



TREEHOUSE TIME! Rescue Man to the Rescue

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.
- * Encourage the children to 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 pre- viewing and follow-up questions to emphasize theme
Closing Prayer	Easy-to-learn closing verse and brief prayer for the end of each session
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Lesson Overview

Just for You

Early childhood educators confirm what you might have already observed: Good vs. evil is a common theme for children beginning around the age of 4. The many variations of "cops and robbers" often reflect the characters and storylines of current superhero movies and TV shows. In general, play ends with the good guys winning, which is fine unless a child has been labeled as one of the bad guys. Avoid that potential problem: Redirect play by suggesting a round of hide-and-seek, a spontaneous treasure hunt or a game of chase without labeling children.

– Memory Verse –

I care about people. (from Matthew 22:39)

Biblical Concept

Love others as much as you love yourself.

-Concept in Action -

I can care and share.



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Name:

Strong Fort

When we have problems, Jesus' love protects us like a strong fort. Drew is having a problem in this picture. He's talking to Jesus about it! Draw a strong fort all around Drew by connecting the dots.









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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

Use a color printer to reproduce the BOZ bag image available online at www.BozTheBear.com/moppets. Attach the image to a pillowcase or cloth bag.

Insert a small scarecrow. After a child takes it from the bag, talk about how the scarecrow is a pretend person, like a doll. Explain how it's made and why it has a certain facial expression. Discuss why it might look scary to a bird. Lead into this rhyme that explains what a scarecrow does:

I'm a little scarecrow on a farm

A pumpkin head and dry straw arm (hold hands around head, then dangle arms) When I hear the big black birdies tweet (fly arms) I scare them off before they eat

Then say, "How would you scare off big birds that are trying to steal your corn?" Children will probably make scary sounds, clap, flap their arms or explode with a menacing "yeow!" Let them practice their actions and then repeat the rhyme, inviting them to make their scary sounds at the end of the rhyme.

Follow this segment by making the Chopstick Scarecrow craft.



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Crafts

Option 1: Chopstick Scarecrow

Give each child a small brown paper bag. Ask children to rip apart newspaper and stuff the scraps into their bags. When the bags are full, poke a blunt-tip chopstick into the bag. Tightly wrap a rubber band; a green pipe cleaner; or grassy, fiber-like raffia around the neck of the bag.

Invite children to give their scarecrows a face. Using a glue stick, they can attach a candy corn nose and googly eyes or use bits of gingham fabric for patchwork eyes. They can also use washable markers to draw a mouth.

Loosely tape the chopstick scarecrows against the wall with masking tape so they stand up. This "field" of scarecrows will be the target for the Broom Sweep activity.



Option 2: Apple Tree

In advance, cut open a brown paper grocery bag so it lays flat. Then cut out a very large tree trunk with branches from brown construction paper. Staple the trunk to a larger piece of paper so the grocery bag "tree" is mounted on a bigger background.

Completely cover a work table with plastic. Provide red bingo markers or corks for children to dip into a shallow disposable pan of washable red paint. Invite children to add red apples to the branches by using the markers or painting with the corks. Display the finished tree on the wall.

Most MOPPETS rooms are multifunctional spaces, accommodating many different groups and ministries throughout the week. The apple tree mural, a group effort by many children, makes an attractive fall decoration for others who use the room. Always check in advance with church administrators, though, for permission to post.



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