

Course Overview

Purpose: Discovering God's Plan 4 U = Jesus!
Theme Verse: John 14:6-7

Session	Bible Story	Q&A	Spark Principle	Bible Verse
1 God's Plan: 2 MAKE Us!	The Creation Formulation Genesis 1:1-2:2	Who made the world and who made me? God, who created the universe, made you and loves you. CCC 2044-2046	Gravity: When He made the world, God created all the scientific laws that govern it—laws like gravity.	"In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth[...] God create mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them" Genesis 1:1,27
2 God's Plan: 2 BE WITH Us!	The Sin Separation Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17; 3:1-24	What happens when I disobey God? Sin separates you from God. CCC 1849-1850	Cause & Effect: Whatever we do (a cause) has a result (an effect). Whenever we sin, the effect is separation from God.	"[A]ll have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God." Romans 3:23
3 God's Plan: 4 Us 2 KNOW Him!	The Personification Revelation John 1:1-2,14; 5:1-9; 6:16-21; 11:57; 14:1-7	What is God like? When you read about Jesus in the Bible, you know more about God. CCC 131-133	Motion: Objects at rest stay at rest until a force puts them in motion. People were stuck in sin until Jesus came and put God's plan in motion.	"Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." John 14:6-7
4 God's Plan: 2 SAVE Us!	The Salvation Solution Luke 22-24:35	Why did Jesus have to die? Jesus died and rose again so that you can live as a member of God's family. CCC 616	Transformation: Transformations occur when something new is introduced to an existing object and changes the object. Jesus changes us.	"For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the spirit." 1 Peter 3:18
5 God's Plan: 2 LOVE Us 4-Ever!	The Infinite Implementation Mark 16:15; Acts 1:1-11; 24,41-47; 4:32-35	So... now what do I do? You can live as God's child and show His love to others. CCC 2044-2046	Chain Reaction: A series of events caused by the one before. Sharing God's love with others can start a chain reaction and go on and on and on!	"[L]ive in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma." Ephesians 5:2

* Catechism of the Catholic Church

General Snack Supplies

baking sheets



can openers



cutting boards and knives (for adults)



disposable plates, bowls, cups and plastic utensils



foil



large mixing spoons and serving utensils



measuring cups and spoons



mixing bowls



napkins



oven mitts



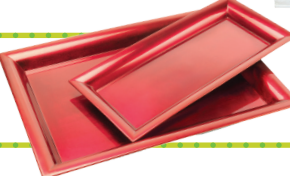
oven or toaster oven



resealable plastic bags



serving platters



Additional Snack Suggestions

All-Time Favorites with a SonSpark Twist

Molecular Models

Provide melon balls (watermelon, cantaloupe, honeydew) and toothpicks or skewers. Kids create their own molecular models and then eat them!

Rainbow Jell-O

Layer Jell-O in several colors in clear cups for a rainbow effect. Add carrot shreds or celery bits, and top with a dollop of yogurt or whipped cream.

Pretzeloids

Provide pretzel sticks, circle-shaped cereal and gumdrops. Kids build models of crystals, robots or machines, sliding circle-shaped cereal pieces over the pretzels as desired. When designs are complete, they are eaten!

Bug Crunchers

Wash and cut celery stalks into kid-friendly sizes. Stuff with whipped cream cheese. Add raisins for "bugs"—or color the cream cheese blue and add fish crackers to the "stream."

Big Dippers

Combine equal parts marshmallow creme and cream cheese to make Cloud Dip. Cut fruit into crescent moon shapes, star shapes, ball (planet) shapes or slices. Children skewer fruit of their choice, add a dollop of Cloud Dip to their plates, and enjoy!

Edible Insect Exhibit

Provide marshmallows, raisins, pretzel sticks and pretzels in other shapes for kids to use to create their own insect specimens, which they then eat! Photograph and email or text photos to parents, since the insects will be in their kids' tummies!

