



2020 BACKYARD VBS GUIDE

Thank you for considering to host a VBS! VBS is one of the largest evangelistic opportunities that we have each summer at Immanuel. In this strange season, we have to think a little differently. The fact is that children still need to hear the Gospel of Jesus! Our idea is to have several members at Immanuel host a one-day, backyard VBS with your kids' friends or kids from your neighborhood. This could be at anytime this Summer. It could be one hour or all day; it's completely up to you. This guide is a suggestion, feel free to customize it to fit your needs or ideas.

THEME: LIFESAVER

The motto for the day is, "Jesus is My Lifesaver!"

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 14:22-33

Kids will learn about the power of Jesus in the story of Him walking on water. They will learn that they are like Peter, they need Jesus to save them!

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Page 2:
Suggested structure of your VBS event

Page 3:
Game ideas

Page 4:
Suggested teaching outline

Pages 5-12:
Teaching aids & coloring pages

1

PLAN

Plan the date, time, & structure of your VBS. (See Page 2 for suggestions.)

2

PRAY & INVITE

Think of a few kids that may not know the Gospel. Pray for them & invite them to your VBS.

3

MAKE IT HAPPEN

God's got this! You planned & prayed. Now, let God use you to make an impact on the next generation!

4

SHARE IT

We want to hear about it! Share pics & highlights on social media. Tag: @ImmanuelBaptistBenton when you do!

SUGGESTED STRUCTURE

WELCOME (5 MIN)

- Introduce yourself. *(If needed)*
- Explain what you are going to be doing together.
- Go over any rules.

MUSIC (5 MIN)

- If you're musically inclined, play an instrument and sing.
- If not, you can play a worship song from your phone or a cd player and sing along. You can even make up easy hand motions. Search YouTube for kids' worship ideas.
- Music may not be your thing but most kids really get into it, especially the younger ones!

GAME (15 MIN)

- Choose one or two fun games to get the wiggles out. *(See page 3 for ideas)*
- *Another Option:* If you have a pool, slip n' slide, or any water-play options, you could make this a wet and wild VBS. (Be sure to have towels available!)

SNACK (5 MIN)

- Offer a snack and drink to help the kids cool down and calm down.
- Pick something simple and easy like popsicles, water, Kool-Aid, or Oreos.

TEACHING / DISCUSSION (15 MIN)

- Make it your own, or use the optional script. The most important part... **SHARE THE GOSPEL!**
- The discussion questions are helpful in ensuring that the kids understand the message. It also helps them contribute to the lesson.

CRAFTS / ACTIVITY (10 MIN)

- Use the included Lifesaver craft, coloring page, or be as creative as you would like! Pinterest can be very helpful if you decide to make your own crafts.

PRAYER / DISMISS (5 MIN)

- Be sure to reemphasize the main point of the lesson and guide the kids into prayer.
- Ask for prayer requests.
- Ask for volunteers to pray.

FUN GAME IDEAS

MOTION OF THE OCEAN

INSTRUCTIONS: A leader will call out one of the following motions and kids will act it out.

- Float like a jellyfish
- Jump like a dolphin
- Puff like a pufferfish
- Move your arms like an octopus
- Pucker your lips like a fish
- Stretch like a starfish
- Dig like a sea turtle
- Walk like a crab
- Pinch like a lobster
- Move backwards like a squid Chomp like a shark
- Dive like a diver

HIGH SEAS SCAVENGER HUNT

INSTRUCTIONS: Set up an ocean themed scavenger hunt around your space, using the provided sea life creature pictures. (Pages 6-9) Have the kids form teams. Make copies of and distribute the *Scavenger Hunt Check List*. (Page 10)

SAND CASTLE BUILD OFF

INSTRUCTIONS: Using kinetic sand and some dollar store beach toys, have kids build their own sand castle. (Kinetic sand can be found at Walmart or Amazon)

BEACH SOFTBALL

INSTRUCTIONS: Use a fun noodle as a bat, a beach ball as a softball, and hoola hoops for bases.

