



Welcome to *God's Little Explorers Preschool Curriculum!* I'm so excited to be sharing this journey with you. If you would like to know more about God's Little Explorers, please [read this blog post](#). You can also find a [listing of resources to use with God's Little Explorers on this page](#).

Each week, I will be sharing the lesson plans I'm using with my youngest daughter (*and my five-year-old, too...once we started, she didn't want to be left out*). We'll be exploring one letter (in no particular order), various math concepts, thematic projects (like cooking, crafts, and science), and one Bible story per week.

The curriculum is written to be four days each week. I recommend using the fifth day for a field trip and/or service project each week to enhance the theme and your child's learning.

I've written the lessons to be approximately 30-45 minutes if you complete the top three sections (Bible, Theme, and ABC & 123). The Life Skills section adds a little more time depending how thorough you are in teaching the various skills. The Other Ideas section, Book Bag, and Learning Bags are just extra ideas I share in case you want to switch-out a project, extend the learning, or don't like an activity I have included in the main lesson. Ideas that work for my children won't necessarily work for yours, so feel free to change and adapt the curriculum to fit your child's needs and your own!

This is a work-in-progress, so feel free to email me with your ideas and suggestions. You can contact me at motherhoodonadime@gmail.com. Please feel free to share this program with friends by sending them to [the landing page for God's Little Explorers](#). Please remember, this material is copyrighted, so you may not redistribute or sell these plans. Thanks for your help!

Blessings!

Stacie Nelson

For all have sinned...
Romans 3:23

Bible

Theme
"A" is for Apple

ABC & 123

Letter: A
Shape: Circle

Life

Book
Bag

Day 1

Bible Exploration: Read the story of Adam and Eve in the garden and the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Sing "O, Be Careful (from Wee Sing)"

Today, we will begin this [Apple Tree Craft](#). To allow drying time, we will spread it over several days. Today, we will make the "trunk" of the tree by painting your child's foot brown and having them step onto a piece of paper. Allow to dry.

Since you'll have the paint out already, you can easily do the Theme Adventure next.

Theme Adventure: [Apple Printing](#) – Cut two apples in half. Use one-half of an apple to print yellow apples. Use another half to print green apples. Use another half to print red apples. Use the final half as a snack!

Print at least eight apples of each color. Allow to dry, add a stem with a marker, and cut-out the apples. Save these to use later in the week. Heavy paper or cardstock would be preferable. You may also want to laminate the apples if you'd like to add them to a busy bag or use them for other activities.

ABC Exploration: Teach the sound a-a-a. Put your hands on your face and say "a-a-a" (like "Ahh, I can't believe it...why did Adam and Eve sin?").

Make an "a" Pencil Topper.

Look for the letter **a** in magazines. Have your child cut-out a few and glue them in the Alphabet Book (from week 1). If the cutting is too challenging for your child, have them cut out a bigger section, glue it on the paper, and highlight any letter a's they can find.

Self Help: This week, practice buttoning and unbuttoning. It's best to start with larger buttons and practice with those until your child is proficient.

Day 2

Bible Exploration: Read the story of Adam and Eve. Talk about sin and the consequences for Adam and Eve—and for us.

Memorize part or all of Romans 3:23.

Sing "O, Be Careful (from Wee Sing)"

Add the leaves to the [Apple Tree Craft](#). Paint your child's hand green and make handprints around the trunk.

Theme Adventure:

Snack: Purchase several varieties of apples. [Cut open the apples and count how many seeds are in each one.](#) Save the seeds for a project we'll complete tomorrow.

Then, have an apple taste test. Which is your child's favorite? Which is sweetest? Which is the most crisp?

Record your answers on the attached graph.

Shape Adventure: Use the binoculars to go on a hunt for circles. Use play dough to form circles.

After you've formed circles, add to them and make lowercase letter a's.

You might consider adding cinnamon to red play dough and making apple pie scented play dough!

Chore: Model how and where to put toys away in your child's bedroom. Too often we want our children to clean up, but they don't know where things belong. It can also be overwhelming.

Have a special place for toys – whether it's color-coded bins, labeled boxes, or one big toy box. Whatever system you use, just be sure your child has plenty of practice using it and understands what expectations you have for room cleanliness.

[Ten Apples Up On Top \(Dr. Seuss\):](#)

Play an [apple counting game](#). Consider using this game on Thursday during Math Exploration.

