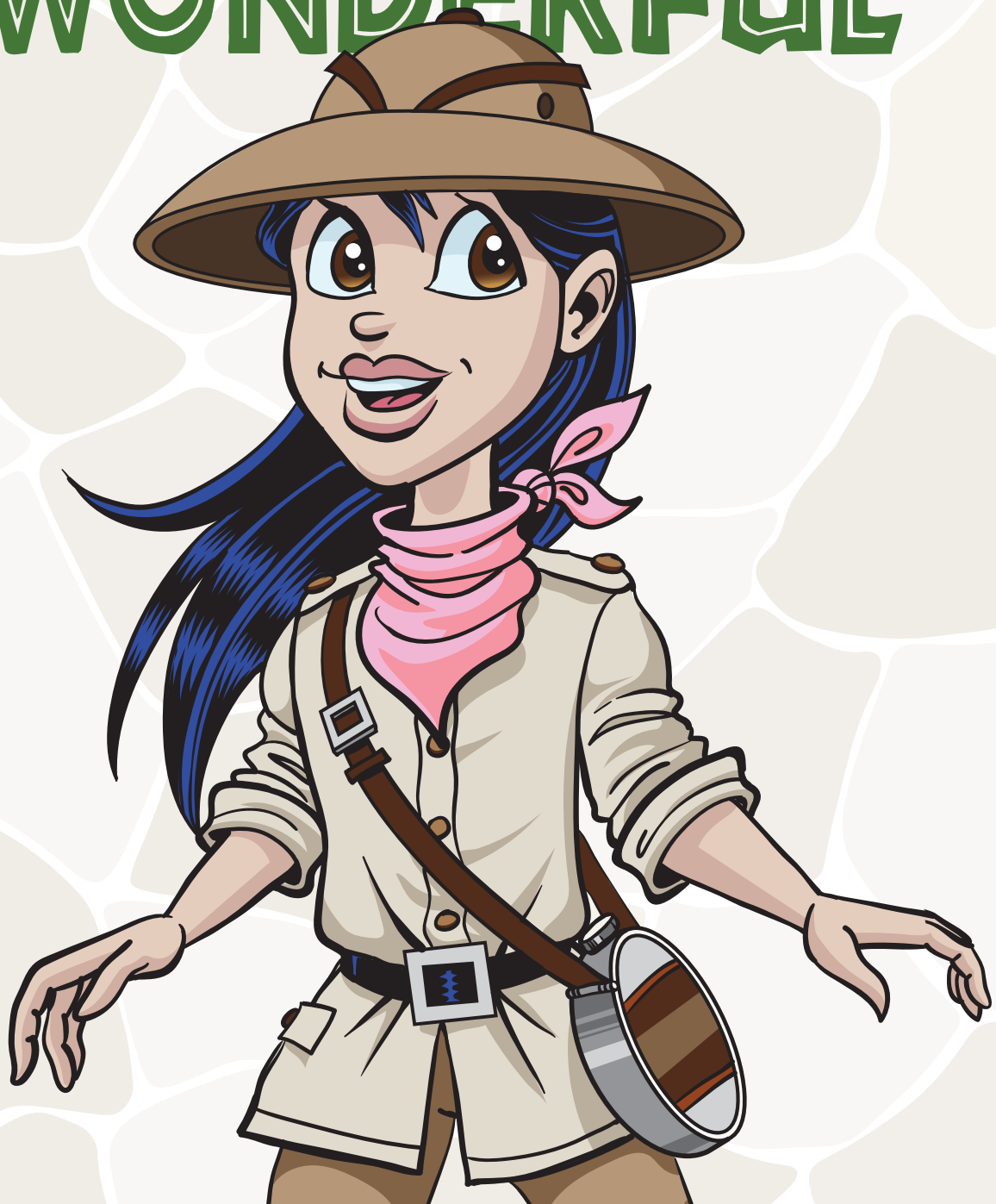


GIRLS MINISTRIES EVENT PLANNING GUIDE

WILDLY WONDERFUL



INTRODUCTION

WILDLY WONDERFUL EVENT

We live in a Wildly Wonderful World that was created by God. He made it all beautiful and unique, just like He made you! God wants us to believe that we can use our uniqueness to help us and others grow closer to Jesus. When we choose to listen to God's voice, He promises to speak to us and help us use the gifts He has given us.

MEMORY VERSE

O LORD, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24 (NLT)

The Message paraphrase says it in a unique way:

What a wildly wonderful world, God! You made it all, with Wisdom at your side, made earth overflow with your wonderful creations. Psalm 104:24 (MSG)

During the Nationwide Girls Ministries Event, girls will go on a "Wildly Wonderful" Safari, discovering who God created them to be. They will discover that God created each of them to be unique. Each girl will learn that God wants to speak to her. Girls will be reminded of the special gifts God gave each of them to use for His glory.

Girls will also learn about our Coins for Kids/BGMC missions project: Africa Oasis. The goal of Africa Oasis is to provide bucket water filters and water education to families across Africa.

HERE ARE A FEW THINGS YOUR GIRLS CAN LOOK FORWARD TO AT THIS EVENT

- ★ **Fun:** A big part of the Girls Ministries Event is for girls to enjoy being together and making new friends.
- ★ **Outreach:** This event is a great time for your girls to invite their friends. New girls will see how much fun Girls Ministries activities are. In turn, they will invite other friends to your next event. Most importantly, this is an opportunity to introduce girls to a relationship with Jesus.
- ★ **Giving:** Developing a heart of compassion for others is an important trait to teach the girls. They can learn to give beyond themselves to those less fortunate.

This *Event Planning Guide* is full of details and suggestions that can be customized to fit your event.

We look forward to hearing about your event!

The Girls Ministries Team

Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

Scripture marked as MSG are taken from The Message. © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

© 2023 by Gospel Publishing House, 1445 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield, MO 65802. All rights reserved. Permission is granted to print and duplicate for local church use only. Unauthorized duplication is prohibited.

CONTENTS

WILDLY WONDERFUL	4
BASIC SCHEDULE	5
DECORATIONS / RECRUITING HELP	7
A WILDLY WONDERFUL SAFARI	8
WILDLY WONDERFUL RESOURCES	9
REGISTRATION	11
OPENING SESSION	13
MEMORY VERSE INTRODUCTION	14
SKIT	16
DEVOTION: WILDLY UNIQUE	18
STATION 1: DISCOVERY CAVE	21
STATION 2: MISSIONS MOUNTAIN	26
STATION 3: CREATION HUT	28
STATION 4: MONKEY PLAYGROUND	30
THE WATERING HOLE: FOOD IDEAS	33
CLOSING SESSION	35
EXTRA IDEAS: CRAFTS & GAMES	38

The theme for this year's Girls Ministries event is Wildly Wonderful. This *Event Planning Guide* for Wildly Wonderful is designed to be adaptable for a variety of uses in your church. Choose from the options listed or adapt as your own.

SAFARI DAY EVENT

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. if you choose to include lunch

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. if you want to offer snacks only

SAFARI OVERNIGHT EVENT

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

7 p.m. – 8 a.m. includes snacks in the evening and breakfast in the morning.
Finish the morning of the event with music and a morning craft.

