



Sunday, April 4, 2021

Adaptations for Ages 3-5

- Show the children pictures of a caterpillar and a butterfly and of seeds becoming plants, and ask the children to think about things that transform. Take some time to discuss what the word *transform* means—one thing into something new. You could get some creative answers, such as the popular Transformer characters from the movies or comics. Explain that today's story is about a big transformation.
- For "We Raise Our Arms," ask the children just to do the motions and not say the words.
- During the "Hearing the Story" section, skip the activity where children search for ten plastic Easter eggs.
- For the "Mary and Jesus Action Poem," have the children just do the motions after you and not repeat the words.
- Explain that Mary was able to share the good news that Jesus was alive with the disciples. Ask the children to take turns sharing about a time when they got good news that they couldn't wait to share. What was the good news and who did they share it with first?
- Use the wondering questions from the "Coloring Page" section. If possible, send out GN 2 ahead of time and ask parents or caregivers to print it so that children can color it while you discuss the wondering questions.
- Close with the blessing found at the end of the session.

Adaptations for Ages 5-10

- Open with the "Praying" section, and ask the children just to do the motions with you and not repeat the words aloud.
- Pull out the box from last week with the different objects in it. Ask the children to recall what happened between last week, Palm Sunday, and this week using the objects from the box to prompt each event.
- Follow the "Hearing the Story" section as written until you get to the second reading of the story. You can either mute the children and do the second reading as written in the curriculum, or you can have the child pantomime the actions listed. Instead of patting hands-on thighs, you could ask the children to run in place. Instead of making crying sounds, have the children pantomime crying or making sad faces.
- Use the "Reflecting on God's Grace" section as written.
- For "Offering God's Grace," use the wondering questions as written. Then ask children to gather some paper and coloring utensils. Have them make cards as suggested in the session, using whatever paper they have at home. Encourage the children to fold their paper hamburger style to make it into a card. Inside the card have the children write about the good news; they could write things like "Jesus is risen" or "Good News." If these cards can be mailed to someone else in your congregation, that would be a great extra way to extend this activity.
- Close with the prayer and blessing found at the end of the session. Allow the children to just do the motions and not repeat the words during the prayer.