

VBS 2024 PRESCHOOL OVERVIEW BASE CONFERENCE PLAN (1½ HOURS)

Purpose Statement

This 90-minute plan is designed to train and equip VBS teachers of babies through kids who have completed kindergarten using Lifeway's Breaker Rock Beach™ preschool curriculum.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2024 Preschool Starter Kit: Babies–Kindergarten* (005845727)
- (2) *VBS 2024 3s–Pre-K Leader Guide* (005846945) — Flag the following pages and highlight the following activities in ONE of the leader guides: page 11 (“Move Together” activity in Group Time), page 20 (“Scoop and Pour”), page 24 (“Outline Jesus’ Name”), page 34 (“Make Sand Shakers”), and page 39 (“Remember Together”). Place this marked leader guide in the sand bucket labeled “3s–Pre-K” for use in step 6. Display the other leader guide.
- (2) *VBS 2024 Kindergarten Leader Guide* (005846947) — Flag the following pages and highlight the following activities in ONE of the leader guides: page 13 (“Make Sandcastles”), page 17 (“Play a Game”), page 26 (“Practice the Bible Verse” activity in Group Time), page 31 (“Move Like Sea Animals”), and page 40 (“Practice the Bible Verse” activity in Group Time). Place this marked leader guide in the sand bucket labeled “Kindergarten” for use in step 6. Display the other leader guide.
- *VBS 2024 Multi-age Starter Kit* (005845722)
- (2) *VBS 2024 Multi-age Preschool Bible Study Leader Guide* (005846968) — Flag the following pages and highlight the following activities in ONE of the leader guides: page 10 (“Play a Matching Game”), page 19 (“Learn the Verse” activity in Group Time), page 27 (“Make Coin Impressions”), page 27 (“Move and Sing Together” activity in Group Time), and page 41 (“Design a Kite”). Place this marked leader guide in the sand bucket labeled “Multi-age” for use in step 6. Display the other leader guide.
- *3s–Kindergarten Crafts Rotation Leader Guide* (from *3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack* included in Starter Kit) — Prepare at least one craft (in addition to the craft packs) from each day to display.
- *VBS 2024 Bible Study Location Signs* (005846919)
- (4) *VBS 2024 Tablecloths* (005846832)
- *VBS 2024 Inflatable Sea Lion* (005847243)
- *VBS 2024 String Flags* (005846824)
- *VBS 2024 Kite* (005847245)
- *VBS 2024 Wall Art* (005846918), *VBS 2024 Supersized Backdrop* (005847616), or *VBS 2024 Super Duper Sized Backdrop* (005845724) — Use to decorate the focal wall.
- *VBS 2024 Sandcastle Molds* (005847241)
- *VBS 2024 Sticky Foam Shapes* (005846492)
- *VBS 2024 Theme Stickers* (005846797)
- *VBS 2024 Camel Craft Pack* (005847339) — Prepare one sample.
- *VBS 2024 Treasure Bag Craft Pack* (005847340) — Prepare one sample.
- *VBS 2024 Tide Pool Book Craft Pack* (005847341) — Prepare one sample.
- *VBS 2024 Suncatcher Kite Craft Pack* (005847338) — Prepare one sample.
- *VBS 2024 Pencil* (005846477)
- Item 1: “Babies–2s Content” — Print on cardstock and cut apart each sandcastle. Hide the sandcastles under conferee chairs.

