



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



3. TAKING CARE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Taking Care" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Taking Care" Activity Page on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Separate the cards into two piles and shuffle. Place cards with pictures of things that need care in one pile and the cards with pictures of things used to address those needs in the other. Lay the cards facedown.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Explain that the cards from one pile pair with a card from the other pile. Ask children to turn over two cards, one from each pile. If the cards are a pair, point out how one item is used to care for the other. If they're not a pair, leave them face up and allow the next child to turn over two more cards. Continue until all cards are turned over and all pairs have been made. When all cards have been paired, talk about how they go together (*a baby needs a bottle, a dog needs dog food, a thirsty person needs water, a cold person needs a coat, a person with a boo-boo needs a bandage, a person who is sad needs a hug*). Shuffle, separate, and repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand around the table with me! We are going to play a game with these two stacks of cards."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "[Child's name], pick one card from this stack (*point*) and one card from that stack. (*Point.*) Turn your cards over and let's see what they are. (*Pause.*) What's on this card? [Person/animal] Yes! And what about this card? It's a [item]! Does a [item] help care for a [person/animal]? (*If they go together, make a stack with them. If they don't go together, leave them face up on the table.*) [Child's name], take a card from both stacks. (*Continue with each child.*) You did a great job! Finding the cards that go together."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "All of these things—a coat, a baby bottle, water, dog food, a BAND-AID®, a hug—take care of a need. Jesus teaches us important things and in today's story, Jesus taught us that God will take care of us. **Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things!**"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches that God cares for us.

BIRDS AND FLOWERS
MATTHEW 6:25-34

MEMORY VERSE

"The people were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NCV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
TWO
JANUARY 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches that God cares for us.

BIRDS AND FLOWERS
MATTHEW 6:25-34

Let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Jesus teaches us important things—like God cares for us. **Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things!** That's right! And because God cares for us, we don't have to worry about things like what food we will eat or what clothes we will wear. Hey! Let's make a list of our favorite foods! Then we can use our list when we pray. When I say your name, tell me one of your favorite foods." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

MEMORY VERSE

"The people were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NCV

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "This list is making me hungry! Let's pray and talk to God about it. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for caring so much about us. Jesus teaches us that since You take care of birds and flowers, then You will take care of us, too, because You love people . . . A LOT! Thank You for foods like (*read the list*). You are so good to not only give us food, but You make it yummy to eat too! You're the best God, and we love You! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.