

# WEDNESDAY (Younger Elementary)

## Welcome & Opening Activity

### Greeting:

Welcome and greet your kids as they enter the room for the first time. Use the acronym W.A.R.M. to guide your welcoming time. As leaders be “W.A.R.M.” toward your kids.

**W**-Welcome and greet each child by name every day!

**A**-Actively Participate-Kids notice when the leaders are sitting on the edge. Join in and participate in all the experiences of camp even when you are not leading them.

**R**-Relationship Building-Kids will open up if they know you care for them. Ask questions, get to know them this week.

**M**-Model Jesus- For some kids, you may be the only person to show them how to follow Jesus.

Have a container ready to collect any monetary donations for our mission project. The mission collection team will come by your classroom to collect the money to count and deposit each day. Please leave it on your check in table or is a spot they can easily find it.

### Early Arrival Activity:

*Supplies needed: butcher paper on the wall with opening question, challenge chart, Journals*

**Opening Question:** If you could go on a trip with your friends where would you go? (Write and draw!)

**Challenge Chart:** Let kids fill in the section labeled “Loyal/Sticky” with any personal stories or pictures where they experienced or showed that characteristic of friendship since they left camp yesterday.

As kids arrive, have them draw/write on the butcher paper answering the opening question. They can fill in the challenge chart. You can also hand out the journals and have work on the pages for day three. The journal can also be used at any point during the day.

***When majority of kids have arrived gather everyone in a circle.***

**SAY:** Hi guys! Welcome back to Vacation Bible Camp! My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I get to hang out with you each day. It’s another day in our “You’ve Got a Friend in Me” adventure, learning about Friendship. We’re learning all about what it takes to be a good friend and how Jesus wants to be our BEST friend. Let’s review our definition for friendship. *Move to friendship poster.* **Friendship is using your words and actions to show others you care.**

Before we start everyone tell the person next to you if you'd rather have a pet giraffe or pet kangaroo. *Give 30 seconds.*

We've heard two awesome stories from the Bible about friendship and specific qualities or characteristics of being a friend. Who remembers the Bible stories we've explored and those qualities? *Day 1: The Good Samaritan-on the lookout; Day 2: David and Jonathon-being loyal.* What about the Toy Story characters and friendship qualities? *Lenny/on the lookout, Slinky/loyalty.*

Today our characteristic of friendship is...*move to CHARACTERistics poster for Day 3: Buzz Lightyear – Putting others first.*

A good friend puts other first! Hmm. It sure does feel good when someone puts me first. You know, like when a friend offers to share his snack with you, or let you have the first turn in the game. Or even when a friend draws a picture and gives it to me or says a compliment just to be nice! Have you ever been with a friend where they always wanted to go first? Maybe they try to always be the one to be in charge, or always pick the game? It can be a little frustrating, right? You know, sometimes we can all act that way. **Putting others first means I sometimes give up what I want to bless somebody else.** Today is going to be a REALLY good day for us to learn and grow in this quality of friendship! When I think of the movie Toy Story and a friend who puts others first, I think of Buzz Lightyear. Buzz is all about rescuing people and helping others out. Buzz really wants to save the universe and help – he's got a great heart!

### **Opening Activity: Rock, Paper, Scissors – Friendship style**

*Supplies: 5 Pompom balls per child*

#### **SAY:**

- Here are the rules to Rock, Paper, and Scissors: *demonstrate with a partner.* Rock beats scissors, scissors beat paper, paper beats rock
- Now for Friendship Style! Everyone starts with 5 pompom balls, just hold them in the hand that is NOT being used to make the rock/paper/scissors, like this. *Demonstrate.*
- Move around the group to find someone to play, switch partners each time.
- If you lose, loser has to give 1 pompom ball to the winner.
- If you run out of pompom balls, you sit down and are OUT.
- To be brought back into the game, someone has to give you one of their pompom balls. Then you start playing again.
- After 5 minutes I'll call time. We'll count pompom balls, the one with the most wins a prize. Here we go!
- *After the game.* Congrats on winning! You get a bag of starbursts to take home or share with your group right now, your choice. What do you choose? *Putting others first means sharing, even if it costs you something!*

**SAY:** You guys showed so many friends that you wanted to put them first! I'm super proud of each of you! Before we head to our next stop let's review a Bible Verse on Friendship.

### *Before traveling to Drama and Worship*

You guys have been rocking the CAMP RULES OF FUN AND FRIENDSHIP! All of the campers here at VBC are super great people and we want everyone to have the best time ever. Let's review them to now.

*Show printout and invite kids to read each aloud. Post in a highly visible place in room.*

1. Pay Attention
2. Respect Others
3. Stick Together
4. Have Fun
5. Be a Friend

Now it's time to travel to the sanctuary to learn an awesome story from the Bible. We'll also be meeting some very cool and silly folks along the way. Let's go!

## **Drama and Worship In the sanctuary 1:15-2:00pm**

**After your time in the sanctuary pay attention to your schedule, you may be going directly to a rotation or back to your classroom. While you've been in the sanctuary the snack team has delivered your snack, unless it's your day to go to Pizza Planet. You can serve it whenever you feel is a good time to have a break**

### **Bible Story Review**

*Supplies: Bible Story Sequence Posters taped to walls out of order around the room.*

**Day 3 Bible Story Review** (taken from *The Beginners Bible*, Zonderkidz)

*Each statement is paired with a picture. Children will move to the posted image that matches each part of the story.*

**SAY:** It's time for us to review our Bible story. I am going to read a sentence and you are going to move to the picture in the classroom that shows that part of the story. Are you ready? Here we go:

1. Naomi was from Israel but lived far from home in Moab.
2. Naomi had 2 grown-up sons, one son married Ruth in Moab. Sadly, Naomi's husband and her sons died. Naomi and Ruth were alone and sad.
3. Naomi decided to go back to Israel.
4. She told Ruth to stay in Moab since that was Ruth's homeland. But Ruth told Naomi, "I will go wherever you go, I will stay where you stay. Your home will be my home and your God will be my God." Naomi and Ruth traveled back to Israel together.
5. Ruth worked to gather food for Naomi. Ruth gathered leftover grain in the fields. The fields belonged to a man named Boaz.

6. Boaz admired Ruth for taking such good care of Naomi. He asked Ruth to marry him and they started a family. Naomi was thankful for her brand-new family.

### **Bible Story ROUND UP:**

**SAY:** Now that we've reviewed the story, let's ROUND UP what we know! *Note the ROUND UP poster. Go over the 4 questions with friendship quality "putting others first" and allow kids time to talk and share.*

**1. Who was putting others first?** *Ruth*

**2. When was she putting others first?** *Ruth chose to take care of Naomi even though it meant she had to leave her home.*

**3. How can we put others first?** *Allow plenty of discussion and sharing; can they share a time someone put them first, etc.*

**4. Jesus is always putting others first.** *Jesus put us first when he died on the cross and rose again.*

**Pray together. You can pray, ask a camper to pray, or read the prayer below.**

God, thank you for the friendship between Ruth and Naomi. Thank you that we all have the perfect friendship of Jesus, that he loves us so much he gave his life for us. Please help us find ways to put others first and be a blessing to others, even if we have to give up what we want sometimes. Amen.

**Activity:** Easy or Hard?

*Supplies: index cards (2 per child,) markers, scenario cards, glue, Easy/Hard art page.*

### **Instructions:**

- Hand out 2 index cards to each child.
- Let them write EASY on one and HARD on the other. (Note: kids will use these cards for an art project later so if they need help go ahead and write it for them.)
- One at a time, invite a child to choose a scenario card and have the group leader read it.
- Kids will hold up their cards showing EASY to show whether they think it would be easy or hard to put others first in that scenario.
- If time permits allow the kids to create their own scenarios!

### **SAY:**

Putting others first isn't always easy, but when we practice and keep trying, we get stronger and better at it. We can always ask for God's help. He promises to help us do the hard things!

To remember this, glue your EASY/HARD cards into this art page. Then you can decorate with colorful designs (show examples) and take home to put up to be a reminder.

## **Game Time: Roll Em!**

*Supplies Needed: Dice, Paper, Markers*

### **Instructions:**

- Divide your crew into groups of 3. Have 1-2 leaders join groups if needed to make all groups have 3 members.
- Each team gets a piece of paper, a marker, and 1 dice.
- The goal of this game is to roll as many 2's as possible in 2 minutes.
- **Say:** Why number 2? Because Jesus wants us to put others first/#1 and we should put ourselves #2.
- On go 1 camper rolls the dice; if they roll a 2 they mark a point on their sheet. If they do not roll a 2 no point is marked.
- Each player in the circle rolls 1 time and passes the dice to the next person to roll. Game continues for 2 minutes.
- Call time and see which team rolled the most 2's. Play a 2<sup>nd</sup> time. Then ask the following questions:

*Is it easier to be #1 or #2?*

*Why does Jesus want us to put others first?*

*How did Ruth put others first in our story today?*

### **Closing: Challenge Chart:**

**SAY:** Every day we are learning important characteristics about friendship. Monday we learned about being “on the lookout” and yesterday we learned about being “loyal/sticky”. Let’s see how people put that in to practice. (Talk about what the children put on the sheet). Today we have learned what it means to put others first, can you go home today and practice that? When you come in tomorrow you can share the ways you showed or experienced putting others first by writing or drawing it on this paper on the wall. What are you going to try to practice tonight? (Putting others first)

**Closing Video:** Toy Story Clip with Buzz (instructions will be provided)

### **Dismissal:**

**SAY:** It’s hard to believe we are half way through our week together. Are you having fun? Are you learning how to be a good friend? I can’t wait to see everyone back tomorrow and discover another way to be a good friend. Until put others first!! Remind children to bring in mission money and items.

### **Extra Time – Journal Time!**

Pull out your journal books and sketch in the day three section!