

City LG - January 11-12, 2020

Bible Story: Take Me to the River (Jesus' Baptism) • *John 1:19-42; 3:22-36 (Supporting: Matthew 3)*

Bottom Line: If you want to know God, start with Jesus.

Memory Verse: *The LORD gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth.*
Proverbs 2:6 (NIRV)

CG: Countdown Video

Worship: "Fireblazin" and "Look to You"

Worship Leader prays...

Supplies Needed: ABCD Answer Cubes (3 per Campus)

"Hello, everyone, and welcome to everyone's favorite game show: The Big Quiz! Today, you're going to be given a chance to guess some trivia questions . . . and show what you know!

"All month long we're talking about knowledge.

CG: Knowledge Slide

"Knowledge is learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do.

CG: Theme Slide

"If you want to be good at something, you need to know more about it. If you want to get to know GOD better, you need to know more about Him, too!

"It's time for today's edition of The Big Quiz: Battle of the Grades!

CG: "The Big Quiz: Battle of the Grades" Slide

"Let's get one Small Group Leader and one kid to represent each grade.

Choose one Leader per grade, and have that Leader bring up one kid from his/her group. (Ideally, choose a Leader and kid who want to play.) Have each pair of contestants stand at the back of the room. Give an answer cube to the pair representing each grade.

"Here are a few quick instructions about how we play this game. *(To contestants)* Contestants, you'll use your answer cube to show your answer for each question. When every grade has an answer, I'll reveal the correct answer and see who got it right. Every pair that got the correct answer will then get to move one step closer to the stage.

"Each grade has one lifeline, which is the question mark on your cube. If you choose the lifeline, then you'll get to ask your grade and see if THEY know the answer. Whoever chooses the question mark first gets to use it, and we'll do the lifeline AFTER all other contestants have chosen an answer. Whichever grade gets closest to the stage at the end of the game wins!

"All right, contestants. It's time to show what you know. *(To audience)* Remember, audience, don't shout out the answers. See if our contestants can guess—and be ready to help if they need a lifeline. Today's topic is . . . animals! Let's begin.

Ask the questions, and give the contestants a few seconds per question to hold out a letter on their answer cube.

Once all contestants have chosen an answer, use your answer cube to reveal the correct answer. Let those who got it correct take one step forward. (If you have "pathways" made from multicolored construction paper, they can step to the next square.)

If a contestant holds out the question mark on his/her answer cube, give the kids from that grade a chance to shout out the answer. (But wait until the other contestants have all chosen an answer first.) Give the Leader/kid pair from that grade a chance to choose the answer with their cube. Then reveal the answer to the question like usual.

Animal trivia questions:

1. What is a baby goat called?
 - A. Calf
 - B. Foal
 - C. Kid**
 - D. Joey

2. What color is a male cardinal?
 - A. Yellow
 - B. Blue
 - C. Gray
 - D. Red**

3. What do you call a group of lions?
 - A. Pack
 - B. Pride**
 - C. Den
 - D. Flock

4. What is the largest animal in the world?
 - A. Elephant
 - B. Colossal squid
 - C. Whale shark
 - D. Blue whale**

5. What food makes up most of a giant panda's diet?
 - A. Bugs
 - B. Berries
 - C. Bamboo**
 - D. Bananas

6. How many legs does a spider have?
 - A. Two
 - B. Four
 - C. Six
 - D. Eight**

7. What is the fastest land animal?
A. Cheetah
B. Pronghorn antelope
C. Horse
D. Jackrabbit

8. Which of these is NOT another name for a mountain lion?
A. Puma
B. Cougar
C. Panther
D. Jaguar

9. Which of these is a mammal that lays eggs?
A. Bobcat
B. Sea otter
C. Opossum
D. Duck-billed platypus

10. Which bird has the largest wingspan?
A. Bald eagle
B. Wandering albatross
C. Trumpeter swan
D. Great white pelican

After you finish the questions, congratulate the Leader/kid pair that made it closest to the stage. Collect the answer cubes and dismiss the contestants to their seats.

“Well played, everyone! Once again, I’m simply amazed by your knowledge. So, I’ve got a question for you. Have you ever met someone who had a nickname? Do any of YOU have a nickname? Raise your hand if you do. *(Pause.)* That’s cool!

“Sometimes a nickname is just a shortened version of your name. Sometimes people get a nickname based on something they do—something that they’re famous for.

“Well, there was a guy who played an important part in God’s Big Story *(hold up Bible)* who had a pretty cool nickname: John the Baptist. How do you suppose he got that name? Well, let’s find out in this week’s Bible Story Video. Watch this!”

“John had spent his life listening to God. He discovered the truth about Jesus and shared it with everyone he met. John understood something really, really important: that Jesus is God’s Son. As people heard what John and Jesus had to say, more and more of them chose to follow Jesus, too.

“It would have been easy for John to get his feelings hurt when people were leaving him to follow Jesus. But John knew that nothing could be more important than knowing Jesus. His job was to make sure that everyone else got the chance to know Jesus, too. He knew this:

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “If you want to know God, start with Jesus.

“We can look to Jesus to learn more about God. Jesus showed us what God is like—how God loves us and forgives us . . . and how He’s there for us no matter what. Let’s pray and thank God right now.”

Pray: “Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus so that we could know You. Help us to learn more about Jesus so that we can know more about You. And God, please help us to live like John did. Please help us to share the good news about Jesus by sharing Your love with everyone we meet. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“If you want to learn more about Jesus, you can go right to the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) If you read the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John at the beginning of the New Testament, you can read about how Jesus lived, how He died for the sins of the world, and how He rose from the dead.

“As you learn more and more about Jesus, you’ll discover more and more how **you can trust God no matter what**. Before we head to Small Group and talk some more about that, let’s worship God with our offering!”

CG: Offering Video (Runtime: 2:00)

Dismiss kids to their small groups.