



#### STARFORCE ACADEMY™

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## STARFORCE ACADEMY

StarForce Academy is an amazing global adventure, but it's more than just that—it's a Bible adventure that kids will love. At your StarForce Academy kids will build lasting relationships with each other and, most importantly, Jesus. This curriculum is filled with fun, exciting, Bible-based activities where kids will experience the life of sharing their faith!

We know this curriculum works because we tested it last summer with real kids and real teachers. If something didn't work, we tweaked it and retested it. We made all the mistakes so you won't have to! Just look for the "Helpful Hints!" in the margins to read what actually happened when we tested StarForce Academy.

The fun begins each day at **Mission Launch** where kids sing, dance, and start the day. Here kids meet their Exploration Teams (small groups of friends) and Exploration Team Leaders (small group leaders). Each day they will also have the chance to take part in a fun, interactive, and engaging opening skit.

After Mission Launch, it's time for Exploration Teams to visit the Rotation Stations to further explore the day's Bible Point, Bible Story, and Bible Verse. Teams will rotate through **Bible Quest Adventures**, **Training Station**, **Celestial Café** (large group snack time), **Cosmic Crafts**, and **Global Games**. The activities at each Rotation Station were designed to reinforce Bible concepts and ensure each activity has a purpose in helping kids better understand God's Word.

After Exploration Teams have visited each Rotation Station, everyone comes back together for a closing celebration, **Mission Send Off**, to sing, pray, and wrap up the day.

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

Every page has a margin just like this one; use it to write down notes or ideas.

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## THE PROGRAM

In this section of the All-In-One Curriculum Manual, you'll see what makes STARFORCE ACADEMY an unforgettable experience for kids. You'll also learn the basics and get some good ideas for transforming your facility into the StarForce Academy. Ready to launch kids on a mission to share God's Word? Then, turn the page!



### **ORGANIZING**

First, don't fret! This manual will take you through VBS planning without causing you to break a sweat. From recruiting and training to publicizing and follow-up, you'll be taken step-by-step through the whole process. So, let's get started!

#### **VBS GOALS**

It's important to develop clear and defined goals for your VBS program. Take a few moments to jot the goals for your VBS program on the lines to the left. What do you hope to accomplish in the hearts of participants? Do you have goals for attendance, offerings, or unchurched family retention? FYI: StarForce Academy's goal is to develop in kids an understanding of the relationship that God wants to have with them. The program will promote meaningful relationships between kids and leaders in an interactive and engaging Christian environment.

Your StarForce adventure is going to need some key people to bring it to life. We'll go into more detail about recruiting later on, but you should keep these roles in mind as you plan.

#### WHO'S WHO

**Rotation Station Leaders:** These are the people that organize and run each of the five Rotation Stations.

**Exploration Team Leaders:** These are the people that rotate with kids from station to station and assist them with activities.

**Opening/Closing Leader:** This is the person (or persons) that will lead the large group opening and closing worship Episodes (also known as Mission Launch and Mission Send Off).



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#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

You should plan on recruiting at least one Exploration Team Leader for every five kids that will attend your StarForce Academy.

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

At our field test, we had team leaders carry bags (such as canvas totes or heavy-duty gift bags). This allowed them to keep up with the kids' crafts, activity sheets, and other items as they rotated from station to station. We also loaded the bags with bandages, tissues, hand sanitizer, and a camera!

#### **ABOUT STATION ROTATION**

StarForce Academy is based on a station rotation concept. What does this mean? Kids will be divided into groups and will rotate to the various Rotation Stations every day. Each day starts with everyone gathering together at the opening Episode Mission Launch. Then, in their groups, they rotate through the four Rotation Stations: Bible Quest Adventures, Training Station, Cosmic Crafts, and Global Games. Every group visits all the Rotation Stations, except in a different order. All the groups, halfway through, come together for some delicious snacks at Celestial Cafe. Finally, everyone comes back together or Mission Send-Off.

For a visual diagram of the station rotation concept, check out the sample schedule on the following page.

#### **GROUPING EXPLORERS**

How you plan to run your program will determine how you should group your participants. For the core, rotation-based elementary program (designed for grades K-5) you will need four groups.

Each group is comprised of Exploration Teams, which is a mini-group of about 5 kids. Teams are like little families that promote creativity and cooperation, not competition. You can choose to put kids of all the same age in a team or you can, as we strongly recommend, mix them up and put kids of various ages into a single team. In a mixed age program, both younger and older children help one another throughout their time together. Plus, you'll minimize discipline problems because the diversity frees students from the need to compete with peers of the same age.

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

To figure out how many kids to expect at your church's VBS, use your previous years attendance as a guideline.

Don't forget to include the effect your publicity will have on your numbers, as well!

#### SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Below is a sample STARFORCE ACADEMY schedule. This schedule was built for a three-hour morning program, but STARFORCE ACADEMY is super flexible! Check out PAGE 32 of this manual for some alternative scheduling options.

TIME	GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
9:00-9:20	M	lission Launch (Lar	ge-group gathering	)
9:25-9:45	Bible Quest	Training	Cosmic	Global
	Adventures	Station	Crafts	Games
9:50-10:10	Global	Bible Quest	Training	Cosmic
	Games	Adventures	Station	Crafts
10:15-10:35	Celestial Cafe (Large-group gathering)			
10:40-11:00	Cosmic	Global	Bible Quest	Training
	Crafts	Games	Adventures	Station
11:05-11:25	Training	Cosmic	Global	Bible Quest
	Station	Crafts	Games	Adventures
11:30-12:00	М	ission Send-Off (La	rge-group gatherin	g)



#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

While 25 kids is a cap we recommend, you may be able to accommodate more or less depending upon your available space and volunteers.
Remember, the fewer in a station at a time, the better!