BEACH KICKBALL

INSTRUCTIONS: Same as Beach Softball, minus the fun noodle.

FLOAT YOUR BOAT

INSTRUCTIONS: Give kids aluminum foil, paper, or cardboard with some tape and have them build a small boat. Have a kiddie pool or large bowls of water for them to test them out.

MORE GAMES...

Check out thesource4ym.com/games for tons of games and icebreakers which are broken down into categories.

TEACHING OUTLINE

OBJECT LESSON | SINK OR FLOAT

- The miracle in our Bible story is about someone who could walk on water.
- Do you think if I tried to walk on water, I would sink or float? I would sink, because people can't walk on water!
- Let's do an experiment to see whether different objects sink or float in water.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Hold up each object and ask the kids to vote on whether they think it will sink or float. After they vote, put each object in the water and let the kids see if they guessed right.
- **We said earlier that humans sink, but can we also make ourselves float?** Yes, we can lay on our backs and float on water if we want to, but what would happen if you tried to *walk* on water with your feet? You would definitely sink!
- Today, we are going to talk about two people who walked on water. Can you believe that? It sounds kind of unbelievable!

BIBLE STORY | MATTHEW 14:22-33

MAIN POINT: JESUS IS OUR LIFESAVER!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the passage in your Bible and read it.
- **How do you think the disciples felt when they saw Jesus walking toward them on the water?**
- **How would you have felt if you would have been in their position?**
- The Bible doesn't just say they were scared—it says they were *terrified*!
- The first thing Jesus said to His disciples was to have courage. That's because Jesus could tell how scared they were.
- **Is it easy to have courage when we're afraid?** It can be hard.
- Peter was amazed when he saw Jesus walk on water, but he didn't just sit in the boat and watch. He decided to be brave and come join Jesus on the water. He stepped out of the boat and the impossible happened - Peter was able to walk on water too.
- **How do you think Peter felt when that happened?**
- Peter trusted Jesus enough to step out of the boat and have courage to do something that seemed impossible. He had faith. **Faith is having complete trust in Jesus.**
- But what happened next? Peter got scared again! He stopped looking at Jesus and started looking at the wrong things. He paid attention to the wind and the waves and became afraid. That's when he started to sink.
- This story reminds us that we need Jesus. It's like we are in a sea of our sins and we start to sink like Peter. But, Jesus is ready to save us from our sins. All we have to do is trust in Jesus as our lifesaver.
- I want to share with you what it means to trust Jesus. (*Use the Gospel handout on Page 5 to help, or use any method that you choose. For young children, you will need to explain what sin is; give examples.*)

THE GOSPEL

GOD'S PLAN for US

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use these prompts to share the gospel with your kids.



