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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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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 various items that make noise, such as a whistle, keys, coins in a bag, a bell and a cell phone. Demonstrate the sounds as children take out individual items.

Then stand behind a large box filled with additional items that make noise, so children see your face but cannot see what you are holding. As you pick up each individual item from the box and make the sound, ask, "What do you imagine is making this sound?" Use these ideas, or make up your own:

shake a jingle bell bounce a ball crumple foil clap your hands rip newspaper drop a feather

After children guess, show them what made the sound before continuing to the next item.

tap a pan with a metal spoon ring a kitchen timer clap together two pan lids pour water drop a rock

Children are immersed in a world overflowing with sights and sounds. As they move toward reading, children need to become aware of the nuances they hear so they can eventually distinguish between letters and blends ("s" and "sh," for example) and short and long vowels (like those found in "egg" and "Easter").



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