“Helping others” is the next theme for BOZ Treehouse Time! at MOPPETS. We will focus on everyday ways children can help around the house, including picking up toys, making their beds and turning off lights. To introduce this topic, please look for opportunities to highlight and affirm the way your child helps (or attempts to help!) in the next few days.
Introducing Treehouse Time!

BOZ Treehouse Time! encourages young children to discover God’s world through play-based, faith-focused activities. The interactive learning experiences will help children know and love God.

Because many younger children are not enrolled in a formal program for learning, MOPPETS is their “school.” Ideas and activities in Treehouse Time! are developmentally appropriate for children under the age of 6. This includes the selective use of interactive media to extend children’s active engagement as they explore, create, learn and imagine.

Young children gain a great deal of security from routine, so develop a logical pattern that can be used for each session, even if adult leaders rotate.

The lesson elements are designed to be flexible, so feel free to establish a routine that works best for your group.

For example, after children are checked in, you might follow this plan:

* After the children have arrived, say “It’s Treehouse Time! Come and sit down in front of me on the rug.”

* Look in the BOZ bag. Use children’s responses to extend the conversation about the object or theme. Introduce the memory verse during this opening discussion.

* Do the activity rhyme.

* Show the video.

* Do a craft.

* Children float back into free play after completing the craft.

* Pray and then serve the snack.

* Do the activity rhyme.

* Read a book.

* Say the closing prayer.

* End with the BOZ Treehouse Time! rhyme.

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Lesson Guide

- **Lesson Overview**: Key points and concepts of your lesson
- **Let's Get Ready!**: Options to help you set the stage for your lesson, including themed coloring/activity sheets!
- **Gathering Rhyme**: Initial callout that BOZ Treehouse Time! is beginning
- **BOZ Bag**: A fun group participation guessing game to introduce the lesson's theme
- **Activities**: Options for theme-based activities, including interactive songs, stories and poems
- **Crafts**: Make-and-take crafts that help extend the lesson
- **Snacks**: Simple, easy-to-prepare options that reinforce the lesson theme or season
- **BOZ Video Presentation**: Engaging theme-based BOZ video episode, along with previewing and follow-up questions to emphasize theme
- **Closing Prayer**: Easy-to-learn closing verse and brief prayer for the end of each session
Lesson Overview

Just for You

Researchers have documented that children who practice empathy — caring for and about others — at an early age are more likely to have a generous spirit throughout life. Psychologists have shown that even the thought of helping others generates warm feelings, or a “helper’s high.” Of course, we don’t need scientists to document the value of doing good deeds. The second great commandment given by Jesus — “love your neighbor as yourself” — motivates us to offer a helping hand to those in need.

Memory Verse

Help everyone.
(from 1 Timothy 6:18)

Biblical Concept

God wants me to help others.

Concept in Action

I can help.

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Suggestions and ideas to help get your room, space or table ready.

Have supplies for activities clearly visible but not completely set up. As children enter the room, ask each child to do one specific job (for example, “Aiden, would you please set the scissors here?”).

In the circle on the coloring page “My Helping Hands,” ask children to draw a picture of them helping someone. After children finish their drawings, say, “Tell me about your picture.” Print exactly what they tell you.

Respond honestly and positively to a child’s efforts. For example, you might say, “I see you used a lot of orange. That’s my favorite color.”

The following coloring/activity pages can be printed and copied for your MOPPETS.

When handing the maze page to an older child, say, “Use your crayon to take the children to help their sick grandfather.”
Amazing Care

Because Jesus cares about us, we can pass that care along to others. BOZ, Drew, and Gracie are rushing over to help Grampie B, who isn’t feeling well. Help them get to Grampie B and circle the things along the way that will help him feel better.

Help everyone.
(from 1 Timothy 6:18)
Help everyone.
(from 1 Timothy 6:18)
Gathering Rhyme

It’s Treehouse Time! for you and me
So jump up high, count 1, 2, 3
Next clap your hands, then spin around
(whisper) Now please sit down without a sound

BOZ Bag

Insert an adhesive bandage.

Say, “Today we’re going to talk about helping others. There are many ways we can be helpful. Some of you put things on the table today.” Then name individual children and how they helped.

“I’m going to give you a clue about what’s in the BOZ bag today. It’s something you could use to help a friend who falls down.”

As the conversation continues, talk about scenarios in which children could be helpful:

- What would you do if your baby brother spilled his milk?
- How could you help if I were carrying a whole stack of books?
- What could you do if your mom is holding groceries and can’t open the kitchen door?
- What could you do if a friend looks sad?

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Option 1: Be A Helper (Interactive Story)

A little boy fell down.
He skinned his knees and couldn't get up.
Along came a bunny. (children hop like a bunny)
The little boy asked,
"Bunny, would you help me?"
The bunny hopped away. (children hop like a bunny)
A bird flew overhead. (children fly like birds)
The little boy asked,
"Birdie, would you help me?"
The bird flew away. (children fly like birds)
A caterpillar crawled by. (children crawl on floor)
The little boy asked,
"Caterpillar, would you help me?"
The caterpillar crawled away. (children crawl on floor)
A girl came skipping down the street. (children attempt to skip)
The little boy asked,
"Little girl, would you help me?"
What do you think that little girl did?
Why do you think she stopped to help?

