

VBS 2026 CRAFTS COST BREAKDOWN

Note: Use of a particular store or brand does not mean Lifeway endorses that brand. Use the stores or brands that you prefer and that are most easily available in your area. Prices may change depending on the date and area of shopping.

DAY 1: FLASHLIGHT NAME SEARCH - TIME: 14-20 Minutes				
White cardstock	1/ child	Walmart	\$4.97/100	\$0.05
“Flashlight Template”	1/child			
“Names of Jesus Template”	1/child			
Page protectors	1/child	Dollar General	\$1.00/20	\$0.05
Black cardstock	1/child	Walmart	\$5.97/50	\$0.12
Colorful permanent markers				
Scissors				
Paper				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.22

KIDS SAY: “This is super fun.” – “Nicodemus called Jesus, ‘Teacher.’” – “I like coloring.”

DAY 1: CRAFT STICK LANTERN - TIME: 13-20 Minutes				
“Square Template”				
Jumbo craft sticks	12/child		\$15.99/300.	\$0.64
Parchment paper	3/child 5½ inch squares	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/100	\$0.04
Duct tape/ washi tape	3- 5½ inch per child	Amazon	\$7.99/10yards	\$0.37
Double-sided tape (heavy duty)	12 1-inch square/child	Walmart	\$7.98/65 feet	\$0.13
Clear tape				
Scissors				
Markers				
Battery-powered votives	1/child	Amazon	\$3.39/12	\$0.28
Cool melt glue gun	(Leader use)			
Glue sticks				
Dry erase board or poster board				
COST PER PROJECT				\$1.46
CRAFT PACK (does not include battery-powered votive)				\$0.68

KIDS SAY: “I’ll put it on my shelf for a night light.” – “I like this one.”

DAY 1: LIGHT BULB MELT - TIME: 8-20 minutes			Voted Kid’s Favorite	
Light-bulb-shaped plastic ornaments		Amazon	\$19.95/50	\$0.40
Unwrapped crayons				
Small, hand-held sharpeners				
Blow dryers	Leader use only			
Bowls	1/child			
Funnel	For kids to share			
Metallic permanent makers	Several for kids to share			
Spoon	1/child			
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.40

KIDS SAY: 3rd grade boy while holding the lightbulb over this head: “I’ve got an idea!” – “This is fun!” – “I think it’s pretty.”

DAY 2: BAPTISM SCENE - TIME: 13-20 Minutes

“Baptism Scene Template”				
Paint		Walmart	\$4.97	\$0.25
Paintbrushes				
White cardstock	1/ child	Walmart	\$4.97/100	\$0.05
Small cups	1/ child		\$1.25/36	\$0.04
Paper plates	1/child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/40	\$0.03
Paper towels	1/ child		\$0.68/88	\$0.01
Paint smocks				
Poster board				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.38
CRAFT PACK				\$0.68

KIDS SAY: “This is fun!” – “Oh! We’re painting!”

DAY 2: LIGHT OF THE WORLD TEA LIGHT - TIME: 11-15 Minutes**Leader’s Favorite**

Sharp knife, box cutter	Leader use only			
White table tennis balls	1/child	Dollar Tree	\$1/25/6	\$0.21
Rubbing alcohol		Dollar Tree	\$1/25/16 oz	\$0.05
Permanent markers	Several colors			
Spray bottles				
Battery-powered votives	1/child	Amazon	\$3.39/12	\$0.28
Fine point permanent markers				
Paper towels				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.54

KIDS SAY: “Coolest thing ever!” – “I would use it as a nightlight.” – “Nothing can beat this!”

DAY 2: REFLECTION MIRROR BALL - TIME: 7-14 Minutes**Voted Kids’ Favorite**

Ball pit ball	1/child	Walmart	\$12.97/100	\$0.13
Cord	12 inches/child	Hobby Lobby	\$2.24/10 yards	\$0.06
Aluminum tape		Walmart	\$9.98/44 yards	\$0.22
Bowls				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.41

KIDS SAY: “I’m going to hang it in my room.” “Reflect on Jesus!”

DAY 3: "MULTIPLYING" LOAVES & FISH - TIME: 15-20 Minutes				
"Fish Template"	1/child			
"Loaves Template"	1/child			
Blue paper	2 /child	Walmart	\$6.99/50	\$0.14
Brown paper	2 /child	Walmart	\$6.99/50	\$0.14
Paper plates with ridged edges	2/child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/40	\$0.07
Scissors				
Unwrapped brown crayons				
Stapler				
Masking tape				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.35

KIDS SAY: "We can act out the loaves and fishes' story." – "I'm going to hang it on my door."

DAY 3: LIGHT BULB MOMENT KEY CHAIN - TIME: 15-20 Minutes				Voted Kid's Favorite
"Small Lightbulb Template"	1/child			
Shrink plastic or #6 plastic sheets	¼ sheet/ child	Hobby Lobby	\$5.49/6 sheets	\$0.23
Colored pencils				
Fine point permanent markers				
Scissors				
Parchment paper	5½ inch square/child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/100	\$0.02
Hole punch				
Key ring & chain	1/child	Amazon	\$4.99/50	\$0.10
Toaster oven and mitts				
Dry erase board or poster board				
Sandpaper (if using #6 plastic)				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.35
CRAFT PACK				\$0.68

KIDS SAY: "I'll put this on my bag and tell others about Jesus." – "This is epic!"

