A MET VBS ADVENTURE MANUAL

## PLUG INTO GOD'S POWER

CRAFTS

	DAY 1	DAY 2
POWER OVER	SPHERES	PEERS
POWER POINT (BIBLE LESSON)	God vs. Man Job 38-42	Grasshoppers vs. Giants Numbers 13-14
POWER LINES (VERSES)	Jeremiah 51:15a	2 Samuel 22:33
BENNY'S BREAKER BOX	Currents & Circuits	Pneumatic & Static Electricity
HARACTER TRAITS	HONOR Showing respect	OPTIMISM Having a positive outlook
ART GALLERY (CRAFTS)	Spheres Spinning Spheres & City Spheres	Birds Bella Bluebird & Bella Puppet
ENERGY FIELD (GAMES)	Current Events	City Cleanup
FILLING STATION (SNACKS)	Scrumptious Spheres Melon Balls, Popcorn Balls, & Cheese Balls	Canaan's Confections Grapes, Cheese, Grasshopper Legs, & Fig Newtons
BELLA'S BRIGHT IDEAS	I.D. Tag	Citizen Dress Up

C

This calendar gives an overall view of the major themes and events;

Pale

ndah



DAY 3 TEARS	DAY 4 FEARS	DAY 5 YEARS
Joy vs. Sorrow Book of Nehemiah	Faith vs. Fear Hebrews 11	Life vs. Death John 20-21 & Matthew 26-28
Isaiah 40:29	2 Timothy 1:7	Philippians 3:10a
Magnets & Metals	Motors & Meters	Sockets & Switches
JOY Happiness inside that spills out	FAITH Acting confidently on what God says	HUMILITY Valuing others more than myself
Smiles Smile Stress Pillow & Smiling Flower Magnet	Cars Racing Roadsters & Taxi Cabs	Crosses Cross String Art & Cross Bird Feeder
Builders & Breakers	Traffic Jam	Wire Wars
Happy Hearts Smile Cookies & Strawberry Hearts	Travel Treats Fruit Cars & Rice Krispies Stoplights	Sweet Symbols Resurrection Tombs or Root Beer Floats
Build a City Building	Team Color	Drawing Power

## "God Is My Strength and Power" 2 Samuel 22:33

however, due to circumstances, facilities, and timing, some items may change slightly.

# - TABLE OF CONTENTS -

11

11

PROGRAM OVERVIEW	5
Daily Themes	5
A Day at VBS	6
Why This Program?	6
Terms	7
PERSONAL PREPARATION	8
Get Ready	8
Keys to Success	10
Please Remember	10
CRAFT INSTRUCTIONS	11
DAY 01   Spheres	
Spinning Spheres	11
City Spheres	12
DAY 02   Birds	
Bella Bluebird	13
Bella Puppet	14

DAY 03   Smiles	
Smile Stress Pillow	15
Smiling Flower Magnet	16
DAY 04   Cars	
Racing Roadsters	17
Taxi Cabs	19
DAY 05   Crosses	
Cross String Art	20
Cross Bird Feeder	21
CRAFT KITS & IDEAS	22
CRAFT TEMPLATES	23



## CRAFTS MANUAL

© 2023 Merrill Ministries. All rights reserved. Not for resale. For more information, contact Randy Merrill at randy@merrillministries.com.

PROJECT COORDINATOR | Randy Merrill CRAFT CONTENT | Tricia Merrill and Cora Merrill WRITERS | Miranda Peets and Tricia Merrill EDITORS | Randy Merrill and Dave Peets COVER AND INTERIOR DESIGN | Micah Merrill and Malchijah Merrill IMAGES AND GRAPHICS | Micah Merrill, Malchijah Merrill, and Vecteezy.com

# – PROGRAM OVERVIEW –

Introducing this year's exciting VBS adventure:

ELECTRICITY FPLUG INTO GOD'S POWER

...a power-packed VBS set in the early 1900's that will transport Citizens of all ages on an unforgettable journey!

## DAILY THEMES

Discover God's great power over...

### 01. SPHERES



"Who's got power? God does!" Today, we'll travel through Job 38-42 as big concepts like the litho-, hydro-, bio-, and atmospheres are broken down into easy-to-grasp pieces. Our great God has power over all the earth!

### 02. PEERS

Everyone faces peer pressure, but Joshua and Caleb didn't let it stop them from trusting in God! The same God who parted the Red Sea is the same all-powerful God who can defeat the giants in your life!

## 03. TEARS

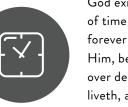
It's OK to cry when you're sad. When Nehemiah learned that his beloved city, Jerusalem, was in ruins, he wept. Today we'll see that even in times of sadness and sorrow, "the joy of the Lord is [our] strength!" (Neh. 8:10)



### 04. FEARS

Are you afraid of snakes? Spiders? Mice? With God's help, we can face our fears with faith! As we tour the great "Hall of Faith" in Hebrews 11, we find we don't have to be afraid because "God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind!" (2 Tim. 1:7)

## 05. YEARS



God existed before the beginning of time and His reign will last forever! The grave couldn't hold Him, because He alone has power over death! Jesus said, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold I am alive forevermore!" (Rev. 1:18)

HE IS OUR GREAT, all-powerful God!