(As children suggest answers, try to lead the conversation back
to the theme that God wants us to help others.)
Option 2: I Can Help You (Song)

Sing to the tune of "Frère Jacques" (also known as "Are You Sleeping?").
Add appropriate actions.

I can help you
I can help you
Shovel snow
Shovel snow
Lift the heavy shovel
Lift the heavy shovel
Shovel snow
Shovel snow
I can help you
I can help you
Scrub the floor
Scrub the floor
I will rub-a-dub now
I will rub-a-dub now
Scrub the floor
Scrub the floor
I can help you
I can help you
Pick up toys
Pick up toys
I will chase a ball now
I will chase a ball now
Pick up toys
Pick up toys
Activities

Option 3: A Big Help (Game)

Using masking tape, make a long line across the room on the floor. Ask children to stand shoulder to shoulder in a horizontal line behind the tape. (This is a variation of red light/green light.)

Say, “There are so many ways to help others.
If I say a good way to help, take one giant step forward.
Only move if it’s a good way to help.”

You sweep the kitchen.
You shovel the snow.
You leave toys on the floor.
You help carry groceries.
After a bath, you leave your towel on the floor.
You forget to put the lid on the toothpaste.
You dust the furniture.

Option 4: Helping Is Good (Action Rhyme)

Helping others brings me joy (use fingers to make a big grin)
I can help a girl or boy (point to girl, boy)
Helping others like I should (arm swings wide toward group)
Also makes me feel so good (hug self)
Option 1: Helping Hands Wreath

Ask each child to lay his/her hand, with fingers spread wide and palm down, on a piece of paper. Trace the child’s hand. Print the child’s name on the handprint. Cut out the handprint and glue it onto a cardboard circle, so that the fingers from each handprint overlap. Cut out the center of the cardboard to create a helping hands wreath for the room door.

Option 2: Shaving Cream Snowman

Cover the table with plastic.
Lay a piece of dark blue construction paper in a disposable, rectangular food tray. (This will make it easier for a child to carry home the shaving cream picture, as it needs to dry completely.)
Mix 1/4 cup school glue with 3/4 cup shaving cream.
Use the “puffy” white paint to make a three-dimensional snowman on the construction paper.
Use construction paper or fabric bits for a scarf, eyes, nose, mouth and hat. Small twigs work well as arms and for background.
Note: Younger children might simply enjoy the experience of playing with pure shaving cream in a 13-by-9 pan.

Option 3: Rice Cake

Give each child a paper plate with two small rice cakes and one large one.
Using a plastic knife, spread whipped cream cheese or whipped frosting onto the three cakes.
Use dried fruit bits for the eyes and buttons and carrot slivers for a nose and arms.

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Option 1: “I Help You” Trail Mix

Put each ingredient (cereal, small bits of dried fruit, small candies, mini-marshmallows, etc.) in a separate bowl with a plastic spoon. Line up the bowls on a table, leaving space between bowls.

Pair each child with someone of a similar age/ability.

Give each child a paper cup.

As each pair of children stops in front of the first ingredient, have one child ask the other, “Would you like this in your trail mix?”

The child then counts five pieces of the ingredient into the other child’s cup, continuing until the pair has stopped at each ingredient.

The children then switch places and start over again, making trail mix for the second friend.

Option 2: Grampie B’s Lemon Shake-up and Song

Cut a washed lemon in half.
Remove the seeds.
Squeeze the juice into a tall tumbler with a tight-fitting lid.
Add 1 cup water and 2 heaping teaspoons of sugar.
Cut the squeezed lemon halves into quarters and drop them into the tumbler.
Add crushed ice.
Tightly cover the tumbler.
Shake.
Pour and enjoy.

Sing to the tune of “The More We Get Together”

It’s fun to work together
Together
Together
I like to work together
And be friends with you
We squeeze and we pour
And we shake it all up
And watch, we’ll have a drink soon
To pour in a cup
Grammie B hurt her ankle. She needs help doing jobs around the house. Who do you think will help her? Let’s see.

How did Drew and Gracie help? How did BOZ help? How do you help around your house?
Raise your hand if you like lemonade.
What do you need to make lemonade?
Let’s find out how BOZ and his friends make lemonade.

What did BOZ and his friends use to make lemonade?

If a friend is sad, what do you do?
That’s right. We help our friend smile.
Let’s find out how BOZ and his friends help.

What is one way you help others?
Closing Prayer

BOZ Treehouse Time! is done today
But now before we end our play
We fold our hands and then we say
“Thank you, dear God, for this great day”

Dear God, I am glad you made me a good helper.
It feels good to help.
Amen.