



MISSION LEADER

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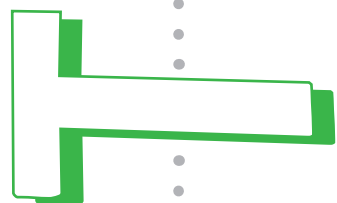
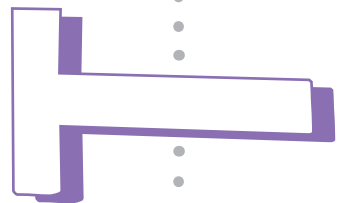
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DISCOVERY ON ADVENTURE ISLAND

	Bible Story	Pathfinder	Music	Crafts
SESSION 1	The Creation Story (Genesis 1:1-2:9)	Arise! Shine with Love!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovery on Adventure Island • Creator of the Universe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sew Your Own Beacon Puppet • Creation Craft • Suncatcher Windchime • Lighthouse
SESSION 2	Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1-20)	Arise! Shine with Trust!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your Light Has Come • Little Night Light 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burning Bush Sand Art • Burning Bush Window Cling • Doorknob Hanger • Beacon Hat
SESSION 3	Faith Through the Roof (Luke 5:17-26)	Arise! Shine with Faith!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bustin' Through the Roof • Here I Am to Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper Lanterns • Air Clay Frame • Arise! Shine! Handprint Kit • Paper Cup Lanterns
SESSION 4	The "Lost" Parables (Luke 15)	Arise! Shine with Joy!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running • I Feel Like Dancin' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arise! Shine! Bracelet • Treasure Box • Binoculars • Lighthouse Bookmark
SESSION 5	Mary at the Tomb (John 20:1-18)	Arise! Shine with Hope!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You Reign Forevermore • Everywhere 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wooden Tabletop Cross • Shiny Cross • Adventure Island Map with Stickers

SIGNAL VERSE



Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the LORD's glory has shone upon you! (Isaiah 60:1)

Science

- Take a Look at Invisible Light!
- Create-a-Compass

- Surprising Fire
- Light... Amplified!

- Safe Landing
- Floating Person Experiment

- Light and Our Sense of Sight
- Balloon Celebration

- Adventure Island Volcano
- Capillary Actions and Reactions
- BONUS: Liquid Lanterns

Recreation

- Creation Relay Race
- Bible Verse Waves
- What Animal?

- Take Off Your Shoes
- Pool Noodle Shepherds
- Avoid the Lava!

- Stretcher to the Rescue!
- Keep the Palm Trees Standing
- Bumper Boats

- Eruption!
- Lost Parables Hunt
- Adventure Island Airlines

- Run and Tell
- Hula Hoop Race
- Crab Walk to Tell the Good News

Snacks

- Shine with Love Cookies
- Creation Cracker
- Tropical Dipped Fruit

- Angel Sandwich
- Burning Bush Cupcake
- Build-Your-Own Lighthouse

- Bible Snack Cakes
- Faith Through the Roof Snack
- Puffin Food

- Joyful Pancakes
- Marshmallow Sheep
- Tropical Trail Mix

- Shine with Hope Butterfly Sandwich
- Empty Tomb Snack
- Tropical Fruit Cups

Mission

- Opening Doors of Kindness
- Bags of Love

- The Fanciful Giving Tree
- Hands Down You're the Best

- New Friend Scavenger Hunt
- Prayerful Bookmarks

- Hearts of Love Suncatcher
- Spreading Joy with a Joy Jar

- Messages of Hope Whimsical Washi Tape Messages
- Organizers of Hope



Mission Leader Overview

The Mission Guidebook is a tool to teach Explorers on Adventure Island the value of service, giving back, and reaching out to everyone near and far with God's unconditional love. When we show kindness and love, and treat others with respect, we are shining God's light.

Use this Guidebook as an inspiration to assist you with helping the Explorers learn the value of service and caring for others. We offer an overarching, weeklong mission project and daily mission moments tied into the Pathfinders and Signal Verse. Read through the Guidebook and choose activities that align with your church's mission and passion, your budget, congregation size, and where you see mission projects fitting in to your VBS schedule.

