



BOZ, The Green Bear Next Door™

"Doing Our Fair Share"

We can do good deeds to help others, and have fun along the way.

The following lesson helps young children learn how much fun it can be when they share at home, school, and with others. You can use this lesson in Sunday school, Mommy and Me, daycare, children's church, or whatever programming need that you have. Parents can also easily adapt the lesson for use in home schooling or devotional time at home.

The lesson has been divided into several segments, with various activity options to choose from. Select the activity options that best fit your needs.

BOZ's fun stories help preschoolers discover God's world. The Bible helps preschoolers discover God's love. Thanks for your commitment to teaching God's children!

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY: A FRIEND IN NEED IS A FRIEND INDEED!

You will need: Dishcloths

Gather children together and explain that you are going to learn that God wants us to help one another and do our fair share. Begin by playing a game. Line the children up in two lines, facing one another. Tell kids to reach above their heads and grab the hands of the person standing across from them, to make a human tunnel. Put the dishcloths at one end of the tunnel and place a table at the opposite end.

The children will sing as each child takes a turn:

- a) Picking up a dishcloth at the start of the tunnel
- b) Marching through the tunnel
- c) Wiping the table at the end of the tunnel

Afterward, the child joins the line again and waits for the next child to come through to join hands and add to the tunnel again. Let everyone have a turn. Play as long as desired. Teach the children this song to the tune of "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush":

We're gonna do our fair share,
fair share, fair share!
We're gonna do our fair share,
to show how much we care!



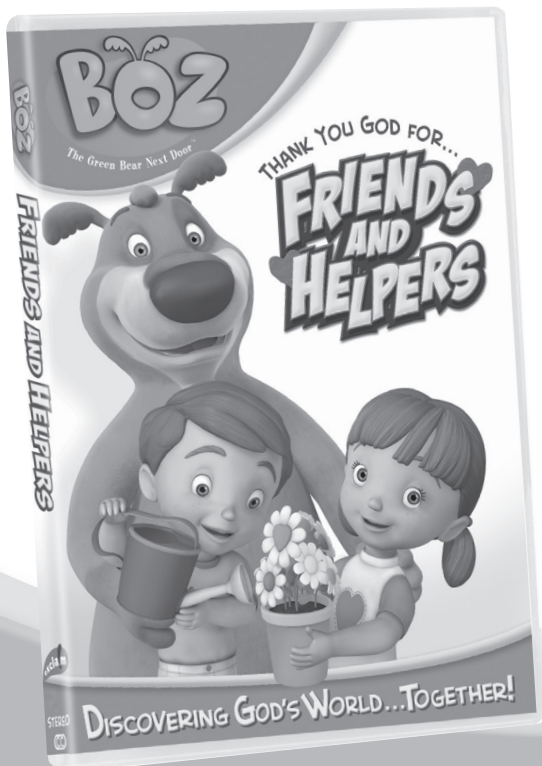
SHOW THE VIDEO

You will need: Thank You God For...Friends and Helpers DVD, television and DVD player.

Introduce the kids to BOZ, The Green Bear Next Door! BOZ is a fun green bear who lives in his tree house next door to a little boy and girl named Drew and Gracie. In this episode, BOZ Helps Drew and Gracie discover how they can have fun when Grammie needs help. Everyone pitches in to do their fair share as they have fun along the way.

Show Episode 2 of the DVD: "Doing Our Fair Share!" Stop the DVD after the episode and ask the following questions:

- Where were BOZ, Drew and Gracie looking forward to going? (The County Fair)
- After Grammie falls down and gets hurt, she needs help doing her chores! What are Drew and Gracie asked to do? (They are asked to skip the fair so they can help Grammie.)
- How do they make doing chores fun? (They have a helper's fair!)
- What does Grammie give to everyone at the end of the helper's fair? (Blue ribbons)
- How did Drew and Gracie feel after they missed the fair, but helped their Grammie? (They felt good, because helping others gives us a good feeling inside.)



BIBLE PRESENTATION: John 13:1-16

You will need: a Children's Bible written for preschoolers, simple Bible-time tunics or robes, sandals, wash basin, washcloth, towel

Use a toddler's Bible to tell the story of Jesus teaching His disciples how to be a servant from John 13:1-6.

When you are done, reenact the story with your group, or ask a guest to do it. Distribute Bible-time costumes to the children and help them slip on a tunic or robe over their clothing. Be sure to wear a tunic or robe and some sandals yourself, as the storyteller, and tell this story:

Let's make-believe that we are all Jesus' followers a long time ago when He taught His followers to be servants. Jesus loved all the people in the world, because He was God's Son. He and His disciples had been traveling for a long time and now they were ready to eat their dinner.