GOD RULES. Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



WE SINNED. Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



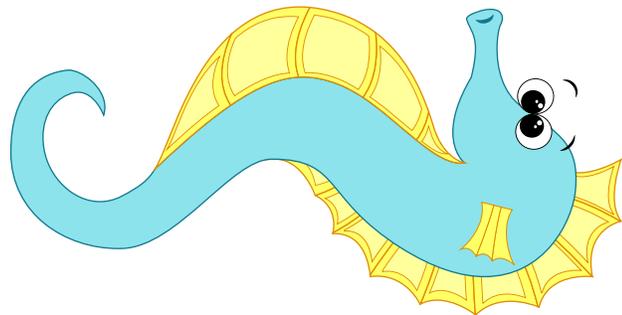
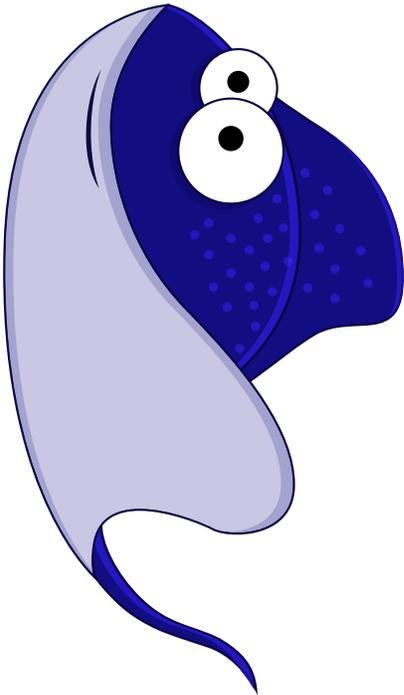
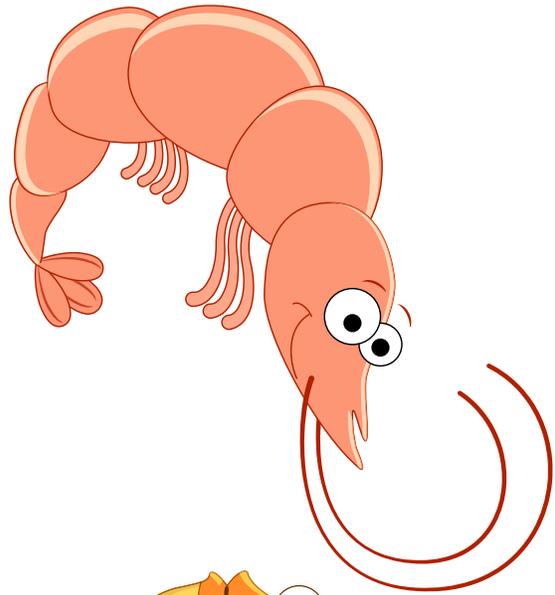
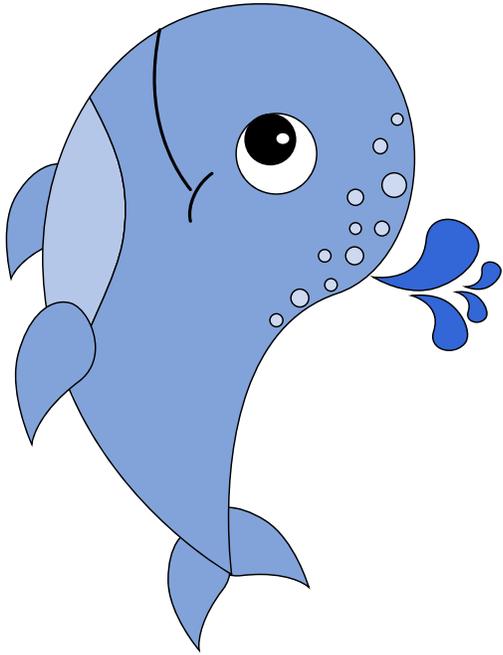
GOD PROVIDED. Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.