#### OPTIONS FOR THE SMALLER VBS

If you're planning on fewer than fifty kids, you won't have to run all four stations simultaneously. Instead, divide your kids into two groups so only two Rotation Stations are happening at the same time. With this approach, you'll need fewer leaders and less space. For example, you could run Bible Quest Adventures and Training Center before snacks; then after snack, use the same leaders and space to run Cosmic Crafts and Global Games.

#### **OPTIONS FOR THE LARGER VBS**

If you're planning on more than 100 kids, you'll have to set up two stations for Bible Quest Adventures, Training Center, Cosmic Crafts, and Global Games. Also, you'll divide your kids into eight groups instead of four. Why two stations running simultaneously? With 100 kids, you'll have 25 kids in a Rotation Station at a time. This is the maximum number we recommend because the more kids in a station at any given moment makes it harder on the leader to check in and allow every single child to participate.

#### **ORGANIZING GROUPS**

Each day, when kids check-in, give them their group's color. This helps you, along with other leaders; identify which group the kids are in. You might also have Exploration Team Leaders wear shirts according to the group they are in to help kids make sure they are where they should be!

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

At our field test, we printed color-coded address labels for every child and gave them to their team leaders to label their crafts, souvenirs, and other items they might have with them.



### **EXPLORING THE PROGRAM**

There are lots of things to explore about StarForce Academy. What goes on at each Rotation Station? What's the purpose of activities? How does it all come together? On the following pages, and below, we will go into great detail.

#### **CADET CHECK-IN**

Essentially, this is the registration area of your VBS. Each day, kids will check in here and be sent to their Exploration Team in the Praise & Play Buzz area, where they will wait with the rest of their team for the fun to begin.

During this time, before VBS begins, kids will have the opportunity to get acquainted with one another and make new friends! It also gives the new participants that arrive throughout the week a chance to get comfortable with everyone in their team. The Explorer Check-In area is where parents will register their children on the first day (or on subsequent days) and check them in each day. Children won't spend much time here since they will quickly check-in and get with their teams, but having accurate records regarding attendance is important for follow-up initiatives and in the event of an emergency.

#### SETTING UP CADET CHECK-IN

Your registration/check-in area should be in a place near the entrance of your facility, such as a foyer or lobby. The area should contain several tables and chairs for your workers. The larger your VBS, the more workers (along with tables and chairs) you will need for your Explorer Check-In.

#### **BRINGING IT TO LIFE!**

Your registration area doesn't have to be boring. It's the first thing people will see when they arrive at your StarForce Academy, so make it exciting!

#### **HELPFUL HINTS!**

If you have the staff and space, you could place colored poster board (corresponding to group names) onto the tables to expedite the check-in process. Kids immediately go to their "color" and then head off to Mission Launch!

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

At our field test, we remove all the chairs and let everyone sit on the floor. This gives kids plenty of room to jump around and worship! Decorate this area like a space shuttle control center

- Hang a "STARFORCE" sign behind your workers.
- Setup a bulletin board with space pictures and brochures like a travel agency

Mission Launch is the location for your opening worship Episode. Everyone, from preschoolers to teens, gather together in one large group. During Mission Launch, kids will sing and dance to upbeat worship songs like "Astronaut," "Fly Away," and "All Day" are included on StarForce Academy Dual Music / Resource CD/CD-ROM.

#### SETTING UP MISSION LAUNCH

You'll need a space big enough to seat all the kids, either on the floor or in chairs or pews. This area should also have a sound system and, ideally, a way to show the DVD.

#### **BRINGING IT TO LIFE!**

This area is your main stage. So, if you are going to decorate, this is the place to do it!

• Add a backdrop showing StarForce Academy control center. Check out the graphic found on your Resource CD-ROM and transfer it to Styrofoam® or fabric and hang it on a wooden frame or over a PVC framework.



Bible Quest Adventures is where your kids will explore God's Word! The Bible Quest Adventures leader will use drama and unique teaching methods to get kids actively involved in the Bible story in ways they will never forget.

Each lesson is easy to present and involves minimal supplies. Best of all, the leader has thought-provoking discussion questions to get kids thinking about what they have experienced and how they can apply it to their everyday lives.

#### **SETTING UP BIBLE QUEST ADVENTURES**

You'll need a space big enough to seat ¼ of the kids on the floor. This area should be cleared out as much as possible, leaving plenty of room for teams to sit and enough room for the leader and any volunteers to present the message. Each day the Quest begins in the FLIGHT ROOM [this will be a separate room or if you are in a larger room you can divide the room in half and use black landscaping plastic or black sheets to separate the space]. This area will resemble the cockpit/control center of the STAR FORCE VOYAGER X3-16. The Take-off and Landing Sequence are provided on the StarForce Multi-media DVD

#### TRAINING CENTER

This unique and exciting station is sure to be the highlight of VBS for your explorers. Kids will get to explore God's Word through simple activities to apply that Episodes lesson to their every day lives.

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

Easy-to-print and trace decorating items can be found on your handy Resource CD-ROM.



#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

If you don't have the space for everyone to have snacks together, you could have helpers deliver snacks to the Rotation Stations just before snack time and give each leader a copy of the snack instructions. Problem solved!

