



## YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT!

**Bible Story:** Jesus Heals the Blind Man • *John 9*

**Bottom Line:** God made you to trust Him.

**Memory Verse:** "Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." *Matthew 5:16 NIV*

### GET READY

Prepare ahead of time for Crafts. Examples of many of the crafts can be found at:  
<https://www.pinterest.com/252basics/gadgets-and-gizmos-vbs/>

### Crafts: Exploring Biblical Truths through Creativity (Choose one activity for each age group.)

*Whichever activities you choose, provide a way for kids to place their names on their projects before they begin. You'll thank yourself later!*

#### 1. GADGETS GALORE (Grades 2-5)

- A variety of large "gadgets and gizmos," such as scraps of PVC pipe, oversized gaskets and gears, canning jar lids, hub caps, plastic wheels, old rolls of masking tape or duct tape, etc.
- Pieces of large black construction paper or poster board; tape the pieces together to make a "mural" for each group
- Oil pastels (bright colored crayons will also work, but the effect won't be as dramatic)
- Black light (*optional*)

#### 2. GLOW, FLOAM, GLOW! (all ages)

- White school glue
- Polystyrene beads (bean bag filler)
- Liquid starch
- Glow-in-the-dark paint
- Blindfolds (large folded bandanas\* work great); 1 for each kid in a group
- Zip-top bags
- Black light (*optional*)
- For every 2 kids, combine about 20 oz. school glue with 5 cups of polystyrene beads. Add 2 tablespoons of glow-in-the-dark paint and mix well. Add ½ cup of liquid starch and mix. Add more starch by the tablespoonful, mixing well after each addition, until the floam is no longer sticky and has a good consistency. (If you happen to add too much starch, simply add more glue.)

- Easy prep option: purchase PlayFoam™, Crayola® Model Magic® Neon Clay, Crayola Air-Dry Clay, or even Play-Doh®

*\*Bandanas are also a suggested supply for “No Peeking!” (below) and “Double Drawing” (Day 3).*

### 3. NO PEEKING! (all ages)

- 8.5x11 black bond paper (available online); 1 sheet for each kid
- White or light-colored gel pens
- Blindfolds (large folded bandanas\* work great); 1 for each kid in a group
- Black light (optional)
- **OPTION (Grades 2-5):** Purchase Scratch-Art® Light Catcher™ packs (item #PE1607) or Scratch-Art Creative Shapes (item #PE1660) at [www.ssw.com](http://www.ssw.com). Provide at least one design for each kid. For the Scratch-Art Creative Shapes, you’ll also need wooden styluses; 1 for each kid in a group (cuticle sticks work great)

*\*Bandanas are also a suggested supply for “Glow, Floam, Glow!” (above) and “Double Drawing” (Day 3).*

### 4. PENDULUM PAINTING (Grades 4-5)

*Note: This activity requires plenty of adult supervision (you’ll need one adult for every four kids in a group) and ample space (if weather permits, you can take the fun outdoors); however, the gadget and application factors are well worth your effort!*

- Paper cups (cone shaped ones are best); at least 1 for every 4 kids
- String
- Sturdy dowel rods or broom handles; 1 for every 4 kids in a group
- Sets of 2 matching chairs; a pair for every 4 kids in a group
- Masking tape
- Tempera paint in vivid colors; thin slightly with water
- Plastic tablecloths or painting tarps
- Large black construction paper
- Poke three holes near the rim of each cup. Thread string through the holes, gather the ends, and tie them in a knot. Set your chairs about four feet apart and place the dowel rod on the seats. Tie the cup to the center of the rod so that the cup hangs about six inches above the floor. Poke a tiny hole in the point or bottom of the cup (you’ll want the paint to flow slowly!) and then cover the hole with tape.
- **NOTE:** Be sure to test the activity before you do it with the kids!

# YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT!

**Bible Story:** Jesus Heals the Blind Man • *John 9*

**Bottom Line:** God made you to trust Him.

**Memory Verse:** "Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." *Matthew 5:16 NIV*

## **Crafts: Exploring Biblical Truths Through Creativity (Small Groups, 25 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through creative, hands-on activities and discussion questions.

### 1. *Gadgets Galore (Grades 2-5)*



**What You Need:** Gadgets and gizmos, black paper, oil pastels or crayons, black light (*optional*)



#### **What You Do:**

- Set the black paper on the floor or on tables and guide the kids to gather around. Encourage them to imagine what it would be like to not be able to see. What would the challenges be? What would they miss seeing most?
- Place the gadgets and oil pastels in the center of the work area.
- Invite the kids to trace around the objects with the oil pastels to create a group "Gadgets Galore!" mural. Kids can add color, designs, or other embellishments as they choose.
- Add fun by using a black light!