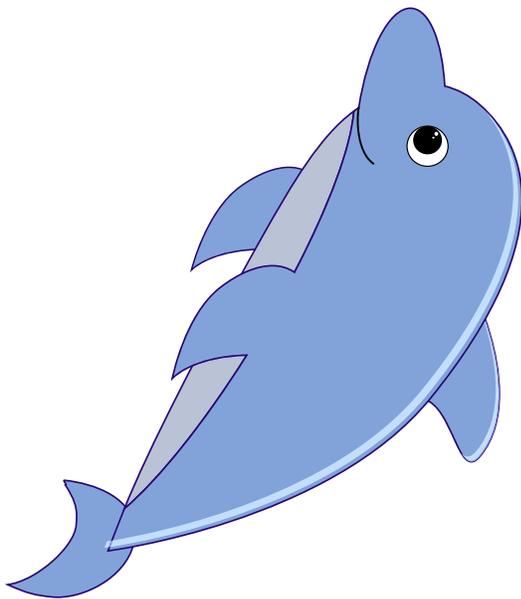
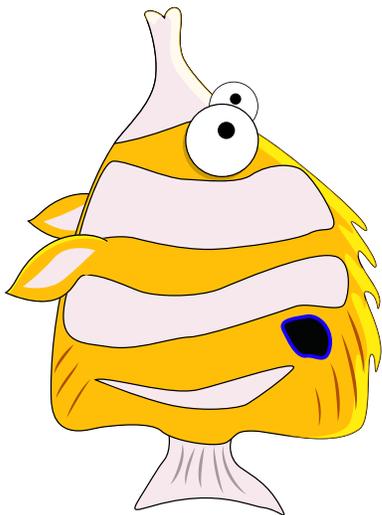
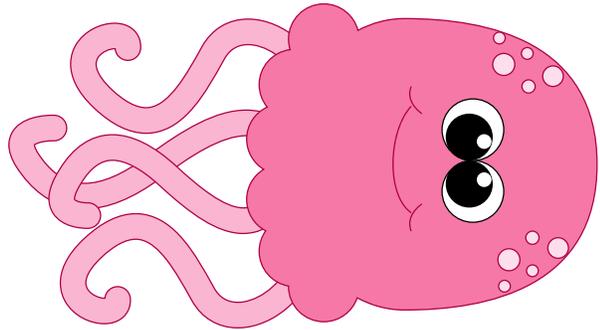
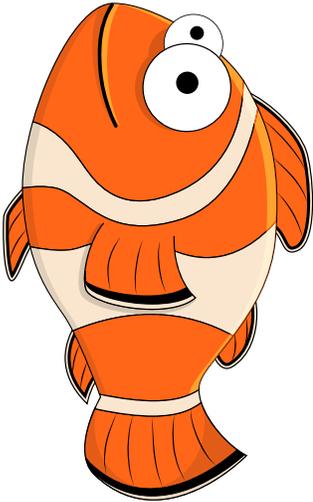
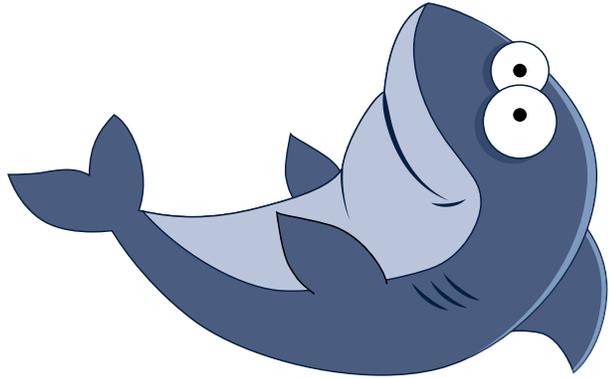
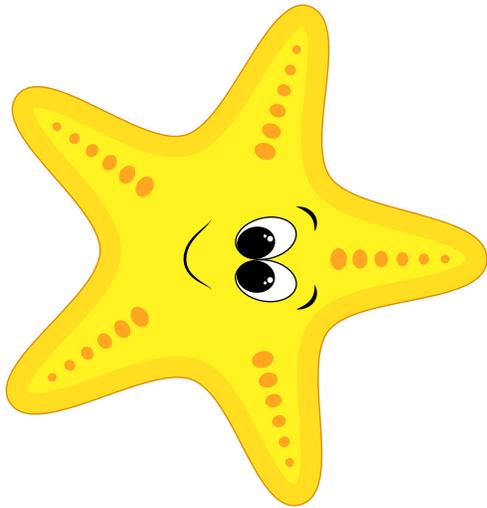


