

VBS 2022 CHILDREN'S MUSIC ROTATION CONFERENCE PLAN (1½ HOURS)

Purpose Statement

This 90-minute conference plan is designed to train and equip VBS leaders to conduct Lifeway's Spark Studios® music rotation for 1st-6th grades.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2022 Music Rotation Leader Guide with DVD* (005834336)
- *VBS 2022 Music Rotation and Musical CD* (005834335)
- *VBS 2022 Music for Kids CD* (005834367)
- *VBS 2022 String Flags* (005835982)
- *VBS 2022 Giant Inflatable Guitar* (005836526)
- *VBS 2022 Visual Pack* (005836785)
- *VBS 2022 Tablecloth* (005835980)
- *VBS 2022 Decorating Made Easy* (005834077)
- *VBS 2022 Devotional Bible for Kids* (005834092) — Mark the bonus verse for each day for quick reference as you connect the Bible content to each song.
- Letters of Jesus' name (page 36 of the *VBS 2022 Music Rotation Leader Guide*) — Photocopy onto 4-5 different colors of paper or scrapbook paper and cut apart along the dotted lines. Enough copies are needed for 1 letter per participant.
- Clean paint bucket — Place letter cards in the bucket for use with the Day 4 activity.
- TV/DVD player or large screen and video equipment for displaying music videos
- CD player or smart device with digital music tracks

Room Setup

Center a large screen on the focal wall. Arrange chairs in a semi-circle in two or more rows in front of the screen, allowing plenty of room to move. Decorate the room using tips from page 29 of the *VBS 2022 Music Rotation Leader Guide* or create a large record "rug" as described in the *VBS 2022 Decorating Made Easy* guide. Place the posters from the *VBS 2022 Visual Pack* around the room. Cover a table with a *VBS 2022 Tablecloth* and display the curriculum alongside other thematic tabletop decorations (old mixer board, earphones, mic cables, sheet music, etc.). Drape *VBS 2022 String Flags* across the doorway. Use an old mic stand and mic with a music stand at the front of the room. Place the *VBS 2022 Giant Inflatable Guitar* in the focal area.

Teaching Steps

1. **Welcome** (3 minutes)
 - Play VBS music from the *VBS 2022 Music for Kids CD* as conferees arrive.
 - Welcome participants and engage them in conversation to "set the stage" for your session. This conversation will help participants build connections, so they are ready to sing and move during this session.
 - Explain that this conference will introduce the songs, motions, and the Bible content for each day of VBS. Explain that while participants may not master all the movements today, you will help them develop strategies to break down the songs and teach a gospel-centered music rotation.
2. **Recording at Music Sound Stage** (2 minutes)
 - Overview each of the resources needed for music rotation.

- *VBS 2022 Music Rotation Leader Guide* — Includes daily lesson plans for teaching the music and motions, opening and closing activities, as well as an overview of each day's Bible story. The guide also contains step-by-step written instructions of the motions as a quick reference.
- Music Rotation DVD — Located inside the *VBS 2022 Music Rotation Leader Guide*, the DVD includes instructional and demonstration videos for learning and practicing the motions, performance videos (with kid dancers), and lyric videos (lyrics synced to animated backgrounds—no choreography shown onscreen).
- *VBS 2022 Music for Kids CD* — Includes all six songs from VBS. Distribute these CDs before VBS to help leaders and kids learn all the VBS songs or send them home as a souvenir of the week. Kids will sing them until next year's VBS!

3. **Spark Studios Theme Scripture, Motto, and Song** (15 minutes)

- Explain that VBS songs are specifically written to reinforce each day's Bible content.
- Say: "When we concentrate on the lyrics and the Bible stories in the music rotation, we are helping kids to learn they are created, designed, and empowered by God!"
- Draw attention to the *VBS 2022 Visual Pack* motto poster. Lead the group to say the motto: "Created! Designed! Empowered!"
- Refer to the *VBS 2022 Visual Pack* scripture poster. Teach the VBS verse (Ephesians 2:10): "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do."
- Teach the motions to the verse section of the "Spark Studios" theme song. Teach the opening and closing moves.
- Explain that teaching just these three parts will introduce the bulk of the choreography; it will also give leaders and kids confidence. Even if they get lost, they will be able to jump back in at the chorus and then nail the last move.
- Play "Spark Studios" and lead everyone to do the motions.
- Reinforce the purpose of the music rotation—not for kids to leave as music video dancers, but for them to hear biblical truths they can apply to their lives. Music at VBS is not about performance, it's about connecting with the Bible content!

4. **Day 1: God, the Creator** (10 minutes)

- Invite a volunteer to read the bonus verse for Day 1 (Psalm 104:24) from the marked *VBS 2022 Devotional Bible for Kids* and point out this verse on the *VBS 2022 Visual Pack* scripture poster displayed in the room.
- Review the Bible content for Day 1.
 - Day 1: God, the Creator
 - The Point: God is the marvelous Creator.
 - Bible Story: David Praised God the Creator
- Display the lyrics to "How Marvelous You Are." Ask the group to find words and phrases that describe God. Ask the group to name other words that describe God.
- Teach chorus 1 and 2 in the song, "How Marvelous You Are."
- Play the song and lead the group to sing along and do the motions they just learned.