SAFARI FOUR-WEEK EVENT

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

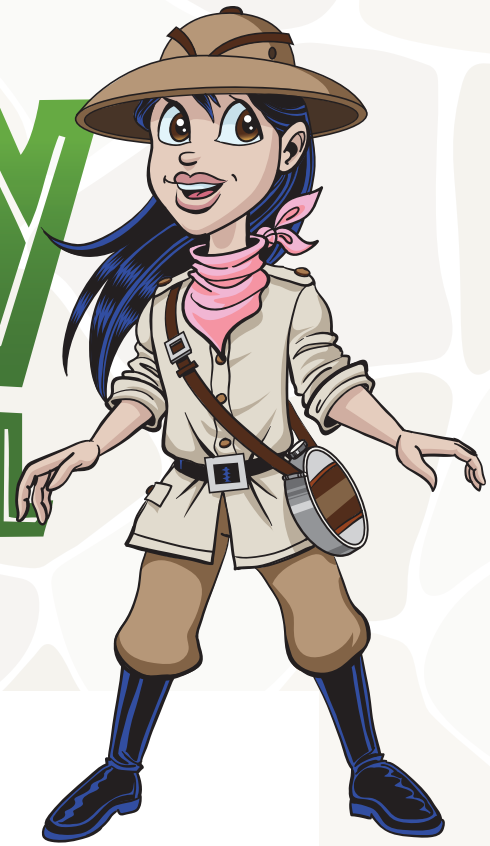
Divide the sessions and crafts between four weeks if you choose to use this plan for a midweek evening option.



WILDLY WONDERFUL

PSALM 104:24

WILDLY WONDERFUL



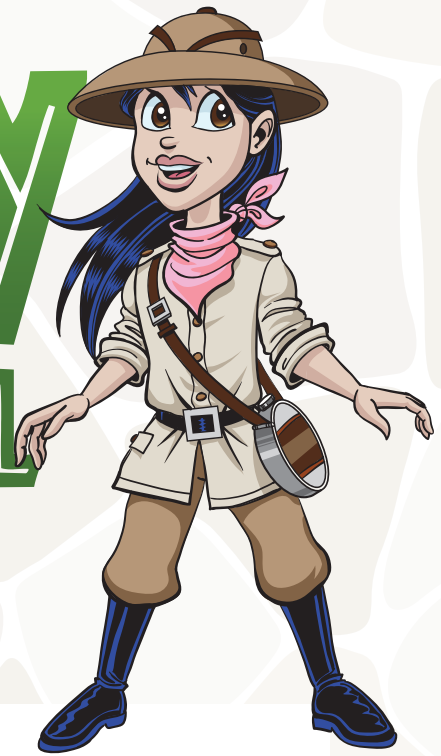
BASIC SCHEDULE 1 Day Event

TIME	ACTIVITY	HOST	LOCATION
2:00-2:30	Registration		
2:30-3:15	Opening Session		
3:15-3:45	Station Rotations: Creation Hut		
3:45-4:15	Station Rotations: Missions Mountain		
4:15-4:45	Station Rotations: Monkey Playground		
4:45-5:15	Station Rotations: Discovery Cave		
5:15-5:45	Station Rotations: Watering Hole		
5:45-6:30	Closing Session		
6:30-7:00	Check Out		
7:00-Finish	Clean Up		

FOR LARGER GROUPS

Divide into smaller groups and have girls rotate to different stations in their small group.

WILDLY WONDERFUL



BASIC SCHEDULE 2 Day Event

TIME	ACTIVITY	HOST	LOCATION
5:30-6:00	Registration		
6:00-6:45	Opening Session		
6:45-7:15	Station Rotations: Watering Hole		
7:15-7:45	Station Rotations: Creation Hut		
7:45-8:15	Station Rotations: Missions Mountain		
8:15-8:45	Station Rotations: Monkey Playground		
8:45-9:15	Station Rotations: Discovery Cave		
9:15-10:00	Closing Session		
10:00-10:30	Bedtime Prep Lights Out		
7:30-8:00	Rise & Shine Pack Up		
8:00-8:30	Breakfast		
8:30-9:00	Check Out		
9:00-Finish	Clean Up		

FOR LARGER GROUPS

Divide into smaller groups and have girls rotate to different stations in their small group.

DECORATIONS

Using decorations will help to build excitement and create an atmosphere for the girls to be involved in the safari event.

Making decorations is a great way to get moms and other women involved before the event. Gather a few basic supplies such as cardboard boxes, paint, markers, plain butcher paper, scissors, and anything else you have. Don't hesitate to ask for donations.

Check out the National Girls Ministries Pinterest page for more decorating, food, music and invitation ideas for this Wildly Wonderful event.

Create a photo booth where girls can have their pictures taken with safari-themed costumes, binoculars, wild animal masks, and any other safari items.

Also check out ngm.ag.org/Events for *Station Signs**, *Invitations* and *Event Posters*.

RECRUITING HELP

Don't miss the opportunity for others to be blessed through ministering to girls at your event. Below are a few ways to involve other leaders. Many churches find it beneficial to use girls from the youth ministry in leading activities such as crafts, snacks, and games.

- ✓ Registration Team
- ✓ Supplies Shopper
- ✓ Offering Counters
- ✓ Setup and Cleanup Teams
- ✓ Chaperones
- ✓ Food Prep and Servers
- ✓ Station Leaders
- ✓ Worship Team
- ✓ Prayer Team and more!



*Items in *italics* are available at ngm.ag.org/Events

A WILDLY WONDERFUL SAFARI

Preparation and prayer are the keys to a successful event. Here are a few things that need to be done prior to the event.

- ✔ Decorate the spaces for each session.
- ✔ Gather items and clothes that mimic things used by a safari guide.
- ✔ Prepare snacks.
- ✔ Make a playlist of songs for the event. You can send the playlist to the girls before the event to build excitement.
- ✔ Above all else, pray! Pray for each of your leaders, helpers, and volunteers. Most of all, pray for the girls who will be attending the event. Pray that they come to realize that all they need is found in Jesus. He will show them how special they are and what their purpose is.

WONDERFUL WORSHIP SONGS FOR THE EVENT

- | | |
|---|--|
| 🎵 "See a Victory" – Elevation Worship | 🎵 "Reckless Love" – Cory Asbury |
| 🎵 "Champion" – Bethel Music | 🎵 "This Is Amazing Grace" – Phil Wickham |
| 🎵 "Unstoppable God" – Elevation Worship | 🎵 "Mighty to Save" – Hillsong Worship |
| 🎵 "Goodness of God" – Bethel Music | 🎵 "Lions and Lambs" – Leeland |
| 🎵 "Living Hope" – Phil Wickham | 🎵 "Surrounded" – Michael W. Smith |
| 🎵 "Who You Say I Am" – Hillsong Worship | 🎵 "The One You Love" – Maverick City Music |

Note: Select songs with lyrics the girls can understand.

WILDLY WONDERFUL RESOURCES

WHAT'S AVAILABLE FOR THIS YEAR'S GIRLS MINISTRIES EVENT?
HERE ARE FUN AND HELPFUL ITEMS THAT ARE AVAILABLE FOR THIS THEME.



WILDLY WONDERFUL T-SHIRT

Leaders and girls can have a lasting reminder of their Wildly Wonderful adventure! T-Shirts make an amazing addition for kids and leaders, and help create a unified feel as you journey together.



WILDLY WONDERFUL PASSPORT & STICKERS PACK

Use this interactive Passport as a tool the girls can bring with them to each location on their adventure. As they travel to their locations, use the Stickers to help them remember their travels!



WILDLY WONDERFUL SAFARI DRAWSTRING BACKPACK

This Backpack will be a great way for the girls to collect items during the event as they go on their adventure.



WILDLY WONDERFUL BADGE

Use this Wildly Wonderful Badge to award each girl as she completes her adventure!



WILDLY WONDERFUL JOURNAL

What better tool to give the girls than their own personal Journal? Encourage the girls that their adventure doesn't end at the end of this safari. They can use their Journal every day to help them remember to spend time with God!



BGMC AFRICA OASIS BUTTON

Coins for Kids is partnering with BGMC and Africa Oasis to help provide clean drinking water in Africa. Purchase these Buttons and hand them to the girls as a reminder to pray for the people in Africa and also to save their change to help raise money for clean drinking water.

