

VBS 2024 PRESCHOOL ROTATIONS CONFERENCE PLAN (45 MINUTES)

Purpose Statement

This 45-minute plan is designed to train and equip teachers to lead preschool rotation activities using LifeWay's *Breaker Rock Beach 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack*.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2024 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack* (005846970)
 - *Music Rotation DVD-ROM* (inside *Music Rotation Leader Guide*) — Print the Preschool Worship Rally outlines.
 - *3s–Kindergarten Missions Leader Guide* — Print the Mission Project Letter. Create a sample Welcome Bag using the instructions found in the *3s–Kindergarten Missions Rotation Leader Guide*.
 - *3s–Kindergarten Crafts Rotation Leader Guide* — Prepare the Free Art and at least one craft (in addition to craft packs) for each day.
- *VBS 2024 Camel Craft Pack* (005847339) — Prepare a sample for display.
- *VBS 2024 Treasure Bag Craft Pack* (005847340) — Prepare a sample for display.
- *VBS 2024 Tide Pool Book Craft Pack* (005847341) — Prepare a sample for display.
- *VBS 2024 Suncatcher Kite Craft Pack* (005847338) — Prepare a sample for display.
- *VBS 2024 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards* (005846914) — Gather the following snack ingredients to make “Truth Tree” (Bible-related snack), “Whale-Watching Plane” (theme snack), and “Whales” (store-bought snack):
 - Fruit Roll-Ups
 - Pretzel sticks
 - Teddy Grahams
 - Green O-shaped cereal
 - Plates
 - Sugar wafers
 - Rolo candy
 - White icing
 - Orange slices
 - Whale-shaped gummies
 - Whales
- *VBS 2024 Rotation Signs* (005846920)
- (6) *VBS 2024 Tablecloths* (005846832)
- *VBS 2024 Floor Prints* (005846827)
- *VBS 2024 Sticky Foam Shapes* (005846492)
- *VBS 2024 Theme Stickers* (005846797)
- *VBS 2024 Camel Craft Pack* (005847339)
- *VBS 2024 Treasure Bag Craft Pack* (005847340)
- *VBS 2024 Tide Pool Book Craft Pack* (005847341)
- *VBS 2024 Suncatcher Kite Craft Pack* (005847338)
- *VBS 2024 String Flags* (005846824)
- *VBS 2024 Kite* (005847245)
- *VBS 2024 Giant Inflatable Orca* (005847242)
- *VBS 2024 Inflatable Sea Lion* (005847243)
- *VBS 2024 Pencils* (005846477)

- Item 1: “Seagull Badge” — Photocopy 5 copies on white cardstock. Cut out and write 1 of the following statements on the back of each:
 - *Choose one or two activities for each day.*
 - *Make a list of supplies you will need and gather supplies in advance.*
 - *Copy and prepare needed templates found in back of guide.*
 - *Try each craft before using it in a session.*
 - *Plan for more kids than you think you will have so you have enough supplies.*
- 6 beach balls — Write one of the following statements on each beach ball:
 - *Prepare well in advance.*
 - *Keep decorations to a minimum.*
 - *Set up safe boundaries.*
 - *Explain an activity before handing out resources.*
 - *Plan for extra time*
 - *Keep the focus on the Bible truth, Bible verse and Today’s Point.*
- Pool noodle
- CD player or Bluetooth speaker
- TV/DVD player or screen, projector, and speakers

Room Setup

Arrange chairs in a semi-circle. Cover a table with a *VBS 2024 Tablecloth* and display the *VBS 2024 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack* along with beach decorations. Drape *VBS 2024 String Flags* across the doorway and hang a *VBS 2024 Kite* on the door.

Create stations around the room for each rotation. Spread a *VBS 2024 Tablecloth* or beach towel on the floor to denote each area and post the appropriate rotation sign nearby. Place the appropriate set of resources from the *3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack* in each rotation station. Place a *VBS 2024 Giant Inflatable Orca* in the Music Rotation section of the room. Place the prepared crafts, craft packs, *VBS 2024 Sticky Foam Shapes*, and *VBS 2024 Theme Stickers* in the Crafts Rotation Section. Place the pool noodle and beach balls alongside the rec cards in the Recreation Rotation section. Display the Letter to Parents and sample Welcome Bag in the Missions Rotation station. And display the prepared preschool-friendly snacks next to the *VBS 2024 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards* in the Snack Rotation station.