#### **CELESTIAL CAFE**

In the middle of your VBS time, everyone will come back together for a yummy snack! Exploration Teams will get all the supplies they need to piece together their tasty creations in fun and creative ways.

#### **SETTING UP CELESTIAL CAFE**

You'll need a space big enough to seat all the kids, either on the floor or in chairs or pews with tables. This area should be a place where it is safe to have food and drinks. Possible options include your church's fellowship hall or even the same place where you have the opening and closing Episodes.

#### **COSMIC CRAFTS**

At this hands-on Rotation Station, kids will create fun and unique crafts that help them remember the daily Bible Point.

#### **SETTING UP COSMIC CRAFTS**

You'll need a space big enough to seat ¼ of the kids on the floor. This area should be cleared out as much as possible, leaving plenty of room for teams to sit and work on their crafts.



#### **GLOBAL GAMES**

Kids will go nuts for this station! Unlike some VBS curriculums, Global games reinforce the Bible Point and Bible Story.

#### **SETTING UP GLOBAL GAMES**

You'll need a wide-open space for this very active station. If you have this station outside, make sure you have a backup plan in case of bad weather.

#### **MISSION JEND-OFF**

After a busy day of VBS, it's time for a celebration—global style! All the Exploration Teams come back together for a fun upbeat worship, announcements and more!

Mission Send-off will take place in the same location as Mission Launch, so you're already set up!

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

Easy-to-print and trace decorating items can be found on your handy Resource CD-ROM.



## THE PLANNING

This handy section gets you organized and goes through all the details of how to make your STARFORCE ACADEMY a huge success. From planning calendars to publicity information and registration information to follow-up, this section of the *All-In-One Curriculum Manual* has it all.

Ready to get the planning started? Then, turn the page!

## **GETTING STARTED**

OUR PLANS	You may have thought while reading the previous pages that you were planning, and to some extent you were, but, basically, you were just learning the ins and outs of StarForce Academy and some of the options available to you as director of this new and exciting program.
	PLANNING TIMELINE
	5 MONTHS BEFORE STARFORCE ACADEMY  □ Pray. Ask God to have His hand on every aspect of the program and begin to prepare the hearts of the kids who will attend and the adults who will volunteer their time.  □ Decide your format. You should already have an idea of how you want to use this curriculum to reach kids in your community, but here is just a refresher list:  • 5 days/nights in one week • 5 days/nights over a number of weeks
	<ul> <li>Alternative Sunday school</li> <li>Backyard Bible club</li> <li>Camp program</li> <li>Midweek program</li> <li>After school program</li> <li>Weekend retreat</li> <li>One day outreach event</li> <li>And many, many more!</li> </ul>
	☐ <b>Set the date and time.</b> Check the church calendar to pick dates that won't conflict with any major church happenings. It's also good to make sure your dates don't conflict with any community events.

Lastly, decide whether you will have a morning or evening program (You should pick times that allow you to recruit the most volunteers!).  Set goals. For example, our goal for our VBS curriculum is to "develop in kids an understanding of the relationships that God wants to have with them and will promote meaningful relationships between kids and leaders in an interactive and engaging Christian environment. It is also our goal that church members, leaders, families, and kids will be encouraged and challenged by our program." So, what do you hope to accomplish in the hearts of participants? Also set your goals for attendance, offering, and unchurched family retention.  Build excitement! Your church and community will want to know about this amazing galactic adventure, so start letting them know about it!	
4 MONTHS BEFORE STARFORCE ACADEMY  ☐ Keep praying. ☐ Recruit staff. Determine how many kids you hope to reach and how many staff members you will need. Then, develop and carry out a staff recruitment plan. ☐ Set a budget. Determine how much money you will need to effectively host StarForce Academy. You may already have funds allotted for your program or you may have to raise the funds through fees, donations, sponsorships, and fundraisers. ☐ Plan publicity. You can't have a great program if no one shows up! Begin planning ways to get the word out to your entire community. You'll also want to make notes of deadlines by which information needs to be submitted to church publications and local radio and television stations.	
3 MONTHS BEFORE STARFORCE ACADEMY  □ Keep praying. □ Order stuff. Now is the time to place your order for any Additional StarForce Academy products you want to purchase from KidCity Publishing Remember to order early and order extra! □ Plan a preregistration event. Get some excitement building about your program by having an event spotlighting some snacks, games, etc.!	