5. **Day 2: God, the Designer** (10 minutes)

- Invite a volunteer to read the bonus verse for Day 2 (1 Samuel 16:7b) from the marked Bible and point out this verse on the poster displayed in the room.
- Review the Bible content for Day 2.
 - Day 2: God, the Designer
 - The Point: God uniquely designed us for His purpose.

- Bible Story: God Prepared David to be a King
 - Teach the motions to "Designed by God."
 - Play the song and encourage the group to sing along and do the motions they just learned.
6. **Day 3: Jesus, the King** (15 minutes)
- Invite a volunteer to read the bonus verse for Day 3 (Matthew 21:9b) from the marked Bible and point out this verse on the poster displayed in the room.
 - Review the Bible content for Day 3.
 - Day 3: Jesus, the King
 - The Point: Jesus is the King that God promised to save us.
 - Bible Story: The People Welcomed Jesus
 - Review "The Gospel: God's Plan for Me" found in the inside front cover of the *VBS 2022 Music Rotation Leader Guide*. Explain that the ABCs are a response to hearing the gospel presented. Quickly review what each letter (A-B-C) means as a response to the gospel. Challenge leaders to be sensitive to the work of the Holy Spirit and to be sure to explain the ABCs clearly when teaching this song during VBS.
 - Talk about the word "masterpiece" (an outstanding work of art or an outstanding creation) and give participants an opportunity to share a masterpiece they have been able to create. Remind participants that people cannot be God's masterpiece on their own. God sent His Son to create a way for people to complete God's purpose for their lives.
 - Teach the motions to the chorus of "Living Masterpiece."
 - Play the song and encourage the group to sing along and do the motions they just learned.
7. **Day 4: Jesus, the Redeemer** (15 minutes)
- Invite a volunteer to read the bonus verse for Day 4 (Luke 24:46) from the marked Bible and point out this verse on the poster displayed in the room.
 - Review the Bible content for Day 4.
 - Day 4: Jesus, the Redeemer
 - The Point: Jesus fulfilled God's plan to save us.
 - Bible Story: Jesus Died and Rose Again
 - Direct participants to pull a letter square from the paint bucket and to spread out in the room. Play "What Only God Can Do" and instruct participants to move randomly around the space. Stop the music and say: "Find a partner that has a different letter than you. Tell that person one thing that Jesus did to fulfill God's plan."
 - Lead participants to trade letters. Start the music again. If the letters have different backgrounds or colors, instruct participants to find someone with a different background or color rather than a different letter. Occasionally call for participants to find a partner with a matching letter (or background).
 - Play several rounds. Each time participants stop they should say another thing that Jesus did to fulfill God's plan.
 - Teach the motions to "What Only God Can Do."
 - Play the song and encourage the group to sing along and do the motions they just learned.
8. **Day 5: Holy Spirit, the Helper** (15 minutes)
- Invite a volunteer to read the bonus verse for Day 5 (Acts 1:8) from the marked Bible and point out this verse on the poster displayed in the room.

- Review the Bible content for Day 5.
 - Day 5: Holy Spirit, the Helper
 - The Point: The Holy Spirit gives us the power to follow God's plan.
 - Bible Story: God Sent the Holy Spirit
- Teach the motion in "Go" that includes striking hands together as they pass (Chorus, step 8). Go through the motion slowly, pulling back the extended hand as you extend the other hand, brushing them across one another. Practice slowly a few times and then speed up to do it more quickly.
- Tell participants: "If I name a place you have been, make this 'go' motion." Name various places and pause for participants to indicate if they have gone there. Include local places or more generic places (library, amusement park, another state, another city in your state, etc.) and a few exotic places.
- Play the song "Go" and encourage the group to sing along and do the motions.
- Remind participants that the Holy Spirit will be helping them as they "go" to teach kids in VBS.

9. Keeping the Spark Alive! (3 minutes)

- Explain that VBS does not end after Day 5. The purpose of VBS is to share the gospel with the community. An important part of VBS is the opportunity to make connections with unchurched families during the week. Music rotation leaders can interact and affect most, if not all, of the kids who attend VBS.
- Challenge leaders to be ready to share Jesus with kids every day.
- Discuss ways to use VBS music to connect with families:
 - Invite kids to sing and perform at Family Night.
 - Invite kids to sing and perform at a church service.
 - Send CDs home with kids with the church's information.
- Encourage participants to help their VBS Director and church leaders in the follow-up process. Say, "Your VBS Director will have additional follow-up resources to help contact families that visited your church."

10. Closing (2 minutes)

- Review the motto: "Created! Designed! Empowered!"
- Remind conferees that music can have one of the greatest lasting impacts on a child. Kids remember words set to music. The lyrics and biblical truths taught during VBS will live in the hearts and minds of the kids long after VBS.
- Answer any questions.
- Close in prayer. Pray for the participants in your conference, their VBS, and the kids whose lives will be impacted by the truths learned during VBS.

NOTE: Bible study content and music rotation activities have been included in this plan to help participants understand the biblical content connections. To accommodate shorter or longer conference times, this plan can be adjusted by giving more or less time to motion instruction for each song.