Welcome to POP Summer 2020!
We are so glad to have you!

We are praying that this will be a wonderful summer for you and your children of growing to know God’s promises more deeply. We are thrilled to partner with you as you disciple your children.

This document will explain how to do the object lessons and provide discussion questions for each day of POP VBS.

Here is our suggested schedule for each day: (You of course can do this anyway you would like to!) Please modify it to make it work for you!

**Suggested Daily Schedule:**

1. Begin with the **object lesson** for the day.

2. **Watch the video** and participate. (There will be places to stop the video and participate in a game, craft, or brief discussion.)

3. **Discuss the lesson** using the provided questions.
Materials List for one child:

Snack:

• Otter pops (Of course this is optional!)

Object Lessons:

• 2 dry lima beans
• 2 clear plastic cups
• Soil (or soil pod)
• Square of tissue paper
• Paper clip
• Whales or Goldfish crackers
• Small (3 inch by 3 inch piece of toile netting)

Crafts:

• Square origami paper (need five per day)

Games:

• 1 plastic cup
• 1 sponge
• Goldfish or whale crackers
• Cool Whip
• 2 plastic bins or buckets or bowls

Evangelism Bracelet Supplies:

• Cord (enough for 2 bracelets)

• 2 each of the following bead colors:
  Black, Red, White, Green, Yellow, Clear.
Day 1: Jesus Teaches His Friends to Listen to Him
Please take pictures and post them with the hashtag #BriarwoodPOPSummer

Materials for Day 1:
Gather these objects to be ready for today’s lessons, and fun.
Day 1 Object Lesson (Lima beans, soil pod, and cup)
Cup
Origami paper (5 sheets)

Object Lesson for Day 1:
Put the soil pod in the bottom of your cup.
Put some water in your cup so that it covers your soil pod. It will get bigger!
Put your lima bean seeds in the middle of your soil pod.
Keep the soil and bean seeds wet and watch them sprout and grow!

Can this soil make itself different? Why not (It is not alive… it can’t do anything.)

Today we are going to hear a parable that Jesus told. A parable is a story that is used to teach a lesson. As you watch your plants grow this week, you can remember what you learn in the story about the good soil. Here are some questions to be thinking about.
Who makes the soil good? Can the soil make itself good?

Discussion Questions Day 1:
Did the first three types of soil grow good strong plants? (Why or why not) No, the first three kinds of soil were all bad soil, hard soil, crowded soil. None of them could not grow strong plants.

The soil is like our hearts isn’t it? We all have hearts that are hard, and don’t listen to God. But… God does something amazing. God makes His friends heart soft. He makes His friends have hearts that are ready to hear and listen.

Parent you might want to share with your child a brief testimony about how God made your heart soft good soil so that His Word would grow in it.

Pray with your children asking God to make their hearts listen to Him.

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Day 2: Jesus Teaches His Friends to Focus on Him

Please take pictures and post them with the hashtag: #BriarwoodPOPSummer

Materials for today:

Gather these objects to be ready for today’s lessons, and fun.
Day 2 Object Lesson (Cup, tissue paper, paperclips)
Origami paper pack (Please note, use 5 sheets today.)
Large Sponge (Not labeled)
(Additional items needed: 2 Large bowls or buckets or tubs.)

Object Lesson for Day 2:

Fill most of the cup with water. Put the cup on a table so that the water stops moving.
When the water is still, carefully float a piece of the tissue paper on top of water.
Gently and carefully put 1 paperclip on top of the tissue paper.

Push down on the tissue paper. Be sure not to touch the paperclip.
If you are very gentle, the paperclip will stay on top of the water.

Today, we are going to hear a story about floating and sinking. If you want to watch your floating paperclip sink, you can put a drop of dish soap in the water.

(God made water so that when it is still it has a special characteristic called surface tension. That means that the top of the water is strong. The tiny parts that the water is made of stick together. This is why some bugs can stay on top of water and it is why the paperclip will float. Isn’t God’s creation amazing?)

Discussion Questions

What made Peter sink in the water? (He stopped focusing or looking to Jesus)
What did Peter say when he was sinking? (Lord, Save Me!)
Why is that the thing we need to say when we are in trouble? (answers should include that He is our Helper and friend)
Will we say “Lord, Save me” on our own? (No our hearts won’t focus on God unless God works to cause us to focus on Him.
What did the disciples do after Jesus and Peter were back in the boat? (They saw who Jesus is. And that caused them to worship Him! Discuss this response to seeing who Jesus is.)

Pray with your children asking God to help you see who He is and worship Him.

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Day 3: Jesus Teaches His Friends to Follow Him

Please take pictures and post them with the hashtag: #BriarwoodPOPSummer

Materials for Day 3:
Gather these objects to be ready for today’s lessons, and fun.

Day 3 Object Lesson (Whales Cracker bag and netting in gift bag)
Bead Bracelets Packs (One for your child and one for a friend)
Origami paper pack (Please note, use 5 sheets today.)
Extra Whales Crackers bag (Not labeled)
Cool Whip Tub (Provided by you!)
Day 3 Extra Game (Water Balloons)
(Additional items needed: 2 Large bowls or buckets or tubs.)

Object Lesson for Day 3:
The piece of net is your fishing net. Look at your net right now. It is empty. Now, dump all of your whale crackers into your net.
Today, our Bible story has empty and full nets in it.
Now you can snack on your “catch.”

Today our Bible story is about Jesus’s Friends following him.

How to make Evangelism Bracelets Day 3:
Cut cord about 4 inches longer than what will fit around your child's wrist.
Tie a knot a little less than half way between the ends.
Have your child string the beads as they are discussed on the video.
When finished, tie a knot on the opposite side to hold the beads in place.
Push both end of the cord through the clear bead.
Put the bracelet on your child's wrist, and allow room to slide the bracelet off, and tie the ends of the bracelet to secure the clear bead.

Discussion Questions:
How many fish do you think Peter caught? (We don’t know, but it is fun to guess)
How long had Peter fished without catching anything? (all night)
How did he catch so many later? (Jesus knew where the fish were, or he controlled the fish to swim to the nets.)
What do you learn about Jesus from this? (Jesus is all powerful / Jesus is knows everything.)
What did Jesus do in the hearts of Peter, James, and John next? (He worked in their hearts to cause them to follow him.)
Just like all of us, Peter, James, and John, had hearts that would not follow Jesus, that would not choose Jesus, but God is strong and power. God works to change sinner's hearts so that they will follow Him.

Pray, Thanking God for reaching out to sinners like us. Thank Him for changing hearts so that we will follow him.
Parents: If God has already changed your children's hearts praise Him specifically for this. If this is not yet true of your child, ask God to work in their hearts.

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