Weeklong Mission Project

Milk Money

Discovery on Adventure Island takes place on an island with fantastical foliage vibrant with bright colors. Our week-long mission project, however, takes us off the coastal waters into the southern highland region of Tanzania. We will be focusing on a region where children lack proper nutrition—specifically milk. This area has extreme difficulties getting pasteurized milk to children of this region. It is a proven fact that malnourishment affects our ability to learn and grow. Heifer International is working with local farmers and dairy producers to increase the amount of dairy produced and reduce poverty in sustainable ways.

The Milk Money program is a fundraiser that invites participants to work together to help students in Heifer's School Milk Program. Through the Heifer Milk Money program, the Explorers can give the gift of good nutrition to children in need. We are shining God's light of love with our gifts—money that will be raised to help teach, educate, and provide resources needed to increase milk production and delivery.

Let the Adventure Begin

Use the following ideas for possible fundraising to help get you started. Remember to think of ways Explorers can get involved. Ask for their input in choosing fundraising activities and ways they can lead.

- 🌀 **COOKIES FOR MILK BAKE SALE:** During VBS, have Explorers bake cookies to sell after Worship or after VBS. Have them make "Cookies for Milk" posters and tags to publicize their event.
- 🌀 **MILK BEFORE BEDTIME PAJAMA PARTY:** Host a movie night at the church and ask everyone to come dressed in their pajamas. Serve milk and cookies, of course! Charge entry fees for Milk Money. Explorers can be greeters, serve food, and assist with set-up and tear down.
- 🌀 **MARCH FOR MILK:** Plan a walk around your church grounds or another visible location in town. Make posters, T-shirts, and signs to tell your community about your cause. Collect sponsorships and donations.
- 🌀 **"SUNDAY" BAR:** Set up an ice cream sundae bar after Worship and sell treats.
- 🌀 **SHAKE IT UP! MILKSHAKES FOR SALE:** Same concept as Cookies for Milk Bake Sale.
- 🌀 **MILK MOUSTACHE DASH:** Plan a church or community-wide 5K or Mile Run event. Get volunteers to paint everyone's face with a milk moustache. Collect entry fees for milk money.

Heifer International has a wealth of information and resources regarding the MILK MONEY PROJECT. Please visit their website for more details at heifer.org.



Quest for God's Great Light

Signal Verse

Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the LORD'S glory has shone upon you.

Isaiah 60:1



Bible Story

The Creation Story

Genesis 1:1–2:9

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Love!

Love and Action Project 1

Opening Doors of Kindness

We challenge the Explorers and Island Guides to show kindness throughout their day, at home, in the community, at school, and during VBS. Talk with Explorers about what kindness is—what does it feel like when someone is kind to you? What are some examples of kindness? One kind word or deed can change someone's day! When we show kindness and love, and treat others with respect, we are shining God's light.

Some examples to share with Explorers:

- 🌀 Pay a compliment: i.e., you have a nice smile; you are fun to be around; I like having you as a friend; you're strong.
- 🌀 Smile, wave, and tell people to have a nice day!
- 🌀 Share kind words and smile.
- 🌀 Lend a hand around the house, like picking up your room, dusting, folding laundry, washing the car, helping prepare meals, setting the table...the list is endless!
- 🌀 Donate toys, clothing, or books to those in need.
- 🌀 Create homemade cards for people in the hospital, nursing home, or that are home bound from your church.
- 🌀 Write thank-you notes or make cards for your local fire department, police officers, or teachers.
- 🌀 Care for animals: check out local animal shelters—what are their needs?
- 🌀 Make another child feel welcomed by including them in a conversation, asking them to sit with you at lunch, or having them join you at recess.
- 🌀 Help a friend with schoolwork.

To remind us to show kindness, we are going to decorate some doors throughout the church.

Have Explorers write on colorful sticky notes new ways they are going to show kindness. Let them have fun sticking them like confetti all over the doors.