WHAT'S IN THIS PLANNING GUIDE?

The *Event Planning Guide* includes ideas for making the event a fun, spiritually rewarding experience. Activities are planned so that it will be an event girls won't forget.

The event is most successful when leaders customize activities to the specific interests and abilities of girls in their local church. Feel free to adapt these ideas to the regional and cultural needs of your church or for girls who may have special needs.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CHILD SAFETY?

What do I need to know about child safety? Protecting children is of the utmost importance. All churches need to screen volunteers and put in place policies to ensure safety for those participating in church activities. To learn more about protecting children from predators and other potential safety risks, visit the Assemblies of God official site for legal matters pertaining to the church: AG.org/Legal-Matters.



REGISTRATION

Set aside an area at the entrance to welcome the girls and handle registration. You'll need a place to check the girls in, collect permission slips, give them *Name Tags*, and gather any money being collected for the event and their Coins for Kids/BGMC offering.

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ **Wildly Wonderful T-Shirts*** for girls/leaders
- ✓ *Name Tag** (1 for each girl/leader)
- ✓ Extra permission slips (for girls who forgot theirs)
- ✓ Bucket to collect girls Coins for Kids/BGMC offering

GETTING READY

- ✓ Recruit parents to count the Coins for Kids offering.
- ✓ Plan to open the doors early for girls who come before the scheduled starting time.

AS GIRLS ARRIVE

- ✓ Give each girl a *Name Tag* and a **Wildly Wonderful T-Shirt**.
- ✓ Receive any money being collected for the Coins for Kids/BGMC offering.
- ✓ Count the offering and report the total to your district Girls Ministries office.

CHECK IN

Assign volunteers to be at the main entrance to greet the girls as they arrive and direct them where to go.



*Items in *italics* are available at ngm.ag.org/Events



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!



WILDLY WONDERFUL

When girls arrive, create a fun atmosphere for them. Play some African safari sounds in the background to help create the safari experience. Registration can be set up as a Check-In Hut for their safari adventure. Girls can be given a **Drawstring Backpack** and their **Wildly Wonderful Passport**. They will need these items with them throughout the entire day. Have greeters dressed as safari guides welcoming the girls to their safari adventure.

Have the safari guides encourage the girls to look at the first page of their **Passport**. There they will find an Animal Tracking Guide. As the girls are traveling around during the event, they will need to find the different animal tracks. As they find each animal track, they can fill in what animal each track belongs to. When they collect them all, they can show a leader and receive an **Animal Tracking Sticker** for completing the Animal Tracking Guide!

As girls arrive and check in, provide fun activities to keep them occupied. Try a safari-themed photo booth, a table for creating your own African rain sticks, a table for pipe cleaner animal creations, a spot for creating your own safari sticker scenes, a table for making your own binoculars, or even a table for creating your own safari hat. Have leaders stationed at each table to help monitor, but also to create excitement for the safari adventure about to begin!

TRANSITION

Play the *5 Minute Countdown Video* and have girls clean up their stations around the room. Have girls gather in the Tribal Meeting place for the Opening Session.



*Items in *italics* are available at ngm.ag.org/Events



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

OPENING SESSION

NEEDED ITEMS

 Large stuffed toy lion

WELCOME

If possible, open by showing the *Wildly Wonderful Promo Video* (ngm.ag.org/events/Girls-Ministries-Event).

SAY: Welcome to this year's Nationwide Girls Ministries Event! We are so excited to have each of you with us for a time of fun and connecting to God and each other! As we go on this safari adventure, you will discover God's Wildly Wonderful creation with all its diversity and uniqueness. We will also discover that our differences make all of us so very special. God has created you to be wonderfully you!

(If there are rules or announcements specific to your event, now is a great time to review them. Introduce the leaders and helpers who are present.)

WORSHIP

Lead the girls in a time of worship. Encourage the girls and leaders to enter in and explain that as we worship, we are worshipping the God who created everything. He created the heavens, the earth, the animals, the sky, and the stars. He also created people and loves each of them so much. God has a plan and purpose for each one's life. As we spend time with God, we get to hear and know who He is. Not only that, but as we make space in our schedule and set aside time to worship, we can come to God and tell Him everything we are feeling and know that He is right there. Nothing we do can make Him love us any more or less. He created us to be unique and special, and He loves us unconditionally.

Choose songs from the list on page 8 or songs your girls know.



*Items in *italics* are available at ngm.ag.org/Events



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

MEMORY VERSE INTRODUCTION

MEMORY VERSE

Oh LORD, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24 (NLT)

Have a leader dressed in safari gear come out carrying a large stuffed toy lion. This character, Lily, will be a lion guide who has traveled from Africa to your event.

LILY THE LION GUIDE: Hi friends! My name is Lily, and I traveled here all the way from Africa! Can anyone guess what my job is? (*Allow responses.*)

I am a lion guide. This means that I work with the lions out on our safari to make sure that they are being taken care of. I love lions! They are my favorite animal. Did you know that lions are one of God's wildly wonderful creations? Does anyone know what a lion is known for? (*Allow responses.*)

Those are all great answers! One of my favorite things about lions is that they are known for their big, very big roars!

Who can show me their best lion roar? (*Allow girls to roar.*) Those were wildly wonderful! A lion's roar is bold and powerful. That reminds me that we have the Word of God! The Word of God is powerful, and it's so important for us to take time to learn what it says. I have a verse that is one of my favorites, and we are going to learn it together!

Oh LORD, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24 (NLT)

Let's say the verse a few times together. (*Show the Memory Verse Slide.*)

(Play the *Monkey Attack Memory Verse Game* where the monkeys will cover part of the verse. Lily the Lion Guide will have the girls say the verse. She will interact with the kids during the Monkey Attack until all the words are covered.)

LILY THE LION GUIDE: You know what? You girls did so well with the verse today that I think it is time for me to head off and check on those lions and make sure the monkeys are staying out of trouble. I'm going to invite my friend up so you kids can play a game! Oh, but before I leave, I need to tell you something really important. If you can tell any leader our verse today before you leave, you will get a wonderful **Animal Tracking Sticker** to put in your **Passport**! Until next time, friends!



*Items in *italics* are available at ngm.ag.org/Events



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

MEMORY VERSE GAME IDEA OPTIONS

MONKEYS AND BANANAS

PREPARE

Write the words of the memory verse on bananas with different colored markers (one set per team). You will need fourteen bananas for each team. Another option is to print off pictures of bananas and write the words on them.

HOW TO BREAK UP THE WORDS:

Oh LORD, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24 (NLT)

Oh LORD, what a **variety of things** you have made! **In wisdom** you **have** made **them all**. The earth is **full** of your **creatures**. **Psalm** 104:24 (NLT)

Have the girls divide up into teams. You can have as many teams as you would like. The girls line up in a straight line and compete in a team relay race down to their bucket, grab a banana, and then head back to their team. When the first girl gets back, the next girl goes, and so on. The first team to put the memory verse in order wins. Add a slight twist. Have girls run to grab a banana and act like a monkey on the way back.

OPTION: WILD ANIMALS

PREPARE

Print one or two words of the memory verse on paper or a large index card. Attach each card to a stuffed animal. Use animals that you might find on a safari. Hide the animals with the memory verse cards around the room. Have a large box labeled "Caution: Wild Animals." Be ready to collect the animals at the end of the activity.

Show the *Memory Verse Slide* and review the verse with the girls.

SAY: One of the most important things we can do is to learn the Word of God. I have some cute little friends hiding in this room who have the words from our memory verse attached to them. Can you help me find them?

Allow the girls to help find the animals. If your group is large, choose a few girls to be the ones to look for them. Ask the girls to bring the stuffed animals to the front of the room. Instruct the girls to stand in a line and put their animals in the correct order. When they are in the correct order, have them say the verse together.