Teaching Steps

1. **Welcome** (2 minutes)
 - Play “Breaker Rock Beach” (track 7) from the *Music for Preschoolers CD* as conferees enter.
 - Welcome conferees. Comment: “Every day is an adventure at Breaker Rock Beach. This year “at Breaker Rock Beach, we are uncovering God’s rock-solid truth in a world of shifting sand. Kids will learn to recognize the difference between what the world says is true and what God says is true. They will be challenged to know that God’s truth never changes.”
2. **Why Rotations** (10 minutes)
 - Briefly introduce the *3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack*.
 - Explain that the Rotation Pack includes a teaching plan for:
 - Orca Music
 - Tide Pool Crafts
 - Bonfire Missions
 - Ship Rec

- Explain that the *Snack Rotation Recipe Cards* can be purchased separately or come packaged in the Kids Starter Kit. Snacks that are appropriate for preschoolers are marked with an orange kite that reads “Preschool Friendly.”
- Explain that each rotation is designed to enhance what kids are learning in Bible study.
- Review rotation options conferees can choose from as they begin to plan their adventure at Breaker Rock Beach.
- Rotation Options:
 - Preschoolers Move: Teachers move kids to each rotation site, stay with them during the activities, and lead them back to the main classroom for closing group time.
 - Teachers Move: Teachers are enlisted to come to the room to teach the rotation activities.
 - Self-Contained Classroom: Children and teachers remain in the room for all activities.
- Explain that the group will now play a game to discover tips for planning your Breaker Rock Beach adventure.
- Play VBS music and lead the group to bat the beach balls around in the air. Stop the music at random and direct the person closest to each ball to hold it. Lead those holding the balls to share the tips written on them. (Note: The one with the ball does have the option to toss it to someone else.) Elaborate on each tip after it is read:
 - Prepare well in advance. Say: “Try to teach from memory so you can connect better with your preschoolers.”
 - Keep decorations to a minimum. Remind conferees that too many decorations can be overwhelming to preschoolers.
 - Set up safe boundaries. Say: “Preschoolers thrive when they have clear boundaries and know your expectations. Arrange *VBS 2024 Floor Prints* or tape marks on the floor so each child will have his own defined space and plenty of room to move.”
 - Explain an activity before handing out resources. Say: “Because preschoolers focus best on one thing at a time, explain an activity before handing out props.”
 - Plan for extra time. Draw attention to the “More Beach Fun” section found on page 16 of the *3s–K Music Rotation Leader Guide* and Free Art in the *3s–K Crafts Rotation Leader Guide*. Mention that both of these can be used as time fillers when needed.
 - Keep the focus on the Bible truth, Bible verse and Today’s Point. Say: “Rotation activities will help preschoolers learn about God and choose to obey Him (Romans 12:2).”

3. Discover the Adventure Awaiting in Breaker Rock Beach Rotations (30 minutes)

- Say: “This year, your kids will discover that they can learn more about the real truth—God’s truth and they can choose to obey Him when they embark on the adventure that awaits them in Ora Music, Tide Pool Crafts, Ship Rec, and Bonfire Missions.”
- Say: “Our Adventure will begin at Orca Music.”
 - Show conferees 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 digital access to the videos and printables.