Create an oversized flower with children's cut-out paper handprints. On each of their paper hands, have them write or draw ways to show kindness.

Have Explorers draw or add stickers to yellow paper plates or circles to create facial expressions and emotions.

Mission Prayer

Lord, thank you for the many things you have given us. Help us to shine your love in all that we do and say so others see you. Amen.

Love and Action Project 2

Bags of Love

Meals on Wheels is a nationwide network of community-based, non-profit programs dedicated to supporting and delivering healthy meals to the elderly and individuals who are home bound. Explorers will decorate white lunch bags; they will be used to deliver meals/snacks to these individuals. These decorated bags will brighten someone's day and let them know they are loved. Prior to starting this mission project, connect with your local Meals on Wheels program to confirm lunch bags are needed and can be used. If not, discuss other options that they might have that the children can get involved with.

Directions

Give each Explorer a bag and necessary supplies to decorate. Encourage the children to keep with the island theme of VBS 2021, drawing flowers, trees, tropical birds, rainbows, and sunshine.

Mission Prayer

Lord, we pray that the person who receives this lunch bag will feel your special love. We pray that they know they are not alone. We care and pray for them. Amen.



Bible Story

The Creation Story

Genesis 1:1–2:9

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Love!

Materials

- ☞ White lunch bags (larger ones)
- ☞ Markers
- ☞ Crayons
- ☞ Stamps
- ☞ Paint



Bible Story

Moses and the Burning Bush

Exodus 3:1-20

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Trust!

Love and Action Project 1

The Fanciful Giving Tree

Today, we are talking about trusting God. We can't see God, but we know that God is there for us. God loves each of us and guides us each day. We can help others feel and understand that trust by helping others who are less fortunate.

Are you familiar with an Angel Tree? Angel Tree programs are a popular way to help individuals who are less fortunate by picking up a tag and purchasing a designated gift that has been requested by an organization/agency. There are many variations and organizations that use the Angel Tree at Christmas. The Angel Tree uses the traditional Christmas tree as its base but instead of ornaments, it is decorated with tags. We are going to adapt another version of this concept and call it our "The Fanciful Giving Tree." We will ask families to pick a tag and physically shop for the item on their chosen tag.

Prior to VBS, connect with your Decorating Team to create an extra free-standing whimsical tree or 3-Dimensional tree adhered to the wall. This will be your base to hang your gift tags from.

Select an agency that your church current serves with or reach out your local public schools, free medical clinics, homeless shelters, etc. and request their wish lists.

Create tags that tie into our whimsical theme: a puffin bird, a feather, or a leaf. Have Explorers during the Mission moment decorate, write the item needed on that tag, and hole punch it to be hung on the "The Fanciful Giving Tree." It won't be necessary to wait for Christmas to distribute gifts!

Promote your tree in Assembly Time and with notes/emails to parents. Have items returned to the base of the tree by the end of your last day of VBS.

Mission Prayer

Lord, help us to trust and lean on you. Let us remember you are with us always. Amen.

Love and Action Project 2

Hands Down You're the Best

Each day, countless people serve our communities. We all appreciate praise, love, and thanks, so let's create visual reminders to let our public servants know that they are appreciated and prayed for. Thank them for their service by having Explorers create "Hands Down You're the Best" cards.

Directions

Give each Explorer a card. Either pre-print "Hands Down You're the Best" on the card, or have Explorers write their own message. Have them sign and decorate the card first, and then have them trace or stamp their handprint.

Mission Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the men and women who work each day and night to serve our communities. We pray that you let them know they are loved. Amen.



Bible Story

Moses and the Burning Bush

Exodus 3:1-20

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Trust!

Materials

- ⊗ Heavy cardstock in bright tropical colors (optionally with printed message)
- ⊗ Markers
- ⊗ Washable finger paint to stamp handprint (optional)



Bible Story

Faith Through the Roof

Luke 5:17-26

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Faith!

