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We Could Be Heroes

Bible Story: We Could Be Heroes (Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites) * Exodus 17:8-13

Bottom Line: Work together to help someone succeed.

Memory Verse: “Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.” *Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NirV)*

Life App: Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone.

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Bible Verse Motions are at the end of this lesson.

PLUGINS

1. Close the Box - Torie

What You Need: Offering container, dice, paper, pencils

What You Do:

- Greet kids as they arrive. Make sure they know where to put their offerings.
- Ask them if they’ve ever played a game just for fun, where there are no winners or losers. How did that feel?
- Number the pieces of paper one through nine and set them, face up, in a grid in the center of your small group area.
- Play a cooperative game called “Close the Box.” The goal is to turn over all numbers as fast as possible, but they can only work with the numbers that are rolled on the dice.
- The first player takes the two dice and rolls.
- Whatever numbers come up, those are theirs to play with.
- They player can take the face value of each of the dice or add their numbers together.
- Whichever number or numbers they choose to play, they turn those papers facedown in the grid.
- Play passes to the next player on the right.
- The game is finished when all the cards are flipped over.

2. The Lord is My Banner - Edith

What You Need: Burlap Banner, Glue, Felt, “Cooperation stickons”, string, scissors

What You Do:

- Give each kid a banner. Have them glue on the “Cooperation” cutout.
- Have them use the rest of the supplies to decorate their banner.
- Add the string so the banner can be hung.

What You Say:

“In our story today, Moses said “The Lord is my banner”. A banner is something that identifies and unifies a particular group of people – our country, a sports team, a club. Decorate this banner to help you remember to “***Work together to help someone succeed!***”!

CLEANUP – Replace items in supply boxes. Stack banners on cart. Put felt pieces back in supply room.

3. Sticky Fingers J. R.

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Sticky fingers toys, “Sticky Fingers Verse Cards” Activity Page, Bibles

What You Do:

- Divide the group into four teams. Assign each team a color of card and pass out the sticky hands.
- Form one big circle in the center of the room, alternating kids so no one is standing next to their teammate (as much as possible with your class makeup).
- Place all the cards face down in a random, scattered pile in the center of the circle.
- Kids have to toss their sticky hands at their color of card in the pile.
- When a card sticks, they pull it up (or pick it up if the hands aren’t sticky enough).
 - If it’s their color card, they can put it behind them outside of the circle.
 - If it’s another team’s card, they can decide to either toss it back into the pile or hand it to someone from that team.
- The first team to get all their cards outside the circle and arrange them in verse order wins.
- Collect the sticky hands immediately after the game is finished so they’re not a distraction.

What You Say:

“Our verse tells us that two people can help each other, but people can also **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed**. This game gave you a chance to do just that! Why did some of you choose to give away the cards you caught? *(Allow for discussion. If anyone did throw back the other teams’ cards, don’t focus on it.)*

“There are a lot of chances for us to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed** at home, at school, and in our communities. We can work hard on our schoolwork so that our teachers get the appreciation they deserve. We can clean up our community playground, even if we’re too old for it, so that our neighbors have somewhere to play.”

CLEANUP – Recycle extra activity pages and put extra sticky fingers on cart.

4. SUCCEED! Amy

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Buttons, construction paper squares, or other pawns; “Help Others!” and “Help Others! Cards” Activity Pages; dice

What You Do:

- Play a reverse “Sorry!” game, where the goal is to send the other players HOME instead of back to START.
- Guide kids to get into groups of three or four. Give each group a board game, cards, a die, and two pawns per player.
- *HINTS: Group younger kids with older ones who can help them succeed at the game. Also, if you’re short on time, distribute one token per player instead of two.*
- Tell kids that the object of the game they’re about to play is the opposite of most. In this game, their goal is to help OTHERS succeed and win first!
- Lead kids to put the cards face down in the center of the game board and then set their pawns in the START zone.
- Kids roll the die to determine playing order. The player who rolls the lowest number goes first.
- Kids take turns rolling the die and moving around the board.
- The goal is for kids to move their pawns from START and around the board to HOME.
- If a player lands on a “draw a card” space, that player draws a card, reads it aloud, and does what it says.
- *NOTE: Players only draw a card if they roll the die and land on a “draw a card” space, not if another player moves them to that space.*
- If you run out of “Help Others! Cards,” reshuffle the original stack and place it in the designated spot on the game board.
- The game ends when every child has both pawns HOME.

What You Say:

“We live in a world that’s all about putting ourselves first: WE want to win the game, WE want to be first in line, WE want to be the best. But God wants us to think and act differently. He wants us to think of others first and work together to help them succeed.

“What are some ways you can **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed?** (*My friend and I can help another friend learn their spelling words; my brother and I can help cheer up my baby sister when she’s crying; everybody on my basketball team can encourage each other when we’re practicing or during games; me and my family can pray for someone who’s not feeling well.*) Great ideas! So, remember: **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.** It’s not always easy, but when you help others succeed, you’ll be doing what God wants you to do, and that’s a great thing!”

Clean up: Replace game pieces, dice on cart and recycle game cards.

4. Hands Up! Challenge Cesar

What You Need: “Staff”, timer on cell phone, pen and paper

What You Do:

- Invite children to hold the staff with two hands over their heads for as long as they can. Time each child.
- Keep a record of how long each child can hold the staff, and we’ll announce the winner in large group.

What You Say:

“In our story today, you’re going to hear about how Moses had to hold a staff over his head for a long time. His arms got tired, just like yours did! In the story, he ended up having two people to help him. We’re going to see how they **[Bottom Line] worked together to help someone succeed.**”

CLEANUP: Replace pen in supply box, give paper to Karen. Place staff in back left closet.

