

VBS 2024 CRAFTS ROTATION BASE CONFERENCE PLAN (1½ HOURS)

Purpose Statement

This 90-minute plan is designed to train and equip crafts rotations leaders to lead 1st through 6th graders in the crafts rotation of Lifeway's Breaker Rock Beach™ VBS.

Needed Resources

- (7) *VBS 2024 Crafts Rotation Leader Guides* (005846903)
- (4) *VBS 2024 Tablecloths* (005846832)
- *VBS 2024 Supersized Backdrop* (005847616)
- *VBS 2024 String Flags* (005846824)
- *VBS 2024 Floor Prints* (005846827)
- (18) *VBS 2024 Cups* (005846481) — Place 3 cups at each craft table to hold supplies.
- *VBS 2024 Rotation Signs* (005846920)
- (6) *VBS 2024 Orca Clip Craft Packs* (005847337) — Place 1 at each of the 6 craft tables.
- (6) *VBS 2024 Suncatcher Kite Craft Packs* (005847338) — Place 1 at each of the 6 craft tables.
- (6) *VBS 2024 Camel Craft Packs* (005847339) — Place 1 at each of the 6 craft tables.
- (6) *VBS 2024 Treasure Bag Craft Packs* (005847340) — Place 1 at each of the 6 craft tables.
- (6) *VBS 2024 Tide Pool Book Craft Packs* (005847341) — Place 1 at each of the 6 craft tables.
- (6) *VBS 2024 Lip Balm Holder Craft Packs* (005847342) — Place 1 at each of the 6 craft tables.
- Item 1: “Shell Pattern” — Enlarge and print 4 copies. Write one of the following on each shell: *Prepare Your Heart*, *Plan*, *Teach*, and *Continue the Connection*. Place facedown where you can reach while teaching.
- Item 2: “Pearl” — Make 20 photocopies on cardstock. Using 4 “pearls” per day, print the Day number/Bible Story title, the Daily Point, the “God says” statement, and the Bonus Verse for each day (20 total pearls, 4 per day). Place facedown in a grid on the floor.
- Item 3: “Seashell Crab Instructions” — Make 18 copies. Place 3 copies on each table.
- Seashell Crab Supplies — Place enough on table for each conferee to have the following.
 - (1) Seashells (any standard oval-shaped shells will work)
 - (3) Chenille stems (especially red)
 - (2) Googly eyes (self-adhesive)
 - Permanent markers (especially red)
 - Scissors
 - Tacky® Glue
 - Glue gun (optional, cool melt, leader use only)
- Fishing line — Hang 5 strands of fishing line around the room to serve as “pearl necklaces.”
- (20) Clothespins — Add 4 to each fishing line strand.

- Permanent markers
- 6 brightly colored round plastic tablecloths — Cover craft tables.
- White cardstock
- Sample of each VBS 2024 craft and craft pack — Make the crafts ahead of time for display.
- *VBS 2024 Music for Kids CD* and CD player or digital album/playlist and Bluetooth speaker

Room Setup

Arrange chairs around 6 round tables with overflow seating at the front or back of the room. Cover the tables with colorful plastic tablecloths and squares cut from the *VBS 2024 Tablecloths*. Place *VBS 2024 Cups* on each table to hold craft supplies. Place one set of each craft pack on each table.

Cover the focal wall with a *VBS 2024 Supersized Backdrop*. Cover two display tables with *VBS 2024 Tablecloths* and display the curriculum on one table. Display finished craft samples on the second display table. Decorate the rest of the room as desired.

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Play VBS 2024 music as conferees arrive. Lead conferees to sit at the six tables.
- Once everyone has arrived, ask conferees to pair up and share what is their favorite part of a beach experience (walking on the sand, collecting shells, bonfire, wave watching, and so forth). If time allows, invite conferees to share with the group.