[How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World](#)

Bake some apple pies.

[The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree](#)

Make paper trees or paint trees depicting each season as described and shown in the book.

Day 3

Bible Exploration: Re-read and discuss the story of Adam and Eve.

Memorize part or all of Romans 3:23. Write each word on one of the printed apples from Day 1. Draw a tree on a whiteboard or chalkboard and tape the apples on the tree. Help your child pick the apples and put the verse in order.

Add apples to the [Apple Tree Craft](#). Have your child use red paint and his thumb to make the apples on the tree. *(Go ahead and complete the "ABC Exploration below while you have the paint and fingers messy.)*

Theme Adventure: Make applesauce. (Our [crockpot version](#) is easy!)

Try an [Apple Balance Test](#): Find several objects your child can try to balance on her head. You might pick a book, an apple, a toy of some sort, etc.

Then, try to balance the item while walking. Which is easiest? Which is harder? How long or how far can you keep it balanced?

Math Exploration: Use the [cut-out apple prints made on Monday to make patterns](#). Start with a basic A,B,A,B pattern. Move to more challenging patterns as your child progresses.

After making patterns, write numbers 1-10 on the apples. If your child is ready, have them put the apples in numerical order. Depending on your child's level, you may need to offer help and coaching.

Another fun idea is to [place the apples in a fake tree or plant and have your child pick them and put them in numerical order](#).

Manners: Practice politeness this week by focusing on saying please and thank you. It's never too early to begin using these kind words. (I had my babies signing them as soon as they were able!)

Consider making a thank you card for someone this week.

Day 4

Bible Exploration: Review the story of Adam and Eve and the first sin. Using [invisible ink](#) (lemon juice) and a q-tip or paintbrush, write some sins on a piece of white paper. Allow the paper to dry thoroughly. Talk about how Adam and Eve tried to hide their sin.

Once the paper is dry, hold it over a lamp or other source that heats up. As the paper gets warmer, the words will begin to appear. Talk about how God could see Adam and Eve's sin – it wasn't hidden from Him.

If you have [The Big Picture Bible](#), read "A Sad Day" from it.

Theme Adventure:

Make a [paper plate apple craft](#). Fingerpaint the edges of a paper plate red. Leave the center white. Glue the apple seeds from Day 2 in the middle of the plate. Add a construction paper or pipe cleaner stem.

Verbally label the parts of the apple: skin, flesh, core, seeds, and stem.

ABC Exploration: Review the sound and gesture for letter "a". Add [one of the printed apples \(and write the letter a on it\)](#) to the "Treasure Map".

Find flashcards or make an index card with each of the letters we've learned so far (x, g, a). Lay them in front of your child. See if they can hand you the letter g. Then, try the letter a. Then the letter x. Once they can easily pick-out the letter, see if they can name the letter sound. When that is mastered, have them name some words that begin with each sound.

Service: Bake an apple pie together and share it with a neighbor, new mom, or someone else you know.

Other Ideas

Field Trip: Pick apples from a friend or neighbor's (or your own) apple tree or go to an apple orchard.

Make "[Starry](#)" [Apple Prints](#).

Create this [Easy as Apple Pie Snack](#).

Play "Hi-Ho Cherry-O" (*not technically apples, but you can pretend!*)

Find information about these studies on the [Resource Page for God's Little Explorers](#):

- Hymn: What Can Wash Away My Sin?
- Composer Study: Franz Joseph Haydn.
- Artist Study: Claude Monet

My Ideas:

A circular logo with a dashed teal border. Inside, the words "Learning" and "Bags" are written in a colorful, playful font. "Learning" is in green, yellow, and blue, while "Bags" is in blue and green.

Learning
Bags

[Apple Tree Number Game](#): Practice counting and one-to-one correspondence with this activity.

[Apple Counting](#): Make a busy bag with the printed apples you made on Day 1 and number them from 1-10. Have your child put them in numerical order. You might also want to punch holes in them to correspond with each number. You could add "worms" made from pipe cleaners and have your child put a worm through each hole!

See how to use the bags on the [Busy Bag Resource page](#) and find more [Learning Bag activities on the Busy Bag page](#).

Apple Taste Test

Kinds of Apples					
Describing Words	Sweet	Sour	Crunchy	Soft	Juicy