Cookie Bags

Volunteers buy or make cookies (no peanut butter or nuts) or Rice Krispies Treats and place two cookies or one Treat into separate resealable plastic bags. (Optional: Volunteers write short encouraging notes on slips of paper and attach them to bags.) Decorate plastic bags with SonSpark Labs Stickers (available from Liguori Publications). Kids can grab the bags and go!

Bulk Buys for a Big Bunch

- chicken nuggets
- tater tots, onion rings, zucchini sticks
- individual bags of popcorn, pretzels, chips
- popsicles, premade ice-cream novelties
- string cheese
- mini muffins

Low-Sugar Ideas

- carrots or other vegetables with ranch dip
- cheese and crackers
- power shakes (strawberries or other fresh fruit, bananas, soy milk, protein powder, etc.)

And a Few Jokes . . .

- Why don't grapes get lonely?**
Because they come in bunches!
- Which letter of the alphabet has the most water?** The C.
- What has to be broken before you can use it?** An egg.
- What begins with T, ends with T and has "T" in it?**
A teapot.

Liguori Publications Vacation Bible School

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Discovering
God's Plan
4 U = Jesus!

JOHN 14:6-7

Edible Experiments

Snack Guide

Ages 6 to 12 • Grades 1 to 6



Snack Center Basics

Step by Step

1. If your VBS combines games with snacks, coordinate with the Games Leader to determine how time will be shared and how children will move from one area to another.
2. Keep your *Volunteer Pocket Guide* with you! Use it to become familiar with each session's Scripture Verse, Bible Story, Spark Principle and Q&A. Read the Heart Prep each day.
3. Collect supplies and equipment (or submit a list to your VBS Director or supply coordinator). Prepare items as needed. Then group general supplies together, and pack supplies specific to each day in a labeled box or bag.
4. Before VBS, decorate your assigned area. (See information at right.)
5. Lead children in preparing each snack as directed. Always lead children in prayer, thanking God for the good things He provides.

Tips for Making Snacks with Children

- Make sure you have prepared in advance all ingredients and supplies needed for the expected total number of children who are coming to the center, plus a few extras.
- Have water or other drinks on hand, along with cups.
- Keep a supply of extra napkins, a roll of paper towels and a damp sponge at hand. Be sure trash cans are placed where kids will easily see and use them.
- If you choose to have children help with preparing snacks, plan for more teen or adult helpers. The Snack Leader should have one helper for every six to eight children who are in the Snack Center at any time.

Allergy Alerts

- In a place where parents see it as they arrive with their children, post a notice that snacks will be served at VBS.
- Require that allergy or food restriction information be placed on registration forms. Distribute this information to those who need it (kitchen crew, group leaders, etc.).
- If a child's allergies are severe, consider asking parents to send the child wearing a medical-alert bracelet or sticker. This is especially important when serving snacks to younger children who may not be aware of their allergies or food restrictions.
- Post a list of children's names and their food allergies/restrictions at adult eye level in the Snack Center. Provide the same list to each group leader.

Decorating Your Snack Center

With a few simple decorations, you can welcome kids to your Snack Center, where starving young research assistants will find the perfect place to munch. For complete decorating instructions and patterns, see *Lab Décor & More Theme Guide*.

Ideas and Inspiration

- Liguori Publications **Daily Plan Pennants, Decorating Posters, Bible Teaching Posters** and **Wall Murals**
- For tables, **solid-colored fabric or plastic tablecloths with beakers of colored water** as centerpieces
- Colored **LED lights**
- Lab equipment and toys** (chemistry set, mechanical building toys, etc.)
- Old CDs or DVDs** to hang from the ceiling
- Colorful wire**
- Old electronic equipment**
- Black lights** and **fluorescent paint** or objects



Snacks

Snack Supplies

- yellow frosting
- yellow decorating sugar
- candy corn

For Each Child

- cupcake

Day 1: Sun Cakes

Procedure: Children wash and dry hands. Give each child a cupcake, paper plate and plastic knife. Children frost cupcakes with frosting. Children sprinkle decorating sugar on frosting and then arrange candies along edge of cupcake to form a sun as shown in photo. (Optional: Large sugar cookies may be used in place of cupcakes.)



