

SECTION

1.3

God Is Everywhere*Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)***Option 1: Travel Planner**

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ahead of time, ask a leader to be prepared to answer questions concerning how far he or she has traveled, or interview a kid from your group who you know has traveled. On the night of club, set up a chair in the front of the room for your guest.

STEP 1: Ask the guest to take his or her seat.

Choose several of the following questions to ask him or her.

- What is the farthest you have been from home?
- How long did it take for you to travel to your destination?
- How long were you gone?
- What or whom did you miss the most while you were gone?

STEP 2: Explain that we can understand the idea of traveling and being away from the place we call home. But it is hard for us to think about being in two places at once, because it is impossible for us to do so. Our powerful God who created the whole universe is omnipresent, which means that He is everywhere, all at the same time. Only God has that incredible power.

Continue the discussion by asking how they think God feels when people try to hide what they do from Him.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we are going to learn about God's omnipresence and what that means for you and me." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: How Far Is Your Reach?

What You'll Need: A few kids during this activity will need to take off a shoe, (optional: use a measuring tape instead)

PREP: Have four-five kids each take off a shoe (that you will be using to measure with).

STEP 1: Ask for two kids to volunteer to have the span of their arms measured. Ask the volunteers to raise their arms so that they are level with their shoulders. Being careful not to touch the kids, use shoes to measure how many shoe lengths their arms span from fingertip to fingertip. Ask another kid to keep track of the measurements. Have someone measure the width of the room from wall to wall by putting one shoe toe to heel in front of the other. Ask: "Could either of these kids reach their arms from one wall to another?"

STEP 2: Tell each kid to try to touch the ceiling, while keeping at least one foot on the floor. Give them 30 seconds to try. Ask: "Could any of you touch the ceiling with your hand while your foot was still on the floor?"

STEP 3: Discuss the following concepts.

- Just like we cannot reach our arms from one wall to another wall, or touch the ceiling and the floor at the same time, we cannot be in two places at once. It is impossible for us.
- Our powerful God who created the whole universe is omnipresent, which means that He is everywhere, all the time. Only God has that incredible power.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we are going to learn about God's omnipresence and what that means for you and me." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Where is God?

What You'll Need: Where is God? Handout, pens, Bibles

PREP: Print out handouts for each child.

(Leader's Note: If you are not able to print the handout, you can use blank paper.)

STEP 1: Assign pairs or groups of kids one of the following verses by giving them the handouts:

- Psalm 139:7
- Psalm 139:8
- Psalm 139:9
- Psalm 139:10
- Daniel 6:16-22
- Jonah 1:17

STEP 2: Give pairs or groups two or three minutes to study their verse(s) and determine God's location in their passage. If time allows, have the groups share what they drew.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God is omnipresent, or everywhere, all the time. (Psalm 139:7-10) That means that He is present at the exact same moment where you are and where other people are all over the whole world.
- God is also present in all the galaxies and in the deepest part of the earth. (Psalm 139:8-9) Nothing is hidden from God.
- There is no place you could ever go to hide from God. He is everywhere. (Jeremiah 23:24)
- For those who have a relationship with God, we can rejoice that God is always with us. No matter what problems we may face, we do not face them alone. (Isaiah 41:10)

STEP 4: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Where Is God? Handout

Circle the verse that you are responsible for, and get to work!

Psalm 139:7

Psalm 139:8

Psalm 139:9

Psalm 139:10

Daniel 6:16-22

Jonah 1:17

Where is God?

Write or draw where God is in the passage of Scripture!

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Jonah's Timeline

What You'll Need: Paper, crayons, colored pencils or markers

STEP 1: Give each kid a sheet of blank paper, and assign each one a number between 1 and 5.

STEP 2: Have each number group sit together. Give each group paper, crayons, colored pencils or markers. Assign each group one of the following verses, based on their coordinating number.

1. Jonah 1: 2 (God called Jonah to Ninevah.)
2. Jonah 1:3 (Jonah chose to flee from God and took a ship in the opposite direction.)
3. Jonah 1:4, 5 (Jonah fell asleep.)
4. Jonah 1:15 (Jonah was thrown into the water.)
5. Jonah 1:17 (A fish swallowed him.)

STEP 3: Have each group read the verse they were assigned, and draw a picture of what happened in that verse.

STEP 4: After three minutes, read the summary below of Jonah's story. As you start each new part of Jonah's timeline, have the groups stand in the order of events from 1 to 5, so everyone can see their drawings.

Jonah's Story

Jonah tried to run away from God. He took a ship to the farthest place he could go (at that time) to try to get away from God. (Jonah 1:3-5)

God knew where Jonah was when he was asleep on the boat, and God knew where Jonah was when he was tossed into the stormy waters. (Jonah 1:15)

God sent a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the fish for three days and three nights. While he was in the fish, Jonah prayed to God. God heard him, and the fish spit Jonah up on dry land. (Jonah 2:1-10)

There is no place you could ever go to hide from God. He is everywhere. (Jeremiah 23:24)

We can rejoice and take courage when we are scared or afraid, knowing that God is always with us. (Isaiah 41:10)

STEP 5: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes: