**ACTIVITIES FOR PROGRAM SONGS**

***Choosing Activities***

Assemble/Find the…

Bean Bag or Basketball Toss

Cake Walk (Pioneer Prints)

Choose by Color, Musical Note, Number, Objects, Sticks

Darts

Fishing

Fizzing Cups

Games (Memory, Temple, Tic Tac Toe)

Giant Dice

Grow Capsules

Missionary Doors

Missionary Cars/Map

Name That Tune

Paper Airplanes/Snowballs

Pinwheel

Pop a Balloon (Fireworks)

Primary Pres./Tchr Choice

Primary Punch

Rebus Posters

Scrambled Music

Seasonal Items (Raindrops)

Songs Hidden Under Chairs

Spin (Bottle, Child, Wheel)

Super Singer GlassesPointer

Think About Jesus

**AS A CHILD OF GOD:**

* ***Flipchart***
* ***I Sing, You Sing Echoes***
* ***Four Corners***

**CHOOSE THE RIGHT:**

* ***Melody Maps***
* ***Right/Light Popcorn***
* ***Paper Plates***
* ***Finger Lights***
* ***Body Percussion***
* ***Rhythm Sticks***
* ***Popcorn or Taboo the Word “Right”***

**I’M TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS:**

* ***Count # of times they hear “try” and “trying”***
* ***Find picture on front wall***
* ***I Spy Symbols***
* ***Point finger lights at pictures that show meaning of song***

***(Jesus & boy, baptism, flower to lady, tempted, listen, love one another as Jesus loves you, try to show kindness, gentle & loving, Jesus taught)***

* ***Hold up your picture when we sing that line***
* ***Do What I Do***

**ACTIVITIES FOR PROGRAM SONGS**

* ***Scarves***

***Low-Prep***

***Review Games***

**Bubbles (Bubbles)**

**Copycat**

**Echo**

**Flashlight Freeze**

**Hidden Child (Blanket)**

**Hot & Cold (Object)**

**Hot Potato**

**(Soft Object)**

**Hula Hoops**

**Lead the Music**

**Pictionary**

**Popcorn (Stand/Sit on Key Words)**

**Puppets**

**Singing Measles (Stickers)**

**Speed Racer**

**Taboo**

**Telephone**

**NEPHI’S COURAGE:**

* ***Flipchart***
* ***Actions***
* ***Uno Game***

**STAND FOR THE RIGHT:**

* ***I Sing, You Sing Echoes***
* ***Flipchart with Actions***
* ***4 Corners***
* ***Stack a Song***
* ***Bubbles***

**THE WISE MAN & THE FOOLISH MAN:**

* ***Actions with Images***
* ***Stick Puppets***
* ***Rhythm Sticks & Egg Cartons***

**WHEN I AM BAPTIZED:**

* ***Flipchart***
* ***ASL***
* ***Windwands or Scarves***

**April 2017 Plans**

***Medium-Prep***

***Review Games***

**Blackout**

**Eraser**

**Music Theory**

**Musical Chairs**

**Stop & Go (Signs)**

**See the *Primary Music Reference Lists* by Cathryn Matheson for more ideas**

[**https://www.facebook.com/groups/ldsprimarychoristers/search/?query=%22cathryn%20matheson%22**](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ldsprimarychoristers/search/?query=%22cathryn%20matheson%22)

**Week 4: Post pictures of Jesus on the left. Ask children to**

 **select one and match it with its modern day**

 **equivalent.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Jesus** | **Modern Day** | **Song** |
| Baptism |  |  | When I Am Baptized |
| Kindness |  |  | JR: Jesus Said Love Everyone - 61SR: Love One Another - 136 |
| Obey Parents |  |  | JR: Quickly I’ll Obey – 197bSR: Keep the Commandments - 146 |
| Prayer |  |  | I Pray in Faith - 14 |
| Sacrament |  |  | I’m Trying to Be Like Jesus - 78 |
| Scriptures |  |  | JR: Scripture Power - SheetSR: Search, Ponder, & Pray |
| Teachings |  |  | JR: Choose the Right - #239SR: Choose the Right Way - 160 |
| Temple |  |  | The Lord Gave Me a Temple - 153 |

