



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



2. HALF OF THE STORY

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Finish the Pictures" Activity Page; cardstock; and thick colored pencils, crayons, or markers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Finish the Pictures" on cardstock, one per child.

BIBLE STORY

God knows what is best for everyone.

JONAH
JONAH 1:1-3:10

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a paper and instruct them to draw the other half of each picture on their paper and color. As children are working on their papers, review the Bible story.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Give each child the opportunity to stand up and show their drawings to the other children. Review the Bottom Line.

MEMORY VERSE

"God . . . knows everything."

1 JOHN 3:20, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come sit with me! I need some help drawing the pictures from our Bible story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Hold up an activity page and point to the pictures.) "There are parts to three pictures on your paper (pointing to each), a boat, a fish, and a heart. I'll give each of you your own paper so you can draw the other half of the pictures."

KEY QUESTION

Who knows what's best for you?

"In our Bible story, we learned that God had a special job for Jonah. God told Jonah to go to Nineveh and tell the people to do what God says and love one another. Did Jonah do what God said or did he run away and get on a boat? (Pause.) You're right. Jonah got on a boat, like the boat on your paper. While Jonah was on the boat, God sent a big storm. Jonah told the people on the boat to throw him in the water and the storm would stop. They did what Jonah said, and the storm stopped. While Jonah was in the water, God sent something to swallow Jonah and keep him safe. What did God send? (Pause.) Yes! A big fish! Like the fish on your paper."

BOTTOM LINE

God knows what's best for me.

"While Jonah was in the big fish, he prayed and told God he would do what God told him to do. And three days later, God made the big fish spit Jonah out. What did Jonah do then? Did Jonah go to Nineveh or run away again? (Pause.) Jonah went to Nineveh and told the people to do what God said and love one another. That's what the heart on your paper is for. LOVE! Now that you have finished the pictures, color them in. Nice job, friends!"

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jonah finally did what God said after he learned that God knows what's best. So when I ask you, 'Who knows what's best for you?' I want you to say, 'God knows what's best for me!' Ready? Who knows what's best for you? God knows what's best for me!"



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: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

BIBLE STORY

God knows what is best for everyone.

JONAH
JONAH 1:1-3:10

Now let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God.

"Jonah told the people in Nineveh to do what God said and love each other. Let's make a list of people we can tell about God, too!" *(Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all these people! *(Hold up journal.)* Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)*

MEMORY VERSE

"God . . . knows everything."

1 JOHN 3:20, NIV

"Dear God, You know everything. That means You know what's best for me and *(name each child)*. Help us tell *(read the list the children made)* that You love them and they should do what You say because You know what's best for everyone! You're the best, God! In Jesus' name, amen."