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- 3 beach bags or sand buckets — Label the age group (Babies–2s, 3s–Pre-K, or Kindergarten) on the outside of each beach bag/sand bucket. Place the appropriate prepare leader guide (see above), supplies for one activity per day inside (as marked in the leader guide, see below), and the crepe paper kite streamers (see below).
- Crepe paper streamers — Gather green, red, teal blue, and yellow. Cut each color into five 24-inch lengths. Print one of the following statements on each streamer as indicated.
 - On the GREEN streamers, print:
 - *Truth Comes from God — Satan Tricked Adam*
 - *God’s Plan is Best — Daniel Chose God’s Way*
 - *Everyone Needs Jesus — The Rich Young Ruler*
 - *The Bible is True — John Wrote about Jesus*
 - *Speak the Truth in Love — Paul Encouraged the Ephesians*
 - Print the following on the RED streamers. Then place these streamers in the 3s–Pre-K beach bag/sand bucket.
 - *Move Together (Day 1, Group Activity)*
 - *Scoop and Pour (Day 2, Bible Learning Activity)*
 - *Outline Jesus’ Name (Day 3, Intro Activity)*
 - *Make Sand Shakers (Day 4, Bible Learning Activity)*
 - *Remember Together (Day 5, Intro Activity)*
 - Print the following on the TEAL streamers. Then put the streamers in the Kindergarten beach bag/sand bucket.
 - *Make Sandcastles (Day 1, Bible Learning Activity)*
 - *Play a Game (Day 2, Intro Activity)*
 - *Practice the Bible Verse (Day 3, Group Activity)*
 - *Move Like Sea Animals (Day 4, Intro Activity)*
 - *Practice the Bible Verse (Day 5, Group Activity)*
- Print the following on the YELLOW streamers. Then put the streamers in the Multi-age beach bag/sand bucket.
 - *Play a Matching Game (Day 1, Intro Activity)*
 - *Learn the Verse (Day 2, Group Activity)*
 - *Make Coin Impressions (Day 3, Bible Learning Activity)*
 - *Move and Sing Together (Day 4, Group Activity)*
 - *Design a Kite (Day 5, Bible Learning Activity)*
- Poster board — Gather green, red, teal blue, and yellow.
 - Draw a kite on each poster board and cut out. Print *Bible Story* in the middle of the green kite. Print *Intro Activity* on the red kite. Print *Group Time* on the teal blue kite. Print *Bible-learning Activity* on the yellow kite.
- 3s–Pre-K Adventure Team supplies — Gather the supplies needed for the Days 1–5 activities marked in the prepared *3s–Pre-K Leader Guide* and place them in the beach bag/sand bucket labeled “3s–Pre-K.” Supplies include: Bible, *Music for Preschoolers CD*, 1 beach towel, sealed water bottle, “Bible Markers” (*3s–Pre-K Leader Pack* item 11), shallow clear plastic bin with a few inches of water, small cups, scoops, small plastic colander, “Writing in Sand” (*3s–Pre-K Leader Pack* item 21), small rocks or aquarium gravel, paper, markers, “Templates and Printables” (*3s–Pre-K Leader Pack* item 15e), *VBS 2024 Theme Stickers*, *VBS 2024 Sticky Foam Shapes*, scissors, “Bible Story Pictures 1–4” (*3s–Pre-K Leader Pack* items 1–4), empty clear plastic bottles with lids (1 per child), play sand, colorful paper, funnels, and colorful tape.
- Kindergarten Adventure Team supplies — Gather the supplies needed for the Days 1–5 activities marked in the prepared *Kindergarten Leader Guide* and place them in the beach bag/sand bucket labeled “Kindergarten.” Supplies include: Bible; scissors; 8–10

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sheets of sandpaper cut into circles, squares, rectangles, and triangles for sandcastles; glue; 4 sheets of construction paper; 4 beach towels; 6 index cards labeled 5–10; sand bucket; “Matching Cards” (*Kindergarten Leader Pack* item 23); “Bible Verse Poster” (*Kindergarten Leader Pack* item 8); and *Music for Preschoolers CD*.

- Multi-age Adventure Team supplies — Gather the supplies needed for the Days 1–5 activities marked in the prepared *Multi-age Leader Guide* and place them in the beach bag/sand bucket labeled “Multi-age.” Supplies include: Bible, “Quilt Square” (*Multi-age Leader Pack* item 11) copied onto white cardstock, crayons, sealed bottle of water, painter’s tape, “Bible Verse Poster” (*Multi-age Leader Pack* item 8), *Music for Preschoolers CD*, play dough, clear cutting boards, various coins of differing sizes, “Kite Design Template” (*Multi-age Leader Pack* item 37), scissors, smocks, watercolors with paint brush, shallow dish, and spray bottle (special needs adaptation).
- Beach balls (1 per group of 10 or less)
- (8) Large seashells — Print one of the following follow-up ideas on each seashell: *Personal Note, Activity Books, pictures from the week, home visits, Music for Preschoolers CD, VBS Celebration, information about your church, and personal invitation to church.*
- Sample of the Welcome Bag (Mission Project) — Create a sample Welcome Bag using the instructions found in the *3s–Kindergarten Missions Rotation Leader Guide*.
- CD player or Bluetooth speaker
- TV/DVD player or screen, projector, and speakers.