One by one, ask one of the girls to send her animal back to the jungle by placing it in the box. Each time, repeat the memory verse with the girls, allowing them to practice the verse with the missing words. Do this until all the animals have been placed in the box and are ready to go back to the jungle.



*Items in *italics* are available at ngm.ag.org/Events

SKIT

CHARACTERS

Leader
Sarah the Safari Guide

LEADER: Hello! We are so excited to have you here on our Wildly Wonderful safari adventure! My friend and safari guide, Sarah, will be joining us soon! She is awesome! Can I let you in on a little secret? She tells these random jokes all the time. Just wait! You'll see!

SARAH: *(comes out with all her gear on)* Oh hey, friend! Are you all packed and ready to go on our adventure? I am so excited! Like beyond excited! So, excited in fact, I have a question for you.

LEADER: I'm not totally packed yet. I'm a little nervous about the safari. And I want to introduce you to my friends who are joining our adventure. Can you say hi to all of them?

SARAH: Hey, girls! Okay, are you ready for my question?

LEADER: Sure, what's your question?

SARAH: Did you hear about the race between the two giraffes?

LEADER: No, I haven't.

SARAH: I heard it was neck and neck! Get it? Giraffes have LONG necks!

LEADER: Oh boy Sarah, that was, well, that was something!

SARAH: I know! I'm hilarious! Laughter is a good thing on any safari adventure!

LEADER: I know it is! Okay, so what do I need to pack?

SARAH: Well, that is a good question. Do you have your trusty backpack? *(Shows the **Drawstring Backpack** the girls have.)*

LEADER: Yes, I do!

SARAH: Great! Do you have your **Passport**? You will need to carry these two things with you everywhere you go.

LEADER: Yes, I have my **Passport**, but it's empty.

SARAH: Yeah, I see, but guess what! Everywhere you go today, you will get a special **Passport Sticker** when you visit each station on the safari adventure! You'll want to collect them all!



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

SKIT CONTINUED

LEADER: That sounds awesome!

SARAH: Yeah! Our safari plan is Wildly Wonderful! You will get to venture to the Discovery Cave, Missions Mountain, Creation Hut, and Monkey Playground, I can't wait to add those stickers to my Passport! I have a goal to fill mine up!

LEADER: Yeah, me too!

SARAH: I hear that you are interested in learning about how to join our safari guide team, and that you want to learn how to teach others about what it's like being on a safari!

LEADER: I totally do! I want to be a safari guide, but I don't think I could tell jokes and make it fun like you do.

SARAH: Ah! Well, that is where you are wrong, my friend! See, God may have given me a gift to make people laugh on this journey, but you are wonderfully made too!

LEADER: I am?

SARAH: Yes, you totally are, and I'm so excited you are here today to come with me on this adventure! We are going to have a lot of fun. It'll be awesome to see how you'll learn that God created something unique in you to offer to our safari team! Not only that, but you'll learn how you can help others see that they are wonderfully made for this adventure too!

LEADER: Wow! I can't wait! That was deep, Sarah! I should probably go pack my bag, huh?

SARAH: Totally, and I'm going to be right there with you to help! But before we leave: Knock, knock.

LEADER: Who's there?

SARAH: Safari.

LEADER: Safari who?

SARAH: This safari adventure is going to be so good!

LEADER: Oh, Sarah. *(chuckles)* Let's go! *(Turns to face girls.)* Hey, before I go, if any of you know some good animal or safari jokes, come find us today on the safari!

(Leader and Sarah walk off stage.)

SAFARI DEVOTION – WILDLY UNIQUE

ITEMS NEEDED

- ✓ **Safari Drawstring Backpack**
- ✓ Picture of your family
- ✓ Snack
- ✓ Drink
- ✓ *Scripture Card*
- ✓ A small box wrapped like a gift with a *Scripture Card* inside
- ✓ Personal Bible

PREPARE

Print copies of the *Scripture Card*, one per girl.

Put a bookmark in the Bible at Psalm 104:24 so that it will be easy to find it quickly. (If your Bible is a different version than the NLT Memory Verse, you might want to put the NLT verse on a sticky note in the Bible.) Place the Bible and the other items in the **Safari Drawstring Backpack**.

SAY: Well, I think we're going to have a lot of fun on this Wildly Wonderful safari adventure, don't you? I'm so glad that Sarah was here to help (*insert the leader's name*). Sarah is a unique person, and I love how she was sharing that each one of us is unique in our own way.

Did you know that God created all animals to be unique? One of my favorite animals we can see on a safari is a giraffe. They have huge, long necks and are super tall. Have you ever seen a giraffe's tongue? It's so gross, but a giraffe's tongue is purple. Giraffes eat the leaves off the trees, and because they use their tongues to eat, their tongue hangs out of their mouths a lot during the day. Their tongue is purple because the color protects it from getting sunburned during the day.

Another neat animal you see on a safari adventure is an elephant! Did you know that an elephant has big ears because the big ears help to keep its body cool when it is in the hot sun all day? When elephants flap their ears back and forth, they create a light breeze that helps speed up their cooling process. It's kind of like they are taking a cool shower and then standing in front of a fan.

Have you ever thought about what it means to be unique? It means that you are special. You are set apart from everyone else. You have a personality and purpose that is all your own. Who knows what the word *purpose* means? (*Allow responses.*) One dictionary says that purpose is the reason that someone or something is created. Do you know why God created you? He created you because He loves you exactly the way you are. He created only one of you because you are very special to Him. That's what it means to be unique. No one else is exactly like you.

Sarah the Safari Guide is not the only girl here who is unique and has a special talent. Just like our memory verse says, we are each a wonderful creation of God. He made you to be the wonderful girl you are, and He has a unique plan and purpose for your life. He has a wildly wonderful adventure in store just for you!



*Items in *italics* are available at ngm.ag.org/Events



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

SAFARI DEVOTION – WILDLY UNIQUE CONTINUED

I have this super cool **Safari Drawstring Backpack**, and I have filled it with things that make me unique. *(Open the **Backpack** and pull out the picture of your family.)* First, each of us has a unique family. *(Talk about the picture, briefly telling the girls about each person in the picture.)* Not everyone has a family just like mine. Your family may be completely different.

Who our family is, and the things we have been through with them, can shape who we are. Some of you may have been through some really tough stuff in your home and family. I want you to know that God sees you, He hears your prayers, and He is with you. God loves you and He is with you every minute of every day. You are His wonderful creation, and nothing can change that.

Let's see what else is in my **Backpack**. *(Pull out the snack.)* Yes! This is my favorite snack. *(Explain why you like the snack.)* When I'm really hungry, I imagine this snack in my mind. I think it's so good. Not everyone feels the same way about this snack. Your favorite snack might be something completely different. We all have different tastes, so we like different things. That's okay. It's part of what makes us special and unique!

*(Pull the drink out of the **Backpack**.)* Snack time wouldn't be complete without my favorite drink. Who else likes this drink? *(Group response)* Who doesn't like this drink? *(Point out someone who doesn't like this drink.)* My friend here says she doesn't like it, but I still do. Does that mean that we can't be friends? *(Group response)* Of course not! God created each of us to be different, so it's okay if we don't like all the same things.

Now, look at this! *(Pull out the gift-wrapped box.)* I brought this little gift box. I wrapped it in my favorite wrapping paper. I brought it to remind us that God has given special gifts to each of us. Some of you girls may be great singers. Some of you are really good at sports. Maybe some of you are artists. Some of you are great talkers, and others are wonderful listeners. God took the time to design each of you just the way you needed to be. He has a plan and a purpose that is all yours, and He has given you all the gifts and abilities you need to fulfill His purpose. God doesn't ever want you to forget that you are His wonderful creation.