#### **What You Say:**

"How did the man who was blind trust Jesus? (*Pause.*) Yes! He trusted that Jesus would heal him. He also trusted that Jesus was God's Son, the Savior. **[Bottom Line] God made you to trust Him**, too. How can YOU trust Jesus? (*I can trust Him to take care of me; I can trust Him to help me when things are really hard; I can trust Him to be my Savior.*) Jesus wanted the blind man to see; but even more than that He wanted the man to know who He was—the Son of God! Jesus also wanted the man to trust Him to be his Savior. Jesus loves you and He wants you to trust Him, too. So remember: **[Bottom Line] God made you to trust Him!**"

### 2. *Glow, Foam, Glow (all ages)*



**What You Need:** Glow foam or clay, blindfolds, zip-top bags, black light (*optional*)



#### **What You Do:**

- Help each kid put on a blindfold.
- Tell the kids that you're going to place something in their hands. (Do they trust you?)

- Give each child a lump of floam or clay.
- Guide kids to sculpt with the floam, only removing the blindfolds when their creations are complete.
- Add fun by turning on a black light before kids remove their blindfolds.
- Invite kids to take their floam home in zip-top bags.



### What You Say:

“How did the man who was blind trust Jesus? *(Pause.)* Yes! He trusted that Jesus would heal him. He also trusted that Jesus was God’s Son, the Savior. **[Bottom Line] God made you to trust Him,** too. How can YOU trust Jesus? *(I can trust Him to take care of me; I can trust Him to help me when things are really hard; I can trust Him to be my Savior.)* Jesus wanted the blind man to see; but even more than that He wanted the man to know who He was—the Son of God! Jesus also wanted the man to trust Him to be his Savior. Jesus loves you and He wants you to trust Him, too. So remember: **[Bottom Line] God made you to trust Him!”**

### 3. No Peeking! (all ages)



**What You Need:** black paper, gel pens, blindfolds or towels, black light *(optional)*, Scratch-Art packs *(optional)*, styluses *(optional)*



### What You Do:

- Distribute the paper. Encourage the kids to imagine what it would be like to not be able to see. What would the challenges be? What would they miss seeing most?
- Help each kid put on a blindfold. If a child is reluctant to be blindfolded, that’s OK; simply give them a bandana to cover their hand and paper.
- Give each kid a gel pen and encourage them to draw on their paper (no peeking!). They can draw the thing they would miss seeing most, their favorite animal, their best friend, or whatever they choose.
- When they finish, invite them to remove their blindfolds or lift their bandanas.
- *NOTE: If you chose the Scratch-Art option, don’t blindfold the kids; simply invite them to scratch into the paper to create their designs.*



### What You Say:

“Jesus wanted the blind man to see; but even more than that He wanted the man to know who He was—the Son of God! Jesus also wanted the man to trust Him to be his Savior. Jesus loves you and He wants you to trust Him, too. When are times that you can trust Jesus? *(Pause.)* How can you trust Jesus? *(I can pray; I can remember that He loves me; I can believe that He is God’s Son and my Savior.)* So remember: **[Bottom Line] God made you to trust Him!”**

#### 4. Pendulum Painting (Grades 4-5)



**What You Need:** Prepared paper cups with dowel rods, chairs, thinned tempera paint, plastic tablecloths or painting tarps, Hula-hoops, construction paper



#### **What You Do:**

- Before kids arrive, set up the appropriate number of pendulums. For each pendulum “station,” cover the floor with a tablecloth or tarp, and then center a Hula-hoop under the pendulum. Set the construction paper and prepared paint nearby.
- Meet kids as they enter your environment and divide them into teams of four. Have a leader walk each team to a station.
- Guide the leaders to:
  - » Set a piece of construction paper in the center of the hoop.
  - » Lead the kids to stand around the edges of the hoop.
  - » Pour the paint into the cup until it’s half full.
  - » Invite a child to slowly pull the cup towards them without pulling it beyond the hoop (or tipping it over!).
  - » Remove the tape from the hole in the bottom of the cup, and then allow the kids to let the cup swing freely. Challenge all the kids not to step back when the pendulum swings toward them! (Do they trust that the paint won’t get on their feet?)
  - » Add more paint as necessary and replace the construction paper when each painting is complete. Let each group create enough paintings for each child to take one home.



#### **What You Say:**

“Did you trust that the paint wouldn’t get on your feet? *(Pause.)* Is it usually easy or hard for you to trust others? *(Pause.)* Why? *(Pause.)* How did the man who was blind trust Jesus? *(He trusted that Jesus would heal him. He also trusted that Jesus was God’s Son, the Savior.)* **[Bottom Line]** **God made you to trust Him,** too. What are some ways that you can trust Jesus? *(I can trust Him to take care of me; I can trust Him to help me when things are really hard; I can trust Him to be my Savior.)* So remember: **[Bottom Line]** **God made you to trust Him,** and you can trust Him no matter what because He made you and He loves you more than you can imagine!”