6. **Sun Spot – Elizabeth**

What You Need: Globes and Lamp

What You Do: Briefly review the following places on the globe/map:

Israel
Iraq (Babylon)
Syria
Jordan
Egypt
Red Sea
United States

Then, model day, night, and seasons: Use a lamp with the shade removed so that the bulb is visible. This will represent the sun. Model with students that when the Earth is facing the sun (bulb) it is daytime, and when it is turned away from the sun (bulb) it is nighttime. Talk about how the earth turns for 24 hours, so the sun looks as if it is going around us.

To model the seasons, use a globe to represent the Earth. Place the picture of the child in summer and in winter on the different hemispheres of the Earth. Tilt the hemisphere with the child in summer towards the sun (bulb) and explain that because of the Earth's tilt sometimes we are closer to the sun. It is summer during this time. When we are tilted farther away from the sun, it is winter.

Depending on what season it is, ask if where you live is tilted closer to the sun at that moment or farther away.

What You Say: Today our story is about a miracle in the Bible when the sun stood still in the sky! Wait for it.

Replace globe in right hand supply closet. Place lamp on cart.

7. **Reading Center** (Books will be provided.) Self directed.

8. **Game** Self Directed

9. **Memory Work - Robbie**

GROUPS

K1

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

1. Story Review

What You Need: Bible, picture of Mikhael

Have the children read Exodus 17:8-13. Let each child read a verse if they want.

What You Say: “What do you think would have happened if Aaron and Hur had not cooperated and helped Moses?”

“Think about Aaron and Hur. They worked together to help Moses keep his arms in the air. The three of them worked together to help Joshua and the Israelites win the battle. God used all of them to do something BIG!

“You can cooperate with others to help someone else, just like they did. You don’t have to get all the attention. You don’t have to get the credit. Cooperating doesn’t have to be just about what YOU need. You can help your friend study, make a card with your classmates for a friend who’s sick, or encourage your teammates to give their best at practice. Think of ways you can **[Basic Truth] treat others the way you want to be treated** and then work with others to make it happen.

Show the picture of Mikhael.

“When we **work together to help someone succeed**, we aren’t always right beside them. For example, when we pray for Mikhael, it’s like holding his hands up. What are some of the things that Mikhael is doing? (Helping children who are sick, have no house, are hungry, are in danger from the war.)”

2. Memory Verse Mingle

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Help kids look up the verse.
- Next, teach kids motions for the verse using the Activity Page as a guide.
- Lead kids in the motions, calling out the verse phrase by phrase. Provide as much help as necessary.

- As kids begin to master the motions, gradually increase your speed to add challenge. If your group masters the motions and rhythm of the phrases, add variety by guiding them to move in different ways: tiptoe, sideways, slow-mo, etc.

What You Say:

“What do you think it means that ‘two are better than one’? (*It’s better to work together; two people can help each other; you can do more with someone else than you can do by yourself; etc.*) **[Bottom Line]**

Work together to help someone succeed not only because we can get more done, but also because when we work together we can love others, help others, and point people to Jesus in ways that we can’t do on our own. So remember: **[Bottom Line] Work together to help someone succeed..”**

3. Hands Up Challenge Part 2

What You Need: Chenille wire

What You Do:

- Invite children to hold the chenille wire with two hands over their heads for as long as they can. Tell them when their arms get tired, they can invite two friends to help them hold it up.

What You Say:

“When you held up the chenille wire by yourself, how did it feel at first? How long did it take for your arms to get tired? How did it feel when your friends came to help you? How do you think Moses felt in the story when Aaron and Hur helped him? Talk about how you **[Bottom Line] worked together to help someone succeed.**

CLEANUP: Replace chenille wire on cart.

4. Sun Spot

What You Need: Yellow and orange tissue paper, wax paper, glue sticks, scissors, wipes

What You Do: Have the children pair up.

- Give each child two wax paper circles.
- Have them work together to cover one side of the wax paper with glue.
- Add the colored tissue paper, covering the ‘sun’ entirely.
- Cover the other piece of wax paper with glue, and carefully place it over the first.
- Repeat for the other child.
- Use the scissors to trim the excess paper if children would like.
- Use the wipes as needed to clean hands.

What You Say: It took two of you to create your project today. This sun will remind you how we should all **work together to help someone succeed.**

Pray and Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Index cards, pencils

What You Do:

- Pass out the index cards and ask the kids to write their names in the center on ONE side of the card.
- Collect and shuffle the index cards and instruct each kid to select one card (not their own!).
- Explain that one way we can help others succeed is by praying for them. The person listed on their card is the friend they will pray for this week.
- Quickly go around the circle and let each kid share one thing they need prayer for. (Encourage shorter and more personal prayer requests by asking kids to share something that needs prayer either for themselves or someone who lives in their home.)
- Encourage the kids to pay attention to the prayer request of the friend listed on their card.
- Let the kids to pray silently for a few moments.
- Close the group in prayer (see below).
- Instruct the kids to take these cards home and place them somewhere they'll see them and be reminded to pray for their friend this week.

What You Say:

"Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us and for giving us good friends. Thank You for the friends listed on our cards. Help us to remember to pray for these friends this week. We want to **[Bottom Line]** **work together to help someone succeed**. But we definitely need Your help with that. Thanks for always hearing us when we pray. We love you. In Jesus' name, amen."

Clean up.

Place index cards back on cart. Replace extra wax paper and tissue paper in supply room. Replace rope on cart.



Two people



are better



than one.



**They can help
each other in
everything
they do.**

Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIV