Bonus Activities

Preschoolers

Learn a Ugandan Nursery Rhyme: Locate an electronic device (preferably a TV or laptop) to play a Youtube video. Play https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ri-Zvc9pa8 for your class. Ask what they see in the video. Encourage them to practice singing along.

Older Children

Learn a Skill: Ask someone from your congregation who has a skill (sewing, quilting, construction, etc.) to come talk to your class about what they do. Ask them to give a demonstration. Gather supplies for your class to practice what they are demonstrating.

All Ages

Start a Business: Encourage children to brainstorm what they would sell if they could sell anything. Talk about what it takes to start a business. Encourage children to work together to come up with a business they could do together (sell bookmarks to raise money for missions, etc.).

Pathlight

www.cbf.net/pathlight

CBF's *Pathlight* curriculum helps children explore the Good News of Jesus through stories, scripture and activities.

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Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. **Psalm 119:105 (CEV)**

Theme Overview

Jade and Shelah Acker are CBF field personnel in Uganda. There, they work to empower refugees and help them find employment. They also invest in local businesses to help them become more sustainable. This session focuses on the theme of transformation.

Bible Verse

Isaiah 43:18-19

Forget what happened long ago! Don't think about the past. I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it? I have put roads in deserts, streams in thirsty lands.

Session Outline

Prepare

- Make copies of the Student Handout.
- Review the Story and Bible Verse.

Welcome

- Greet students as they arrive.
- **Ask**: "If you could create a business, what would you do?"

Engage

- Distribute the Student Handout.
- Read and discuss the Bible Verse.
- Work on the Handout Activity.
- Transition to Story Time.

Share

- Tell the Story, "Sustaining Hope Ministries."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

Sustaining Hope Ministries

"Good morning, Dembe," said Shelah Acker. "Thank you so much for meeting with me this morning." "Good morning, Shelah. I am intrigued about your suggestion of a partnership," said Dembe. "Can you tell me more about it?" Dembe asked. "I would love to," said Shelah. "It's called Sustaining Hope Ministries, and we have two categories. The first category is focused on brand new businesses and helping them break even. Our second category focuses on partnering with local businesses and helping them become profitable. We want businesses to employ refugees in a safe environment where they can learn a skill and learn about Jesus. Jade and I believe that your business could be part of our second category. You have been doing so well, and we believe that with just a bit more help, you can become profitable," Shelah said. "I hope so," said Dembe. "I am working hard, but you are right, I have discovered I need a bit more help. I would love to have people in my corner, giving me advice and helping me grow my business. As a former refugee, I would love to help others who are in that same position. This sounds like an excellent partnership!" Later, Shelah told Jade the exciting news. As they brainstormed which refugees would be the best fit for Dembe's business, Shelah said a prayer of thanks to God for another partner in ministry. The last few years had been hard, but slowly their partnerships were helping businesses become sustainable.

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: How does Sustaining Hope Ministries help business owners?
- **Ask**: How does Sustaining Hope Ministries help refugees?
- **Ask**: How can our church help refugees in our community? How can we help business owners?
- **Say**: Sustaining Hope Ministries helps business owners become sustainable. They partner with businesses to help them either break even (where they make as much money as they spend) or make a profit. They also help refugees by finding them a safe environment they can work in so that they can learn a new skill and learn more about Jesus.
- **Pray**: Dear God, thank you for Sustaining Hope Ministries and how they are giving new life to businesses in Uganda. Please help them find new ways to help business owners and refugees. Amen.

Jade and Shelah Acker

Jade and Shelah Acker are CBF field personnel in Uganda. There, they work to empower refugees and help them find employment.

STUDENT HANDOUT
APRIL 20, 2025

Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. Psalm 119:105 (CEV)

Learn About

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Make Paper Beads

Supplies needed: magazines, scissors, glue, bamboo skewers (with sharp ends cut off) or pencils, bracelet string, mod podge, sponge brush, toothpicks, cups

1. Make sure you cut off the sharp end of the bamboo skewers. You can also use chopsticks or pencils, but the smaller the stick you use, the tighter the bead will be.
2. Give each child a magazine. Encourage them to cut strips of magazine into long triangles. For the best-looking beads, choose magazine pages with vibrant colors and not a lot of small text.

   Note: Play with different sizes of triangles to get different sized beads. Larger triangles create larger beads, and smaller triangles create smaller beads.
3. Take one of your magazine strips and begin wrapping it around the stick, starting with the wider end. Wrap it near the end of the stick so that it will be easy to slide off when you're done. (For younger children, you may need to start the rolling process.)
4. Put a thin line of glue up the strip of magazine and begin rolling upwards. Make sure not to get glue on the stick or it will be very challenging to remove the bead.
5. Add more glue to the magazine piece and roll the rest of the way up, making sure the very top is sealed down. *Do not add a ton of glue, only enough for it to stick together.
6. Carefully slide the bead from the stick. You can leave the bead like this, or you can brush on a layer of Mod Podge. The Mod Podge gives it a glossy finish (goes on white, dries clear) and helps the beads last longer.
7. Make sure the beads don't stick to anything while drying or it can tear the magazine paper. Stick a toothpick through the bead and hang it over a cup to dry.
8. Once your beads are dry, put them onto the string in whatever order you wish. Tie a knot in the string at the desired length and enjoy your bracelet or necklace!

For pictures and more directions, go here: https://raisecuriouskids.com/how-to-make-paper-beads/