



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

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." —Luke 15:20 NV

Bible

Theme
"p" is for Pig (Farm Animals)

ABC & 123

Letter: p
Color: Purple

Life

Book
Bag

Day 1

Bible Exploration:

Read the story of The Prodigal Son.

Sing "Books of the New Testament" from Wee Sing.

Theme Adventure:

This week we are talking about "p" is for pig, but we'll also be talking about other farm animals. Check out books from the library or read some you have at home about farms.

Set up a [farm sensory bin](#). Fill it with popcorn, seeds of some sort, grain, or dirt. Add some plastic farm animals and any other farm-type items you may already have.

Allow your child time to explore the bin.

ABC Exploration: Teach the sound *ppp*. Make your left hand straight up and down and circle your right hand against it to form a p. Gently tap your hands together and say "pp pig."

Make a lowercase "p" [Pencil Topper](#).

Color Exploration: Place a sheet of purple paper on the floor. Ask your child to go on a color hunt to find purple items to place on the paper.

Self Help:

Teach your child how to fold pants and towels. They can also learn to fold socks and shirts when they are ready.

The Three Little Pigs

This is a fun variation on the classic story. Read it and compare it with the original storyline.

If You Give a Pig a Pancake

Brainstorm words that begin with the letter P. Make pancakes!

Day 2

Bible Exploration:

Reread the story of The Prodigal Son.

Have your child [color a section of an egg carton pink to make a pig nose](#). Use a hole-punch to put holes in the side and thread some yarn to make your child into a little piggy. Add some paper ears to a headband or hat. Save these for tomorrow.

Theme Adventure:

Play a "Who am I?" farm game. Pick an animal and give your child one clue at a time and let them give one answer at a time until they figure out what animal you chose.

You may say something like:

"I have four legs."

"I have a curly tail."

"I like mud."

Let your child pick an animal and ask questions, too.

Math Exploration:

Use [cupcake holders](#) or [small containers](#) as "feeding troughs". Number them 1-10 (or higher if your child is ready).

Give your child a supply of unpopped corn kernels and have them put the corresponding amount into the cupcake holder.

Chore:

You might consider teaching your child how to put clothes into the washer, move clothes from the washer to the dryer, and/or move them from the dryer to the clothes-folding area in your house.

Day 3

Bible Exploration:

Review the story of the Prodigal Son.

If you have enough people, you can act out the story. Use the pig nose and ears from yesterday and add bathrobes or other costumes for the father and son.

If you are short on people, just talk through the story and act out the final scene when the son returns home to his father or act out the story with stuffed animals.

Theme Adventure:

Make Pigs in a Blanket: Wrap a hotdog with a crescent roll or biscuit dough. Bake according to biscuit directions.

You could also use large and small marshmallows and toothpicks and try your hand at constructing a pig.

ABC Exploration:

Make pink and purple p's in the Alphabet Notebook.

Color Exploration:

Make a purple collage. Add photos of purple items from a magazine, purple scrap paper, ribbon, buttons, felt, etc. Write the word "purple" on the collage somewhere and save to make a color book.

Manners:

Talk about "dressing for the occasion". It is a sign of good manners and respect for others to dress appropriately for whatever circumstance you find yourself. For example, you generally dress up for a recital, but you dress in clothes you can get messy for an art class.

We've discussed this a little bit already, but practicing dressing for the weather is also a good thing to review.

Day 4

Bible Exploration:

Have a p-p-pretend p-p-party and celebrate the return of the prodigal son. Talk about the verse and how the story relates to us as God's children.

Sing "Books of the New Testament" from Wee Sing.

Theme Adventure:

Barnyard Art: Cut three circles: a large circle, medium circle, and a small circle. Glue the medium circle in the middle of the large circle for a face. Glue the small circle in the medium circle for a nose. Draw eyes, ears, and add a tail.

Make a [folded paper barn](#). Add the pig.

ABC Exploration:

Review the sound and gesture for letter "p".

Glue popcorn to the printable letter p. Add it to your alphabet wall or notebook.

Have your child draw a pig on a small piece of paper. Write a letter p on it and add it to the treasure map.

Service:

Start a "piggy bank" fund. Put spare change in it and donate the proceeds to your favorite organization or cause.

Other Ideas

Pop the popcorn from the sensory bin and use it to make art projects (winter snow scenes, a snowman, etc.).


Visit a farm or petting zoo.

Make a fingerpainting: Fingerpaint pink pigs. Allow to dry. Fingerpaint mud on them.

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

- Hymn: Softy and Tenderly Jesus is Calling
- Composer Study: Franz Schubert
- Artist Study: Vermeer (Mary & Martha painting)

My Ideas:

The logo for "Learning Bags" is a circular emblem with a dashed teal border. The word "Learning" is written in a multi-colored, playful font (yellow, green, blue, red) and "Bags" is written below it in a similar multi-colored font. The background of the circle is light grey.

Learning
Bags

[Tearing Paper Busy Bag](#)

[Farm Clip & Learn from 1+1+1=1](#)

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

