

## WEEK 3

### ELEMENTARY SPECIAL NEEDS LESSON



Need to Know: *God Sees and Knows Me*

Bible Story: *God Sees Hagar (Genesis 16)*

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Circle Up

1

1. WELCOME the child to small group, and TELL him/her your name.
  2. SAY: *We're going to play "Amazon Spy" to start small group today! When I show you the "Amazon Spy" Sheet, I want you to look for different things you see hidden in the rainforest. Then, I'll give you the talking stick so you can share your name and one thing you spied in the Amazon!*
  3. PLACE the "Amazon Spy" Sheet in front of the child, and GIVE him/her time to look closely at the Sheet for about one minute. Then, GIVE the talking stick to the child, and ALLOW him/her to share one thing he/she saw hidden in the Amazon. If needed, the child can look at the "Amazon Spy" Sheet while sharing, or you can GIVE him/her choices.
  4. Once the child has had a chance to share, SAY: *There are lots of amazing things to see in the Amazon. It would be impossible for us to see all of the animals, birds, and bugs that live there, but God sees and knows every single one of them. God sees and knows us, too. That's what we need to know today. Let's all say this together!*
  5. HAVE the child repeat the Need to Know after you with motions:  
*God Sees* (cup hands around eyes)  
*And Knows Me* (point to temple)
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Read the Bible

2

1. SAY: *Let's read a story from the Bible about a woman named Hagar to help us remember that God sees and knows us!*
  2. GIVE the child a Bible Story Picture Sheet and coloring utensil. HAVE the child look at the pictures and number them in the order he/she thinks the story will go in. ASSIST the child in writing in the numbers if needed.
  3. Then, READ the Bible Story Cards to the child, and SEE how many pictures he/she got right! HELP the child change any numbers that were wrong so he/she can read the story again at home.
  4. At the end of the story, SAY: *Just like God saw and knew Hagar, He sees and knows us, too! He knows everything we think and feel, and He cares about everything that happens to us.*
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Let's Practice

3

#### "Vine Shapes"

1. SAY: *Let's make some shapes out of "vines" to remember that God sees and knows us!*
2. GIVE the child a paper plate. SANITIZE the child's hands, and GIVE him/her a "vine" (licorice lace). TELL the child not to eat it yet.
3. CHOOSE the Vine Card with the number one, and SHOW the picture to the child. ALLOW him/her to use the licorice lace to create that shape on his/her paper plate, assisting as needed.
4. After the child finishes making the shape, READ the back of the Vine Card to him/her.
5. REPEAT for all Cards in numbered order, having the child create the shapes on his/her paper plate before you read the back of each Card. The child can tear the "vine" into pieces if needed to make their shapes.
6. After the child has made all shapes, ALLOW him/her to eat the licorice lace. TELL the child to keep the paper plate and put it behind his/her back.
7. REVIEW the Need to Know by having the child repeat it after you with motions:  
*God Sees* (cup hands around eyes)  
*And Knows Me* (point to temple)

Memorize It

4

1. SAY: *We're learning a verse that reminds us more about who God is! If you can say the whole verse by yourself at the end of the series, you will win a fun prize. Let's practice it together today* (SAY it with motions):
    - “*Lord God,* (both hands point up)
    - with your great power* (make muscle arms)
    - you made the earth and the sky.* (make circle with hands)
    - There is nothing too hard* (make "X" with arms)
    - for you to do.”* (pound fists)
    - Jeremiah 32:17* (make book with hands)
  2. SAY: *Let's play "Toss the Tree Frog" to practice the verse!*
  3. Depending on the child's ability, PLACE a new **paper plate** in front of the child so he/she will be able to toss a **tree frog** onto the **plate**.
  4. ALLOW the child to toss the **tree frog**. If it lands on the **plate**, SAY one section of the verse with him/her.
  5. PLAY until the child says the entire verse with you.
  6. If time allows, MOVE the **paper plate** farther from the child, and ALLOW him/her to see if he/she can say the whole verse again!
  7. REMIND the child to practice the verse at home this week.
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Let's Pray

5

ASK the child for any prayer requests. Then, PRAY the following for him/her:

- That he/she would remember that God sees and knows him/her
  - That he/she would know how much God loves him/her
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Stay Together

6

KEEP the child engaged in Small Group until he/she is checked out by doing any of the following activities:

- PLACE **coloring utensils** in front of the child, and ALLOW him/her to **color** a picture of the rainforest on their **paper plate**.
- If the child is able, PLAY a version of “Simon Says” called “Monkey Says,” using some of the following motions for the child to do:
  - Act like a monkey
  - Pretend to canoe
  - Pretend to swim
  - Act like a frog
  - Make a jaguar face