**Week 5: Bean Bag Pictures**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Page** | **Song** |
| BirdFish | 241236 | JR: Birds in the TreeSR: Give Said the Little Stream |
| Frog | #239 | Choose the Right |
| Turtle | 160 | Choose the Right Way |
| Heart | 6174 | JR: Jesus Said Love EveryoneSR: I Feel My Savior’s Love |
| Pansy | 244 | Little Purple Pansies |
| World | 235 | JR: The World is So BigSR: My Heavenly Father Loves Me |

***Organizational Tips***

Bag materials by class

Carry your lesson plan around on a clipboard

File flipcharts in a crate

Lay materials on a table in the necessary order

Move the podium out of your way

Print a lesson plan for the pianist

Post pictures with magnets on chalkboard, portable whiteboards, or mini-easels

Pre-arrange cues for pianist

Put materials under teacher chairs

Tab your songbook

Use foam core or trifolds for posters

Use Primary Presidency to distribute materials and help lead rounds

**Choosing Activity Ideas for 2017**

**May**

Week 1 (Repentance & Forgiveness): Child chooses an object lesson, you give a scenario, they put in food coloring/bleach; pepper/dish soap; etc.

Week 2: (Baptized & Confirmed = Follow Jesus’s Example): Pix of testimony, going to church, repentance, baptism, confirmation, each connected to a relevant song

Week 3 (Holy Ghost): Fizzing cups or objects that metaphorically represent different ways the Holy Ghost helps us (blanket = comfort, shield = protects, sign = guides, etc.)

Week 4 (Sacrament Renews Baptismal Covenants): Picture of Christ, bread, water, prayer, etc.

**June**

Week 1 (Prayer): Water bottle spinner pointing to different kinds of prayer

Week 2 (Tithing): Pick a chore w/ price tag, write tithing on big tithing slip, amount of money corresponds to a particular song

Week 3 (Word of Wisdom): Feed play food items/pictures to a color photo of the bishop if healthy or trash can if they break the word of wisdom

Week 4 (Modesty): Choose clothes from clothesline & put in laundry basket

**July**

Week 1 (Fasting & Prayer): Items representing reasons for fasting (big decision, help, comfort, sickness, etc.) – could do pictures in the shape of stars and words as stripes of flag if you prefer a holiday theme

Week 2 (Kindness): Pioneer wagons containing kind things you know the children have done that week, or pioneer trek w/ a story about a kind thing a pioneer did at each stop, or pictures of kind things Jesus did

Week 3 (Reverence): Assemble a “reverent child” by having children choose body parts from this month’s Sharing Time Outline and place them on a poster

Week 4 (Honesty): Pictures representing scenarios when it is hard to be honest & children guess a song we could sing about that situation

**August**

Week 1 (Good Friends Help CTR): Pictures from the Primary Manual of children making good choices

Week 2 (+ Media): Clean water, dirty water

Week 3 (Sabbath Day): Items that show activities we can do to stay close to Heavenly Father on Sunday (church, journal, music, read scriptures, serve others, etc.)

Week 4 (Sabbath Day): Pianist’s choice

**September**

Week 1 (Keep Commandments): Pictures representing 10 commandments

Week 2 (Respect & Worship God): Musical testimony meeting (children nominate songs, pianist chooses them from a bag)

Week 3 (Honor Parents): Ask parents what their children have done that week to honor them. Put the stories on slips of paper, draw a paper, read it, and then that child comes to choose the song.

Week 4 (Respect Others): Ask parents what their children have done that week to show love and respect for others. Put the stories on slips of paper, draw a paper, read it, and then that child comes to choose the song.

