

DISMISSAL

After the group finishes with discussion and prayer time, take out the Spot It games. The group can continue playing “Spot It: The Tower” as described in the Kid Connect activity or choose another variation of the game:

- **Spot It: The Well:** All cards but one are dealt faceup. Place the remaining card facedown in the center. When everyone is ready, flip over the center card.
Kids should look for the one matching symbol found on both their card and the card in the center. The first kid to find their match calls it out (e.g., “Heart!”) and places their card on top of the center card.
Kids continue racing to spot the match between their top card and the new center card. Play continues until one kid runs out of cards and wins the game.
- **Spot It: Triplet:** Place the first nine cards faceup in a three-by-three grid in the center. Leave the remaining cards facedown in a pile.
Kids will race to find a symbol that is present on any three cards in the grid. When a kid finds a matching set, he/she will call it out (e.g., “Heart!”), take the three cards, and then reload the grid with three new cards.
When there are fewer than nine cards left and no more sets of matching cards, the game ends and the kid with the most cards wins.
- **Spot It: The Poisoned Gift:** Deal one card facedown to each player. Place the remaining cards faceup in the center to form the draw pile.
At the same time, kids flip over their cards and race to find a match between the center card and any other kid’s card. When they spot it and call it out (e.g., “Heart!”), the kid will take the center card and place it on top of the other kid’s card.
The revealed card in the center becomes the new card kids use to find a match. Play continues until the draw pile is gone. The kid with the least number of cards wins the game.



WEEK OF
DECEMBER 21, 2019

motion

1ST - 5TH
GRADE

LEADER GUIDE



SERIES OVERVIEW

Let’s celebrate the whole Christmas season by talking about who God is. As kids learn who God is, they trust His marvelous plan, love others without exception, and live for Jesus.

KEY QUESTION

Week 1: Does God see what people can’t see?

Week 2: Do you trust that God is in control of your life?

Week 3: What’s one way that God shows love to you?

WEEK 4: DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD SENT HIS SON TO EARTH FOR YOU?

BIBLE FOCUS

Week 1: Matthew 6:1-4

Week 2: John 3:16

Week 3: John 3:16

WEEK 4: JOHN 3:16

KID CONNECT

In **KID CONNECT**, kids connect with their group leader and with each other.

SPOT IT: THE TOWER

WHAT YOU NEED: Motion check-in sheet (1), Spot It (2 game tins)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Start by introducing yourself and welcoming kids to your group. *As kids come in, write their names and tag numbers on the Motion check-in sheet.*
- Ask them about their week and interests to create conversation.

Once you have five to six kids, begin playing “Spot It: The Tower.” If more than eight kids join the group, pull out the second game tin and begin another game.

- Shuffle the cards and deal one card facedown to each player.
- Place the remaining cards faceup in the middle of the Group to form the draw pile.
- Tell kids the goal of the game is to collect the most cards.
- At the same time, all kids will flip over their cards and try to spot the one symbol that appears both on their card and on the card on top of the draw pile.
- The first kid to do so will call out the symbol seen on both cards (e.g., “Light bulb!”) and place his/her hand on top of the draw pile. The kid will then take the card from the center and place it on top of his/her flipped card to begin a personal pile.
- Kids will repeat this process of racing to spot the matching symbol between the top card on their personal pile and the top card on the draw pile.
- Play continues until no cards remain in the draw pile. The kid with the most cards in their personal pile wins!

BIBLE CONNECT

In **BIBLE CONNECT**, kids make connections to the Bible by hearing and thinking about the Bible passage.

BIBLE FOCUS

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles (1 per kid)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a Bible, and instruct kids to turn to John 3:16. **NOTE:** This may take time, but it helps kids learn skills for reading the Bible on their own. If needed, encourage kids to use the table of contents in their Bible, and then decide if the book is in the Old or New Testament.
- Read John 3:16 aloud.
- Explain:
 - Because we sin, or do wrong things, we deserve to be separated from God forever. We don’t deserve to be noticed by the perfect God of the universe.
 - Even though God sees how lost we are in our sin, He sent His own Son to save us. That’s how much He loves us.
 - When God sent Jesus to earth, it meant Jesus had to step out of the peace and comfort of heaven. He had to choose to endure the pain and struggles of life on earth instead. Knowing all that, He came anyway. He came near because He loves us.

After Bible Connect, Groups will transition to the Theater for the remainder of the experience. When prompted by the host, ask kids the following **ICEBREAKER QUESTION:**

“Where’s the best place to hide Christmas presents?”

YOU CONNECT

In **YOU CONNECT**, kids answer the key question and identify how it connects to their personal lives.

20 QUESTIONS

WHAT YOU NEED: no supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Say, “You saw a variety of Nativity scenes in the Loop Show today. Let’s find out how well you know the people, places, and things from the Nativity story with a game of ‘20 Questions!’”
- Explain that kids will try to guess an element of the Christmas story by taking turns asking “yes” or “no” questions. The Group may ask up to 20 questions to figure each element out.
- Answer kids’ questions for each of the following story elements:
 - sheep
 - angel
 - Mary
 - manger
 - Bethlehem
 - cross
- Say, “I bet some of you are thinking that the cross isn’t part of the Christmas story, and if you read the Christmas story straight from the Bible, it won’t say anything directly about the cross. But the whole reason Jesus came to earth — the purpose behind the entire Christmas story — was for Him to die on the cross to save us. That’s what we’re really celebrating at Christmas — not just His birth, but also His perfect life, His death, and His resurrection. We’re celebrating that He loved us enough to come near to us and save us.”

NEXT LEVEL GROUPS

In a **NEXT LEVEL GROUP**, kids who express interest learn more about making a salvation decision.

NEXT LEVEL GROUP SETUP

WHAT YOU NEED: no supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Say, “We’ve been discussing how God sent Jesus to earth to save us. Why do we need Jesus to save us?” (e.g., *We all sin, and the punishment for our sin should be death and separation from God. Jesus took that punishment for us so we can be forgiven and be with God forever.*)
- Ask if any kids in your Group have already asked Jesus to be their Savior. If any have, encourage them to share when and why they made that decision.
- Explain that there will be a separate Group for any kids who want to know more about asking Jesus to be their Savior. Encourage kids to raise their hands if they would be interested in going to that Group to learn more. Place a check mark beside these kids’ names on your check-in sheet so you know who to send to a Next Level Group.
- Send interested kids to a Next Level Group when directed by your eTeam Leader. The rest of the Group will stay in the Theater and transition into worship.