2 MONTHS BEFORE STARFORCE ACADEMY    Keep praying.   Plan schedules. It's time to compile and plan out the Exploration Team's daily schedules.   Reserve spaces. What is going to be where? Review the specific needs of each Rotation Station, map out where each station will be in your church and make reservations, if necessary.   Arrange transportation. Decide if you will provide transportation to and from VBS for participants. If so, recruit a person to drive the bus and budget the necessary resources (gas money, driver fee, etc.).   Schedule training. Announce the date and time for your staff training party, gather the necessary supplies, and reserve the space you will need. Be sure to cover the basics of your program, as well as other important information.   Check and re-check. Have all Rotation Station leaders give you their lists of needed items. Purchase the items and either store them or distribute them to the appropriate individual.  1 MONTH BEFORE STARFORCE ACADEMY   Keep praying.   Host staff training party.   Plan follow-up initiatives. How will you follow-up with kids after VBS is over? Discuss plans for keeping kids coming back to your church after VBS   Set everything up. Finalize the details for when your facility will be available for you to set up decorations and prepare classrooms for use during StarForce Academy.	 crafts, and more! Be sure to have registration forms on hand.  ☐ <b>Organize your staff.</b> Begin staff organization and look into hosting a staff training party.
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AS STARFORCE ACADEMY NEARS  ☐ Keep praying.	
☐ <b>Time to pre-register.</b> Hold your pre-registration event. Afterwards, you'll need to begin assembling your Exploration Teams. We've included	
instructions and simple forms on the Resource CD-ROM to make your job even easier.	
☐ <b>Double check</b> . Review all planning pages to make sure that you have collected all the needed supplies and that you know where they are.	
☐ <b>Decorate</b> . Now's the time to decorate all the areas of your church for an amazing backwoods adventure.	
DURING STARFORCE ACADEMY	
☐ Keep praying.	'
☐ <b>Coordinate</b> . As VBS is unfolding each day, make sure everything is	,
going as planned and be prepared to assist and answer questions as needed.	
☐ <b>Smile</b> . Put on a warm smile and be enthusiastic! The time that you have been working for is finally here.	
☐ <b>Daily devotions and prayer.</b> Consider using the daily devotions and having a	<del></del>
time of prayer with your staff before VBS begins. This will keep your team energized	
and focused on the goals of this important event.	
AFTER STARFORCE ACADEMY	·
☐ <b>Thank God!</b> Give thanks to God for everything that He has helped you	• !
and your staff accomplish through StarForce Academy.	
☐ <b>Time them</b> . Your staff has worked hard, so be sure to show your gratitude for their dedication.	<u> </u>
☐ Bring 'em back. Implement the follow-up plan that you and your team	<u> </u>
developed earlier in the planning stage.	<u> </u>
☐ What do they think? Have your staff evaluate StarForce Academy. Also,	<u> </u>
get feedback from kids and parents. Make sure to take note of their	
suggestions for next year.	• • ———————————————————————————————————
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If there are two things to know about VBS, one is that it is an important ministry and outreach tool and, two, it can get expensive. Luckily, you've selected one of the most budget-friendly and highest quality VBS programs on the market. Remember, funding should not inhibit the experience. Whether you need to fundraise because your church doesn't have a VBS budget in place or because you want to surprise kids with some StarForce Academy extras, consider using some of the ideas below to enhance your VBS budget. Collect an offering. Arrange to have a special offering collected during a service that will go towards VBS expenses. · Charge a fee. You may wish to charge a per-child or per-family registration fee for the kids that will be attending your VBS to help offset the cost. • Host a flamingo flock. Gather 10-15 cheap lawn flamingoes—the tackier the better. Have the pastor be your first victim...er, customer. When he or she isn't home, you and a team of people place them in his or her yard, along with a note that reads "You've been flocked! This flock of flamingoes will be traveling all over [community], telling everyone about [church]'s StarForce Academy VBS, where kids share the buzz about God's Word! They'll be happy to fly away for a small donation toward our VBS. Give [your name] a call at [your phone number] to let us know who you'd like to be flocked next. We'll see that they make a guick move! –StarForce Academy Team. Once the customer calls, quickly move the flamingoes to their next location. • Sponsor-An-Explorer. Photocopy one block template for every child you expect to have at StarForce Academy. Write the cost of sponsorship on the blocks and post them onto a bulletin board in a high-traffic area of your church and encourage church members to sponsor

a child by picking a block off the board.

### RIGHT BEFORE / DURING VBS

The time is almost here, but you still have some stuff to do! This section will explore the aspects of StarForce Academy registration and attendance.

#### **REGISTRATION**

Kids need to be divided into small groups of about 5 participants called Exploration Teams. In addition, each Exploration Team has a teenage or adult Exploration Team Leader.

It is up to you on how you want to group kids. You can choose to have mixed-age teams or same-age teams.

Once you have decided how you want to go to about grouping kids, pull out your Resource CD-ROM and print out the forms, worksheets, and instruction sheets under "Registration." These will be invaluable to you and your registration staff in getting kids grouped and keeping your StarForce Academy organized.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Once VBS begins, you will need a system for tracking attendance and knowing which kids are in which Exploration Teams. You may opt to keep attendance using the printable Alphabetical Master List, from the Resource CD-ROM, which contains checkable boxes.

You may also elect to devise your own system of attendance using a software provided by your church or by developing a form of your own.



## **FOLLOW UP**

The impact of StarForce Academy doesn't have to stop on the last day; you can utilize some of these field-tested approaches to ensure the life application continues for years to come.

#### **FOLLOW-UP WITH THE KIDS**

Send kids a copy of the Certificate of Completion or a themed souvenir photo to serve as reminders of an amazing week. You can also send kids follow-up postcards, inviting them back to church and other special events.

#### **FOLLOW-UP WITH THE VOLUNTEERS & CHURCH**

Schedule a staff appreciation lunch to let volunteers know you (and the kids) appreciate their hard work. You might also consider handing out personal thank you notes or creating a slide show of pictures or video taken during VBS.