KEY QUESTION

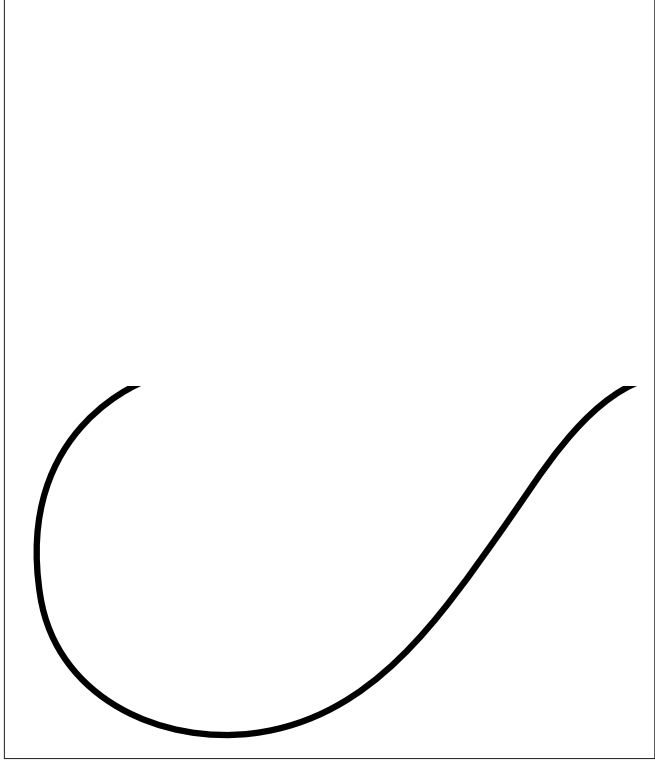
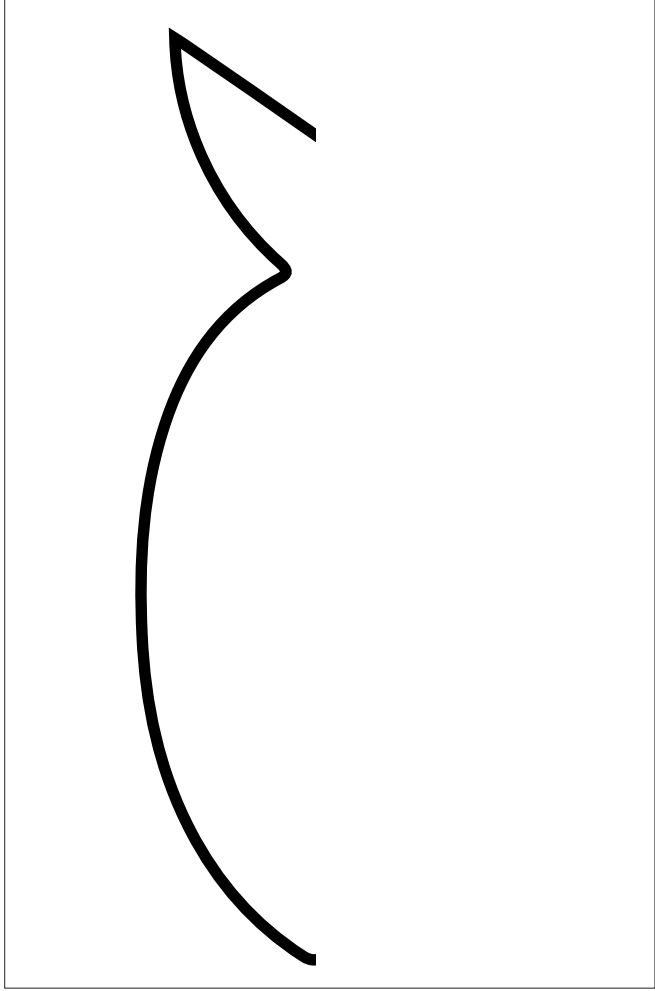
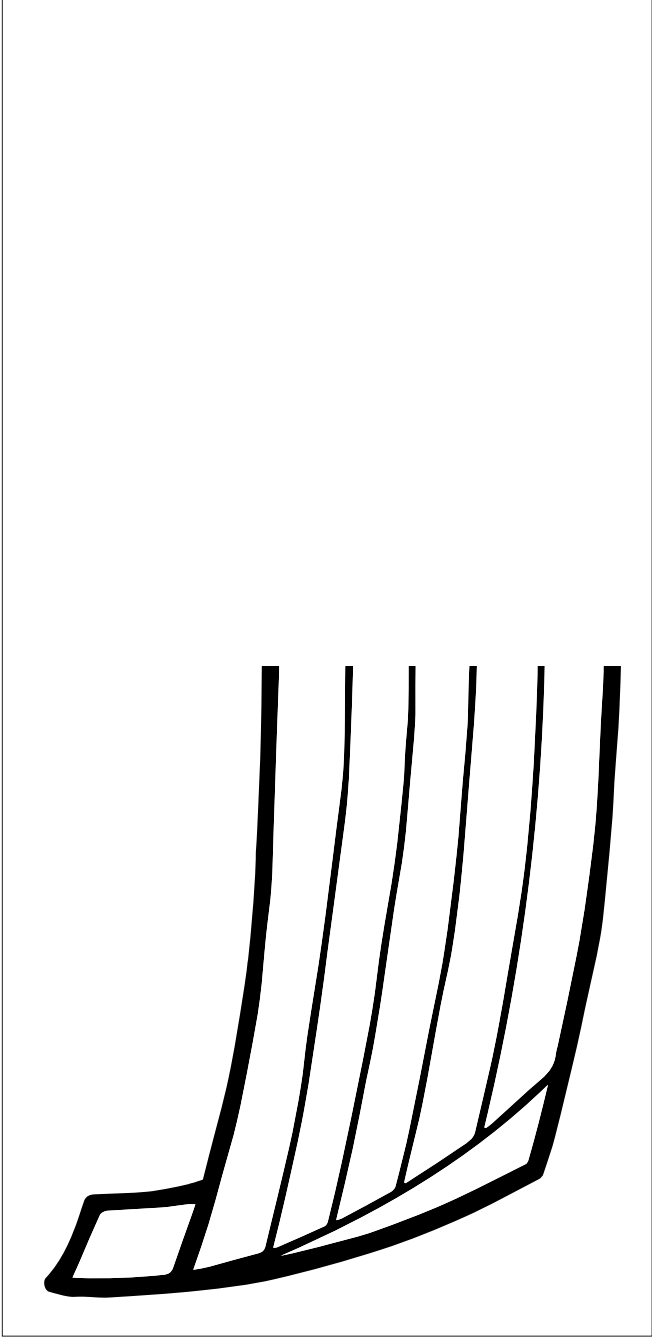
Who knows what's best for you?

BOTTOM LINE

God knows what's best for me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



God knows what's best for me.
Jonah 1:1 - 3:10