**October**

Week 1 (12-year-olds get priesthood): Primary Punch – Put a gospel standard and relevant song inside each cup

Week 2 (Priesthood = Saving Ordinances): Have a picture of Primary children and help them climb stair steps that each contain a picture of a saving ordinance such as baptism, confirmation, priesthood, endowment, sealing

Week 3 (Priesthood Blessings): Pictures of baby blessing, baptism, blessing of the sick, confirmation, sacrament OR gloves/handprints made of different materials w/ a word or picture inside of these things

Week 4 (Temple Ordinances for Ancestors): Board game – try to get the ancestor to the temple

**November**

Week 1 (Serve Others): Missionary board game or missionary doors w/ ward members or pictures of missionaries they know with their language and how they served someone

Week 2 (Good Example): Spinner with pictures of scripture heroes who were good examples

Week 3 (Teach Friends): Play mat depicting a neighborhood. Children drive cars to different places on the map and then practice sharing their musical testimonies.

Week 4 (Prepare to Serve a Mission): World map and/or objects from different countries and/or suitcase with items a missionary needs and/or missionaries that “grow” taller as the children sing well

**December**

Week 1 (HF Sent Jesus to Earth): Nativity scene

Week 2 (Jesus Grew Up): Height marker

Week 3 (Jesus = Light & Life): Different types of lights, ways Jesus brings light to us

Week 4 (Joseph Smith Saw Jesus): Gifts we have because of this

**MANAGING THE PRIMARY CHILDREN, THEIR TEACHERS, & THE PRIMARY PRESIDENCY:**

**1) Schedule**

**2) Simple choosing game**

**3) List of songs children**

 **know:**

**Wiggle Songs**

**Welcome Songs**

**Birthday Songs**

**Reverence Songs**

**Previous Program Songs**

* **Book of Mormon Stories**
* **I Love to See the Temple**
* **I Will Follow God’s Plan**
* **If the Savior Stood Beside Me**
* **Nephi’s Courage**
* **Scripture Power**
* **Stand for the Right**
* **Tell Me the Stories of Jesus**
* **The 4th Article of Faith**
* **The Lord Gave Me a Temple**
* **Etc.**

**Hymns**

* **Called to Serve**
* **Praise to the Man**
* **We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet**

**4) Easy, no-prep games**

**For Substitutes**

* Actively involve children in age-appropriate ways
* Be willing to be silly and be yourself
* Communicate expectations clearly, change activities frequently, and sing

 continuously *(“Your teachers are going to…” “If I see…, I’m going to…”)*

* Develop mastery of songs through repetition and recontextualization
* Engage everyone simultaneously
* Fill the room with the Spirit before you sit down
* Generate reverence before giving the children back to the Presidency for

 Sharing Time (Sharla Dance has some great tips on this topic)

**PLANNING & MUSIC RESOURCES: I will e-mail these to you**

**ACTIVITIES FOR SELECTED WELCOME SONGS:**

***Come with Me to Primary (p. 255)***

* Have one class start singing, then have another class join in at the end of each line
* Sing in a round
* Sing the phrase “wherever in the world that you may be” in a foreign language

***Hello, Friends! (p. 254a)***

* Divide room, each side of the room sings half of the line

***Hello Song (p. 260)***

* Visitors choose “hello” written in another language on popsicle sticks
* Visitors choose a cultural object from a country representing the language of the hellos
* Visitors echo “hello” back to the Primary children in the ward

***Here We Are Together (p. 261)***

* Insert visitor’s names and names of Primary children (who stand when their name is called)

***Our Primary Colors (p. 258)***

* Flipchart
* People wearing red, yellow, and blue stand when the color is sung
* Distribute colored paper plates and that 1/3 of the room does the wave when the appropriate color is sung

***We Are Different (p. 263)***

* You and the visitors sing “I know you” and the Primary children in the ward sing “and you know me”
* The Primary sings: “We are as different as the sun and the sea” and whichever side of the room you point to stands and holds their arms up in a circle like the shining sun or waves their arms like the ocean and makes ocean noises
* You sing “I’ll help you” and the Primary children in the ward sing “and you’ll help me”
* Everyone sings, “And that’s the way it is supposed to be!”