(Give the gift box to a girl and ask her to open it. When she opens it, have her show everyone the Scripture Card inside.) This gift is our memory verse. God wrote this verse in His Word. This comes directly from Him to you. It's like a love note from God to you. You are one of the wonderful works that God created. I want each one of you to have one of these cards so that you will always remember that He created you to be exactly who you are. *(Hand out one card to each girl.)*

I have one more thing in my bag: my Bible. *(Pull out the Bible. Briefly tell the girls why you chose that particular Bible or why it is special to you.)* This is my special Bible, and when I open it and I read it, I am reminded of just how much Jesus loves me. He loves me and each one of you so much that He died on the Cross for us!



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

SAFARI DEVOTION – WILDLY UNIQUE CONTINUED

(Open the Bible and read Psalm 104:24.) Each of you is a wildly wonderful creation. God is speaking to you right now, through His Word, reminding you of the special gifts that He has given you. As we head out on this safari, I hope you learn a lot about who God has created you to be.

It doesn't stop there, though. God wants us to help bring others along on this journey with us. When we tell others about what God is doing in our life, we help show how important it is for them to allow God to work in their life too.

(At this time, lead in prayer for the girls and the rest of the activities. If time allows, you may want to lead in one more slow, worshipful song. A great suggestion would be "The One You Love" by Maverick City Music.)

OPENING SESSION WRAP-UP

If you are separating into groups that will travel to different stations, do so now. Divide the group into five smaller groups and give instructions as to which station each group will begin with and how to proceed through the others.

STATION 1: DISCOVERY CAVE

The goal of the Discovery Cave Station is to allow time for the girls to focus on the hope they have in Jesus. They will discover that they can spend time with the Great Creator who created them in wildly, wonderful ways.

DECOR IDEAS

Create a small cozy area to serve as the Discovery Cave. You could make a paper cave backdrop or section off an area that fits your group using tables, blankets, large rolls of paper, or whatever your imagination can dream up. Add some battery-operated lanterns for soft lighting. Set up several prayer stations around the room.

For this room, we would suggest having a loudspeaker and playing worship music softly in the background to create an atmosphere of prayer.

(Invite the girls into the cave and ask them to sit in a circle.)

SAY: Welcome to the Discovery Cave! This is a great place for us to really connect to God and discover the wildly wonderful things He wants to do in each of us.

Did you know that God hears us when we talk to Him? We can talk to Him anytime, anywhere. Here's something even more amazing: God talks to us too! Prayer isn't just talking to God, it's also listening to Him. We may not hear Him speak out loud, although there are several stories in the Bible where that happened. There are many ways that God speaks to us:

- ✦ A gut feeling. Have you ever had a decision to make, so you asked God what to do? Maybe you got a feeling inside as to what decision you should make. Or you just felt in your heart that you knew what to do. That is the voice of God speaking to you.
- ✦ God's Word. The Bible is literally God's written Word. Do you ever read the Bible and it feels like something just jumps out at you—like God is talking directly to you? That's another way that He speaks to us.
- ✦ Other people. Has anyone ever said something to you, and you thought, *"Wow! I really needed to hear that!"* Or maybe your pastor or a leader preaching in kids' church says something that really touches your heart. God often speaks to us through other people.
- ✦ An idea. Many times God gives us ideas. They can pop into our head or our heart. like a thought.
- ✦ A peaceful feeling. When we are nervous or worried about something, we can ask God for help to trust in Him and not be so fearful. He often will give us a feeling of peace and calm us down. There are so many ways that God speaks to us.

STATION 1: DISCOVERY CAVE CONTINUED

But how do we know if it's really God we are hearing? (*Show the Bible.*) We look in God's Word! Anything that God speaks to our heart and mind will match what God says in the Bible.

You will see different prayer points set up around the room. As you feel God leading you, go to a prayer point. You can spend time there praying. When you're ready to go to the next one, you can move to that one. The goal is not to complete and rush through them all. The goal is to listen to what God is saying to you.

This is a time and a space created just for you and God. Listen for God to speak to you. When we are wrapping up our time in this station, I will call you girls to come back here. Then we'll close in prayer, and I have something special for you. Let's pray and get our hearts focused now.

Dear God, thank You that You speak to us. We are open to hearing what You are speaking to us today and give You these next few moments. Amen.

As you feel led, you may go to your first prayer station.

PRAYER EXPERIENCE POINTS

1. GOD WONDERFULLY CREATED ME

YOU WILL NEED

- ✔ Word Beads: [500 Wood Letter Beads](#)
- ✔ Wood Spacer Beads: [2000 Wood Spacer Beads](#)
- ✔ Necklace Rope String with Clasp: [60 Necklace Rope String](#)
- ✔ Scissors

INSTRUCTIONS

SAY: Pray and ask God to speak to you about a word that describes you and how He has created you. Maybe you are *kind, loving, encouraging, bold, loyal, chosen, called, beautiful*, or some other word.

When you have the word that God is speaking to you, create a necklace or bracelet to wear that reminds you on your journey that God Wonderfully Created Me.

PRAYER EXPERIENCE POINTS

2. GOD'S WORD WONDERFULLY SPEAKS TO ME

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Bibles
- ✓ Pillows
- ✓ Blankets
- ✓ Lanterns
- ✓ Markers
- ✓ Index cards
- ✓ Twine and clothespins to hang girls' cards

INSTRUCTIONS

Hang a length of twine so girls can post their card with a clothespin.

SAY: Grab a Bible and write down a Scripture verse that speaks to you. Maybe it's a verse that has helped you in the past or one that God is giving to you today. When you're done, hang your verse so others can read it and be encouraged. Then take some time and read over the verses that have encouraged others.

3. GOD WONDERFULLY CALLS ME

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Gift wrapped in white paper or black paper. Add a fun bow to make it look like a gift.
- ✓ Black markers or chalk markers (If you use white paper, you will need markers. For black paper, you will need chalk markers.)

INSTRUCTIONS

SAY: What are some of the gifts God has given you to help you tell others about His love? We'll take turns writing or drawing a picture on this gift of those wonderfully special gifts God has given you.

PRAYER EXPERIENCE POINTS

4. GOD WONDERFULLY TELLS ME TO GIVE THANKS AND HELP OTHERS

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Mini bottles of water
- ✓ Permanent markers
- ✓ Map of Africa

INSTRUCTIONS

SAY: Take a bottle of water. As you hold the water, thank God for the things He has given you and blessed you with. In Africa, there are many people who don't have access to clean water. As you drink from the bottle of water, pray and ask God what you can do to help those who are in need. *(Pause for girls to pray.)* What did God speak to you? Write it down on the map.

5. GOD WONDERFULLY HEARS MY PRAYERS

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Kids Illuminated Globe: [Kids Globe](#) OR
- ✓ World Map Wall Hanging: [World Map Tapestry](#)
- ✓ Dot Stickers: [Dot Stickers](#)

INSTRUCTIONS

SAY: As we pray and ask God to show us His plan and purpose for our life, we can also pray for others all over the world. Choose a country and pray for the people and missionaries in that country. After you've prayed, place a dot sticker on the country. We can believe God to do some pretty big things as we pray!

DISCOVERY CAVE WRAP-UP

INSTRUCTIONS

SAY: God speaks to us in all kinds of ways every day. It is so important for us to take time and make space for Him to speak in our life. What is something God spoke to you today about? (*Allow responses.*) Those are amazing! Before you leave the Discovery Cave, we have a special gift for you to put in your **Drawstring Backpack**. It's a **Journal**. As you continue this safari today, and every day, spend time praying and allowing God to speak to you. Use your **Journal** as a special place to write down your prayers and what God is speaking to you. We can find everything we need when we spend time with God! (*Hand out a Journal to each girl.*)

Thank the girls for joining you. As they leave to go to the next station, make sure they each get a **Discovery Cave Passport Sticker**.