- Say: “The lyrics and motions for this year’s theme song are the same for both preschoolers and school-aged kids. The motions are simple enough that, even though they might be behind a beat or two, your preschoolers will enjoy singing and moving right alongside the older kids.”
- Explain that the “At a Glance” section at the beginning of the leader guide gives an overview of the week that includes the Bible Truth, Today’s Point, Bible Story, and songs suggested for each day. Remind conferees that it is important that they study the Bible story, Bible verse, and the Point for each day so they are ready to use this information as they communicate Bible truths to their kids.
- Draw attention to the motions and words for preschool songs are provided at the back of the leader guide.
- 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.
- Play the “Learn About God” demonstration video. Lead conferees to stand and sing along.
- Show conferees the “Preschool Worship Rally” outline. Briefly explain that preschoolers can experience the excitement of Worship Rally and understand it so much more when it is presented at their age-level of understanding.
- Say: “Let’s continue our adventure at Tide Pool Crafts”
 - Show conferees the *3s–K Crafts Rotation Leader Guide*.
 - Say: “Every adventure takes planning and preparation. Here are a few tips to help ensure successful adventures at Tide Pool Crafts.”
 - Hand out the Seagull Badges (Item 1) to five volunteers and ask them to read the craft tips written on the back.
 - Share the following ideas to take the stress out of craft preparation (from page 5 of the leader guide):
 - Ask adult and student groups to sponsor an art activity. The group could cut out the needed materials.
 - Ask adult and/or student groups to package supplies in ziplock bags, one for each child. As kids enter the room, give a bag to each child with the supplies to make her craft. She can place the completed craft back in the bag to take home.
 - Host a Crafts Prep Party a few weeks before VBS begins. Invite church members to come and help with the advance preparation.
 - Use address labels to attach children’s names or the week’s Bible verse to their artwork.
 - Explain that the crafts in the leader guide are designed for ages 3–completed kindergarten. Some may be more appropriate for one age than another. Choose crafts based on the age and ability of your group.
 - Mention that every craft includes 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.”
 - Mention that a “free art” suggestion is provided each day and is designed to be relatively self-directed with minimal supervision. Use these options for early finishers or as an easy additional activity as needed.
 - Draw attention to the displayed sample crafts. Encourage conferees to look at crafts before they leave.
- Say: “Our Breaker Rock Beach Adventure continues at Ship Rec.”
 - Show conferees the *VBS 2024 3s–Kindergarten Recreation Rotation Leader Cards*.