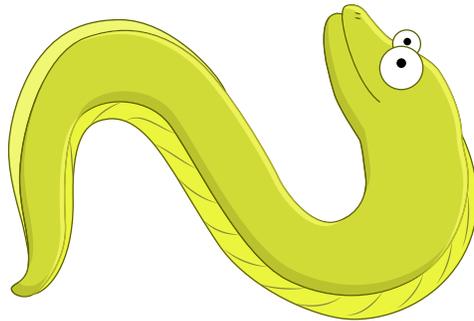
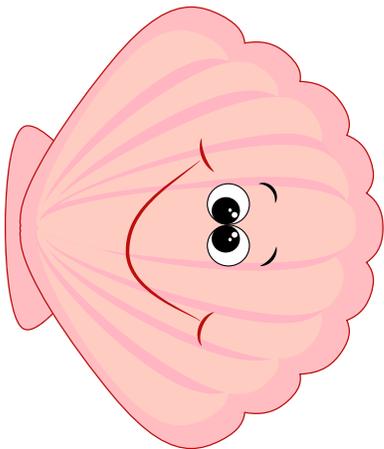
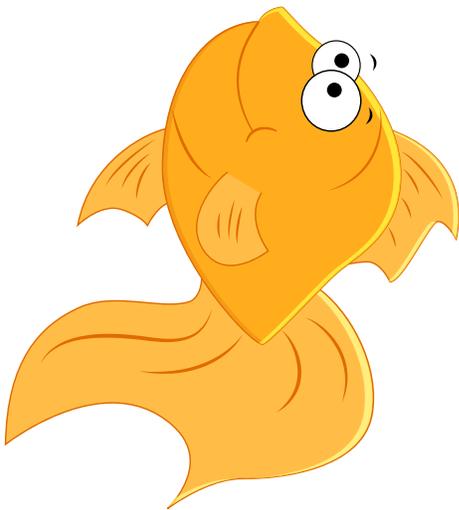
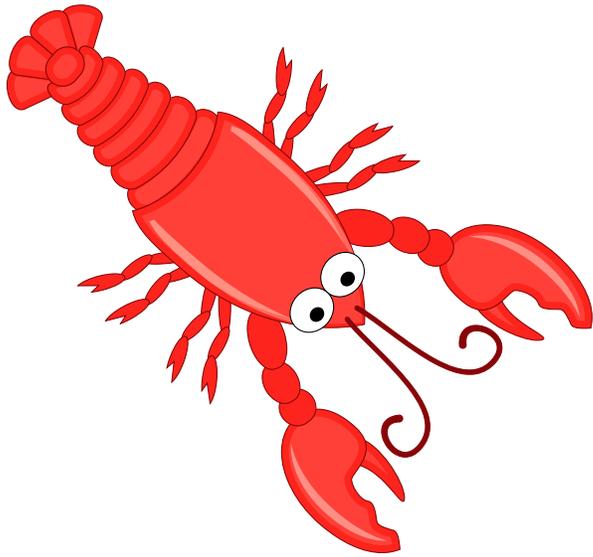
JESUS GIVES. Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.