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

STATION 2: MISSIONS MOUNTAIN

The goal for the Missions Mountain Station is to educate the girls about this year's Coins for Kids project and inspire them to give to missions.

DECOR IDEAS

Use lots of ferns, ficus trees, and other tropical plants in this space. Posters of African animals can decorate the walls. Use crumpled brown paper to create rocks and form mountains on the wall. Don't forget a camping tent to complete the look.

Open the girls' time on Missions Mountain by showing the *Coins for Kids Video* (ngm.ag.org).

SAY: Water is necessary for life. But if the water that you drink isn't clean, it can be deadly. Right now, there are many people who are sick and even dying from drinking unclean water. Millions of kids are so sick from the water that they drink that they miss a lot of school. They often end up with other serious diseases. There are places in Africa where they have water, but it's dirty and unsafe to drink. Imagine that the only water that you have access to is dirty and often makes your family sick. What would you do? (*Allow responses.*)

Suzanne Hurst is a missionary in Africa who works with local churches to provide clean water to African people. Africa Oasis is excited to partner with Coins for Kids to provide bucket water filters and water education to families across Africa. These filters clean the water and have been proven to eliminate over 99 percent of all contaminants and bacteria in water. One filter provides enough daily drinking water for a family of up to ten people and can last up to ten years.

By giving to Coins for Kids, you will change the lives of African families. With your help, Africa Oasis will bring the gift of life-giving water to multiple communities, touching thousands of lives! Access to clean water changes everything for these families. Because of this project, communities will have water that is not associated with sickness and death.



*Items in *italics* are available at ngm.ag.org/Events

PROJECT: BUILD YOUR OWN WATER FILTER

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Empty 1-liter plastic soda or juice bottle
- ✓ Scissors or knife (Only for adult use)
- ✓ Vase or tall drinking glass
- ✓ Cotton batting or balls
- ✓ Clean sand
- ✓ Activated charcoal
- ✓ Small gravel or pebbles
- ✓ Larger pebbles
- ✓ Gardening soil
- ✓ Water

To see a video of the project, click here: [DIY: Water Filter Experiment](#)

Allow the girls to assist in making a group homemade water filter.

INSTRUCTIONS

Cut off the bottom of the plastic soda or juice bottle using scissors or a knife. **Note: This should be done by an adult.** Place the bottle upside down into the vase or tall drinking glass. Place cotton batting or cotton balls inside the bottle as the first layer. The first layer should be 1–2 inches thick. Add a 1-inch of sand on top as the second layer. As the third layer, add a 1-inch layer of activated charcoal. For the fourth layer, add a mixture of small gravel and pebbles about 1–2 inches thick. For the fifth layer, add another 1-inch layer of activated charcoal. Finish with a 1–2 inch layer of larger pebbles.

Talk to the girls about how the gravel and pebbles will filter out larger sediments. The sand helps to filter out the finer impurities and the charcoal removes other contaminants and impurities.

Pour a glass of water mixed with gardening soil on top of the homemade water filter and watch the clean water drip into the glass below.

MISSIONS MOUNTAIN WRAP-UP

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ **BGMC Africa Oasis Button**
- ✓ **Missions Mountain Passport Sticker**
- ✓ **Coins for Kids Offering Box**
- ✓ **Coins for Kids Promo Card**

Give each girl a **BGMC Africa Oasis Button** as a reminder to pray for Africa. Encourage them to put their **Coins for Kids Offering Box** and **Coins for Kids Promo Card** in their **Drawstring Backpack** to take home. Pray with the girls that God would use each of them to help provide clean water for families in Africa.

Challenge the girls to take the **Offering Boxes** home, fill them up, and bring their full offering box back to church. Give each girl a **Missions Mountain Passport Sticker**.

STATION 3: CREATION HUT

The goal for the Creation Hut Station is for the girls to create a craft that showcases their unique personality gifts and abilities.

DECOR IDEAS

Use green, brown, or tan paper, grass skirts, and/or other materials to create a hut.

SAY: Welcome to the Creation Hut! Here you will have the opportunity to create something really special. Everyone's creation will be unique and special in its own way. The best way to do a craft is to do it with a friend. Give a couple of your friends a high five! We are ready to create!

Have you ever been working alongside a friend and decided to copy them? This can be fun sometimes. Maybe they pick up a red crayon, so you pick up a red crayon. They draw a red hat, so you do too. This can be fun, but it can also be tricky. It's not always easy to copy something exactly, because a little something that's "just us" often finds its way into the project.

You know, I think that's the way it's supposed to be. Each piece we create should reflect who God made us to be. Your artwork should be full of your ideas, dreams, favorite colors, and your personality. Each creation should be different because God created each one of us to be different. We look different from others, we have different thoughts and ideas, and we have a purpose that is all our own. As we get to know God better, He begins to reveal the plans and purposes that He has for our life.

Since we are His creation, He knows exactly what we were meant to do. He created you just the way you are because He has big plans for you.

Let's try to make each of our creations unique. Let the creativity God put in you shine through!

Have you ever seen a sunset? On a safari, one of the moments that is so pretty is when the sun is setting, and you see the animals in the distance. God is so creative, and no sunset is exactly the same. God creates each one so unique and special. Now, we are going to create our own safari sunset.

(Choose one of the following crafts to complete with the girls. Encourage uniqueness and creativity.)

SAFARI SUNSET PAINTING

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Canvas for each girl [72 5x7 Canvas](#)
- ✓ Paintbrushes [100 Paintbrushes](#)
- ✓ Paint
- ✓ Paint trays [12 Paint Trays](#)
- ✓ Animal stencils [60 - Animal Stencils / 12 - Animal Stencils](#)
- ✓ Black paint [32 ounce Black Acrylic Paint](#)
- ✓ Painting aprons [60 Painting Aprons](#)
- ✓ Sea salt
- ✓ Hair dryers

INSTRUCTIONS

Have the girls choose the colors to create their very own sunset. They can choose any colors and mix the colors by painting their canvas. You can add sea salt to the wet canvas to create a star effect when the paint dries. When the paint dries a little, they can take an animal stencil and paint an animal with black paint on their sunset. *(Note: If the paint is taking a bit to dry, you can use a hair dryer to help.)*

SAFARI SUNSET TISSUE PAPER

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Clear Contact paper
- ✓ Torn tissue paper of reds, oranges, yellows, purples
- ✓ Safari animal silhouette cut out of black cardstock
- ✓ Hole punch
- ✓ String

INSTRUCTIONS

Adults may need to help the younger girls. Peel off the backing from the Contact paper.

Place the picture of the animal on the sticky side of the Contact paper. Using the torn tissue paper, cover the rest of the sticky Contact paper to create a sunset. When it is completely covered, punch a hole at the top two corners and tie the string through the holes so the picture can be hung up.

CREATION HUT WRAP-UP

SAY: Each of you did a wonderful job on your creations! There is something unique about each project. You let the beautiful person that God created you to be shine through your artwork. When you look at a sunset, think about how God is such a wonderful Creator. One of the greatest things He created was you! Before you leave, pick up your **Creation Hut Passport Sticker**.

Hand out a **Creation Hut Passport Sticker** to each girl.

STATION 4: MONKEY PLAYGROUND

The goal for the Creation Hut Station is for the girls to create a craft that showcases their unique personality gifts and abilities.

DECOR IDEAS

For this area, add vines from the ceiling using rolled-up butcher paper and add stuffed animal monkeys around the room.

SAY: Welcome to the Monkey Playground! This is a spot on your journey where we get to monkey around and have some fun!

