

Juneau's Puppy Playhouse Ages 3 through Pre-K!

Sticky Scripture™

Preschool Station Leader Manual

Group resources really work!

This Group resource incorporates our R.E.A.L. approach to ministry. It reinforces a growing friendship with Jesus, encourages long-term learning, and results in life transformation, because it's:



Relational

Person-to-person interaction enhances spiritual growth and builds Christian friendships.

Experiential

What we experience through action and discussion sticks with us up to 9 times longer than what we simply hear or read.

Applicable

The aim of ministry is to equip people to be both hearers and doers of God's Word.

Lifelong

Experiences transform the heart, moving faith beyond the walls of church and into everyday life for years to come.

Preschool Sticky Scripture™ Leader Manual

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Visit our websites:

group.com

group.com/TrueNorth

Thanks to our talented team that points the way to Jesus! Laura Baldwin-Stout, Jody Brolsma, Stephen Caine, Lyndsay Gerwing, Charity Kauffman, Micaiah Lee, Laycie McClain, Mike Porter, Joani Schultz, Elisa Snell, Rodney Stewart, and Ali Thompson

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Thanks for joining the team!

True north is a fixed point on Earth's globe. Unlike magnetic north, *true north* is unmoving, unchanging, reliable, resolute.

If you're reading this manual, chances are that *Jesus* is your true north. You've trusted him to be a faithful friend when life's journey got lonely.

You've relied on his unchanging love through life's ups and downs. You've turned to Jesus' comforting words of hope when the world felt cold and dark.

And you want to share *all* of that with kids in your community!

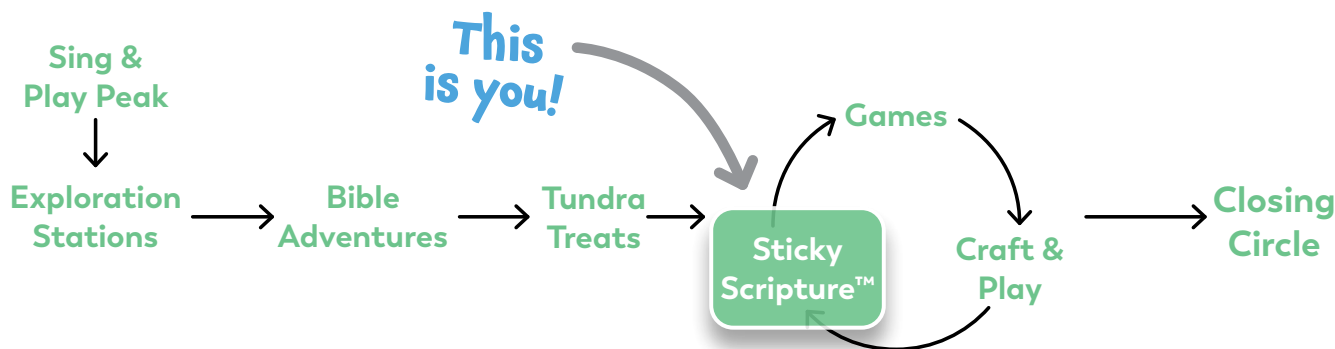
Like you, we love Jesus, and we love kids. We know that kids today may find their world untamed and wild. We understand that kids' source of truth may shift, depending on the latest news headline, trend, or social media influencer. We long for kids to boldly step out in faith, knowing that Jesus always points them in the right direction. He is *their* true north. Now...and for eternity!

That's why we're so glad you've joined this adventure! Think of our team as trail guides, going ahead to make sure the terrain is smooth and the trail is well-marked. We've tested these activities with kids, so you can make the most of every minute you have. And we're praying that God's vast love amazes and astounds you as you lead kids into the wonder of a friendship with Jesus.

It's hard to find your way in a world gone wild.

But we have Jesus—our true north!

Together, let's give kids a rock-solid foundation and point them to Jesus, their unmovable, unshakable friend forever.



Before True North



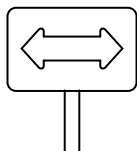
Pray for everyone who will attend True North.

Ask God to prepare your heart and the hearts of the kids and leaders who will be part of VBS.



Work with the VBS Director to collect necessary supplies.

Almost all the supplies are easy to find around the church, from church members, or from Group.



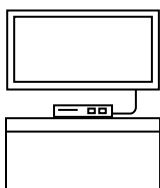
Work with the Preschool Director to choose a room for Sticky Scripture.

Choose a room that can be partially darkened. (Some preschoolers get a little nervous in a completely dark room.) Find a space that's quiet or tucked out of the way so it's easier to hear the videos.



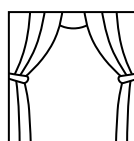
Preview each day's video segment.

Familiarizing yourself with the video-led games ahead of time will help you be ready to support kids as they explore Bible verses in fun and interactive ways. Read corresponding discussion questions in this manual ahead of time. Each video segment is approximately 6 minutes long.



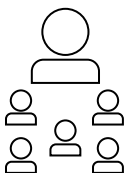
Check all equipment to make sure it's working properly.

Use a large-screen TV, if possible. Set up equipment near an electrical outlet so kids don't trip over the cords. If necessary, tape cords to the floor with duct tape or electrical tape. Become familiar with how the TV/DVD player works and check to see that the remote control has batteries.



Make your Sticky Scripture room spectacular!

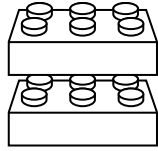
Remove toys, books, or other items that might distract children. Clear out chairs. Kids will have an easier time seeing the video if everyone sits on the floor. Then create a forested trailhead setting. Visit pinterest.com/groupvbs or view our online catalog at group.com/TrueNorth for decorating ideas.



Determine the number of Crews you'll have in each rotation.

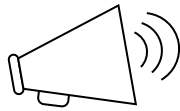
Crews consist of five preschool-age children (kids who've not yet finished kindergarten) and one adult or teenage leader. Plan on having one-third of the total number of preschool Crews in each of your rotations. For example, if your VBS has nine preschool Crews, you'll be working with three Crews (approximately 15 children and three teenage or adult helpers) during each session.

During True North



Help with Exploration Stations.

Talk with children as they try out Exploration Station activities. The instructions for each center help preschoolers make the connection to what they'll be learning each day.



Use an attention-getting signal.

Attention-getting signals let kids know when it's time to stop what they're doing and look at you. Use the Wilderness Whistle (available from group.com or your Group VBS supplier) or another signal of your choice.



Repeat the daily Bible Point often.

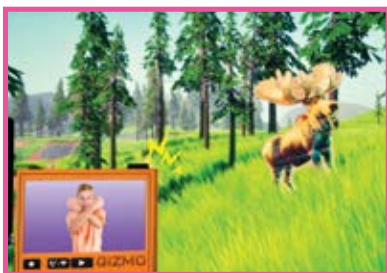
Every activity focuses on one memorable Bible truth called the Bible Point. Repeating the Bible Point helps kids remember it and apply it to their lives after VBS. Each time kids hear the day's Bible Point, they pretend to pull a rope with both hands and say, "Trust Jesus!"



Get Crew Leaders involved!

When you need little ones to listen, follow instructions, or pay attention, call on Crew Leaders to help. Make sure Crew Leaders are ready to help bring kids' attention back to you.

Welcome to Sticky Scripture™!



At Sticky Scripture, fresh and meaningful experiences help words in the Bible stick—to kids’ hearts and minds and lives! Here, kids explore each day’s Bible verse in a surprising way. Through an interactive video experience, kids go on an off-roading adventure into the vast Alaskan wilderness where they set up base camp, then venture out to explore how truth from God’s Word guides their everyday lives.

Trust us, kids won’t just zone out and watch a video—no way! Instead, they’ll connect to each day’s Bible verse with their bodies, their heads, *and* their hearts. Led by a Bible Memory Buddy friend, kids will move, laugh, and play as they explore what each verse means to their lives in practical, applicable ways.

On **Day 1**, kids play “Wilderness Wise” as they explore Matthew 7:24 and discover what it means to have wisdom.

On **Day 2**, kids hear Matthew 11:28 from the Bible, then “Find a King Crab” in a bucket! They’ll investigate what it means to come to Jesus and find a forever friend.

On **Day 3**, kids play “The Trail Is Lava” as they practice taking courage during scary times as Jesus commanded in Matthew 14:27.

On **Day 4**, kids hope to “Spot the Match!” as they learn Matthew 12:21 and investigate how Jesus is the hope of the world.

And on **Day 5**, kids explore Matthew 28:20 and are guided step-by-step, as they learn how to draw a moose.

After interacting with the Bible verse virtually, kids will hear the leader read from the Bible and connect words in the verse to preschoolers’ everyday lives. After they’ve experienced and talked about the verses, kids receive a cool, collectible Bible Memory Buddy—with the verse printed right on it!



Preschool Sample Schedule (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

If your Preschool Director decides to have preschoolers rotate through age-appropriate stations, you'll use a schedule similar to this one. (Note: Unless specifically indicated, these are not the same stations that elementary kids will visit.)

TIME	GROUP A Crews: 1-3	GROUP B Crews: 4-6	GROUP C Crews: 7-9
9:00–9:25	Sing & Play Peak (with elementary kids)		
	<i>Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.</i>		
9:30–9:45	Exploration Stations		
	<i>Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.</i>		
9:50–10:15	Bible Adventures & Missions		
	<i>Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.</i>		
10:20–10:40	Tundra Treats (with elementary kids)		
	<i>Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.</i>		
10:45–11:00	Sticky Scripture	Games	Craft & Play
	<i>Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.</i>		
11:05–11:20	Craft & Play	Sticky Scripture	Games
	<i>Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.</i>		
11:25–11:40	Games	Craft & Play	Sticky Scripture
	<i>Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.</i>		
11:45–12:00	Closing Circle		



DAY 1

When we wonder, we can trust Jesus.



Bible Story: John prepares the way and baptizes Jesus. (Matthew 3; 11:1-6)

Bible Verse: "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise."
(Matthew 7:24)

Just for Day 1, preschoolers skip Sing & Play Peak and go straight to Juneau's Puppy Playhouse to meet their Crews and Crew Leaders.



Exploration Stations

- Bible Activity Page
- Wonder Wall
- Wild Life: Explore the Campsite
- River Crossing



Sticky Scripture™

Play "Wilderness Wise" as they explore Matthew 7:24 and discover what it means to have wisdom.



Tundra Treats



A (Northern) Light Snack



Blizzard in a Cup

Craft & Play

- Northern Lights Painting
- Snowflake Sun Catcher
- Floating Otter

Bible Adventures & Missions

Share the exciting news that Jesus is coming, just as John did!



Closing Circle

Review the day, learn about God Sightings, receive a Watch for God Wristband and Juneau sticker, and wrap up with prayer and music.



Games



Wonder Where



Pond Pickup



Wonder Who-la Hoop

At **True North**, the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each station's activities for unforgettable Bible learning. See how your station reinforces today's Bible Point.



We can Trust Jesus!

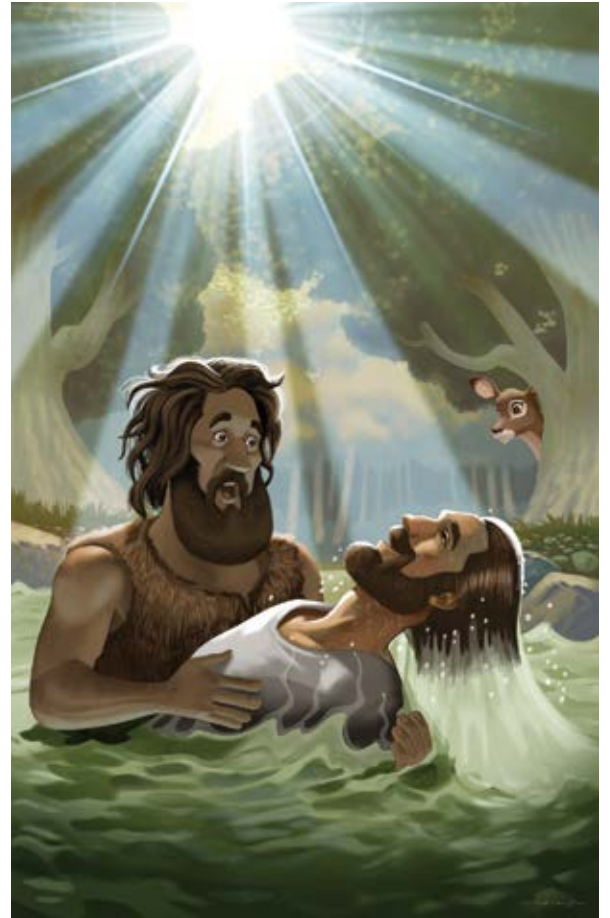
When we wonder, we can trust Jesus.