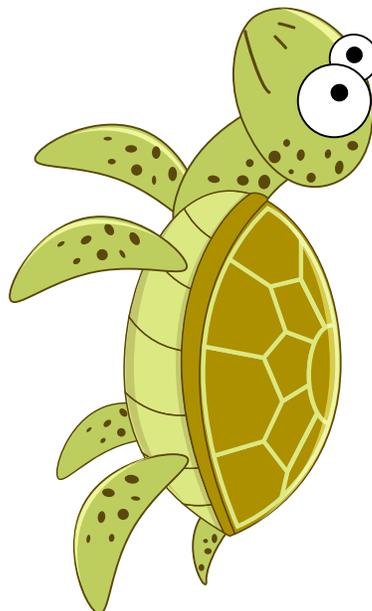
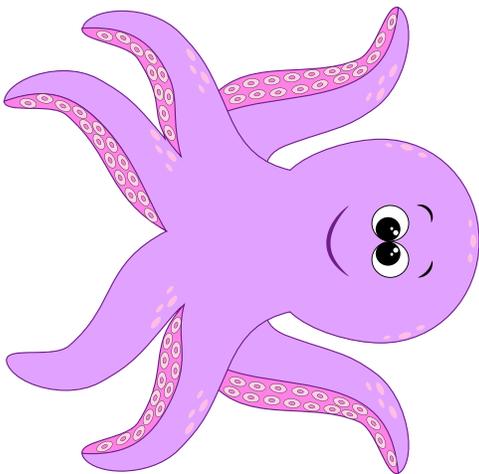
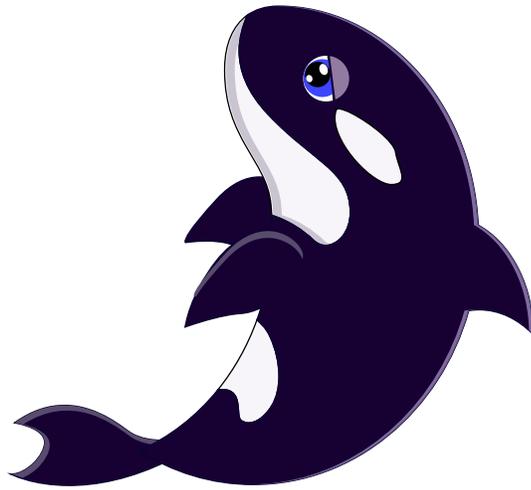
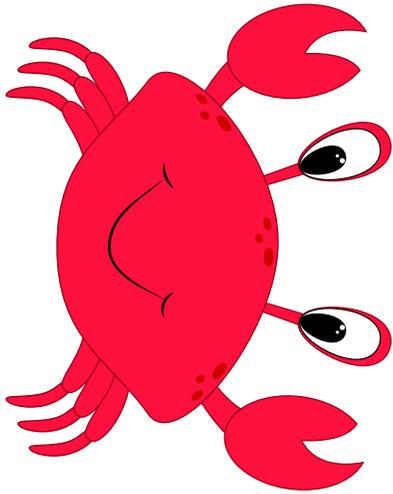
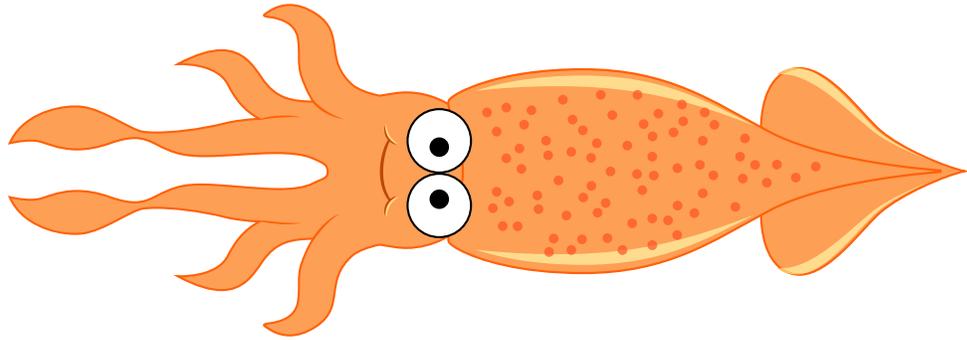


WE RESPOND. Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.

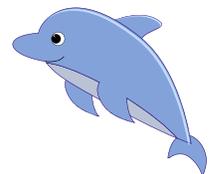
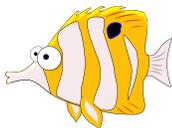
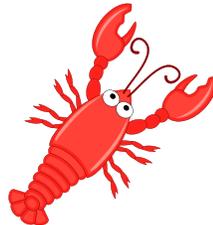
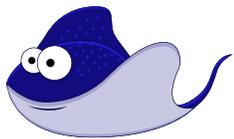
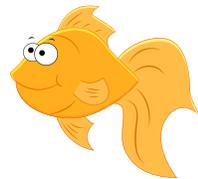
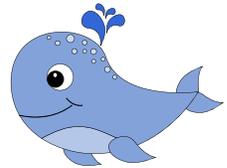
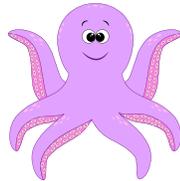
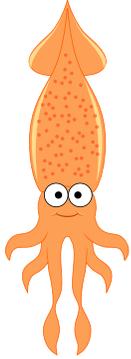
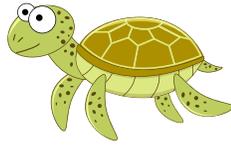
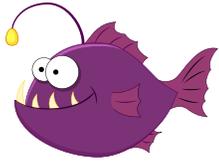








Scavenger Hunt Check List





JESUS IS MY



MATTHEW 14:22-33