A long time ago, there were no airplanes, no trains, no buses, and no cars. People traveled everywhere by horse, donkey, or by walking ... especially walking. When it came time to rest, their feet were weary and dirty from doing so much walking along the dusty roads. Let's all pretend to walk in place like Jesus and the disciples did as they went from place to place.

Jesus knew that God wanted everyone to help each other and do their fair share, so He got a water basin with some water and a big towel and prepared to wash the feet of His followers. (Get the wash basin, cloth, and towel and walk over to one of the children.)

Jesus went to wash the feet of one of His followers named Simon Peter. But Simon Peter said he didn't want Jesus to wash his feet. That's because Simon Peter felt that the followers should be helping Jesus, not the other way around.

Jesus said, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Jesus taught the people many lessons, and one of them was to be a servant — help others and do our fair share. All the lessons that Jesus taught, He taught them by doing them himself. He would never expect others to do their fair share if He didn't do it too.

So Simon Peter allowed Jesus to wash his feet, and so did all the other disciples. (Invite the children to remove their shoes and socks and wash their feet, if they are comfortable doing so. Don't force anyone to do this.)

When Jesus was done, He told His followers that He wanted them to do the same thing for others. That's because God wants all of us to help one another. But Jesus wasn't just talking about the people in the room with Him on that day. Jesus was talking about you and me! God wants everyone to help one another!



LEARNING EXPLORATION

Choose from a variety of the activities below.

Snack:

Heart Sandwiches

You will need: Soft bread, heart-shaped cookie cutters, plastic knives, peanut butter, jelly, plates, and napkins.

Ask the children to wash their hands. Then distribute bread and show them how to cut through the center of each piece with a cookie cutter to create heart-shaped sandwiches. Spread with peanut butter and jelly and serve to one another.

NOTE: Be certain that no child has peanut or fruit allergies. If they do, modify the menu to a different spread.

Crafts:

1. Pop-Up to Do Your Fair Share!

You will need: : Paper cups, large craft sticks, heart pattern (no larger than the width of the cup), cardstock, scissors, glue, and crayons or markers.

Before the children arrive, create a wide heart pattern for children just slightly narrower than the size of the cups. Duplicate the pattern for each child. Then insert a small slit inside the bottom of the paper cup for the craft stick to poke through. Write the words: POP-UP TO DO YOUR FAIR SHARE on the outside of the cup.

Distribute to each child. Tell children to cut out the hearts, draw a face, and decorate as desired. Then glue the heart onto the top of the craft stick. After it dries, slide the stick through the cup. Kids can use it to push their heart puppet up and say, "Pop-up to do your fair share!"



2. Dusting Mitt:

You will need: Large mitten pattern, cardstock or craft foam, felt, hole punches, glue, scissors, lacing string.

Before the children arrive, create a large mitten pattern and copy the pattern onto two pieces of cardstock or craft foam for each child. Cut out a felt circle that will fit into the center of the mitten for each child too.

Distribute the cardstock or craft foam patterns to each child to cut out. Allow them to punch holes about an inch apart all the way around the mitten with the exception of the wrist portion. (You may need to do this for or help younger preschoolers.)

Allow them to use string to lace the mittens together. Tie at each end for the children. Glue the felt circle onto the palm of the mitten. Tell the children they can use their dusting mitts to help do their fair share at home!

3. Friendly Fans

You will need: Cardstock, crayons or markers, glue, large craft sticks, BOZ clip art pattern

Before the kids arrive, copy the BOZ clip art onto cardstock for each child. Distribute to each child and tell them to cut out around large outline and color, as desired. Spread some glue onto the upper portion of the craft stick and glue the bottom portion of the BOZ picture onto the stick; allow to dry.

Tell the kids to use their BOZ fans to provide some friendly help to others so they can do their fair share and keeping each other cool!



Friendly Fans



Games:

1. Western Round Up!

Gather the children around for a Western round up! Play some Western music as you make believe doing some chores down on the farm! Make up your own words and actions to the song "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." Start out like this:

Old McDonald had a farm, ee-i-ee-i-o
And on his farm we milk the cows, ee-i-ee-i-o
With a swish swish here; and a swish, swish there; (Pretend to milk)
Here a swish, there a swish, everywhere a swish, swish.
Old McDonald had a farm, ee-i-ee-i-oo.

Other ideas:

We pitch the hay;
We wash the pigs;
We feed the sheep;
We clean the barn.

