



## 2nd & 3rd Grade

### WEEK 4 - STARTER



#### Activity Name: Keepy Uppy Balloon Game

**What You Need:** ☐ 3–5 balloons

#### What You Say:

We are so glad you are here today for our MEGA AWESOME COSTUME PARTY! Let's start with a super fun game. Everyone, stand in a circle. We're going to work together to keep this balloon from touching the floor! Gently tap the balloon into the air—do not catch, hold, or kick it. Each time someone taps it, count out loud. If it touches the floor, we'll start over and try to beat our score. Remember to use gentle hands, watch where you're going, and work as a team. Ready? Let's play Keepy Uppy!

#### What You Do:

- Start with 1 balloon.
- Work together to keep the balloon from touching the floor by gently tapping it into the air.
- Kids may not catch or hold the balloon.
- Count how many taps your group can make before the balloon touches the floor.
- Remind kids to stay in their group's area and use gentle taps—no kicking or hitting other players.
- Play another round, adding a balloon each round.
- Try different variations: use only heads, elbows, etc.

#### What You Say:

Great job! That was so fun! Let's head to Large Group to hear our Bible story and keep the fun going!

**Lead your group to the Large Group area.**



**Bible Story:** Jesus Has Won the Battle • John 16:33; Revelation 19:11-16

**Bottom Line:** Jesus wins.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *God is our place of safety. He gives us strength. He is always there to help us in times of trouble. Psalm 46:1 NIV*

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How does knowing Jesus wins help you when life is hard?
- Jesus died on the cross and came back to life. What did Jesus save us from? What will He stop forever when He comes back?
- God is always good and fair. What kinds of wrong things make God angry?

**Leader Note:** Romans 8:1 says, “Those who belong to Christ Jesus are not judged guilty.” God loves His children and wants everyone to be saved. God is angry at evil and the enemy’s work.

- What hard thing can you face this week because you know Jesus wins?

## Activity Name: So Close

**What You Need:** □ small toy/object

□ pool noodle/ruler/or another long object that can help “bridge the gap”

### What You Do:

- Mark a line on the floor using floor tape or indicate where to stand.
- Gather kids around the line.
- Set the object just barely out of reach from the line.
- Say: “I have a challenge for you today! Your job is to try to grab the object. Easy enough, right? But there’s one rule: you cannot step over the line or let any part of your body touch the floor on the other side. Think you can do it? Let’s find out!”
- Invite every kid to take a turn if willing.
- Allow each kid to stretch, reach, balance, or carefully attempt to grab the object while following the rules.
- Encourage the group to cheer each other on.
- Add fun challenge rounds if desired:
  - Only use one hand.
  - Stand on one foot.
  - Do not bend your knees.
- Keep the object in the same spot throughout the activity.
- After everyone has had a chance to try, say: “Wow! You all got so close. Some of you stretched as far as you could, but the gap was just too big to reach on your own.”
- Hold up the pool noodle, ruler, or yardstick.
- Say: “What if someone helped make a way?”
- Choose a kid to use the object to successfully reach the item.
- Celebrate loudly when the object is finally reached.

### What You Say:

You all tried really hard! Some of you got so close, but no matter how hard you tried, you still couldn’t quite reach the object on your own. The gap was too big. That reminds me of something important about today’s story. In the very beginning, God created people to live close to Him. Everything was perfect. There was no sadness, fear, sickness, pain, or death. People walked closely with God. But then sin entered the world, and everything became broken. Suddenly, there was hurt and fear and darkness in the world. People were separated from God. And no matter how hard people tried, they could never fix the problem on their own. The gap was too big. That’s why Jesus came. God loved us too much to leave us stuck and separated from Him. So Jesus stepped into our story. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose from the dead to defeat sin and death forever. Jesus made a way for us when there seemed to be no way. And because of Jesus, we can live with hope knowing that no matter what happens, the story ends with victory. **[Bottom Line] Jesus wins!**

**Close in prayer/Invite kids to pray as well.**