about God.”

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### 3. Sort It (10 minutes)

- Distribute the prepared sticky notes to conferees. Invite them to place their sticky notes on one of the posters—*Sweet*, *Savory* or *Supper*.
- Quickly go over how conferees sorted the snacks. Point out that some snacks could be both sweet and savory. Explain that there are no wrong answers—the goal is to begin to think about the snacks that might work best for your individual situation.
- Review the important icons found on snack cards. Preschool-friendly snacks are indicated with one type of paw print and labeled “PF.” Gluten-free snacks are indicated with a different paw print and labeled “GF.”
- Briefly mention the names of snacks and point out the guide found on the back on “Handout 1” as a reference. Note that even more detail is provided on the handout, such as which snacks require an oven or microwave, or need refrigeration.
- Spend a few moments reviewing the snacks and answering any questions.
- Suggest conferees think about the snacks they choose each day and consider alternating between sweet and savory snacks. Explain it is impossible to please everyone and each person’s taste, but it is possible to provide a variety of foods for kids to enjoy.

### 4. Meal Match Up (10 minutes)

- Mention that many churches who conduct VBS at night provide meals for VBS, since many families come straight from work.
- Call attention to the prepared “Dinner Options” cards on display.
- Present each meal suggestion. Encourage conferees to suggest recipes that would pair well with the menu items suggested (using the sweet/savory/supper sticky notes and the back of Handout 1 as a reference). Move sticky notes from the sweet, savory, or supper posters to the menu items as they are suggested.
- Review the assigned recipe cards for each meal suggestion and let conferees know how they well they did on the menu match up.
- Comment: “You may not be able to use all of the recipes provided, but you can look for ways to incorporate some recipes into your meals.”

### 5. Making the Most of the Moments Munch (10 minutes)

- Guide conferees to pass around the prepared snack bags and each take one to enjoy.
- Note that some snack bags have labels on them.
- Say: “Snacks is about more than feeding kids. Snacks is about engaging with and getting to know kids. It’s a time for kids to talk to each other and get to know one another. It’s about watching for and taking advantage of opportunities to have gospel conversations. The more prepared you are, the more opportunities you’ll have to build relationships with kids.”
- Invite those with labeled snack bags to read the information aloud (one at a time). Add any personal stories you may have that related to these statements:
  - **Initiate** conversation. Ask questions of kids and workers!
  - **Names**. Call kids and workers by name.
  - **Teach**. Use every opportunity with kids to teach them.
  - **Help**. Offer help to coworkers and kids, even if it isn’t your assigned job.
  - **Encounter**. Ask kids to name an encounter they’ve learned about this week.
  - **Why?** What? Who? Ask questions that need more than yes or no answers.
  - **Include** others. Is a child sitting alone or seem left out? Be aware.
  - **Listen**. Engage in conversation. Don’t just talk; listen as well.
  - **Discuss**. Talk about Bible stories with kids and ask what they’ve learned.
- Challenge conferees to really make the most of the moments they have with kids during snack rotation.

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### 6. Survival Tips (5 minutes)

- Say: “Serving in snacks may be challenging at times, so let’s end our time together with a few tips for surviving (and hopefully thriving) in Snacks at Grizzly Gulch.”
- Explain that volunteers will take turns describing a survival tip for the group to guess. The volunteer giving the clues is allowed to use motions and describe the word in any way as long as he doesn’t use the actual words. Point out that the number of letters in each word is listed on “Handout 1.”
- Choose five volunteers. Pause after each tip is guessed or revealed to discuss each tip (answers to fill in the blank on handout in bold):
  - **Tip #1: Delegate** jobs. You can’t be the only one doing everything. Determine what jobs you will need, enlist people, and be clear about expectations. Jobs may include dishwasher, server, food prep, etc.
  - **Tip #2:** Be aware of **allergies**. Keep a list. Recruit one person on your team to be aware of children’s allergies as well as help prepare alternate snacks for those with allergies. Designate specific tables to be used for kids with snacks to keep the areas clean, sanitized, and safe for kids.
  - **Tip #3: Supplement** snacks when needed. Use store-bought snacks (point out the list of store-bought snack options in the snack cards) alongside the snacks from the snack cards when needed. (The first day and last day of VBS are usually good days to do this.) Ask conferees to share any other store-bought snack ideas that aren’t listed on the cards.
  - **Tip #4: Organize** supplies and snacks before the first day of VBS. Group supplies by snacks and by days. Label items so they don’t get mixed up with food being used for other church activities.
  - **Tip #5: Pray**. Most importantly pray for the kids who will be visiting Snacks at Grizzly Gulch. Pray for the workers and those teaching the Bible story. Pray for kids to have real encounters with Jesus that are life changing.

### 7. Closing (5 minutes)

- Mention that surviving Snacks at Grizzly Gulch may feel like being out in the wild at times. Drinks will get spilled. Messes will be made. Snacks won’t look quite like you expected. Ingredients may be forgotten or run out.
- Display the “Sharing the Gospel and ABCs of Becoming a Christian” card found in the snack rotation cards.
- Note that the time kids spend in snacks is a great time for conversation and relationship building. Emphasize the importance of being prepared to share the gospel with kids who may have questions.
- Remind conferees that God can use anyone, anywhere, and anytime to help kids have an amazing encounter with Jesus.
- Close in prayer, asking God to help use your resources wisely to honor Him during VBS.

**BIBLE-RELATED SNACKS**

Day 1—Encounter at the Temple: \_\_\_\_\_

Day 2—Encounter at the River: \_\_\_\_\_

Day 3—Encounter at the Water: \_\_\_\_\_

Day 4—Encounter at the Tomb: \_\_\_\_\_

Day 5—Encounter on the Road: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Snacks is a tool used to help kids learn more about God during VBS.\*\***

**SORT IT IDEAS**

Sweet Snacks:

Supper Snacks:

Savory Snacks:

**MAKING THE MOST OF THE MOMENTS**

- Initiate \_\_\_\_\_
- Names \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Teach
- Help
- Encounter
  
- Why? \_\_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_\_?
- Include \_\_\_\_\_
- Listen
- Discuss

**SURVIVAL TIPS**

- Tip #1: \_\_\_\_\_
- Tip #2: \_\_\_\_\_
- Tip #3: \_\_\_\_\_
- Tip #4: \_\_\_\_\_
- Tip #5: \_\_\_\_\_



## SNACK OVERVIEW

Snack	Preschool Friendly	Gluten Free	Oven or Slow Cooker	Refrigerator	Microwave
#1 Tree Bark Treats	X		X		Possibly
#2 Snakes & Caterpillars				X	
#3 Monkey Cupcakes	X		X		
#4 Beary Delicious Snack	X	X			
#5 Ants on a Log	X				X
#6 Animal Mix-Up Munch	X				
#7 Bird Nests	X		X		
#8 Slithering Snakes			X		
#9 Creepy Crawlers			X		
#10 Polar Bear Ice Cream	X	X		X (Freezer)	
#11 Crunchy Cracker Lions	X				
#12 Zebra Bites	X				X
#13 Bumblebee Pudding	X			X	
#14 Tiger Tails	X				X
#15 Cheetah Chow Mix	X				
#16 Sandwich Snails				X	
#17 Hungry Herbivore Dip				X	
#18 Cold Carnivore Dip	X			X	
#19 Moose Crunch and Munch	X				X
#20 Itty Bitty Bat Bites		X		X	
#21 Bear Claw Cookies	X		X		
#22 Puffy Penguins		X			X
#23 Monkey Bread Bites	X		X		
#24 Polar Bear Paw Prints	X		X		
#25 Owl Cupcakes	X		X		