DAY 3: CONSTELLATION CUBE - TIME: 12-16 Minutes				
"Constellation Cube Template"				
11-by 17 cardstock	1/child	Amazon	\$9.98/15 /25	\$0.67
Glow bracelet	1/child	Dollar Tree	\$1.75/12	\$0.11
Large pushpins or skewers	1/child			
Silver foil Star stickers		Walmart	\$2.26/715	\$0.12
Scissors				
Ruler				
Foam core board	½ /child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/ board	\$0.63
Crystal clear gift wrap tape				
COST PER PROJECT				\$1.53
CRAFT PACK (does not include glow sticks)				\$0.68

KIDS SAY: "Punching holes is fun!" – "I'll put this in my room."

DAY 4: EMPTY TOMB SILHOUETTE - TIME: 5-9 Minutes				
"Empty Tomb Template"	1/child			
Black cardstock	1/child	Walmart	\$4.97/50	\$0.05
Gel pens	1/child	Amazon	\$4.99/6	\$0.05
Cellophane sheets (4 colors)	1/child	Hobby Lobby	\$4.99/50 sq ft	\$0.05
Permanent markers				
Contact paper	6x6/child	Hobby Lobby	\$2.49/roll 12x48	\$0.32
Scissors	1/child			
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.47
CRAFT PACK				\$0.68

KIDS SAY: "I'll hang it up." – "This is pretty."

DAY 4: MINI LAVA LAMP - TIME: 7-9 Minutes				Voted Kid's Favorite
Plastic tubes with screw-top lids	1/child	Amazon	\$19.99/30	\$0.64
Cooking oil	Amount to fill 1/2 tube	Walmart	\$3.58/10oz	\$0.35
Water	Amount to fill 1/2 tube			
Fizzy bath tablets	1/child	Walmart	\$3.78/60	\$0.07
Funnels	Several to share			
Knife	Leader use only			
COST PER PROJECT				\$1.09

KIDS SAY: "I would put this in my room and watch it every day." – "I like this a lot!"

DAY 4: LIGHT BULB STRING ART - TIME: 16-18 Minutes				
"Large Light Bulb Template"				
Foam insulation	5x8 /child	Home Depot	\$19.92/96X48	\$0.25
Push pins	22/child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/120	\$0.23
Yellow String	36 inches /child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/10yds	\$0.13
Permanent markers				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.59

KIDS SAY: "I'll hang this on my wall." – "This is cool."

DAY 5: TRACE ART CANDLE - TIME: 6-16 Minutes				
"Candle Template"	1/child			
White candle	1/child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/3	\$0.42
Waxed paper	2-by-5-inch square/child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/ 65 sq ft	\$0.01
White tissue paper	1¾-by-1¾ inch square/child.	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/ 35 sheet	\$0.01
Permanent markers				
Scissors and clippers				
Tape				
Blow dryer	Leader use only			
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.44

KIDS SAY: "This is cute." – "I'll never burn it."

DAY 5: SCRATCH ART FRAME - TIME: 12 Minutes (not including drying time)				Leader's Favorite
White cardstock	½ /child	Walmart	\$4.97/100	\$0.03
Unwrapped crayons				
Foam brushes	1/child			
Black paint		Dollar Tree	\$1.25	\$0.06
Liquid dish soap		Dollar Tree	\$1.25	\$0.06
Small disposable plate		Dollar Tree	\$1.25 /30	\$0.04
Pointed cuticle sticks or skewers		Dollar Tree	\$1.25/100	\$0.13
Adhesive-backed magnet	1/child	Amazon	\$7.85/120	\$0.07
Blow dryers	Leader use only			
Scissors, die cut, or craft knife	Leader use only			
Tape				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.39
CRAFT PACK				\$0.68

KIDS SAY: "This is awesome!!" – "I'll make a picture for Miss Courtney!"

DAY 5: KALEIDOSCOPE - TIME: 18-20 minutes				Voted Kid's Favorite
Paper towel tube				
Colored tape	12 in/child	Walmart	\$3.88/10 yds	\$0.13
Mirror paper	11x4/child	Hobby Lobby	\$1.99/12x12	\$0.67
Decorative paper	6x8/child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25 /30ftX20 in	\$0.01
Tracing paper	5-inch square /child	Walmart	\$5.97/50 sheets	\$0.06
Rubber bands	3/child			
Black paper	5-inch square/child	Hobby Lobby	\$1.99/50	\$0.02
Clear plastic	5-inch square /child	Dollar Tree	\$1.25/36 yds	\$0.01
Small translucent beads or multi-colored sequins		Dollar Tree	\$1.25/400	\$0.07
Long reach hole punch	Leader use only			
Ruler and scoring tool				
COST PER PROJECT				\$0.97

DIY STAINED-GLASS WINDOW: 3-5 DAY CRAFT

Stained-glass Art Templates				
8-by-10 picture frame with plastic insert	1	Dollar Tree	\$1.25	\$1.25
Black permanent markers				
Black acrylic paint				
Foam bowls	1	Walmart	\$1.16/2-pack 2oz	\$0.20
Glue		Walmart	\$1.17/4oz	\$0.10
Spoon				
Funnel				
Watercolors		Walmart	\$4.97	\$0.25
Squeeze bottles				
Paintbrushes				
Paint cups				
Cool melt hot glue gun	Leader use only			
COST PER PROJECT				\$1.80

KIDS SAY: “Dangerously fun.” – “I’ll use it outside.”