

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 <u>read this blog post</u>. You can also find a <u>listing of resources to use with God's Little Explorers on this page</u>.

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

"He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." Galations 3:6











Day 1

Bible Exploration: Read the story of Abraham. Review this week's Bible Verse, "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." Galatians 36

Sing "Father Abraham" from Wee Sing.

Theme Adventure: Set up a tent – indoors or out. If you don't have access to a tent, make one with a sheet and chairs (or a table).

You might consider setting up a <u>pretend</u> campfire, too.

Allow time for free play and exploration. You can also do the alphabet activity below inside the tent.

ABC Exploration: Teach the sound *ttt* Make a triangle with your hands and say "t-t-t-tent."

Make a "t" Pencil Topper.

Poke holes in the bottom of a Styrofoam or plastic cup to form the letter t. Shine a flashlight through the cup and onto the top of the tent you set up. Be sure the room is dark. Depending on the strength of your flashlight and the kind of cup you use, you should be able to make out the letter ton the ceiling. You could also use this idea to make stars and constellations on the tent ceiling.

Self Help: This week, have your child practice your first and last name. She needs to know you're name is more than mommy or daddy!

Day 2

Bible Exploration: Reenact the journey of Abraham. Load up backpacks with clothes, food, and drinks. Use a blanket and two chairs or a cardboard box as a tent. Set up a "campsite" in your house or yard. Retell the story of Abraham—stopping every so often to pick up your camp and move (like Abraham did). Continue the story each time you reset up camp. This may get a little tiring, but it will give your child a small idea of the challenge of Abraham's journey. Yet, he trusted God and went wherever God called him to go.

Sing "Father Abraham"

Theme Adventure:

The Bible Exploration takes quite a bit of time today, so it doubles as the Theme Adventure.

Feel free to add another activity as time allows.

ABC Exploration: Sing "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" while shining the flashlight/cup from yesterday in your tent. Review the sound and sign for *t* You may also want to try making shadows on the tent wall.

In the alphabet book (made during Week 1, Day 1), have your child draw lowercase ${\bf \ell}'$ s all over the page in different colors.

Chore: This week, we'll move to the living room. The first chore is to teach your child how to dust. Everyone has a different way of doing it, but an old sock put on your child's hand is an easy way to practice dusting.

S is for S'mores: A Camping Alphabet

Brainstorm your own theme and make an alphabet book.

Camp-Out: The Ultimate Kids' Guide

This is more of an activity book, but there are lots of ideas that could be adapted for preschoolers. Pick one!

Bailey Goes Camping

This is a cute story! Have a camp-out at home.

Day 3

Bible Exploration: Review the story of Abraham and sing "Father Abraham"

Review this week's verse.

Use an apple core or a mini-marshmallow on a toothpick dipped in paint to make "stars" all over a sheet of black paper. Allow to dry. (You may also want to complete the Math Adventure below while you have out the paint.)

Theme Adventure: Go outdoors on a nature hunt. Use items you find to make <u>nature art.</u>

You can also use sticks or twigs you find to make the letter \boldsymbol{t}

Shape Adventure: Review shapes. While outdoors on your nature hunt, draw your child's attention to the various shapes found in nature. See what shapes they can point out on their own.

Math Adventure: Make a Number Match. Cut two pieces of black paper into sixths. Have your child trace and glue the attached numbers on one side of each rectangle (you'll have two rectangles left over). Have them place the corresponding number of star stickers or print the number of "stars" for each one with a marshmallow or an apple core.

Manners: Have your child practice what they should do when the doorbell rings. Have them practice answering the door (*if you allow them to do so*). Role-play different scenarios: What should they do if a delivery person comes to the door? Friends? Someone selling something?

I generally only let the girls open the door when I know it's friends who are visiting, so we practice saying hello, inviting guests inside, and being hospitable.

Day 4

Bible Exploration: Finish the project started yesterday. Use three popsicle sticks to make a tent frame. Glue them on the black sheet with stars from yesterday. Color and cut-out the triangle from the attached sheet. Cut up the center line of the triangle. Glue the sides on the craft sticks (don't glue the bottom). After the glue dries, have your child draw a small picture of Abraham and glue him inside the tent. If your child doesn't feel comfortable drawing a person, have them draw the letter t and glue it inside the tent.

Theme Adventure:

After you put together the S'mores Kits below, make your own s'mores or try these easy campfire cones.

ABC Exploration: Review the sound and gesture for letter "t". <u>Draw a small tent (and write a t on it)</u> and add it to the "Treasure Map".

Cut a pipe cleaner into several pieces to fit the printable t. Have your child glue them to the t

Service: Make up some <u>S'mores Kits</u> for people who volunteer in your church, school, community, etc. Deliver them.

Other Ideas

Field Trip: Go camping!

Make a Plastic Bag Backpack.

Make a <u>Camping Cake</u>.

Try Ice Cream in a Can.

Find information about these studies on the Resource Page for God's Little Explorers:

- Hymn: Standing on the Promises
- Composer Study: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.
- Artist Study: Henri Rousseau

My Ideas:



<u>Number Match</u>: Use the Math Adventure cards from Day 3 to make counting puzzles. Cut the number apart from the stars using a zig-zag or other puzzle-type cut. See if your child can count the stars and match them with the written number. You may want to laminate these. Store them in a plastic baggy.

Melissa & Doug See & Spell: This is a store-bought toy, but you can recreate the same idea by picking some three to four letter words, writing them on an index card, possibly drawing a picture, and letting your child find the letters needed to spell the word.

See how to use the bags on the <u>Busy Bag Resource page</u> and find more <u>Learning Bag activities on the Busy Bag page</u>.





