As kids leave, remind them to get their flowers and birds!

**First 10 minutes of the service hour:**
Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids.

**Next 5 minutes:** Connect Time

**Next 25 minutes:** Large Group

**Last 25 minutes:** Snack and Small Group

Expect kids to have different learning styles, and playing styles! Some kids might need downtime to adjust to their surroundings, or just a little quiet time. Some kids will want to tell you everything about their week, or play an active game. Be flexible, and do whatever helps a kid feel most comfortable!

Today’s story is from Matthew 6:25-35, and it’s about a time when Jesus told his disciples that there’s no need to worry about who will take care of us or how we’ll get by, because he’s taking care of everything, and everything belongs to him!
**GOAL:** Connect time is all about engaging kids in a short, interactive game to prepare them for Large Group.

- **Clean up!** *(10 minutes after the service start time, when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)*
- Have kids sit on the rug or stand in a line.
- Do the following motions to help them prepare for today’s story (motions are underlined):
  - Today, we’re going to hear about a special story that Jesus told his friends!
    - Let’s all pretend like we’re reading a story in a book!
  - In this story, Jesus’ friends are worried. That means they thought Jesus wouldn’t take care of them!
    - Show me a sad face.
  - We don’t have to worry, because Jesus loves us and always takes care of us!
    - Give yourself a big hug!
  - In the story, Jesus talks about birds!
    - Let’s all pretend to be a bird!
  - Then Jesus talks about flowers!
    - Let’s all pretend to be flowers!
  - Let’s go to Large Group and see why he talked about birds and flowers!

As you walk into Large Group, encourage kids to put on their listening ears! Remind them that HOPS will be showing us how we should act in Large Group, so we have to listen!
WELCOME AND INTRO

**Main Goal:** Review the beginning of God's story and rescue plan.

**Notes:**

- *Click to play intro music.*
- **Say:** Hi Friends! Welcome to Kids' Club. I'm __________ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS.
- **Video:** HOPS Put your listening on!
- **Say:** (Holding up the Bible.) This is God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this is the most important. Do you know what it's called? (Let kids respond “the Bible.”) That's right, the Bible! It's God's Rescue plan. It shows us how He rescued us from all the wrong things in the world.
- **Say:** In the beginning, God made the whole world and everything in it. He created the sun and the moon, the water and the land, the plants and the animals, and people like you and me! Everything was good. Give me a big thumbs up! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.)
- **Say:** But THEN, something bad happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and all the wrong things came into the world. Things like sadness and death. Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God, God loved them anyway! He planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve, and you and me, could be close to God again! Do you know who the Rescuer is? (Let kids say: Jesus!)
| THE DISCIPLES WORRY! | • **Say:** One day, Jesus was spending time with his friends, the disciples! Raise your hand if YOU ever spend time with your friends too! (Let kids respond.)  
• **Say:** Now, even though Jesus loved them, and would always take care of them, his friends were worried! Being worried is when we keep thinking about our problems, and we're scared that Jesus won't take care of us. Show me a sad face. (Let kids respond.)  
• **Say:** Sometimes we worry that we won’t get everything we need. We might get sad, scared, lonely or mad. Maybe we worry that we won’t have enough food to eat, or that we won’t have enough toys to play with! |
| --- | --- |
| JESUS TALKS ABOUT THE BIRDS AND FLOWERS | • **Say:** Jesus didn’t want his friends to worry, so he told them a story! Let’s watch a video and see what Jesus said to do instead of worrying and being afraid.  
• **Video:** Bible Theatre / Don’t Worry  
• **Say:** Wow! Jesus said that we NEVER have to worry, because he will always take care of us and give us what we need! Give me a big thumbs up! (Let kids respond.)  
• **(Loop: Birds)** First, he talked about birds. That's kind of funny, isn't it? Let’s see some birds right now! (Let kids watch the loop for a few seconds) Let’s flap our wings and chirp like birds! (Respond along with kids.)  
• **Say:** Jesus said, “Look at the birds! They won’t worry about what they’ll eat!” That means that if the birds don’t worry about what they eat, WE don’t have to worry about it either!  
• **Say:** Next, Jesus talked about flowers! He said, “Look at the beautiful flowers in the fields! They don’t worry about what they will wear. So WE don’t have to worry either.” Let’s look at some flowers right now.  
• **Video:** Flowers Can Dance |
| WE CAN TRUST JESUS TO TAKE CARE OF US | • **Say:** Guess what? Jesus loves us WAY more than he loves birds and flowers. So if he can take care of them, do you think he can take care of us too? (Let kids respond.) Yes!  
• **Say:** God loves and cares for everything that he created. And instead of worrying about what we’ll eat or wear, or who we’ll play with, God wants us to trust him instead. That means we believe that he will take care of us, no matter what! |
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<th>WRAP UP AND WORSHIP</th>
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| **Say:** Let’s pray right now, and ask Jesus to help us not worry, and trust him instead. Praying is when we talk to Jesus, and he listens to us! So close your eyes and bow your head, and repeat after me.  
**Pray (Breaking it into small, repeatable phrases):** Dear God, sometimes we forget to focus on you, so please help remind us that you’re always here, and you’ll always help us! Aaa-men!  
**Set up worship:** Let’s show Jesus how glad we are that he loves us. Everybody stand up and sing as loud as you can!  
**Music Video:** I Just Want to Thank You  
**Music Video:** If You’re Happy and You Know It  
**Music Video:** Robot Rock |
Goal: Kids will (1) understand what Jesus tells us about worrying, (2) understand that Jesus will take care of us no matter what!

Why? Worrying and anxiety isn’t just for adults–kids experience it too, and we need to equip them with how to place their trust in Jesus instead of being afraid that Jesus won’t give us what we need.

Tip: Depending on how old your kids are, you can extend this craft and make it more in depth, or as simple as needed.

REVIEW THE STORY
1. Did Jesus’ friends worry? (Yes)
2. Does Jesus want us to worry? (No!)
3. Does Jesus take care of everything he created? (Yes)
4. Does Jesus take care of... (say different kids’ names and let them answer, “Yes!”)
5. What two things in nature did Jesus talk about? (Flowers and birds)

MAKE IT PERSONAL
● Say: Jesus said even the birds and flowers don’t worry, because they know God will take care of them. Let’s create flowers as a reminder that if God will take care of them, he’ll take care of us too!
● Give each kid:
  ○ 3 popsicle sticks
  ○ 3 flower stickers
  ○ 1 story card
● Let kids color their popsicle sticks. Help kids stick their flower stickers on one end of each stick, to create a bouquet of flowers!

OPTIONAL EXTRA GAME
● Say: God cares for the flowers and the birds and US. What ELSE do you think He cares for?
  ○ Let kids say things that they think that God takes care of. Then have everyone act like that animal or thing.
  ○ For example, if someone says that God takes care of cats, all the kids will act like cats for about 10 seconds, then move on to another kids suggestion.

Extra time? Have kids do a coloring sheet.
connect questions
What does Jesus say about worrying?
How can we be more like the birds and flowers?

lesson supplies

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What does Jesus say about worrying?
How can we be more like the birds and flowers?

Read more about this week’s story in Matthew 6:25-34.

CrossroadsKidsClub.net
- Does Jesus want us to worry? (No!)
- Does Jesus take care of everything he created? (Yes!)
- What two things in nature did Jesus talk about? (Flowers and birds)
- Does Jesus love you? (Yes!)

Check out more about this story in **Matthew 6:25-36.**

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1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: HOPS Put your listening ears on! (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhSEtbIZBq0&feature=youtu.be)
3. Video: Bible Theatre / Don’t Worry (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XgAVWkqcyMU)
4. Loop: Birds (0:00-0:30; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NU9RO_v52e4)
5. Video: Flowers (0:00-1:28; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ryUxrFUK6MY)
7. Music Video: If You’re Happy and You Know It (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AK_ZXwRmbCQ)
8. Music Video: Robot Rock (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQcHsUevexM)