

Things to take:

Question box with pens & paper
Door welcome sign, register & rules
Paper, marker pens
Fun file inserts and pens
Copies of the Lion and Person template from the CD
Every Move I Make by Christ Music Kids

Session Aim:

To see how prayer can change things.

“Never stop praying”

1 Thessalonians 5:17

6. Prayer: See change happen**Game as they arrive and register: Animal kung fu**

The group stands in a circle. They learn four actions, the monkey, the lion, snake and elephant. A kung fu master is chosen. On 3, everyone does an animal pose. (can make a kung fu noise too if they want!) Those who did the same pose as the kung fu master are out, and sit down. The winner is the last person standing.

Game: Dragon, Princess, Knight

This is a bit like ‘rock, paper, scissors’, but in teams. The group is split into two even teams. They stand in lines facing each other, with quite a big gap in between. Each group huddles and decides whether they want to be a dragon, a princess or a knight. There are actions for each of the characters. The teams then get back into lines and approach each other, and on the count of three they must perform the action of their character. The dragon kills the princess, the princess makes the knight fall in love with her and the knight slays the dragon. The team that wins chases the other team and tries to tag them before they get back to their starting place. If a member of the losing team is tagged, they join the other team. This can go on until there are no members left in one team.

Pray: for today’s session**Rules - recap the Kids Rock rules****Answer question box from last week****Ask if anyone can remember memory verse from last week:**

“If you believe, you would see the glory of God” John 11:40

Memory Verse: “Never stop praying” 1 Thessalonians 5:17

This weeks memory verse is a short one! Get the children to repeat the memory verse in silly voices (eg Robot, high, low, loud, quiet, Mexican, Jamaican...). You may need to go over how to say ‘Thessalonians’ a few times as well.

Bible bit:

Ask questions to remind everyone about last session’s Bible story. Explain that some years later there was a new king called Darius. In today’s story they are going to hear about something very frightening that happened to Daniel. Choose four children to be the king, Daniel, and two jealous officials. The rest will be lions. Provide the king with a ‘throne’. The Bible account is very straightforward, so it can be read straight from a child-friendly translation such as the Contemporary English Version which is available online at www.biblegateway.com.

Read Daniel 6:1–5. (Ask Daniel to mime doing his work while the other two men whisper to each other.) Ask the children whether they have any ideas about what the two men were plotting. (They wanted to get Daniel into trouble.)

Read verses 6–9. (The officials mime going to the king, who then mimes writing his law.) Ask the children what they think Daniel should do now, and why.

Read verses 10 and 11. (Daniel mimes praying, the two officials mime watching.) Ask the children what they think will happen next.

Read verses 12–14. (The officials mime going to the king; the king is thinking hard.) Ask the children whether they think he will change his new law. Why not?

Read verses 15 and 16. (Ask the lions to roar), then read verses 17 and 18. (The king mimes lying down but he is not able to sleep, he keeps turning over.) Ask the children what they think will happen. (Ask the lions to roar again, then signal them to shut their mouths.)

Read verses 19 and 20. (The king mimes hurrying to the pit, where the lions are lying down quietly.)

Read verses 21–23. (Daniel comes out of the pit.)

If you have time, read the story through again without stopping, with another four children playing the four roles.

Talk:

1. Give out copies of the lion and person template from the CD. Ask the children to think about a time when it isn't easy to live for God. (This can be a place or situation, for example bullying, loneliness.) Encourage them to write this on the lion, cut it out and place it on the floor or table to form a den of lions.

2. Ask the children to write their own name on the person, cut it out and place it into the 'den'.

3. Talk briefly about how it feels to be in a difficult place or situation. Place another 'person' in the den. Say that Jesus experienced all of these things, and stays with us, by his Holy Spirit, to help us face them.

4. Say that Daniel's life was full of prayer, even when facing lions. Help the children to pray for each other to live for God in their everyday situations. As the children pray, turn the lions back, facing away from the 'people'.

Testimony:

Get a leader to share how prayer had an impact on a difficult situation in their life.

Response:

Use your fun file sheets or...

Prayer activity

Stand in a circle and throw the ball to each child in turn. When they catch the ball ask them to say something they are thankful for, then next time something they are worried about and then finally a word to describe God. Finish by thanking God that he is always there with us.

Group Prayer:

Dear God, Thank you for always being with us and hearing our prayers. Please help us to trust you and to remember to ask you for help when things go wrong. Amen

Song & Actions: *Every Move I Make by Christ Music Kids*

Game: *Finger Fencing*

In partners holding hands like you are shaking hands with your pointer finger pointing up. Pretend to be fencing. The object is to touch your partner on the knee with your finger.

Pray: Kids Rock prayer before they leave.