### **ALTERNATIVE USES**

#### **BACKYARD BIBLE CLUB**

A Backyard Bible Club is, as its name implies, a Bible club that meets in someone's backyard. The only real difference between a Backyard Bible Club and a traditional VBS is the facility that the program utilizes. Backyard Bible Clubs are great for neighborhood outreach and have shown proven success in overall church growth.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Spice up your Sunday school or children's church by using StarForce Academy as a 13-week curriculum. That's right, StarForce Academy can be expanded to 13 weeks, and you don't even have to break a sweat! Just use the outline below or adapt it to fit your needs:

Week 1: Opening Kick-Off Celebration / Overview

Week 2: Episode 1 Bible Adventure, Craft 1

Week 3: Episode 1 Training Station, Game 1

Week 4: Episode 2 Bible Adventure, Craft 2

Week 5: Episode 2 Training Station, Game 2

Week 6: Episode 3 Bible Adventure, Craft 3

Week 7: Episode 3 Training Station, Game 3

Week 8: Episode 4 Bible Adventure, Craft 4

Week 9: Episode 4 Training Station, Game 4

Week 10: Episode 5 Bible Adventure, Craft 5

Week 11: Episode 5 Training Station, Game 5

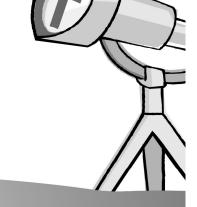
Week 12: Review & Practice For Closing

Week 13: Closing Celebration/Family Day

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

If 3 hours is too long for your evening program, just take 5 minutes away from each area and you'll have a 2 ½ hour programm.





Congratulations on leading Bible Quest Adventures! This station will present each day's lesson in Drama. Have an actor dress in biblical attire to present each day's lesson.

#### **HOW TO START EACH EPISODE:**

Each day your Quest will begin in the FLIGHT ROOM [this will be a separate room or if you are in a larger room you can divide the room in half and use black landscaping plastic or black sheets to separate the space].

This area will resemble the cockpit/control center of the STAR FORCE VOYAGER X3-16. Provided on the StarForce Multi-media DVD (ask Director for a copy) you will find the take-off/landing video that you can use each Episode to transport your students to the new quest. Kids will then de-part the Voyager to that day's new "land". They can then re-enter the first space for entry back to home.

We've provided backdrop patterns to set your scene. These can be copied on overhead transparencies. Just Trace, Draw, and paint each day's backdrop\* on paper, or cloth to hang behind each day's actor. This will set the atmosphere for each day's story. You can add accents like: trees, pots, tables etc.

\*If your Church has an LCD projector, you can utilize it! Hang a white sheet from the ceiling, and place the LCD projector and computer behind it. Use the PowerPoint version of the Backdrops and project the image on the sheet! Have your actor in front and you're all set! (PowerPoint Version available on the Course Album CD-rom).

**Don't forget** to make copies of the discussion questions on each page for the crew leaders to discuss with their crew at the appropriate time. Students will also complete their Log Book (student activity pages). Handouts are at the end of this manual and on the resource CD-rom (for elementary age students only).

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

Every page has a margin just like this one; use it to write down notes or ideas.



#### **EPISODE ONE: WOMAN AT THE WELL** John 4:1-42

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

packing paper. Place a bowl from.

Create a well by covering a medium sized garbage can with crinkled brown of water inside the well for the woman to draw water

and help us from doing that same sin again loves us

ಕ

forgive us

when we sin? Pray to him and ask Him to forgive us

2] Will God forgive you and I when we sin; like he did the Samaritan woman? Yes, he we are sinners—Jesus still loves us that much. Read: Romans 3:23, , 6:23

1] Did Jesus love the Samaritan woman at the well? Yes; even though she was a sinner and

[ Woman enters room and sits down beside well ]

Greetings friends, you won't believe what happened to me today! I was gathering water from the well as usual, when this man started talking to me. I had no idea who this man was! (dips hands into well, shifts out water) He first asked for a drink of water, but He had nothing to draw the water out with.

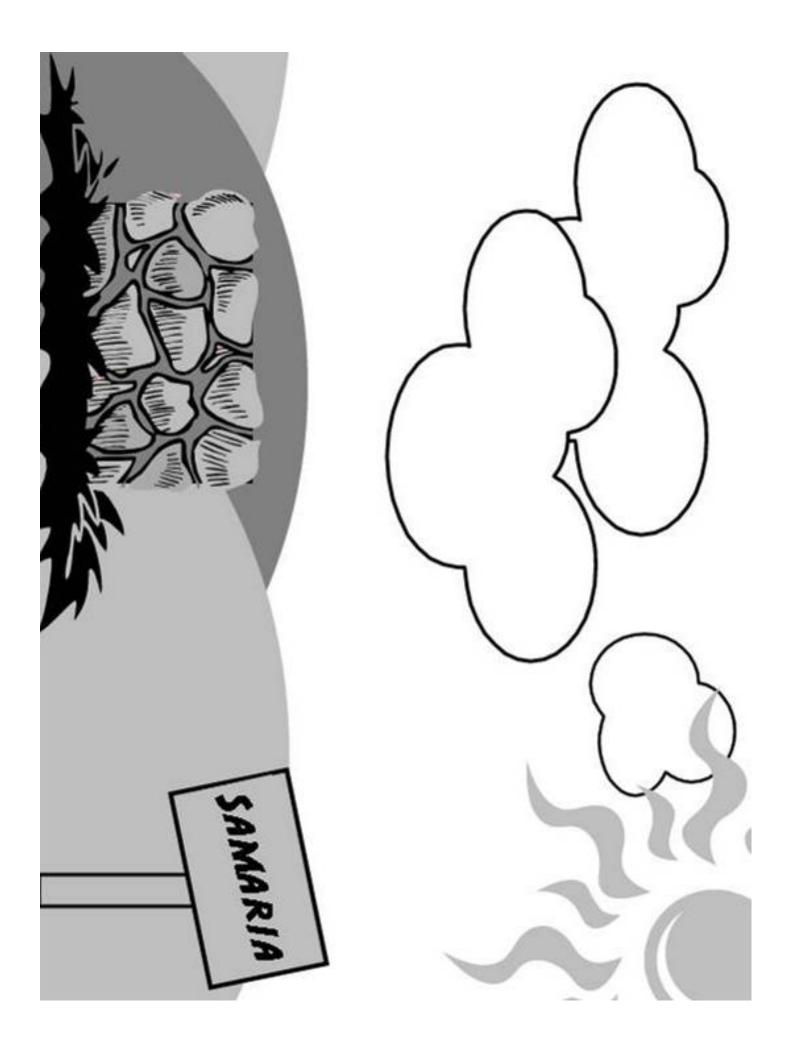
He started telling me of this water that would last forever. Of course I wanted to know about water that would last forever. In Samaria it gets really hot. He told me this water was the water of life.

