



## Jesus is Awesome

### KEY VERSE:

“God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son. Anyone who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life. God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world. He sent His Son to save the world through Him.” **(John 3:16-17, NIRV)**

## CHECK-IN

**(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)**

*Purpose: To build relationships with families and help parents feel comfortable leaving their child.*

As parents check-in their child at your classroom, try to welcome them by name to help them feel secure in leaving their child in your care. Once you’ve completed each of the check-in procedures, welcome the child into your classroom and encourage him/her to play with the classroom toys and activities. If you have LITs in your classroom, this is a great time for them to help engage with the kids while you continue checking in the kids.

If a child is upset or reluctant to enter the room, encourage him or her by offering toys, books or other fun items. If a child is still upset, let the parents know that we will text them if their child continues to be upset. Then, offer to carry the child into the classroom and try to calm the child with toys or other activities.

Use the “Connect” reminder (listed below) to help kids feel comfortable and safe in your class!

## CONNECT WITH KIDS

***Purpose: To build relationships & prioritize safety for our youngest children.***

Our goal, first and foremost, when serving babies and young toddlers is to prioritize building trusting relationships and the feeling of safety. We build trust with our littlest kids by meeting needs and helping them learn that church is a secure place where they are loved, known and safe.

**The 4 S's are a simple way to keep our hearts and minds focused on this:**

When a child feels...*(most of the time)*

**SAFE:** physically and emotionally

**SEEN:** known and understood

**SOOTHED:** calmed and supported

They can become **SECURE.**

## USE THE POSTER

**Locate the poster hanging in your classroom.** As you interact and play with children, change diapers, or sooth a fussy child, refer to the poster. Sing or play the worship songs. Use the explore activities to relate to this month's God statement and play with the children. Read the prayer, verse, and/or blessing over the child you are holding. Follow the instructions below to help a child create a keepsake each month.

**Remember, babies love repetition!**

## WORSHIP

Sing some of the songs on the poster yourself or use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing these simple songs with your class each week. To access these videos, go to **Plex > Videos > EC > Babies folder**.

This month, focus on singing these songs:

**Jesus is Awesome**

(to the tune of Row, Row, Row Your Boat)  
Rain, rain, rain comes down  
It's raining all around  
Jesus is awesome  
In Jesus I am found

**Only God Can Do**

Oh, who can make a flower  
I'm sure I can't, can you?  
Oh, who can make a flower?  
Only God can do.

Oh, who can make the rain fall?  
I'm sure I can't, can you?  
Oh, who can make the rain fall?  
Only God can do.

**Jesus is Awesome Again**

(to the tune of the Alphabet Song)  
ABCDEFGH Jesus died for you and me.  
IJKLMNOP He loves us and He can  
OPQRSTU Take care of me; take care of you  
VWX, Y and Z Jesus is Awesome, can't you  
see?  
ABCDEFGH Jesus lives for you and me!

**Jesus is His Name-O**

(to the tune of B-I-N-G-O)  
I have a friend who loves me so  
And Jesus is His name-o  
J-E-SUS, J-E-SUS, J-E-SUS  
And Jesus is His name-o

**More on Plex:**

J-E-S-U-S

**EXPLORE**

Use the poster to play one or all of the following activities each week to share the God statement of the month with the children.

## RAIN STICK

**Supplies:** a rain stick

- Shake the rain stick.
- Let the baby touch it and hold it.
- Encourage baby to shake it.

**SAY:** This sounds a little like rain. Rain is water coming down from the sky to help the flowers and grass and trees grow. God makes the rain. Isn't He Awesome?

## JESUS LOVES US

**Supplies:** none

- Give the baby a hug. **SAY:** Mmm, I love you. Jesus loves you. Isn't Jesus Awesome?
- Play with the baby's hand. **SAY:** Mmm, I love you. Jesus loves you. Isn't Jesus Awesome?
- Dance baby around. **SAY:** Mmm, I love you. Jesus loves you. Isn't Jesus Awesome?

## PLAYDOUGH PLAY (Ones)

**Supplies:** small containers of playdough

**Directions:**

- Let the One-Year-Olds explore the playdough.
- Show them how to poke their finger in a ball of playdough.
- Show them how to pat the dough.

**SAY:** Isn't the playdough soft? It feels nice to touch it. We can make things with the playdough. Jesus made us! He is awesome!

## PRAYER, VERSE, AND BLESSING

Use the poster to read the prayer, verse, and/or blessing over the children or pray your own prayer/blessing each week. It's okay if the children act like they're not listening or understanding.

**Take home some of the children's prayer tags to remind yourself to pray for them this week.**

## PRAYER

**SAY:** Lord, I pray you watch over this baby. Give him/her strong faith in You. Use him/her to show Your glory and power to the world. We trust in You. Amen.

## VERSE

**SAY:** "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son. Anyone who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life. God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world. He sent His Son to save the world through Him." **(John 3:16-17, NIRV)**

## BLESSING

**SAY:** May you always remember that Jesus is awesome. He made all things, including you. He is powerful and protects you.

## MONTHLY KEEPSAKE

Use the supplies, until they run out, to help the babies make a keepsake each week. It's okay if the same baby makes it twice or even more; parents can decide if they will keep it or not. It's okay if not all the babies make the keepsake each week.

Once the supplies run out, children may color the coloring page instead.

### MAKE: Raindrop Thumbprints

**Supplies:** blue and silver ink pads, cardstock, wipes

**Directions:**



- **While you create, sing the songs or say the prayer/verse/blessing on the poster.**
- Have wipes nearby.
- Press the child's thumb into the ink pad and position on the paper.
- If the child is older, they can put the thumbprint on the paper themselves.
- Repeat multiple times to make the prints look like raindrops.
- Wipe off the child's thumb and switch colors.
- Wipe off the child's thumb when done.
- Write the child's name on the keepsake.

## PLAY!

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children by playing games and having fun!*

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

### **Suggestions of activities for Babies & Younger 1 Year Old's:**

- Play Peek-A-Boo
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball
- Roll a large car back and forth
- Take turns putting toys in a bin or bucket

### **Suggestions of activities for Older 1 Year Old's:**

- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body
- Discuss colors & numbers
- Turn on music and play freeze dance
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)

## CHECK-OUT

**(end of service)**

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in free play. Follow the check-out procedures for your classroom, making sure to send all of the child's belongings (diaper bag, bottle/sippy cup, pacifier, blanket, etc.) with the parent. Give the parent encouragement about how the child did in your class and say "Bye (child's name)!"