3rd grade bible class, planned for roughly 80 minute sessions, 4 weeks

Week 1 theme: Rules

Week 2 theme: Heroes – someone who has helped you

Week 3 theme: Jesus

Week 4 theme: You’re a helper – how can you help someone else?

Class outline

**1) Game (15 minutes):**

Week 1: Simon Says, follow the leader

Week 2: Freeze/tunnel tag (kids play tag, get frozen standing when they get tagged, another kid can unfreeze them by climbing between their legs)

Week 3: Trust falls (with adult supervision)

Week 4: Partner tag/Blob (one person starts as “it,” when kids are tagged, they link arms with the person who was originally “it,” and form a big blob. Game ends when everyone is tagged.

**2) Art activity (10 minutes):**

Make a story quilt, talk about how the bible is like a quilt of stories

Week 1: Draw a picture of a rule you think is good.

Week 2: Draw a picture of a time someone helped you.

Week 3: Draw a picture of Jesus doing something that makes you think about him.

Week 4: Draw a picture of how you can help someone else in the future.

**3) Snack and conversation (20 minutes):**

Have students go around taking turns telling about what they drew for their story quilt. Emphasize the importance of listening to one another. Tell about how much of Jesus’ ministry was sitting down, eating with people, getting to know them.

**4) Story theater! (15 minutes):**

Read a story, and if kids are enthusiastic, have them act it out. Any kids who don’t want to help act it out can be in the audience. The Jesus Storybook Bible is highly recommended, though any kid’s bible will work.

Week 1: God giving the Ten Commandments

Week 2: David and Goliath

Week 3: The Sermon on the Mount

Week 4: A selection of one of Paul’s letters

**5) Cleanup time:**

Have the kids all pitch in to help do the dishes together – this is actually a really fun time! Good modeling for everyone working together to help.