Now he was a Jew, and I being a Samaritan, I didn't know what to think. Samaritans are not supposed to... even talk... with Jews. He said: "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water." He then told me that: "Anyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again", He then said: "But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst".

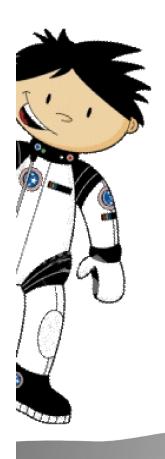
I then asked Him to give me this water so I would no longer be thirsty. Then He asked me to being back my husband. How did He even know I was married? I told Him I wasn't. Then He told me: "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband". I then realized He must be a prophet from God, if He knew so much about me. As He talked, I came to know He was Jesus, the son of God. He told me to go back home and tell my friends, I told them I met a man who knew all about my life. I went back and invited Jesus to my home; He is staying with me now for two days.

As we came home, I told many of my friends about the savior... my savior. They too believed in Him, and now have Him as their personal friend. My friends said to me, "We no longer believe just because of what you have said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world." You too can know Him today. As you travel StarForce Academy; meeting HIM... (this Jesus)... is your mission! Friends, believe in Him today! [exits]

Leader returns and talks to students about the story and gives the crew leaders the discussion questions to discuss with their crew and helps students complete their log book page ]



## COSMIC CRAFTS





## COSMIC CRAFTS

#### **EPISODE 1**

Water Bottle Holder – A Reminder of the Woman at the well, and Jesus giving her water that would last forever – everlasting life with Him, in Heaven.

#### Instructions:

- 1. Measure around the bottle. Use these measurements to cut a rectangle from the foam. **Option:** Use one sheet of thick foam or glue two sheets of thin foam together.
- 2. Use ruler and pencil to draw a line 1/2" from each end of the foam and 1/2" from the bottom edge of the foam. Starting 1/4" from one end make marks 1/2" apart along these lines. Use a hole punch to make at each mark.
- 3. Fold about 48" of plastic lacing in half. Hold the foam around the bottle. Thread one end of the lacing through the hole at the bottom of the foam and the other end of the lacing through the hole on the opposite side. Thread one side of the lacing onto the tapestry needle then sew the ends together by threading the lacing backwards and forwards through every other hole to the top. Repeat with the other piece of lacing. This process is similar to threading laces onto a pair of sneakers.
- 4. Thread both ends of the lace through the center of a pony bead then tie an overhand knot above the bead.
- 5. Thread about 15" of plastic lacing onto the tapestry needle. Thread the lacing backwards and forwards across the bottom of the bottle. This prevents the bottle from falling out.
- 6. Make two holes 1/2" apart at the top of edge of the foam opposite the seam line. Fold 36" of lacing in half. Thread each end through adjacent holes at the bottom of the holder below the two holes at the top. Thread the ends of the lace up through the inside of the holder and out through the holes at the top. Thread the ends of the lace through the center of a pony bead then tie an overhand knot above the bead. Align the ends with the ends of the lacing at the opposite side then tie all four ends in an overhand knot to make a strap. Trim the ends.





Lace edges of foam together.



Lace across the bottom of the holder so the bottle won't fall.



Make a lace strap for the other side of the holder

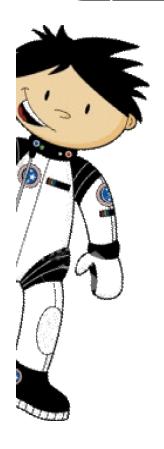
#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

Every page has a margin just like this one; use it to write down notes or ideas.

#### What you will need:

- Water bottle (1 per student)
- Plastic lacing
- Craft foam (1 per student)
- 1/8" Hole punch
- pony beads
- Tapestry needle
- Ruler
- Glue
- Rubber bands

## GLOBAL GAMES





## **GLOBAL GAMES**

#### Episode1

"The Amazing H20 Race"

Split the group into two or more teams. Have two buckets per team. One full of water on one end, and an empty bucket on the opposite end (this setup, if for each team) Teams will race from their full bucket (the well), back to their empty bucket (a life without Jesus). The team to have the most water in their bucket at the end 3 mins. Wins. Play a few times

SAY: It took allot of work to keep getting water, and filling the other bucket up didn't? (wait for response) When the woman at the well met Jesus, he offered her water that would last forever. This water was the water of eternal life.

#### **Episode 2**

"PASS IT ON"

Line the group up, side by side. One person gives instructions to the next and it goes down the line. The last person will shout out the task and completes the task, then that person start the line again.

#### **IDEAS FOR TASKS:**

Tell your crew leader that: "Jesus loves you"

Tell anyone in your crew that: "Jesus is my forever friend"

Run around the Group three times shouting

out: "I'M CRAZY FOR JESUS!"

Shake hands with everyone in the Group and

tell them, "Hey Jesus is cool!"

... and come up with your own ideas too!

SAY: Paul used his life telling people the Good News. He showed the Jews that Jesus is the Christ. But the Jews there would not accept Paul's teaching. They said some very bad things. This didn't stop him; he went from place to place spreading the good news.

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

Every page has a margin just like this one; use it to write down notes or ideas.

#### What you will need:

Episode 1 Two buckets



## CELESTIAL CAFE





## CELESTIAL CAFE

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

Every page has a margin just like this one; use it to write down notes or ideas.

#### **SAFETY TIPS:**

REMEMBER TO WATCH OUT FOR KIDS WITH FOOD ALLERGIES!

Many kids are allergic to peanuts, and many other things, including chocolate. Always ask, and let parent's know what snacks you are serving, and always have a back up!

#### **ALL SESSONS**

Serve TANG the official drink of the astronauts It can be bought in a powder in a tub, and you just add water. Available at most all grocery stores.

#### **Episode 1**

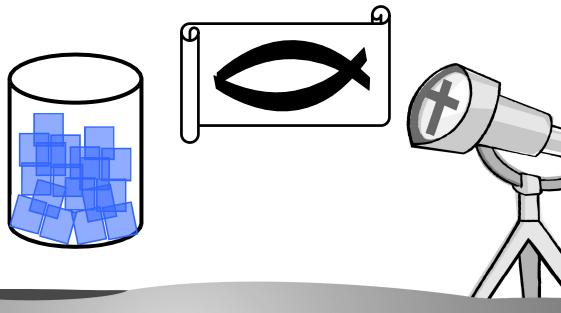
Blue Jell-O in a clear plastic cup

SAY: The Blue Jell-O reminds us of the water the woman had from the well. When the woman at the well met Jesus, he offered her water that would last forever. This water he has to offer was the water of eternal (forever) life.

#### Episode 2

Use Fruit roll-up and pretzels sticks to make a scroll. Roll up each end around a pretzel stick. Draw a fish Design in the middle with cake icing.

SAY: Paul used all his time telling people the Good News. He showed the Jews that Jesus is the Christ. But the Jews there would not accept Paul's teaching. They said some very bad things. But this didn't stop him; he went from place to place spreading the good news. This snack reminds us of a scroll. In Bible times important messages were wrote on scrolls. God's word was sometimes written in scrolls. The Greek word ichthys (fish) is an acrostic for "Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Savior" symbolizing salvation in Christ through baptism. With this snacks it reminds us to share about Jesus wherever we go, just like Paul.



## TRAINING CENTER





## TRAINING CENTER

#### **Episode 1**:

Say: Today at the Training Center we are going to create puzzles. These puzzles will remind us how much God really loves us. You can also share this puzzle with a friend, and let them know too.

Say: Before we begin can you help me think of some things you really love? (mom, dad, reading, playing outside). Did you know that even more than how much we love those things; God loves us even more? He does!

- Pass out the supplies to the students and allow them to color the world, cut it out]
- After they are finished pass out the envelopes and allow students to write their names on it
- Instruct students to place the pieces of the puzzle inside the envelope to take home)

Dismiss in prayer

#### **HELPFUL HINT!**

Every page has a margin just like this one; use it to write down notes or ideas.

#### **SUPPLIES**

- Markers
- Scissors
- Envelopes [for students to store the puzzle]
- Copies of puzzle on white cardstock [one per student]

## **SONG LYRICS**

#### **ASTRONAUT (THEME SONG)**

As I look through the evening sky
I think to myself how much He must love you and I –
The Milky Way makes me look – Like a piece of dust on the road –
Compared to my Lord – That's how big He is
That's how big He is –

And I don't know that much about astronauts
But I know that Jesus cares an awful lotHe made the stars
He made the moon –
Just think of how much more He loves you
ya – ya – ya – ya

Space may be the final frontier –
For a lot of people who show no fear –
They step outside and they look around
They take a sample and come back down –
Have they ever found the meaning of life out there –
I don't think so – No way – I don't think so



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## **SONG LYRICS**

#### **FLY AWAY**

Ok you win, you caught me day dreaming again About our sudden evacuation Ok I give in, I can't help but wondering But it seems I can't get enough information

Curiosity has got a hold on me
Tell me how it's gonna be - when
One day I'll see you coming back for me
And all together we'll fly away
One day I'll hear that trumpet loud and clear
And all together we'll fly away
O how I long for the day
When we'll fly away

Don't ask me why I keep starin' at the sky It's just I'm lost in anticipation I know it will be in the twinkling of an eye It's just I get lost in my imagination



## **SONG LYRICS**

#### **ALL DAY**

I don't care what they say about me It's alright, alright I don't care what they think about me It's alright, they'll get it one day

I love You, I'll follow You You are my, my life I will read my bible and pray I will follow You all day

I don't care what it costs anymore 'Cause You gave it all and I'm following You I don't care what it takes anymore No matter what happens I'm going Your way