2. Strong Current at Tide Pool Crafts (20 minutes)

- Turn over each of the giant shells as you discuss each step to reveal the words on the other side: Prepare Your Heart, Plan, Teach, Continue the Connection.
- Turn over the first shell (Prepare Your Heart) and discuss the following points:
 - Read and study the Bible stories and scriptures.
 - Pray for yourself and your teaching team.
 - Pray for kids and families.
- Select five volunteers. Volunteers will “Dive for Pearls” to reveal the Bible content for the week (the Day number/Bible Story title, the Daily Point, the “God says” statement, and the Bonus Verse for each day). Each volunteer will select a pearl from the pond, and string it on a line. On future turns, if the pearl has information from a day selected by another volunteer, the volunteer will replace the pearl and select another. Volunteers will take turns selecting pearls until all have created their own “Pearl Necklace.”
- Call on the conferee with the pearls for Day 1 to read each pearl’s information. Expound on the Bible story as needed. Repeat with Days 2–5.
- Remind conferees of the importance of knowing the Bible study information and helping kids make the connections to the craft for each day.
- Turn over the second shell (Plan) and discuss the following points:
 - Find out how many kids you can expect. This will be approximate, based on last year’s numbers.
 - Find out how long will the rotation last.

- Choose which crafts you will do based on your kids, time, and budget.
- Gather supplies—ask church members to help collect.
- Talk about how craft packs can significantly cut down on prep time.
- Templates are available in the back of the crafts book. Be sure to check out the redemption code on page 2 of the leader guide to download and print the templates at full size. Note: this year some templates only appear in the digital download.
- Organize crafts and craft supplies by day. Keep everyday supplies in the room. Bring in other supplies as needed each day.
- Ideas for decorating your room.
- Turn over the third shell (Teach) and discuss the following points:
 - Recruit a team. Divvy up responsibilities (prep and teaching).
 - Remember kids' differing abilities/learning styles.
 - Reinforce the Bible connection every day.
 - Prioritize relationships and process as more important than the final product.
 - Relax and enjoy!
- Turn over the fourth shell (Continue the Connection) and discuss the following points:
 - Overview the "Sharing the Gospel with Kids" outline in the leader guide.
 - Participate in your church's VBS Celebration and follow-up plan.
 - Look for other ways to connect with families beyond VBS.