Room Setup

Arrange chairs in a semi-circle. Place 1-2 display tables in front of focal wall and cover with *VBS 2024 Tablecloths*. Place the *VBS 2024 Inflatable Sea Lion* next to the table. Display the contents of the *VBS 2024 Preschool Starter Kit: Babies–Kindergarten* and any other VBS 2024 resources. Display the *VBS 2024 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack* on a separate table. Drape *VBS 2024 String Flags* across the doorway and hang a *VBS 2024 Kite* on the door. Hang the kites labeled *Bible Study, Intro Activity, Group Time, and Bible-learning Activities* on the focal wall.

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome and Theme Overview (8 minutes)

- Play “Breaker Rock Beach” (track 7) from the *Music for Preschoolers CD* as conferees enter the room.
- Welcome conferees to *Sandcastle Cove at Breaker Rock Beach*. Comment, “Every day is an adventure at Breaker Rock Beach. This year kids will race along the sand with brightly colored kids, join friends to make the most amazing sandcastle, or gaze in wonder at the mysteries found in a glimmering tide pool. They will encounter God’s truth and will be challenged to know that God’s truth never changes.”
- Play “Play a Game” from *VBS 2024 Kindergarten Leader Guide* (page 10).
- Invite conferees to form circles around the room. (Number of circles will be determined by number of conferees. Circle size can range up to 10 conferees.)
- Say: “I am glad you are here at Sandcastle Cove at Breaker Rock Beach. One of my favorite things to do at the beach is play games with a beach ball. Let’s get to know each other as we play a beach ball game.”
- Toss a beach ball to a person in each circle. Say: “The person holding the ball will say your name. Then toss the beach ball to someone in your circle. When you receive the ball, say ‘Hi, (name of the person who tossed the ball). I’m (your name).’”

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Continue tossing the ball until each person has a turn to introduce himself or herself to the group.

- Allow several minutes to play.

2. Bible Verse and Motto (7 minutes)

- Invite conferees to repeat the preschool paraphrase of this year's theme verse, Romans 12:2: "Learn about God. Choose to obey Him."
- Teach the song "Learn About God." Point out that "Learn About God" is the preschool version of this year's theme verse, Romans 12:2.
- Invite conferees to stand and sing "Learn About God" along with the demonstration video found on the *Preschool Music Rotation DVD*.
- Lead conferees to say motto, "God's truth never changes!" Remind conferees that this is a foundational truth preschoolers need to learn early. Truth comes from God and His truth never changes.

3. Examine the Starter Kits (5 minutes)

- Overview the resources found in the *VBS 2024 Preschool Starter Kit* and the *VBS 2024 Multi-age Starter Kit*.
- Explain the difference between the two Starter Kits is related to how churches want to group kids at VBS. If each preschool age group will be in its own room at VBS, then churches will want to use the Preschool Starter Kit. If churches will have all preschool ages together in one classroom, then they will want to use the Multi-age Starter Kit.
- Remind conferees that each teacher in the room will need his or her own leader guide. There is the option to purchase the *VBS 2024 Preschool Starter Kit* with the Digital Leader Guides add-on. The digital add-on includes a PDF of every leader guide in the kit that can be shared with a second teacher.