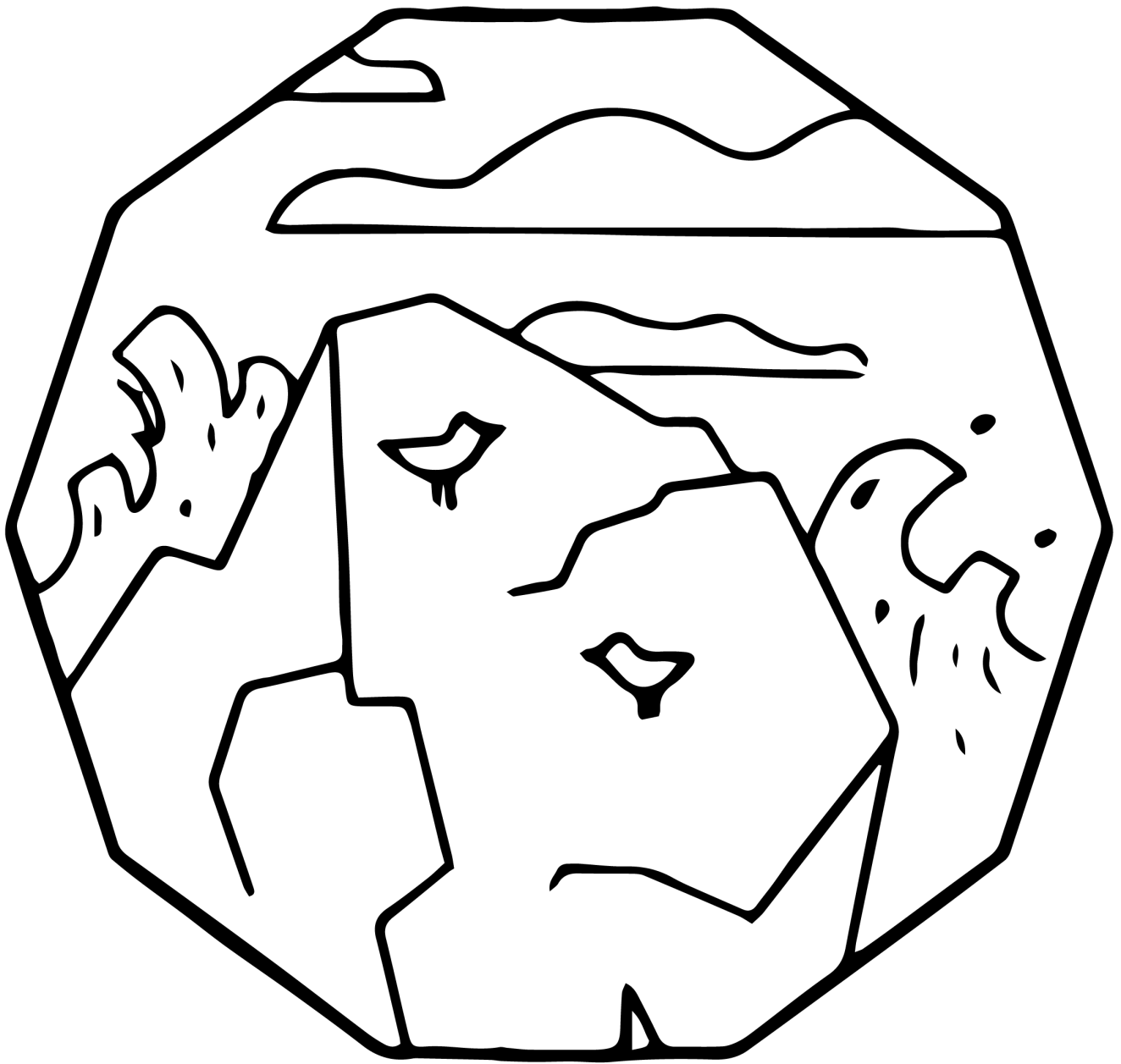
- Explain that the Rec Cards include a Bible Story Game for each day. These cards include a Story Connection. The Bible Story game is designed to help preschoolers connect and understand the Bible Story and Point for that day.
- Enlist five volunteers to play the Day 1 Bible Story Game: “Animal Limbo” (Rec Card 1).
 - Lead two volunteers to hold a pool noodle like a limbo bar.
 - Call out, “Penguin!” The remaining three volunteers must move like a penguin under the limbo bar. Lead them to say Today’s Point: “Truth comes from God” as they pass under the bar.
 - Repeat as time allows using other animals. Do not lower the bar between turns.
- Read the Story Connection on Rec Card 1. Help conferees see how the game they just played connects to the Day 1 Bible story.
- Enlist 5 volunteers to play “Clap, Clap, Catch” (Rec Card 18).
 - Instruct volunteers to spread out and give each volunteer a beach ball.
 - Explain that volunteers must toss their beach balls into the air and clap their hands as many times as they can before catching their ball.
 - Tip: Start with everyone throwing their beach balls into the air at the same time and clapping once before catching them.
 - Challenge: Add a clap to each throw to see who can stay in the game the longest. Call out the number. Those who clap that number of times before catching the ball may continue. Those who cannot are out.
- Show the Administrative Cards at the end of the Rec Cards. These cards include Leader Responsibilities, Kid Characteristics, Teaching Tips, and Decorating ideas.
- Read the following statements and ask conferees to decide if the statement is a Before VBS or During VBS responsibility:
 - Test each game before using in a session. *(Before)*
 - Use the “Story Connection” on the Bible Story Game cards to reinforce Bible learning. *(During)*
 - Enlist other adults to help. Plan games based on group size and space. *(Before)*
 - Pray daily for leaders, kids, and safe play during games. *(During)*
 - Plan for inclement weather. *(Before)*
 - Cover electrical outlets and remove any hazards in the area you have chosen for games. *(Before)*
 - Plan water breaks for kids. *(During)*
 - Gather and inspect equipment. *(Before)*
 - Choose a method of playing music. *(Before)*
 - Monitor play and redirect as necessary. *(During)*
 - Know your church’s procedures for emergencies and accidents. Obtain a first aid kit. *(Before)*
 - Set up games in a safe area. *(Before/During)*
 - Be familiar with each day’s Bible story and the week’s verse. *(Before)*
 - Explain and demonstrate each game to the kids. *(During)*
- Say: “The final part of our Rotation Adventure is Bonfire Missions.”
 - Show conferees the *3s–K 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 Day 3 IMB video.
- Say: “In missions rotation, kids will learn how part of a missionary’s work is to make people feel welcome. They intentionally plan ways to invite people into their ministry and have conversations with them.”
- Show the Mission Project Letter (in the leader guide) and 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.

4. Closing (3 minutes)

- Answer any questions or clarify any information as needed.
- Offer the following 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 your kids.
 - The process is more important than the finished product.
 - Enjoy the adventure!
- Close by praying for these VBS teachers.



Item 1. Seagull Badge