# PERSONAL PREPARATION -

#### YOUR ROLE

As the leader at the Art Gallery, you have the special job of encouraging creativity in the minds of the Citizens that visit your City Circuit Station.

Crafts play a key role in VBS by helping children demonstrate their God-designed individuality in a hands-on way. In addition to developing fine motor skills and dexterity, children gain healthy friendships, communication, and problemsolving skills.

Crafts aren't just about making cute coasters and coloring—although those are key elements. Crafts provide a way you can reach out and demonstrate the love of Jesus to each Citizen that comes to VBS. Offering a word of encouragement, a thumbs up, or genuine praise can uplift the spirit of a struggling child.

Thank you!

Thank you in advance for your hard work, preparation, and willingness to serve. We appreciate you and are praying for you.

## GET READY

Reading this manual carefully in advance will help reduce last-minute emergencies or mishaps. If you have any questions, please contact your VBS Director as soon as possible.

The following pages contain several fun, yet inexpensive, crafts ideas. Feel free to adapt these according to your supplies or setting. If you choose to design your own crafts, please try to coordinate them with the daily or weekly theme.



## — CRAFT INSTRUCTIONS —

Two craft options are given for you to choose from each day. The 1st option is geared toward older children and the 2nd option is geared more toward younger children. Additional suggestions are given at the back of this manual.

## DAY 01 | SPHERES

### CITIZEN TIP

Welcome to the Art Gallery, Citizens! Today we learned that God has power over all the spheres. Can you name the different spheres? (Atmo, Litho, Bio, Hydro) (Encourage students after each correct answer and guide incorrect answers to the correct answer.) Excellent thinking! Today as you create your own special spheres, remember that God created you in a special way too! He loves you very much!

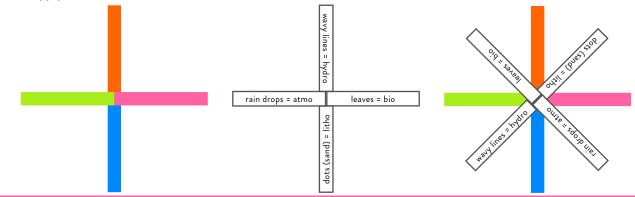
## OPTION 01 | SPINNING SPHERES

#### MATERIALS

- □ TEMPLATE | God Has Power Over Spheres, 1 circle per child
- $\hfill\square$   $8^{1}\!\!/_2"$  x 14" (OR  $8^{1}\!\!/_2"$  x 11") sheets of paper, 1 sheet per 2 children
- □ Glue sticks, 3-4 per table
- □ Crayons or colored pencils
- □ 8" lengths of neon-colored string
- □ Hand wipes or wet paper towels, 1 per child
- □ Brown table paper or plastic table cloths

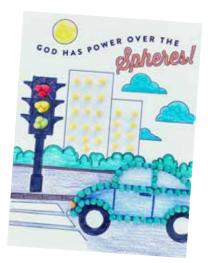
#### ADVANCE PREP

- 1. Gather materials and cover craft tables with tablecloths.
- 2. Cut paper into <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 14" (OR <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 11") strips.
- 3. Cut the 1/2"-sized leftover strip into 3" lengths.
- 4. Copy/print and cut out the TEMPLATE.



## INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Gather 4 long strips of paper, 1 short strip of paper, 1 TEMPLATE circle, and 1 piece of string.
- 2. Color one side of each strip. (Children can follow the pattern given, or color strips as desired.)
- 3. Fold each strip in half (to find the middle).
- 4. Using the center fold line as a guide, make a "+" sign out of 2 strips (colored side up).
- 5. Glue the center where the pieces overlap.
- 6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 with the remaining 2 strips.
- Place the completed "+" signs on top of each other with the spokes spaced equally apart. (See example.)
- 8. Glue the centers of the "+" signs together.
- 9. Turn the entire craft over (so the blank side is up).
- 10. Lift one strip, put glue on top of the end, and glue it to the end of the opposing strip to form a ring.
- 11. Continue this process until all the ends are connected in the center to make a sphere.
- 12. Set sphere aside to dry.
- 13. Write your name on the short strip of paper.
- 14. Glue the ends of the short strip together to form a ring.
- 15. Glue the ring onto the middle of the TEMPLATE circle.
- 16. Glue the TEMPLATE circle on top of the sphere. (Use your finger as a base to press the paper onto.)
- 17. Slide the piece of string through the ring at the top and tie a knot.
- 18. Hold the sphere up by the string and twist the string in your fingers to make it spin.



## OPTION 02 | CITY SPHERES

## MATERIALS

- □ TEMPLATE | City Spheres, 1 per child
- □ Cardstock, 1 sheet per child
- □ Colorful sphere-shaped items (pom poms, cereal, etc. We used Trix Minis.), several per child
- □ Craft glue
- Plates/bowls for to hold the glue and sphere-shaped items
- □ Q-tips, 1 per child
- □ Wipes or wet paper towels, 1 per child

## ADVANCE PREP

- 1. Gather materials.
- 2. Cover craft tables with tablecloths.
- 3. Print TEMPLATE.
- 4. Set out q-tips and plates/bowls of glue and spherical items.

## INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Write your name on the back of the picture.
- 2. Color the picture.
- Glue spherical items on the picture to make it 3D. (Try not to use a lot of glue so it dries quickly.)