3. Flood Time at Tide Pool Crafts (30 minutes)

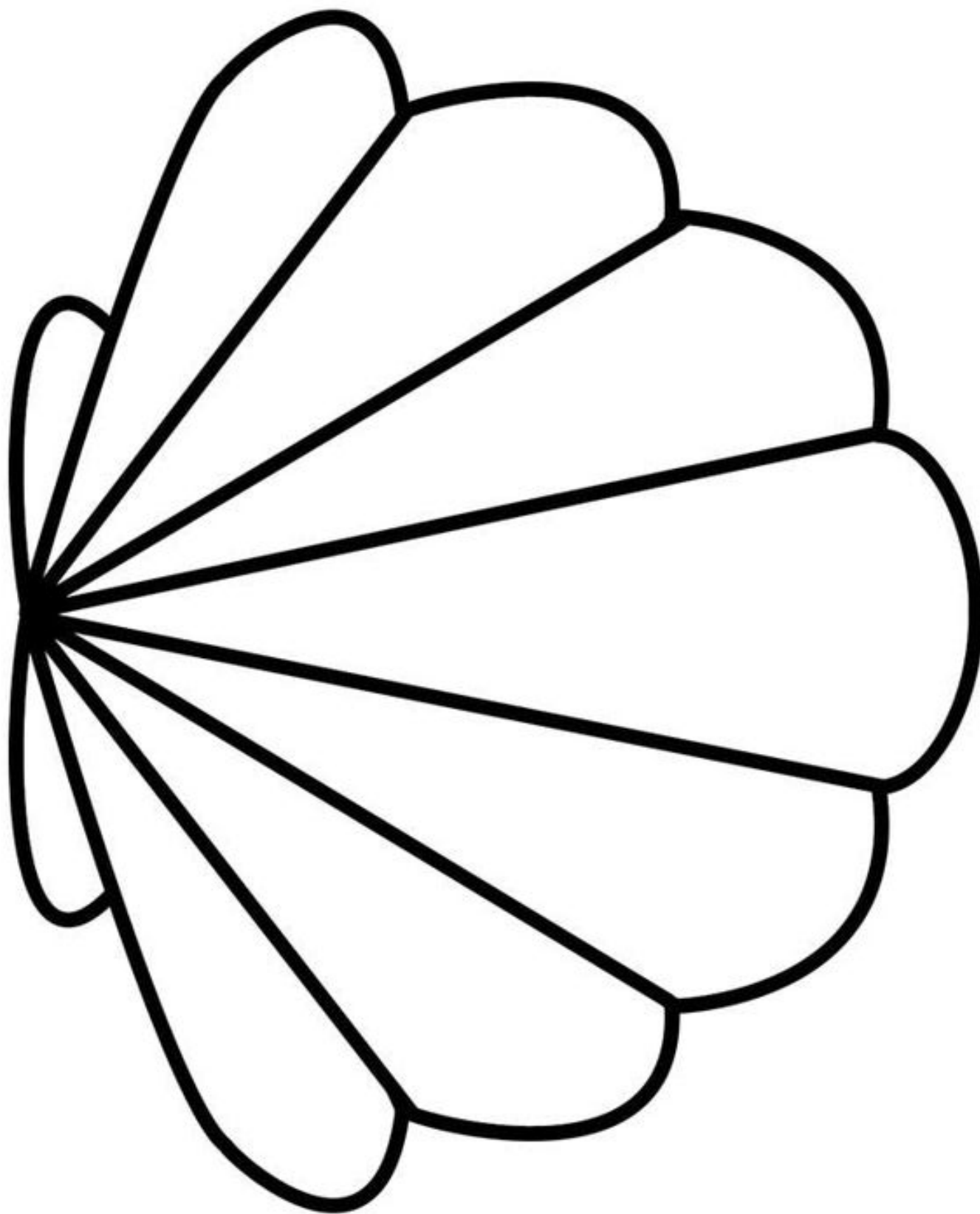
- Invite conferees to make crafts.
- Explain that each person can make one craft pack craft (all 6 are at each table) and one Seashell Crab.
- Walk around and offer assistance as needed.