Did you know that monkeys have unique fingerprints, just like people do? If we went out on our safari and befriended some monkeys, dipped their fingers in ink, and stamped their fingerprints on paper, we wouldn't find two monkeys whose fingerprints are the same. God took the time to make each monkey unique, but He puts even more creativity into making each one of you. Each of you has a fingerprint that's only yours as well, and that's just one tiny detail that makes you unique!

We also have different strengths and abilities. Maybe some of you are really fast runners. Maybe some of you are great at remembering the rules of a game or figuring out the best strategy to win. Each one of you has been given gifts. But, that doesn't mean that we should do everything alone. When we work together, we can do big things for God! We can combine our strengths and talents, and accomplish more when we work together. Ready to have some fun?

Let's start with a memory verse challenge! Let's review it together and then we'll see who can say it on her own.

O LORD, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24 (NLT)

(Show the Memory Verse Slide.)

Now, who can say the verse all by herself? Who wants to say it? *(Allow volunteers to say the memory verse, prompting them with the words as needed. Encourage the girls to help each other remember the words and to applaud each girl's effort to say the verse correctly.)*

So, can anyone guess what sport is the most popular in Africa? Many of the kids and adults over in Africa play this sport and they love it. *(Allow responses.)* Soccer, or as the kids of Africa call it, football!

Today we are going to have you break up into groups, and you are going to create your own footballs using only the supplies you have here. You will have plastic bags, twine, and paper bags. You girls will have to work together to create a football that will go far and stay together. We will do a contest to see which group's football stays together and goes the furthest.

CREATE YOUR OWN FOOTBALL [SOCCER BALL]

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Plastic bags [1000 Plastic Bags](#)
- ✓ Paper bags [500 Paper Lunch Bags](#)
- ✓ Twine [1000 Feet Twine](#)
- ✓ Scissors

INSTRUCTIONS

Give the girls a chance to work together and create their soccer ball. When the girls are finished making the ball, have them kick their soccer ball one at a time to see which ones hold up and which ones go the furthest.

MONKEY PLAYGROUND WRAP-UP

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Poster board
- ✓ Markers
- ✓ Monkey game pieces [100 Monkeys](#)

INSTRUCTIONS

Before the event, write the words “Big Things for God” on the poster board.

Gather the girls in a circle around the poster board.

SAY: As I said earlier, we all have different strengths and abilities, but that doesn't mean we always do everything alone. When we work together, we can do big things for God! You worked together to use what you had to get creative and make a football. In Africa, the kids there do not have much, and yet, they learn to be creative with the things they do have.

Sometimes it may feel like we don't have much to offer, but we all have something! And when we work together, we can do so much more than when we try to do it on our own.

We are going to take a couple of minutes to pray and ask God to show us what He wants us to do as

MONKEY PLAYGROUND WRAP-UP CONTINUED

a group and as a church. When you hear God speak to you, write what He said on our poster board. We'll keep this to remind us of the big things that God wants us to accomplish together.

Pray with the girls and ask God to show them some big things your group can do for Him. Ask God to show you how to reach the lost, give to missions, and grow in your faith. Then, encourage the girls to write what God speaks to them on the poster board.

Today as we close, each of you is going to get your **Monkey Playground Passport Sticker**, and you are also going to get a toy monkey. Have you ever heard of the game Barrel of Monkeys? It starts off where one monkey connects with another and then the goal is to keep building and adding more monkeys. Today you will get one to take home with you to remind you that we are better together and together we can do big things for God!



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

THE WATERING HOLE: FOOD IDEAS

The time and length of your event will determine what kind of food will be served and when. Here are some ideas on how to incorporate meal/snack time into the theme.

ATMOSPHERE

Play music of animal sounds in the background. Line up the tables in rows and cover them with brown butcher paper. You can include crayons on the table and have the girls draw their favorite safari animal

MAIN COURSE IDEAS

- ✓ BBQ beef and baked potatoes
- ✓ African-style pancakes
- ✓ Chicken and rice

SIDE IDEAS

- ✓ Fresh fruit and Swamp Dip (Cool Whip)
- ✓ Corn bread
- ✓ Veggies and Hungry Hippo Dip (Ranch dressing)
- ✓ Chapati (East African bread)
- ✓ Ugali (Cornmeal porridge)

THE WATERING HOLE CONTINUED

SWEETS AND TREATS

- ✔ Fruit Snakes: Using alternating slices of banana, strawberries, and other fruit to create a fruit snake. Use a whole strawberry for the head and add edible eyes. You could even use a fruit leather roll to create a tiny tongue
- ✔ Safari Trail Mix: What better snack for a safari than trail mix? Mix your favorite snacks or allow the girls to choose items to mix their own. Decorate small paper cups to look like African drums for serving the trail mix.
- ✔ Animal Tree Snack: Give each girl a plate. Use a cheese stick or a pretzel rod to create a tree trunk on the plate, with green apple slice "palm leaves." Add a few animal crackers below the palm tree for a fun and interactive snack.
- ✔ Zebra Cakes

DRINKS

- ✔ Lagoon Water - Water and Ice with a fun name
- ✔ Safari Juice (lemonade with a bit of blue food coloring)

ACTIVITY

As the girls are enjoying their meal/snack, have a set of *Get to Know You Cards* on the table. Take turns reading and answering the cards with the girls in order to encourage fun, laughter, and deep conversation.

CLOSING SESSION

As the girls arrive for the Closing Session, they are greeted by Sarah.

SARAH: Welcome back! How was your journey? Was it wildly wonderful?

LEADER: *(Walks up to Sarah.)* Sarah! We all have had so much fun!

SARAH: Wonderful! I was hoping you would enjoy it. I wish we could have found it in the budget to bring in a real lion, though.

LEADER: You know, I'm actually grateful that we didn't have the money for that.

SARAH: You may not have faced a wild lion, but I hope you did learn something about who God created you to be. It's important that we remember that because, in this world, we are all constantly bombarded with what different people think about us.

LEADER: That is so true. Sometimes people say negative things about us, and it can be very hurtful. It's easy to let those negative thoughts creep into our mind, and then, we end up feeling bad about ourself. Has that ever happened to anyone?

SARAH: *(Raising her hand and jumping up and down.)* Me! Me! Me! Sometimes my friends tell me that my jokes are not funny, and it really hurts my feelings.

LEADER: It's impossible to live in this world without hearing what other people think about us. But we need to be careful not to let their words stick. Do you know why?

SARAH: I know why! Because God made me, and He thinks that I am special just the way that I am. I am not going to change who I am to make other people happy. If I did that, then I would be messing up who He made me to be.

LEADER: That's right! Let God's voice be the loudest. The next time that someone tries to make you feel bad about yourself, remember what God's Word says about you.

SARAH: I do remember what God's Word says about me because I've heard these girls practicing it during their entire journey! Say it with me, girls! *(Show Memory Verse Slide.)* God's Word says,

Oh LORD, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24 (NLT)

LEADER: Exactly!

SARAH: Okay, wonderful girls! Let that verse speak to your heart. Stand up, strong and confident, and say this verse with me again!

Oh LORD, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24 (NLT)

LEADER: Wow, Sarah! This has been a wildly wonderful adventure. God is so good!

CLOSING SESSION CONTINUED

SARAH: Yes, He is! I'm so glad you all had such a wonderful time. But I'm even more glad that we got to spend some time with Jesus! I want you to remember that each of you is special, and that God has a big, wonderful, magnificent plan for you! Now, I must be off! There are more adventures to be had! Stay wildly wonderful! *(She exits.)*

LEADER: Thanks again, Sarah! Goodbye!