Love and Action Project 1

New Friend Scavenger Hunt

In the Bible story today from Luke 5:17-26, four friends helped another friend. What are some ways good friends help or treats each other? (*Examples: show care, praise each other, be reliable, give each other space, listen to each other, have fun together, trust each other, be kind, remember each other's birthday.*) Being a good friend takes work, practice, patience, and even team-building skills.

Making new friends can be challenging, scary, and intimidating. Many times, children do not realize all that they may have in common. This quick activity, "New Friend Scavenger Hunt," helps us break down barriers and learn about each other. See template on page 16.

Mission Prayer

Lord, thank you for helping me to be kind. Please help me be kind when....(*have Explorers proclaim times they need help*). Help me shine with faith in all that I do and say so others see you. Amen.

Write items in the blanks such as:

- 🌀 Favorite Food
- 🌀 Favorite Color
- 🌀 Birthday Month
- 🌀 Favorite Sport
- 🌀 Favorite TV Show
- 🌀 Favorite Drink
- 🌀 Favorite Shoes
- 🌀 Favorite Ice Cream
- 🌀 Favorite Game
- 🌀 Favorite Video Game
- 🌀 Favorite Toy
- 🌀 Favorite Season
- 🌀 Favorite Subject in School

Love and Action Project 2

Prayerful Bookmarks

Explorers will create bookmarks about themselves to be given to the congregation. The congregation will be asked to pray for that child through the school year that he or she will be a beacon of God's light and love.

Directions

Have Explorers draw on one side of the bookmark a portrait of themselves and on the other side write their first name with the grade they are going into. When finished, have them hole punch the top of the bookmark and add colored ribbon of their choice.

Mission Prayer

Lord, thank you for my prayer partner. I appreciate prayers throughout the school year that I will learn and grow. Help me to be kind to everyone, shining your light and sharing your joy. Amen.



Bible Story

Faith Through the Roof

Luke 5:17-26

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Faith!

Materials

- ⊗ A 2 by 6-inch strip of cardstock per child, brightly colored
- ⊗ Hole punch
- ⊗ Brightly colored ribbon with fun whimsical designs
- ⊗ Markers



SESSION 4

Bible Story

The “Lost” Parables

Luke 15

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Joy!

Materials

- Pre-cut construction paper hearts of varying shapes and colors (Optional: have Explorers cut out hearts. This depends on how much time you have for this Mission Moment.)
- Scissors
- Paper towels
- Construction paper
- Bottle of baby oil or olive oil
- Small containers of oil
- Cotton swabs
- Double-sided tape
- Gallon-sized plastic bag
- Sheets of waxed or parchment paper

Love and Action Project 1

Hearts of Love Suncatcher

The Bible story today is about “The Parable of the Lost Sheep” and teaches us that God cares about and loves each of us. We want to share that message and joy with others.

Each Explorer will create a window suncatcher called the Hearts of Love Suncatcher. The Hearts of Love Suncatcher will be delivered to a local assisted living facility and/or nursing home. The suncatchers will bring joy to the residents’ rooms and remind them as the sun shines through that they have been prayed for and are loved.

Directions

- Give each Explorer several hearts or materials to cut out hearts.
- Lay heart on top of paper towel. This will absorb some of the oil as it spreads through while painting the heart.
- Using a cotton swab as your paint brush, start dabbing designs with oil. Note: Remind the Explorers not to go crazy with the oil: less is better. The more dry space between each design, the more effect it will have. If they do use too much oil, dab with paper towels. Ask the Explorers as they are painting to pray for the senior citizen who will receive it; pray that they are not lonely, that they feel God’s love. Pray that your suncatcher will bring them joy as they see the sun shining through.
- Lay to dry. Once dry, layer them with parchment or waxed paper; this way each heart will not bleed through to the next.
- Place lots of hearts in a plastic bag to be delivered to nursing homes with a roll of double-sided tape to assist with hanging and a brief note to share with residents. Note: Deliver to nursing homes within a few days; as the hearts sit, the oil gets absorbed more into the paper, losing its detailed design. This is a perfect time to ask for families to assist with delivering.

