

How to Lead the Theme Center

The Theme Center activities are designed to give your children a chance to make discoveries in a laboratory while helping them understand how the biblical focus of each session applies to their own lives.

Display children's work in your room. Parents will enjoy viewing their children's work as part of your Closing Program.

Theme Center Basics

- Familiarize yourself with each session's overview. Read the Bible Story references, Bible Verse, Q&A, Spark Principle and Bible Story Recap so that you can easily talk about them with the children. Memorize the Q&A so that you can guide conversation with your children toward this learning objective.
- For each session, review the Session Goals. These aims are primarily met in the Bible Story Center; however, one or more of these learning objectives will be met by each of the Theme Center activities. (Note: Only goals for grades 3 and 4 have been included with the activities. Goals for



grades 1 and 2 and grades 5 and 6 differ slightly and are available in *TruthLab Bible Stories* for those grade levels.)

- Collect supplies or submit a list to your VBS Director or Supply Coordinator. Group general supplies together and place supplies specific to each day in a labeled box or bag. Prepare items as needed.
- Shortly before VBS, decorate your assigned room. (See decorating instructions on pp. 5–19 and “Sights and Sounds” on pp. 54–55.)
- During VBS, prepare for each session by reading the Heart Prep. Then check to make sure you have the needed materials. Review the instructions until you feel confident leading children in the activities.
- Lead children in the activity. Use the conversation suggestions provided to help children understand the Bible truths and discover how those truths apply to their everyday lives. In your discussion, be alert for natural openings to talk with children about the wonderful opportunity they have to receive God's love and forgiveness and become members of His family. (See “Leading a Child to Christ” on p. 1.)
- After each VBS session, review the questions provided in the Daily Recap. Answer the questions honestly, and plan ways to make your next session even better.