Girls, what Sarah said is so true. You were created by God to be exactly who you are. But maybe some of you haven't really realized that until now. Sometimes we forget to listen to God's voice, and we start hearing other voices that aren't speaking the truth. Maybe someone told you that you're not smart enough or pretty enough to be special. Maybe you feel like you aren't good enough to be God's child. None of those things is true. God's Word shows us that we are loved by God so much that He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to die for us so that we can have hope.

(Play worship music softly in the background and call leaders forward to pray with the girls. A great song would be "The One You Love" by Maverick City.)

Girls, we have an opportunity before we leave to spend time with Jesus and to encourage those around us. God says that you are the one that He loves, and you can come to Him and talk any time. He wants to be your Best Friend! As we close our time together in worship, we have some leaders here who love you and are here for you. We are not meant to be on this journey alone or do this all by ourself. We need each other, and if you need prayer before you leave, find a leader and talk to her. *(Encourage the leaders to pray for and with the girls.)*

(After a few minutes) Girls, before we leave, I want to do one last thing. For the next 30 seconds, I want you girls to pray and ask God to speak to your heart about who He says you are. When you are ready, I want you to say it out loud. "God says I am . . ." *(Some examples are forgiven, beautiful, smart, courageous, or loved.)*

(Close in prayer.) Let's pray together. God, thank You that we are the ones You love. Thank you that You love us so much, and You are with us every step of the way in our life. God, thank You for these amazing girls. Help them hold onto this truth that You love them and have a plan and a purpose for their lives, and that You created them to do big things! You have called them Your own, and You are always with them. Amen!

EVENT WRAP-UP

SAY: We are so excited to have had each of you here. I want each of you to remember what you have learned and what God has spoken to you. As Sarah just said, remember that you are God's special creation. He loves you and created you to be exactly who you need to be. He has a plan and a purpose for you.

I want to challenge you to take home your **Journal**. Use it when you talk to God each day. This will help you get to know God better and all the things He has for you.

Don't forget the commitment we have made for Coins for Kids. Remember to pray for the people of Africa. Don't forget to fill those Coin for Kids containers to help those families have access to clean water.

(Remind the girls how much you and the other leaders love them and their unique personalities. Remind them of God's love for them. Pray over the girls to close out the session. Play some fun music as they leave.)



*Items in **bold** are available from MyHealthyChurch.com Order early!

EXTRA IDEAS: CRAFTS & GAMES

HAND DRUMS

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Plastic or paper bowls
- ✓ Drinking straws
- ✓ Ribbon or string
- ✓ Large beads
- ✓ Glue gun or strong glue
- ✓ Washi tape for decorating (You can also use stickers or paint.)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Flatten the tip of a paper straw and glue it to the rim of a paper or plastic bowl. This will become the handle of the drum.
2. Put a dot of glue on the rim of a paper or plastic bowl. Place a second dot on the opposite rim of the bowl.
3. Cut two lengths of 2½ inches ribbon or string for each girl.
4. Place the end of one ribbon on each glue dot on the rim of the bowl with the ribbon laying outside of the bowl.
5. Take a second bowl and glue it on top of the first, using strong glue or a glue gun. Simply place a line of glue all the way around the rim and stick the two bowls together.
6. Thread two or three beads onto the ends of each ribbon. Tie a double knot at the end to keep them securely in place.

Decorate both sides of the hand drum using washi tape, stickers, or paint. Encourage creativity! When finished, allow the girls to try making noise with their drums by twisting the straw back and forth.

CRAFT TUBE BINOCULARS

YOU WILL NEED

- For each girl*
- ✓ 2 cardboard bathroom tissue/craft tubes
 - ✓ 1 sheet camouflage felt for each girl
 - ✓ Scissors
 - ✓ White craft glue
 - ✓ Craft foam
 - ✓ 6 rubber bands
 - ✓ 40" piece of twine or yarn

INSTRUCTIONS

Note: Younger girls may need assistance on this craft.

Lay felt, design side down, on the work surface. Cut the felt to the length of the tube. Roll the cardboard tube inside the felt, gluing as you go. Trim off any excess. Repeat for the other tube.

CRAFT TUBE BINOCULARS CONTINUED

Next, cut two strips of craft foam that are long enough to go around the end of the tubes, about $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide. Glue a strip around the end of each cardboard tube, lining up the felt seam with the craft foam strip seam. Secure with a rubber band until the glue is dry.

Cut strips long enough to go around the opposite end of the tube, only this time, cut them $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. Glue and secure with a rubber band.

Place the tubes side-by-side with the seams facing each other and glue together. Use rubber bands around both tubes to hold them together.

Use a pen to poke a hole in the side of each tube, about $\frac{1}{2}$ " below the $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide craft foam strip. Insert the end of the twine into the hole from the outside of the tube. Bring it through the tube and tie a double knot. Trim off excess and gently pull the twine tight. The knot will keep the twine from coming back out through the hole. Leave enough length of twine for the girls to place the finished binoculars around their necks. Place the other end of the twine in the opposite hole and tie a double knot inside the tube.

Let the glue dry completely (several hours or overnight) before removing the rubber bands and using the binoculars.

PERSONALIZED SAFARI HATS

YOU WILL NEED

For each girl

- ✓ Plastic safari hats (order from a party store)
- ✓ Permanent markers
- ✓ Felt and craft glue (optional)
- ✓ Craft stickers

INSTRUCTIONS

Allow the girls to use the permanent markers to decorate their safari hat. Each girl could add her name and create her own design with craft stickers. Add a colorful band of felt, secured with craft glue, if desired.

MORE GAMES

CATCH THE SNAKE'S TAIL

INSTRUCTIONS

Gather the girls and have them line up with each girl holding the waist of the girl in front of her. The line they form is a snake. The object of the game is for the snake to catch its tail. The leader of the line will lead the rest of the snake around "the jungle" as she tries to catch up to and touch the last girl in line. The snake chain must not be broken or the snake will have to return to the starting line and begin again.

JUNGLE ANIMAL CHARADES

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Safari hat
- ✓ Note cards, one per girl
- ✓ Pencils or pens

INSTRUCTIONS

For this game, the girls are to act something out without using any words. Write the names of various jungle animals on note cards. Fold up the cards and place them in the safari hat. Give each girl a turn to pull a card out of the hat. She can try to get the other girls to guess the animal using only gestures and motions.

PAINTED ROCK TIC-TAC-TOE

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ 10 smooth, small river rocks per girl
- ✓ Paints
- ✓ Paint brushes
- ✓ Cups of water
- ✓ Paper plates
- ✓ Drawstring bags, one per girl

INSTRUCTIONS

Before the event, draw a Tic-Tac-Toe grid on each bag.

Girls begin by painting 5 rocks with one animal print. Then, they will paint the other 5 rocks with a different animal print. Allow to dry.

MOSAIC ROCKS (ZENTANGLE ART)

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Smooth rocks (round or flat)
- ✓ Permanent markers

INSTRUCTIONS

Girls begin by creating sections on a rock. They can draw big sections or small ones. They can use straight or curved lines. Next, girls start filling in the section with a repetitive pattern. They can choose any design or pattern they like and try different colors; this is what makes each rock different.

JUNGLE OBSTACLE COURSE

INSTRUCTIONS

Using what's available in your space, create an obstacle course for the girls to travel. You can use large pillows, chairs, tables, painter's tape, etc. to give the girls obstacles to move through.

JUNGLE ANIMAL RELAY

INSTRUCTIONS

Form teams of girls and have them do a relay race with a safari-animal movement. Suggestions include: frog hop, elephant walk, crouching tiger, lion pounce, gorilla walk on hands and feet.

TALENT SHOWCASE

INSTRUCTIONS

Set a time limit (2 minutes) for each girl to display a talent (reciting or creating a poem, singing, telling a story, doing a handstand, etc. Leaders could join the fun and demonstrate a talent they have.