

CRAFTS | DAY 1



Bible Story: God Calls Abram • Genesis 12:1-4; 15:1-7

Bottom Line: God wants you to know Him.

Memory Verse: "God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life." 2 Peter 1:3a (NirV)

GET READY

We have decided to simplify crafts this year by making them more open ended and using a lot of similar supplies in an effort to make things as easy as possible for you. Most crafts this week will be free-form art projects with no "right" or "wrong" way to create. The crafts are also more geared toward the theme Power Up than the day's Bible story. Use this time to have fun creating with the kids and allowing them to think outside the box by using non-typical objects to make art.

This year we have included a STEAM challenge as an option. This activity can be done in groups or individually. Also, it is up to you and your budget if you want this to be a take-home project or if you use this as a rotation and have groups reuse materials.

Whichever activities you choose, provide a way for kids to place their names on their projects before they begin. Also provide appropriate covering for your work area(s), such as newspaper or plastic tablecloths. You'll thank yourself later!

NOTE FOR DAY ONE: *We aren't including multiple craft options for this day because we REALLY want all the kids doing Power Up to get the opportunity to do this activity. We will be painting rocks to send home for children to "hide" in their community, and hopefully someone will find these fun rocks. Across the country local Facebook groups have popped up for hiding and finding rocks. Check to see if your city has one. If not, MAKE ONE! This is a great way to get the kids out into the community and will also help point families to your church. Plus, it's a fun activity for the whole family.*

1. SHARING ROCKS! (GRADES K-5)

- Watch the "Sharing Rocks!" how-to video on our Vimeo channel here: [HYPERLINK "https://vimeo.com/album/5378652"](https://vimeo.com/album/5378652)
- Print the "Hide and Seek Rocks" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one card for each kid
- Smooth small rocks; three for each kid

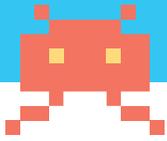
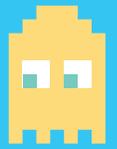
Note: You can buy rocks in bulk online or from the hardware store, or you can collect them locally.

Paint/paint pens

- Googly eyes (optional)
- Paint brushes
- Paint pens
- Sheets of pre-printed labels (optional)

Note: Print labels with information about your town or city's local Facebook rock-finding group and/or your personalized hashtags. Examples: #SimiVallyRocks #PowerUpVBSRocks #ChurchNameRocks #MinistryNameRocks. This will help people who find these rocks go online and see all the fun. And it will create a buzz when a huge group of local kids start hiding rocks because of your VBS.

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STEAM OPTION:

STEAM is an acronym for the fields of science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Kids all across the country are experiencing learning in a new creative way, so we thought it would be fun to add this experience to VBS. These challenges are made to be done in teams or individually. If you choose to use the STEAM option, tailor it to fit your church's needs. This can be done instead of a messy craft or in addition to one. You may use this as an additional activity for those who finish fast or for children who may not be able to handle craft time well.

SPONGE TOWER CHALLENGE (GRADES K-5)

- Watch the "Sponge Tower Challenge" how-to video on our Vimeo channel here: [HYPERLINK "https://vimeo.com/album/5378652"](https://vimeo.com/album/5378652)
- Print the "Challenge Cards" Activity Page and cut apart; one set for each station
- Sponges cut into thirds like wood blocks; 12-20 for each station
- Timer; one for each station
- Measuring tape; one for each station

1. SHARING ROCKS (GRADES K-5)

What You Need: "Hide and Seek Rocks" Activity Pages, rocks, paint, paint brushes, paint pens, labels, googly eyes (*optional*)

What You Do:

- Give each child three rocks.
- Set out the supplies, and invite kids to paint rocks any way they wish. They can be abstract, elaborate patterns, flowers, animals, monsters, or even video game characters. The sky is the limit and there's NO right or wrong way to create these rocks. They will each be their own work of art.
- Stick a label on each rock.
- Set the rocks aside to dry before kids take them home.
- Make sure to send a "Hide and Seek Rocks" card home with each child as well.

What You Say: "You did such a great job painting your rocks! You're going to take them home and hide them around town in order to bring fun and joy to others. Think of the joy you will bring to someone and the smile on their face when they find your rock."

"Today's Bottom Line is: **God wants you to know Him.** He also wants others to know Him. By painting and hiding these rocks you will be spreading the love of God all over our community and point others to knowing God. What are other ways you can help others know God?" (*Pause for responses.*) (*Pray together and ask God to help the right person to find the kids' rocks and that they would feel the love of God because of them.*)

STEAM OPTION:

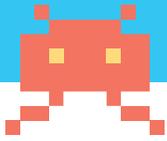
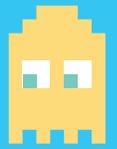
SPONGE TOUR CHALLENGE (GRADES K-5)

What You Need: Sponges, timer, measuring tape, "Challenge Cards" (Activity Page)

What You Do:

- Set up stations where kids can individually build sponge towers, or set up team stations where kids can work in

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groups (no more than three in a group) to accomplish the Sponge Tower Challenge. Stations should include one set of sponge blocks, one set of "Challenge Cards," a timer, and a measuring tape.

- Instruct the kids to read the cards and complete the challenges on their own. Allow them to work without adult help.
- Please note that there is no right or wrong way to do this.

What You Say: "You used your mind, hands, and a bunch of sponges to accomplish several challenges. God has given each of us incredible minds, and today you got the opportunity to use them in a really fun way!"