

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 is not here; he has risen!" —Luke 24:6 NIV







Life



Day 1

Bible Exploration:

This week we are talking about "e" is for excited. We will be focusing on emotions. Read about Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Talk about what Jesus was might have been feeling.

End on a joyful note by learning "Down in My Heart" from Wee Sing.

Theme Adventure:

Name an emotion for your child and see if they can make a face to look like the emotion. Take a picture of them showing the emotion (if they are okay with that) to use for a project later in the week. Some ideas include: sad, happy, excited, gloomy, mad, scared, and surprised.

You could also have your child watch his expression in a mirror during this activity.

ABC Exploration: Teach the sound *e e e.* Make an excited face and say "*e e excited*"

Make a lowercase "e" Pencil Topper.

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

Self Help:

Teach your child how to water plants outdoors. You may also want to review watering plants indoors.

Day 2

Bible Exploration:

Read about the death of Jesus today. Talk about the different emotions of the people in the story. How did Mary feel? How did the disciples feel? What about the crowds? Pilate? The guards? There are all kinds of emotions you can find when you focus on them in the story.

Sing "Down in My Heart" from Wee Sing.

Theme Adventure:

Use permanent markers to <u>decorate plastic eggs</u> <u>with faces</u>. Ask your child to make faces with various emotions—happy faces, sad faces, surprised faces, etc.

Math /ABC Exploration:

<u>Easter Egg Number Hunt</u>: Instead of using letters (like in the post), use the printable numbers and corresponding dots.

Hide the eggs with the slips of paper in them and have your child match the correct number to the correct amount of dots.

Chore

If you have a garden, teach your child how to weed the plants or have them help you get the garden ready for planting.

The Legend of the Easter Egg

Make crumpled tissue paper eggs.

God Gave Us Easter

Make a caterpillar to butterfly craft to celebrate new life.

Day 3

Bible Exploration:

Read the story of the disciples hiding out in the Upper Room. Ask your child what kind of emotions they might have felt? Despair, confusion, sorrow, fear?

Make these <u>Easter Story Eggs</u> to help explain the story to your child.

Sing "Down in My Heart" from Wee Sing.

Theme Adventure:

<u>Paint various emotions</u>. Ask your child to paint anger. Ask them to paint happiness. Ask them to paint sorrow. You may even want to find music to correspond with the emotions and have them paint to the music.

ABC Exploration:

Use the printable letter e and draw various happy, sad, excited, and other emotional faces. Cut it out and add to the alphabet wall or notebook.

Color Exploration:

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

Manners:

Talk to your child about proper manners for walking through other people's yards (no trampling flowers, walk on the sidewalk, etc.).

Practice!

Day 4

Bible Exploration:

Talk about the excitement and joy the disciples felt when they found out Jesus was alive!

Make <u>Resurrection Cookies</u> or <u>Resurrection Rolls</u> together.

Sing "Down in My Heart" from Wee Sing.

Theme Adventure:

Print out the "emotion" photos of your child from earlier in the week. Make a simple book using the photos. At the bottom of each photo write "I feel _____." Fill in the blank with the corresponding emotion.

ABC Exploration:

Review the sound and gesture for letter "e".

Practice writing the letter e in the alphabet notebook or cut out the letter e from a magazine or paper and glue on the page.

Draw e on a small sheet of paper and ask your child to draw an excited face. Add it to the treasure map.

Service:

Give some of your Resurrection cookies or rolls from earlier to someone special and share that Jesus is alive!

Other Ideas

Read "Jesus Wears God's Kingly Crown" (Part 20) from The Big Picture Bible.

Egg coloring with a whisk.

Easter Egg Fruit Pizza

Jelly Bean Poem Basket

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

- Hymn: The Old Rugged Cross
- Composer Study: Johannes Brahms
- Artist Study: Michelangelo

My Ideas:



Alphabet Matching Plastic Egg Busy Bag

Water Bottle Stuff-It (Number 16)

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>.