4. Highlight the Babies–2s Leader Guide (5 minutes)

- Briefly overview the features of the Babies–2s Leader Guide. (Note: If there are several Babies–2s leaders attending the conference, you may want to extend the time allotted to covering these resources. You may also want to consider offering a separate breakout just for Babies–2s.)
 - Leader Tips:
 - Sample Schedule
 - Audio Resources
 - Printable Resources
 - Safety and Security Tips
 - Hygiene and Snack Tips
 - Bible Content:
 - Overview of Bible Stories
 - Bible Verse: Thank You, God, for Jesus. *Luke 2:38*
 - Bible Story Plus — Explain that Bible Story Plus is a short "group time" type experience for older 2s and younger 3s.
 - Two sections of teaching plans:
 - Babies–Younger 1s
 - Older 1s & 2s
- Invite conferees to look under their chairs and find the five hidden sandcastles (Item 1). Ask those who found the sandcastles to read the daily information in order from Day 1 to Day 5.

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- Say: “The Babies–2s focus is different because it is based on foundational Bible stories. It is the same theme, but different Bible content.
- Continue walking through the leader guide and cover the remaining three sections.
 - Theme Activities and Recreation
 - Music and Movement
 - Continuing the Connection at Home and with Parents
- Say: You are more than a babysitter! The activities in the leader guide are specifically designed to help infants through younger 3s learn about God.
- Encourage conferees to choose a few activities from the leader guide to do each day.

5. Highlight the 3s–Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Multi-age Leader Guides (5 minutes)

- Briefly overview the main sections of the other age group leader guides.
 - Sharing the Gospel with Parents
 - Begin the Adventure!
 - Overview
 - Schedule and Rotation Options
 - Make VBS Great for All Kids
 - Get to Know Your Kids
 - Leader Tips
 - Continue the Transformation
 - Day 1-5 Teaching Plans
 - Supplies
 - Activity-Based Decorations
 - Music and Motions

6. Dive Into the Bible Content (40 minutes)

- Form 3 “adventure teams” to explore the week’s Bible content.
 - Adventure Team 1: 3s–Pre-K
 - Adventure Team 2: Kindergarten
 - Adventure Team 3: Multi-age
- Give each group a beach bag/sand bucket containing the pre-marked age-appropriate leader guide and activity for each day along with the supplies needed for that activity.
- Explain that each group will find one activity marked in their leader guide for each day. Conferees should read that activity, see how the materials in the bucket are used, and take note of how and when it is used in the session.
- Instruct conferees to be prepared to give a summary of their activities with the whole group. Say: “Be sure to tell the name of activity, section in which activity is found (Intro Activities, Group Time, Bible-learning Activities), and the materials needed for the activity. When called upon, place your kite tail on the matching kite and share the information your group discovered.”
 - Day 1: Truth Comes from God – Satan Tricked Adam and Eve
 - 3s – Pre-K – Move Together (Group Time, page 11)
 - Kindergarten – Make Sandcastles (Bible-learning Activity, page 13)
 - Multi-age – Play a Matching Game (Intro Activity, page 10)
 - Day 2: God’s Plan is Best – Daniel Chose God’s Way
 - 3s – Pre-K – Scoop and Pour (Bible-learning Activity, page 20)
 - Kindergarten – Play a Game (Intro Activity, page 17)
 - Multi-age – Learn the Verse (Group Time, page 19).

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- Day 3: Everyone Needs Jesus – The Rich Young Ruler
 - 3s – Pre-K – Outline Jesus’ Name (Intro Activity, page 24)
 - Kindergarten – Practice the Bible Verse (Group Time, page 26)
 - Multi-age – Make Coin Impressions (Bible-learning Activity, page 27)
- Day 4: The Bible is True – John Wrote about Jesus.
 - 3s – Pre-K – Make Sand Shakers (Bible-learning Activity, page 34)
 - Kindergarten – Move Like Sea Animals (Intro Activity, page 31)
 - Multi-age – Move and Sing Together (Group Time, page 32)
- Day 5: Speak the Truth in Love – Paul Encouraged the Ephesians
 - 3s – Pre-K – Remember Together (Intro Activity, page 39)
 - Kindergarten – Practice the Bible Verse (Group Time, page 40)
 - Multi-age – Design a Kite (Bible-learning Activities, page 41)