Mission Prayer

Lord, let me bring joy to others today and every day. We pray that the seniors that receive our suncatchers know that they are loved and feel our prayers. Thank you for caring about and loving each of us. Amen.

Love and Action Project 2

Spreading Joy with a Joy Jar

Explorers will decorate jars to be filled with snacks, candy, or inspirational messages to be given to students graduating from high school, leaving for college, or moving out on their own. The Jars of Joy are meant to put a smile on the recipients' faces and remind them they are loved.

Directions

Give each Explorer a jar to decorate on the outside. Decide what is best for your Explorers: markers, island-themed stickers, and so forth. Once decorating is complete, fill the jar with candy and/or messages. Wrap lid with ribbon and attach note.

Mission Prayer

Lord, let me bring joy to others today and every day. We pray that the young adults that receive our Jars of Joy know that they are loved and feel our prayers. Thank you for caring about and loving each of us. Amen.



Bible Story

The “Lost” Parables
Luke 15

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Joy!

Materials

- 🌀 Jars of different sizes with lids
- 🌀 Individually-wrapped candies or strips of paper with inspirational messages and Scripture
- 🌀 Sharpie markers
- 🌀 Pre-printed large labels: JARS OF JOY
- 🌀 Brightly colored ribbon
- 🌀 Pre-printed note and prayer



SESSION 5

Bible Story

Mary at the Tomb

John 20:1-18

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Hope!

Materials

- Rolls of washi tape (decorative paper tape)
- Pre-printed words of encouragement and kindness on heavy cardstock (about the size of an index card)
- Scissors
- Envelopes

Love and Action Project 1

Messages of Hope: Whimsical Washi Tape Messages

You never know when someone might need some words of kindness or encouragement to give them some HOPE. Be creative using colorful, fun tape called washi tape to decorate a mini message card. Surprise a friend or family member, someone at church, a cashier, or teacher with one of your special decorative messages – a message of HOPE.

Some suggestions to print on cards:

- Your smile brightens my day!
- You are EPIC!
- Life is better with laughter.
- Believe you can and you are halfway there.
- You are loved.
- You are ADVENTUROUS.
- Be the reason someone smiles today.
- Just breathe.
- You are IMAGINATIVE!
- You are ENOUGH!

Give each Explorer several cards to decorate with tape. Show them some examples of how the cards look when completed. They can add strips of tape or cut tape into shapes and designs. Give them each a small envelope or baggie to hold their cards. Challenge them to hand them out to friends, family, and people in the community. We can all shine and give hope together as we share words of encouragement and kindness.

Love and Action Project 2

Organizers of Hope

Explorers will help host an American Red Cross Blood Drive for the community or church.

A blood drive is an event that gives community members the opportunity to donate blood and help save lives with the American Red Cross. Explorers will help organize, promote, and offer drinks and snacks during the event.

Directions

Explain to Explorers the purpose of the American Red Cross Blood Drive. Visit their website for details on organizing a drive at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>. The Red Cross offers learning-in-action opportunities for all ages. Check out their website and learn about their Pint-Size Hero (K-5) and Future Blood Donor (6-8) programs. Explain to them why we promote the Blood Drive throughout the community and have the need for posters. Have Explorers work in small groups to create posters for the event and asking the church congregation for snacks, water, and juice. In addition, children can make simple thank-you cards to give to each donor.

Mission Prayer

Lord, we thank you for creating each of us; our bodies are so amazing and special. We thank you for the individuals who donate blood. They are giving hope and saving lives. Amen.



Bible Story

Mary at the Tomb

John 20:1-18

Pathfinder

Arise! Shine with Hope!

Materials

- 🌀 Large posterboard
- 🌀 Index-sized paper
- 🌀 Markers
- 🌀 Paint
- 🌀 Scrap paper (for practice)



New Friend Scavenger Hunt

Fill in each box with facts about yourself or interests you have.
Find new friends with the same facts or interests, and write their names in the squares
that match your shared interests!
