

Alley “All Together Activities”—February 14th, 2020

1. Just for Fun

What You Need: Note Cards (1 per student), pens, timer on mobile device (*optional*)

What You Do:

- Ask: “Is it easy or hard to . . .”
 - Curl your tongue (or flip your tongue upside down)
 - Tie your shoe one handed
 - Write your name backwards
 - Hop up and down on one foot without stopping for a minute
 - Say the alphabet backwards
- Allow kids to try each of the challenges.
- If time allows, let kids come up with challenges for the group to label “easy” or “hard.”

2. Follow the Leader

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle and instruct them to stand an arm’s length from each other.
- Select one kid to be the “guesser.”
- Tell the “guesser” to stand in the center of the circle and close his or her eyes.
- Select one kid in the circle to be the “leader,” making sure the “guesser” doesn’t see or hear who you picked.
- Once a “leader” has been selected, the “guesser” can open his or her eyes.
- Instruct everyone in the circle to swing their arms back and forth.
- The “leader” eventually does other movements and everyone in the circle mimics the leader’s actions.
 - Potential motions for the leader could be: clapping, jumping up and down, a dance move, snapping fingers, spinning in circles, etc.
- Remind everyone in the circle to be careful to avoid prolonged eye contact with the “leader” so the leader’s identity is not given away.
 - The goal is to mimic the “leader” without being too obvious who the “leader” is.
- Allow the “guesser” up to three guesses.
 - If the guess is incorrect, the round continues.
 - If the guess is correct, the “leader” becomes the new “guesser” for the next round.
 - If all three guesses are used up and the “leader” is not correctly identified, the round ends and a new leader and guesser are chosen.

What You Say:

“Sometimes it was hard to follow the movement changes without being too obvious, but you did a great job hanging in there and following the leader. **[Transition] Let’s head to Large Group to hear about a woman who showed kindness by following even when it was hard.**”

3. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: White Floor Tape (one roll per Campus)

What You Do:

- Create a line on the floor using floor tape.
- Tell kids to stand on the line an arm's length apart and face you.
- Read a scenario from the list below.
 - If kids think it's easy to be kind, they should jump in front of the line (towards you).
 - If it is hard to be kind, they jump behind the line (away from you)
 - If it is neither, they stay on the tape.
- Encourage kids to explain their responses for the questions by asking:
 - Why would it be hard to be kind?
 - For kids who stay on the tape, ask: why is it not one or the other, easy or hard? What would need to occur to make it easy to be kind?
- Scenarios:
 - You and your friend got "A"s on your spelling test. Easy or hard to be kind to your friend?
 - Your friend got an "A" and you got a "C." Easy or hard to be kind to your friend?
 - You got an "A" and your friend got a "C." Easy or hard to be kind to your friend?
 - Your mom grounded you and you think it is unfair. Easy or hard to be kind to your mom?
 - You are stuck at home and your younger brother keeps bothering you. Easy or hard to be kind to your brother?
 - You're in a bad mood and your family is trying to cheer you up, but you're still annoyed with everybody. Easy or hard to be kind to them?
 - You are having a great day! Easy or hard to be kind to the people around you?
 - What about when you are having a terrible, horrible, no good very bad day? Easy or hard to be kind to the people around you?
 - *Optional:* Encourage kids to come up scenarios to share with the group. Allow the group to respond if it would be easy or hard to show kindness.

4. Discussion Questions

- Is it easier or harder to be kind to your family versus your friends?
- Why is it sometimes a lot harder to be kind to the people we see all the time and easier to be kind to strangers or people we don't know very well?
- What are things we can do to help us to remember to show kindness to our family and friends?
- What can we do when we're in a bad mood and everything is just annoying? How can we successfully be kind in that situation?

5. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: "Verse Cards" (set of 8 per student), pen

What You Do:

- Give each kid set of "Verse Cards."
- Give kids a pen.

- Read the cards out loud as a group.
- Instruct kids to pick one card and read the verse and write on the card how the verse could help them remember to show kindness even when it is hard.
- Allow kids to share the “Verse Cards” they selected and to share their answers with the group.
- Be sure to select a card as well and share with the group how it could help you remember to show kindness.
- Potential dig deeper questions:
 - What verses could help you remember to show kindness when you are annoyed or frustrated with a friend? *(This is an opportunity to discuss being thankful for the people in your life and remembering why they are important to you can help you respond to them with kindness even when they are annoying or frustrating.)*
 - What verses could help you to respond with kindness when your older sister or brother is being mean to you? *(This is an opportunity to talk about we are all made in the image of God. We are all valuable to God and so when we treat others with kindness, we reflect God’s kindness.)*
 - What verses could help you to respond with kindness when you are having a really bad day?
 - Why would knowing God is kind help you to show others kindness?
 - Why is it important to memorize verses about kindness?