



## Jesus Saves

### KEY VERSE:

“He has saved us from the kingdom of darkness. He has brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. Because of what the Son has done, we have been set free. Because of him, all our sins have been forgiven.” (Colossians 1:13-14, 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 Saves**

(to the tune of Jingle Bells)  
Jesus Saves, Jesus Saves,  
He saves all of us.  
He died for us; He lives again.

### **Jesus Loves Me**

Jesus loves me this I know  
For the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to Him belong  
They are weak, but He is strong

We thank Him for His love.

Yes, Jesus loves me x3  
The Bible tells me so

### God is With Us

(to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star)  
God is with us, God is with us, God is with us  
all the time  
Winter, Spring, and Summer, and Fall  
God is with us through it all  
God is with us, God is with us, God is with us  
all the time

### Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus loves the little children, all the children  
of the world.  
Every color, shape and size, they are precious  
in his eyes.  
Jesus loves the little children of the world

### More on Plex:

Jesus Saves  
He's Alive, He's Alive  
I am the Way

## 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.

### Egg Instruments

**Supplies:** egg instruments (some provided, but check in classroom, too)

#### Directions:

- Shake the egg instrument.
- Sing one of the worship songs.

**SAY:** Eggs remind us of Easter. And Easter reminds us that Jesus Saves!

### Where's the Egg?

**Supplies:** eggs and empty tissue box

#### Directions:

- Help baby put the egg in the box.
- Reach in to feel it.
- Pull it out.

**SAY:** Can you find the egg? Where's the egg? Eggs remind us of Easter. And Easter reminds us that Jesus Saves!

## Giant Egg

**Supplies:** giant plastic egg, cross, heart, lamb, bunny

**Directions:**

- Open the egg to see what is inside.
- Find the cross. **SAY:** Jesus died for us on the cross. But He didn't stay dead. He is ALIVE!
- Find the heart. **SAY:** The heart reminds us of LOVE. Jesus loves us.
- Find the lamb. **SAY:** A lamb says Baaahhh. A lamb reminds us of new life.
- Find the bunny. **SAY:** A bunny reminds us of Easter. Easter reminds us that Jesus Saves!

## 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:** I pray that you know Jesus Saves. I lift your life up to Him and pray that He will be your guide throughout it. I pray your choices show how much you love Him. I pray you know how much He loves and values you. Amen.

### VERSE

**SAY:** "He has saved us from the kingdom of darkness. He has brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. Because of what the Son has done, we have been set free. Because of him, all our sins have been forgiven." (Colossians 1:13-14, NIRV)

### BLESSING

**SAY:** May you always remember that Jesus Saves. He saved us from our sin and we can trust that He will take care of us.

## 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.

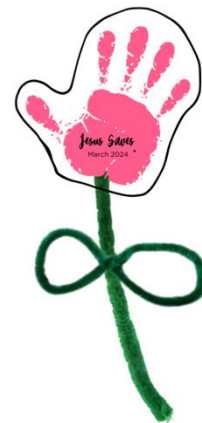
Once the supplies run out, children may color the coloring page instead.

### MAKE: Handprint Flower

**Supplies:** yellow or orange paint, 2 pipe cleaners per child, hand-shaped piece of paper, paintbrush, stapler (in teacher's supplies drawer/classroom)

**Directions:**

- **While you create, sing the songs or say the prayer/verse/blessing on the poster.**
- Ask the child what color paint they want.
- Paint ONE hand with paint.
- Position the child's hand within the paper and press it down.
- Wash the child's hand.
- Staple the pipe cleaner to the bottom of the paper.
- Help the child twist the pipe cleaner to make leaves by twisting and attaching the 2<sup>nd</sup> pipe cleaner.
- 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)!"