Bible Verse: “Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise.” (Matthew 7:24)

Bible Story: John prepares the way and baptizes Jesus. (Matthew 3; 11:1-6)

Jesus’ cousin John came with unconventional clothes, a pauper’s diet, and a bold message: “Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.” Meaning? Jesus—the Messiah and fulfillment of God’s kingdom on earth—is *here*! John proclaimed Jesus’ power and authority. He resisted the very idea of baptizing Jesus, the one who would baptize with fire and the Holy Spirit! While John adamantly proclaimed Christ, even he had questions about Jesus. From prison, John sent a message to Jesus, asking, “Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?” John’s circumstances may have caused him to wonder if (and when) Jesus might take political action. Scholars ponder if John may have assumed the Messiah would be the one to rescue God’s people from Roman rule—as many Jews of the time anticipated. However, Jesus had a greater mission than anyone could comprehend. He came to save *the world* from sin. Such love and compassion go beyond anything we can understand or imagine!

Kids’ curiosity can be intimidating—and a bit wearying. They have so many questions, many of which we simply can’t answer. And when it comes to questions about Jesus, God, or the Bible, adults can *really* feel overwhelmed and underprepared. But we don’t have to have all the answers! Sometimes our wonderings can lead to true wonder, as we discover the mystery and marvel of God. Today, celebrate curiosity and questions. Point kids to Jesus, a trustworthy and true friend who will guide us as we seek to know and understand him better.



Pointing to Jesus

People (even John the Baptist) wondered about Jesus. This passage can encourage kids that it’s okay to ask questions about Jesus—he will always help us find the truth.



Setting Up Your Sticky Scripture Trailhead

Use the Sticky Scripture Giant Decorating Poster Pack to turn your room into a wilderness trailhead!

Set up your TV and media player, being sure that the TV is large enough for everyone to clearly see when kids are standing.

Prepare a supply basket for each Crew in a rotation, containing enough Ponder Bible Memory Buddies and Buddy Packs for each Crew member to have one.

Spread out a blanket for each Crew to sit on.



Before You Hit the Trail

Hang up the Day 1 Bible Verse Poster.

Create a supply basket for each Crew in a rotation, containing enough Ponder Bible Memory Buddies and Buddy Packs for each Crew member to have one.

Bookmark Matthew 7:24 in your Bible. Set the Bible where you can reach it easily.

To set an upbeat, welcoming environment, play the Sing & Play Peak Music as Crews arrive and leave.

Welcome Kids

As preschoolers arrive, have them sit with their Crews on blankets.

Use the Wilderness Whistle to get kids' attention, and then introduce yourself.

SAY

Hello! I'm [your name]. Welcome to Sticky Scripture! We call it Sticky Scripture because verses in the Bible are sometimes called *Scripture*. During our time together, we'll see how God's words in the Bible can stick—to our hearts and minds and lives!

Open and show a Bible. **This is a Bible. Will you pretend to hold a Bible, too?** Have kids hold their hands in front of them like an open book.

You see, the Bible is a special book about God. When we hear and remember God's words in the Bible, we get to know God better and become even closer friends with God.



Introduce Today's Bible Verse

SAY

Today's Bible verse is Matthew 7:24. Please use your listening ears to listen while I read! Have kids show their "listening ears" by placing hands behind ears. Read the passage from your Bible. Then show the Bible Verse Poster, explaining that the words—which come from the Bible—are written on the poster, too! Read the verse aloud from the poster. Point to the compass on the poster.

This person is holding a compass. A compass is a special tool that helps people find the right direction to go when they don't have street signs or can't call to get directions. If you're hiking in the forest, following a compass helps you know which way to go.

Following Jesus' teaching helps people too! Not just in the forest, but wherever you are!



SAY

Hmmm. It's time to find out more about this verse as we go out into the great outdoors and hear truth from God's Word. It's time to hit the trail for an Alaskan wilderness adventure!

Introduce the Video

SAY

Just look around! We're at Sticky Scripture, and we're ready to go exploring. We'll go way out to the middle of nowhere and set up camp. I wonder what we'll see there. You know that **when we wonder, we can...** (*trust Jesus!*) It's true! Let's trust Jesus as we go into the great outdoors.

But...hmmm. It could take a while to hike way back to our wilderness campsite. Motion to kids with sandals or flip-flops. **I'm not sure those shoes will hold up too well.** Have everyone assess their shoes for hiking. **Besides, it'd be easy to get lost along the way. Does anyone happen to have a map?** Invite reactions.

If you have the giant poster of Ava, the all-terrain vehicle, point to it. **Good thing we have Ava. She's an all-terrain vehicle that'll get us *all* around this Alaskan wilderness!**

Off we go!

Begin the Sticky Scripture™ Video



Dim the lights, and play the Day 1 segment of the Sticky Scripture™: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World video. Be sure to play along, doing actions and interacting with the video to guide kids.

When the "Pause" screen appears, pause the video and turn the lights back on. Have kids sit down.