7. Overview Preschool Rotations (12 minutes)

- Show conferees the *3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack*. Briefly overview the rotation locations and the resources provided for each.
- Explain that the Rotation Pack includes a teaching plan for:
 - Orca Music
 - Tide Pool Crafts
 - Ship Rec
 - Bonfire Missions
- Explain that the Sea Lion Snack Rotation Recipe Cards can be purchased separately (or come inside the *Kids Starter Kit*). Snacks that are appropriate for preschoolers are marked with an orange kite that reads “preschool friendly.”
- Show the rotation leader guides. Explain that rotations will be covered in greater detail in the Preschool Rotation breakout.
 - Orca Music:
 - Show the *3s–K Music Rotation Leader Guide*.
 - Explain that included in the leader guide is a DVD-ROM with instructional and demonstration videos for each of the preschool songs.
 - Call attention to the unique code on page 2 of the leader guide that allows access to the videos and printable files online.
 - Play “More Than Anything” (track 3) and invite conferees to listen and sing along.
 - Tide Pool Crafts:
 - Show the *3s– Kindergarten Crafts Rotation Leader Guide*.
 - Explain that crafts are designed for ages 3s–completed kindergarten. Some may be more appropriate for one age than another.
 - Mention that there is always at least one activity that relates specifically to the Bible story each day. All activities provide the teacher with a “connect” paragraph to help tie it to the Bible truth.
 - Say: “No matter which craft you choose, be sure to share the Bible story summary and ‘connect’ thoughts to reinforce the Bible truths being taught.”
 - Draw attention to the displayed sample crafts. Encourage conferees to look at crafts before they leave.
 - Ship Rec:
 - Show conferees the *3s–Kindergarten Recreation Rotation Leader Cards*.
 - Explain that the Rec Cards include a game that is identified as Bible Story Game for each day. These cards include a Story Connection.

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- State that the Bible Story game is designed to help preschoolers connect and understand the Bible Story and Point for that day.
- Show the Administrative Cards at the end. These cards include Leader Responsibilities, Kid Characteristics, Teaching Tips, and Decorating ideas.
- Bonfire Missions:
 - Show conferees the *3s–Kindergarten Missions Rotation Leader Guide*.
 - Say: “*Missions Rotation Leader Guide* includes a DVD with a short video segment for each day. If you choose, you can download all DVD items by going to my.lifeway.com/redeem and entering the unique code provided in your Missions Leader Guide. A written synopsis of the video is also in the leader guide if you’d rather not use video.”
 - Days 1–2 showcase NAMB missionaries Vergil and Kelsey Brown, along with their four children, Olive, Lincoln, CoCo, and Georgia who serve as church planters in Portland, Oregon.
 - Days 3–5 showcase IMB missionaries Trey and Adria Fleming, and their three daughters, Bethany, Trinity, and Clara, who serve in Osaka, Japan.
 - Show the sample Welcome Bag. Explain that there is a hands-on mission project to do with preschoolers throughout the week of VBS. They will create Welcome Bags that the church can give out to guests. Kids will also create cards to go in the bags and pray over the bags.

8. Continue the Connection (5 minutes)

- Explain that a strategic, intentional follow-up plan is an important part of VBS. Say: “As you plan and prepare for every aspect of VBS, be sure to add follow-up to your planning.”
- Invite eight volunteers to choose a seashell and read an idea that can be used intentionally to connect with unchurched families who attended VBS. Discuss how each can be used for follow up after VBS.
 - Personal Note
 - Activity Books
 - Pictures from the week
 - Home visits
 - *Music for Preschoolers CD*
 - Family Celebration
 - Information about your church
 - Personal invitation to church
- If time allows, invite one or two conferees to share ideas from their own experience.

9. Closing (3 minutes)

- Answer any questions or clarify any information as needed.
- Offer these final words of encouragement:
 - Be flexible — Adjust your plans to make VBS the best experience possible for you and your preschoolers.
 - Help kids know about the real truth—God’s truth—found in His Word, the Bible, through each activity.
 - Build relationships with kids.
 - The process is more important than the finished product.
 - Enjoy the adventure!
- Close by praying for these VBS teachers.