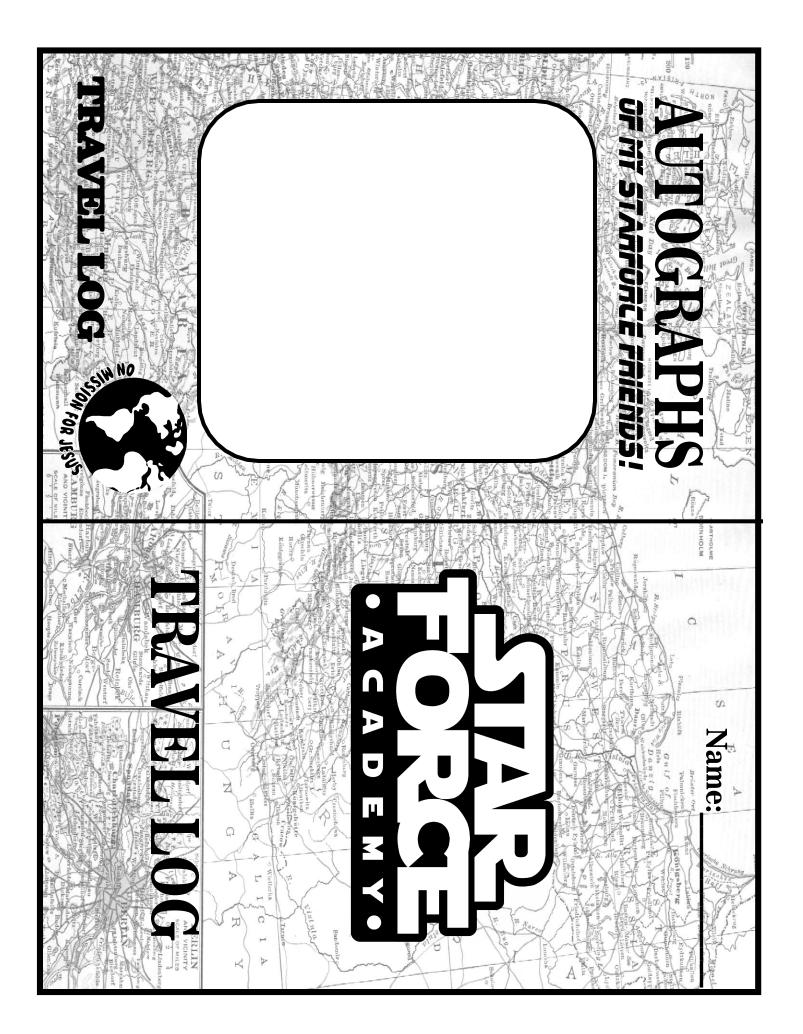
I love You, I'll follow You You are my, my life I will read my bible and pray I will follow You all day

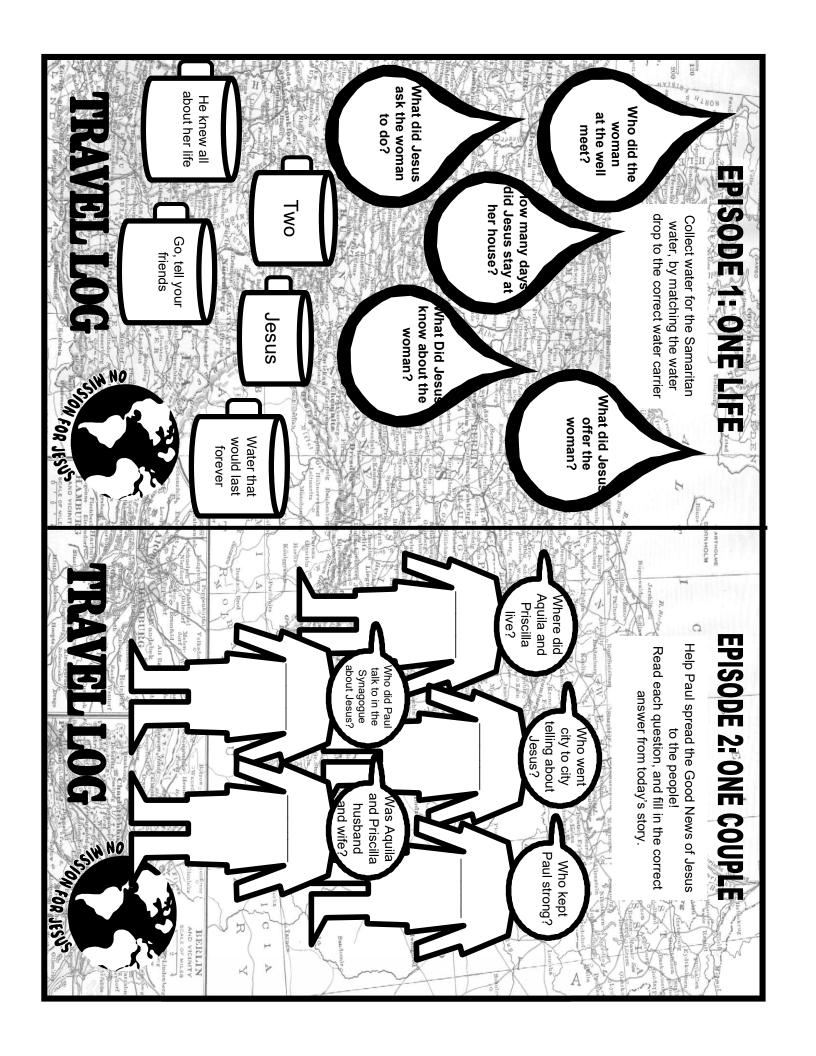
All day, All day now, All day

Anyone around can see
Just how good You've been to me
For all my friends who don't know You
I pray that You would save them too



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## NOTES