2. The Helper's Fair!

You will need: A variety of items to put into the correct place or order

Set up items with which kids can work together to put into proper order or back in place. Have fun in the process! Here are some ideas:

- Items that need to be lined up from smallest to largest.
- Items that need to be lined up from shortest to tallest.
- Items that should be lined up on a shelf.
- Items that should go on a table and under a table.
- Items that need to be sorted by color.
- Items that need to be sorted by shape.

3. Roads to Helping Others

You will need: A solid-colored sheet (white or light color), washable markers, and small cars.

Spread out a sheet and tack it down at the ends. Provide children with washable markers and a small car. Allow the children to create a place that represents their house, and then roads that lead to one another's homes on the sheet with the markers. Then use the cards to travel from place to place to ask each other how they can help each other out! (Sheets can then be washed afterward.)



REMEMBERING AND APPLYING

Do this activity to help the children review what they learned and apply it to their lives.

1. HELPING ALL DAY LONG!

You will need: paper plates, markers, cardstock, paper fasteners, hole punch.

Before the children arrive, cut out arrows that are 5-inches x 1-inch, and 3-inches x 1-inch from dark colored cardstock, and then punch a small hole at the square end of each.

Distribute paper plates and arrows to each child. Show the children how to write the numbers one through twelve around the circle of their plate to turn it into a clock. Help them to punch a small hole in the center of the clock. Then put a paper fastener through both of the arrows and then the plate. Attach loosely in the back to allow the arrows to turn.

Tell the children to move the arrows to show how they can do their share all day long! Invite each child to move the hands of their clock and describe one way they can help others in the morning, afternoon, or evening all week long. Ask the kids to repeat each line of BOZ'S song, after you:

On a gloomy day, c'mon ask a friend to play!
Because a friend in need is a friend indeed.
When things go bad and your friend is sad,
Take the load off - do a friendly deed!
Bring a friend some cheer, just by being near.
Because a friend in need is a friend indeed!

2. Closing Prayer

Lead children in this prayer:

Dear God,
Thank you for helping us learn how to do our fair share by helping others! Help us to remember to do a good deed:
Help us to reach out to a friend in need!
Reach out to others, reach out with speed!
We'll do our fair share, we'll do it indeed.
Amen.

FAMILY TAKE-HOME

Distribute the Family Take-Home page for each child to take home. This will allow the children to share what they learned with their families and continue to help others!





Dear Mom and Dad,

We had so much fun today! We talked about how important it is to help each other and do our fair share. That shows God and other people how much we love them!

We listened to and acted out the story from the Bible when Jesus washes His disciples' feet to show them it's important to help one another. That story comes from John 13:1-16. And we watched an episode from the BOZ DVD **Thank You God For...Friends and Helpers** that's called "Doing Our Fair Share!" BOZ and his friends showed us how important it is to help someone in need!

Here are some great ways we can keep learning about helping others and doing our fair share at home with you!

SURPRISE!

Kids work together with their families to find ways to surprise their friends, family, teachers, and neighbors with delightful, helpful surprises!

FAIR SHARE FOODS

Decide as a family who you know in your extended family, neighborhood, or church that could use some help ... then figure out what you can do together to help. For example, if someone has a broken leg, you might offer to do that person's lawn work. If someone is feeling down, you might choose to bake some cookies.

Make your choice together, plan a day to do it, and then go to work — with everyone doing his or her part. For example, if you are going to do someone's lawn chore, dad might mow the lawn, mom might pull the weeds, big brother might do the trimming, and little sister might help water the flowers. If you are going to bake cookies, mom might do the grocery shopping for the ingredients, big brother might measure all of the ingredients and mix them up, little sister might spoon the dough onto the trays, and dad might do the dishes!

Have fun lending a helping hand!

SERVING SUPPER

Kids can help serve supper by setting the table. To start, they can make a special placemat for each person. Then, they can set out the plates and silverware. And don't forget to help with clean-up afterward!



A black and white line drawing of a friendly, anthropomorphic animal character, possibly a bear or a dog, with a large snout and small ears. The character is smiling broadly, showing its teeth, and is holding a pencil in its right hand, poised to draw. The character has a small tuft of hair on its head and a large, rounded body. The drawing is simple and clean, suitable for a coloring page.

A black and white line drawing of a friendly, anthropomorphic animal character, possibly a bear or a dog, with a large snout and small ears. The character is smiling broadly, showing its teeth, and is holding a pencil in its right hand, poised to draw. The character is wearing a simple, short-sleeved shirt. The drawing is clean and simple, suitable for a coloring page.

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