

CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS
OF JESUS' BIRTH

JINGLE!

JAM!

JINGLE JAM SMALL GROUP GUIDE

UPPER ELEMENTARY

It's time for **JINGLE JAM!**

This weekend, kids will get to experience the **JOY of Jesus** through fun, games, worship, and the **greatest news ever told** - the birth of **our Savior, Jesus!**

During small group time, have fun, be silly, and make every moment point back to the true reason for the season: **JESUS.**

1:40 // 3:40 // 5:40 // 8:40 // 10:40 | CONNECTION TIME ACTIVITY

Connection Time Activity: These activities are made for kids to have FUN while connecting with YOU! Use this time to ask questions and engage with your small group!

Christmas Coloring Pages/Word Search

What You Need: Joy to the World Coloring Page, Nativity Word Search, Crayons, Markers

What You Do:

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and asking about their past week and upcoming Christmas plans!
 - If you have any first-timers, take time to make them feel extra welcomed
- Explain that today is an EXTRA FUN day of fun and learning all about WHY we celebrate Christmas!
- As you explain the day, set out the coloring pages, word searches, and drawing utensils
- Tell them to color the page they choose in whatever way that they desire
 - Pro tip: COMPLIMENT them! Every small thing you can encourage tells each child they are welcome, seen, and loved.
- As they are coloring, ask these questions:
 - What are you *most* looking forward to this Christmas?
 - What are you doing at school to celebrate Christmas?
 - If you could choose *one* Christmas snack/treat to eat *every day*, what would it be?
 - Do you hope it snows this Christmas? Why/Why not?

Christmas Charades

What You Need: List of Charades Actions below!

What You Do:

- Direct all kids playing to sit down on the ground facing you
- Choose one volunteer to be the first person to “act”, while the rest of the group is going to *guess* what it is they’re trying to act out!
- Explain that you will give the person acting a Christmas Activity to act out, but they can’t say a *word*! They can only use motions!
- Show them an example:
 - Eating a Christmas Cookie: Pretend to take a *big* bite of a cookie.
 - Encourage your group to guess what you’re doing! Help them understand the game by encouraging guesses and giving hints.
- Once they’ve got it, give your volunteer a phrase (using the list below) and say, GO!
- Encourage the group to guess by yelling out their answers!
 - You may need to help give hints depending on your volunteer
- Once the group has guessed, choose another volunteer to act!
- Play as many rounds as time allows

Christmas Charades List:

Decorating a Christmas tree

Wrapping a present

Opening a present

Building a snowman

Sledding down a hill

Drinking hot cocoa

Hanging ornaments

Singing Christmas carols

Ice Skating

2:00 // 4:00 // 6:00 // 9:00 // 11:00 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

Left/Right Game

What You Need: A “Gift” to pass around the circle (Gift/Marker/Toy/Etc.), Left/Right Game Sheet

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Explain that you’re going to play a game like “hot potato,” but with a “gift”, but it has a little twist.
- You will read the story from the Left/Right Game Sheet, and every time the story says RIGHT, whoever is holding the gift will pass it to the RIGHT. When the story says LEFT, whoever is holding the gift will pass it to the LEFT.
 - Be prepared to help kids know which is their right or left!
- Begin with one person holding “the gift” and begin the story
- When the story is over, whoever is holding the gift WINS!
- Play as many rounds as time allows

2:05 // 4:05 // 6:05 // 9:05 // 11:05 | LARGE GROUP

Countdown to Large Group Begins!

What You Say:

*“I had so much fun playing those games together, but now it’s time for EVEN MORE fun. Who’s excited for JINGLE JAM?! **[Transition] Well, then let’s head to Large Group together!**”*

Large Group Overview: Jingle Jam is all about bringing the JOY of Jesus’ birth to life for our kids! Large group is going to be FUN, full of energy, and engaging for each child in the room. All that we do will *always* point back to Jesus. **You can help make Large Group a success by helping your small group stay engaged and having fun throughout our time!**

3:02 // 5:02 // 7:02 // 10:02 // 12:02 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

Christmas Tree Ornaments

What You Need:

- Green Cardstock
- Foam Stars
- Marker/Pen/Crayon (for outlining)
- String
- Scissors
- Glue Stick
- Tape

What You Do:

- Give each child a half sheet of green cardstock page and a foam star
- Instruct kids to draw their Christmas tree (younger kids may need some help from you) and decorate it with drawing utensils.
- Once they're ready, they will cut out their Christmas tree outline using scissors (younger kids may need some help!)
- Stick the star to the top of the tree by removing the sticky sheet from the back
- Each kid will receive a pre-cut piece of string to loop and tape to the back of their tree, making a Christmas ornament!

Christmas Song Emoji Trivia

What You Need: Christmas Song Emoji Trivia Sheets, Markers/Pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid a Christmas Song Emoji Trivia Sheet and a writing utensil
- When you say "GO!", every kid will try to complete the trivia sheet the fastest
- Whoever finishes the sheet the fastest WINS!