Explore the Bible Verse

SAY When people are wise, they make good choices. Let's make some good choices together now!

Imagine we're hungry. Have everyone hold their tummies like they're growly and hungry.

ASK Should we whine and say, "I'm hungry!" or should we ask nicely, "May I have a snack?" What would be the wise thing to do? Why do you say that? Invite responses from the whole group.

SAY Asking nicely is always a wise choice. Have everyone give two thumbs up and say, "That's a wise choice!"

How about this? Our puppy friend Juneau is thirsty. Have everyone pant like a thirsty Juneau puppy.

ASK Should we give Juneau coffee or water? What would be the wise thing to do? Tell me more about that. Invite responses from the whole group.

SAY Dogs don't drink coffee. That's silly. It's wise for people to drink water too. That's a wise choice! Have everyone give two thumbs up and say, "That's a wise choice!"

I have one more wise choice for us to make. Imagine we're playing with a friend. Have kids turn to a nearby friend and give a high-five.

ASK Should we let our friend choose what to play sometimes or only do what we want to do? What would be wise? Tell me why. Invite responses from the whole group.

SAY We show kindness and love when we let friends pick what to play sometimes. That's a wise choice! Have everyone give two thumbs up and say, "That's a wise choice!"

We have choices to make every day. When you wonder what to do, you can think about Jesus! Jesus will help you make wise choices. When we wonder, we can... (trust Jesus!)

Please use your listening ears to listen while I read Jesus' words from the Bible. Have kids show their "listening ears" by placing hands behind ears. Read the first part of Matthew 7:24 aloud from your Bible.

Jesus is such a good teacher. We can trust that he'll help us make wise choices. Now let's find Ponder.



Finish the Sticky Scripture™ Video



Turn off the lights, and resume the video.

When the video ends, turn off the media player and turn on the lights. Have kids sit down.

Give Bible Memory Buddies

SAY

We did it! We've heard the Bible verse and explored what those Bible words mean. Now we get to take its truth along with us!

Show preschoolers the Ponder Bible Memory Buddy and Buddy Pack.

This little toy looks like our friend Ponder. You'll each receive a Ponder Bible Memory Buddy. Show the Bible verse printed on the Buddy. Look! The verse is printed right on the Buddy! A grown-up can read those Bible words to you anytime.

You'll each get your own Ponder Bible Memory Buddy to add to this bag, called a Buddy Pack. After True North, you can take your Buddies home—and look at this! Demonstrate how the Buddy can stand up so kids can play with it.

Crew Leaders, you'll give each person in your Crew a Ponder Bible Memory Buddy. One by one, make Ponder "swim" over to each person in your Crew. As you give the Buddy, look kids in the eye, call them by name, and say, "When you wonder, you can trust Jesus." Demonstrate by handing a Ponder Buddy to a Crew Leader in the way you described.

Allow time for Crew Leaders to hand out the Bible Memory Buddies in the special way. Then have Crew Leaders distribute Buddy Packs to hold the Ponder Buddies. Kids or Crew Leaders can write names on the totes, put Ponder inside, and then give them to the Crew Leader to keep safe in the Crew bag.

Thanks for coming to Sticky Scripture and exploring the Bible with me! See you tomorrow for another fun adventure.

When you hear the Director's signal, dismiss kids to their next station.



FIELD TEST FINDING

We're always amazed at the power of a name. Children absolutely love hearing their names spoken in these powerful, loving ways! Be sure Crew Leaders take the time to speak each child's name in love every day at VBS. (They're verbalizing God's love and friendship to each child!)



Day 1



Play "Wilderness Wise" as they explore Matthew 7:24 and discover what it means to have wisdom.



Day 2



Hear Matthew 11:28 from the Bible, then "Find a King Crab" in a bucket! They'll discover that in Jesus we have a forever friend.



Day 3



Play "The Trail Is Lava" as they practice taking courage during scary times just as Jesus commanded in Matthew 14:27.



Day 4



Hope to "Spot the Match!" as they explore Matthew 12:21 and investigate how Jesus is the hope of the world.



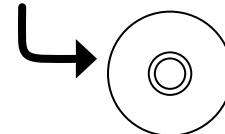
Day 5



Explore Matthew 28:20 and are guided step by step, as they learn how to draw a moose.



Use with the Sticky Scripture™: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World DVD, found in your Starter Kit



Each day kids get a Bible Memory Buddy!



Questions:

group.com/TrueNorth
800.447.1070

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VBS Programming



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