Day 1: Ruth's Family

Today's Point: God will take care of me.

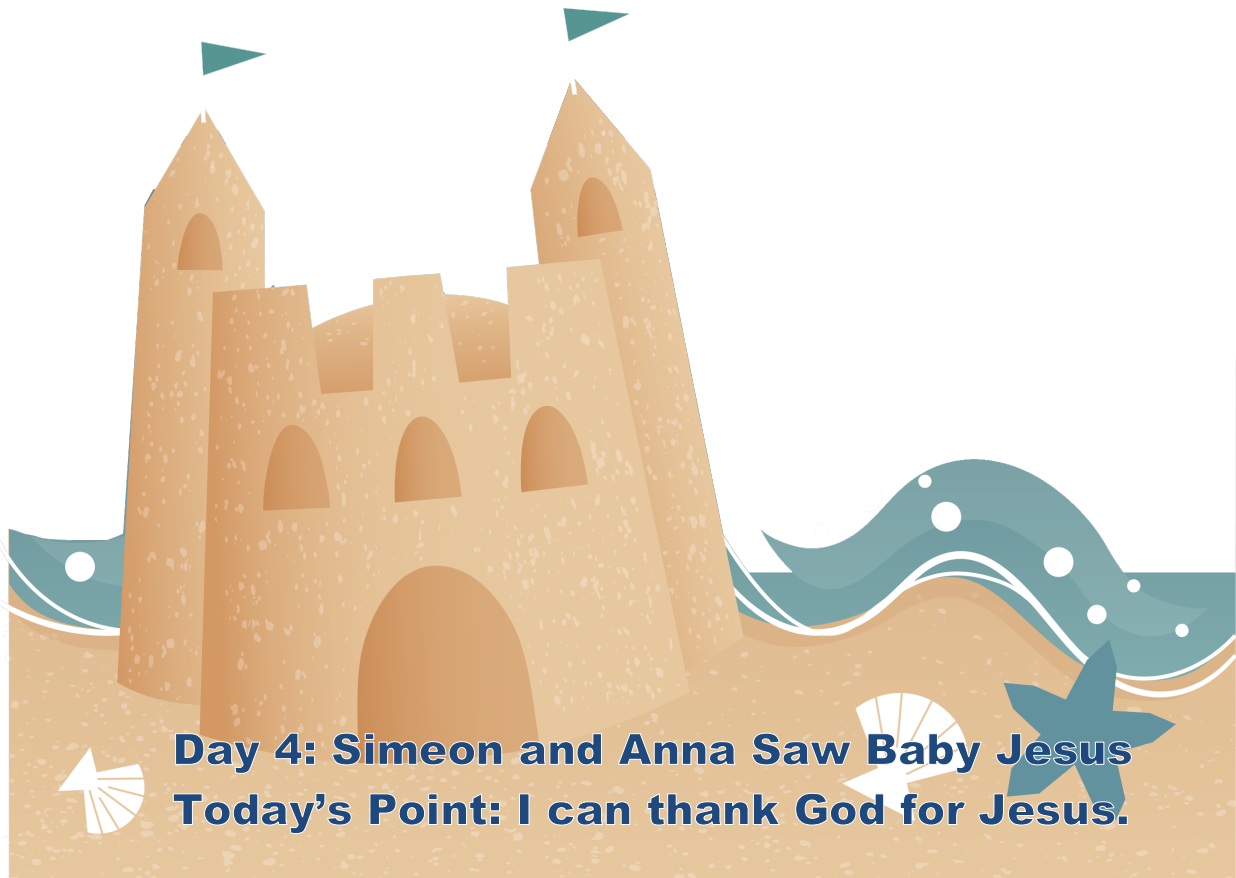


Day 2: Samuel Helped at the Temple

Today's Point: People at church teach me about God.



Day 3: God Chose David to Become King
Today's Point: God has a plan for me.



Day 4: Simeon and Anna Saw Baby Jesus
Today's Point: I can thank God for Jesus.



Day 5: Jesus Went to the Temple
Today's Point: I can learn about
God at church.