

Ideas for Teaching & Practicing *Jesus Once Was a Little Child*

- 1) Waterfall** – I sing the first line of the song to the class sitting in front of me and the children in that class have to turn around and sing it to the next class, who then sings it to the next class, etc.
- 2) Echoes** – I sing a line of the song with actions, then the Primary echoes me as they do the actions, then I sing the next line with actions and they echo it.
- 3) Four Corners** – I divide the Primary into 4 sections, give each section a line of the song, and they stand and sing the line of their song when it comes up, then they rotate which line they have and we do it again.
- 4) Volleyball** – One half of the room sings a line and does the actions, the other half of the room sings the next line in the song with the actions
- 5) Jack-in-the-Box** – I pass out picture cards with a word on them to various members of the Primary Presidency. When the Primary sings that particular word, the Presidency member pops up and does an action or some other unexpected thing to show that they are the person who had the secret word.
- 6) Sound Effects** – I pass out cards with a word and a sound effect on each card. The Primary sings the song, but when we get to one of the words on the cards, all of the children holding that card make the sound effect instead of singing the word.
- 7) Opposites** – I hold signs containing opposites and the Primary has to sing or do actions based on the sign I hold up (i.e., loud/soft, fast/slow, boys/girls, teachers/children, sing/hum, jumping jacks/run in place, etc.)
- 8) Picky Piano** – We sing the song, but the pianist drops out at random and the kids have to keep singing.
- 9) Aerobics** – I continuously change actions as we are singing and the children have to copy me (i.e., running in place, jumping jacks, bending forward and backward, twisting from side to side, hopping on one foot, toe touches, snapping my fingers, clapping my hands, rolling my arms, reaching for the sky, waving my arms, spinning around in a circle, etc.)
- 10) Hot Potato** – Children pass a soft ball or stuffed animal around as we sing. When the pianist stops, they have to tell one way they can be more like Jesus (or they can sing the next line of the song).

Christmas Head Shoulders Knees & Toes

Tree – stand straight with arms angled down and out to look like a tree

Jesus – cradle a baby (or angels – make a halo with fingers over head)

Stars – “Blink” fingers high above head

Snow – hands are still high and bring them down slowly wiggling the fingers like falling snow

Gifts – put hands in front like they are holding a gift and reach forward giving the gift to someone

Lights – resembling lights on a house, raise both hands and starting on your left, wiggle fingers like lights and move horizontally to the left

Mistletoe – Blow a kiss

Or GIFTS, BELLS, LIGHTS THAT GLOW

OR

Trees, angels, stars, and snow. Stars and snow. Stars and snow. Trees, angels, stars, and snow. Gifts, lights, bells, and bows.

Bells – hold hands in front and “ring” bells

Bows- “tie” a bow with hands in front