4. Ebb Tide at Tide Pool Crafts! (30 minutes)

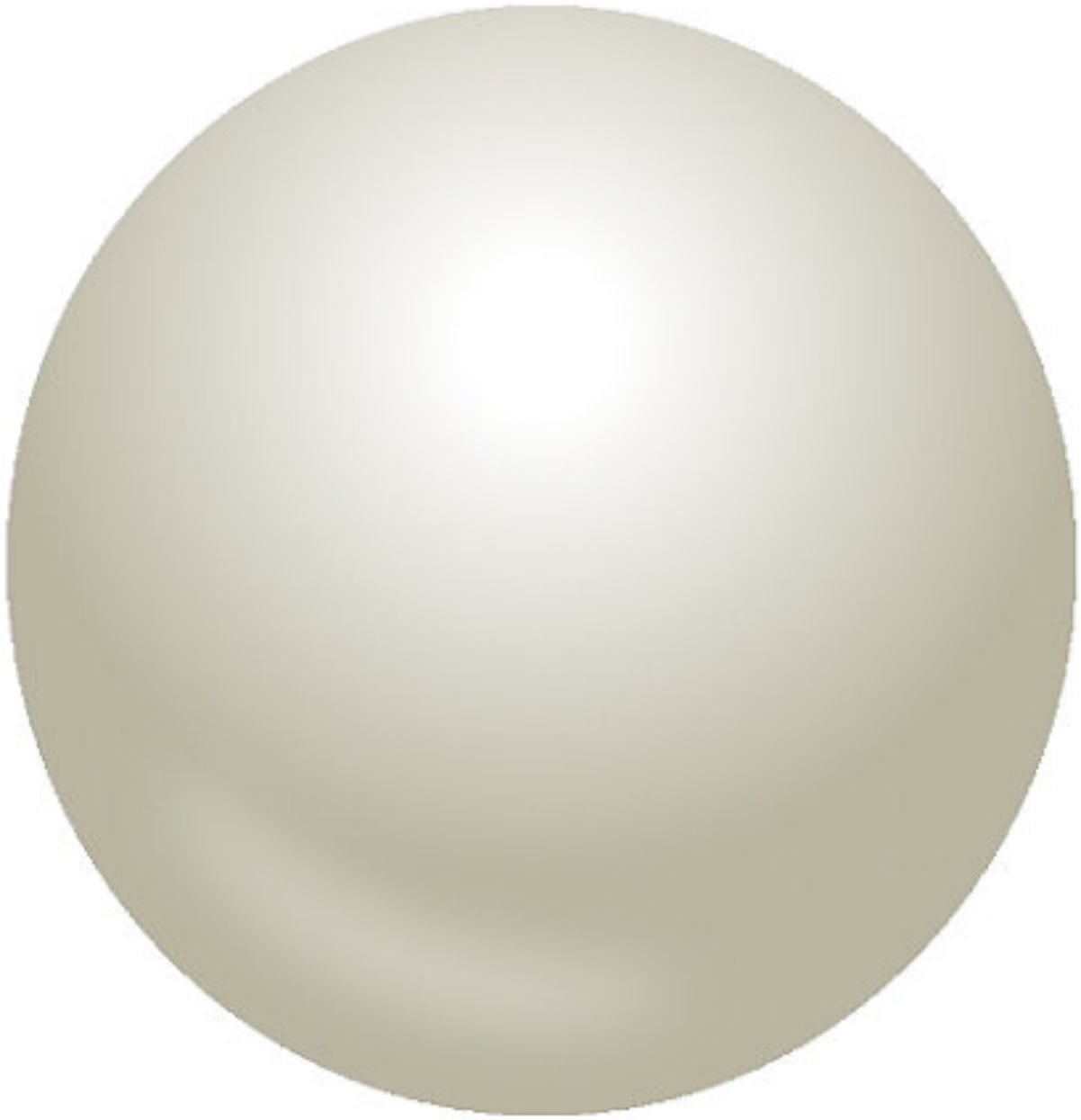
- Invite conferees to return to their seats (if sitting in overflow seating) with the crafts they made.
- Draw attention to the sample crafts on the display table and walk through each session's crafts.
- Lead volunteers to talk about the crafts they made and their connection to the Breaker Rock Beach Bible content.

5. Drift Away (5 minutes)

- Stress the importance of building relationships with kids throughout the week. Remind the group that Tide Pool Crafts may be the one place that a child actually connects with the Bible content.
- Remind conferees of the Theme Verse: "Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God." (Romans 12: 2).
- Invite the group to say the VBS Motto with you: "God's truth never changes!"
- Close with prayer.



Item 1. Shell Pattern



Item 2. Pearl

SEASHELL CRAB INSTRUCTIONS

ASSEMBLE:

1. Color your shell with a marker.
2. Cut 3 chenille stems in half.
3. Choose 5 chenille stem halves and hold them together. Twist them together several times at the center of the bundle. Bend the ends of the stems into legs.
4. Glue the center point of the chenille stem bundle to the bottom of the shell, just behind the oval edge.
5. Attach googly eyes to the oval edge of the shell.

LEADER TIPS:

- Red may be a typical crab color, but allow kids freedom to choose their own colors for their crabs as desired!
- Rough shells may roughen the tips of your markers, but using the marker allows you not to wait for the paint to dry. If you have time to let paint dry, kids will enjoy using paint instead!
- If you struggle to get Tacky[®] glue to hold your chenille stems, consider allowing a leader to add a dot of glue from a cool melt glue gun.