Conversation: Each day this week you'll see a shape that reminds us of part of God's awesome plan. Today's shape is the sun. God made the sun. What does the sun help us do? (Grow plants. Keep warm.) A sun shape reminds us that God made everything in the world. That means He created you and loves YOU!

Low-Sugar Alternative: Cover a rice cake with yellow-colored cream cheese just before eating. Use carrot shreds or dried apricot bits to decorate.

Snack Supplies

- bread
- filling of your choice (possible fillings: pimento cheese, tuna salad, cream cheese with chopped veggies, deviled ham [now THAT's symbolic!], etc.)

Utensils

- heart-shaped cookie cutters

Day 2: Broken-Heart Sandwiches

Procedure: Children wash and dry hands. Place bread, fillings, cookie cutters and plastic knives where each child may make a sandwich. Kids use cookie cutters to cut heart shapes from sandwiches and then use plastic knives to cut hearts jaggedly in half. (They'll likely also eat their sandwich scraps!)



Conversation: What do our sandwiches look like?

Volunteers respond. **When we have a broken heart, it means we are very sad. A broken heart reminds us that when we sin, or disobey God, it makes our hearts hurt. What are some times people disobey God?**

Volunteers respond. **God's heart hurts when we sin, too! But God never stops loving us!**

Snack Supplies

- graham crackers
- fruit leather
- variety of whipped cream cheeses

Day 3: Folded Fruit Books

Preparation: Break graham crackers into squares or rectangles along perforations. Cut fruit leather into rectangles that are twice as wide as the graham crackers.

Procedure: Children wash and dry hands. Set out fruit-leather rectangles and plastic knives. Give each child two graham-cracker squares or rectangles and a fruit-leather rectangle on a plate. Kids use knives to spread cream cheese between graham crackers, and kids then cover their "books" with the fruit leather before eating.



Conversation: Our book snacks remind us of a Bible. What is in the Bible?

Volunteers respond. **A Bible reminds us that God wants us to know Him! God sent His Son, Jesus, to Earth to show us what God is like. Jesus said if we know Him, we will know God the Father, too. The Bible tells us about Jesus.**

Snack Supplies

- pineapple juice
- apples
- pretzel sticks
- jack cheese, cubed

Utensils

- shallow container for juice

Day 4: Pretzel Crosses

Preparation: Pour a little pineapple juice into shallow container. Cut apples into halves and core, preparing one half for each child. Dip each cut side of apple half into pineapple juice. Put pretzels and cheese cubes in separate bowls and set on tables.



Procedure: Children wash and dry hands. Give each child an apple half on a plate. Using cheese cubes to connect pretzel sticks, kids make cross shapes, adding cheese cubes to ends of the cross. Children insert pretzel end into apple half to stand cross while making another cross.

Conversation: Our crosses remind us of Jesus. Jesus died on a wooden cross. He did this so our sins could be forgiven. Because Jesus died, we can be forgiven for our sins and join God's family at Baptism. A cross reminds us that Jesus died—and came back to life again!

Snack Supplies

- English muffins
- pasta sauce
- cheese slices

Utensils

- heart-shaped cookie cutters

Optional

- pizza toppings (olives, pepperoni, etc.)

Day 5: Whole-Heart Pizzas

Preparation: Halve muffins; cover each half with pasta sauce.

Procedure: Children wash and dry hands. Give each child a paper plate with a muffin half and cheese slice. Kids use cookie cutters to cut a heart shape from cheese slice. Children place cutout heart shapes on muffin.



(Optional: Add pizza toppings.) Place in a toaster oven or under a broiler until muffin is heated and cheese is browned.

Conversation: What shape is on your pizza? (Heart.) **It is not a broken heart.**

It is a whole heart! Whenever we see a heart shape, it reminds us of love.

We can remember to love like Jesus. When we live as members of God's family, He promises to help us show Jesus' love to our family and friends, so the love goes on and on and on!