Pathlight

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

Mission Project: Create Moments of Encouragement

Supplies needed: Flat rocks for painting, acrylic paint pens/acrylic paint, acrylic gloss or Mod Podge for sealing, permanent markers, stencils (optional)

Week 1: Ask children to talk about things that make them smile. Encourage them to talk about things they see in nature that make them happy. Talk about how we can help encourage people and make them smile when they are walking around our town through kindness rocks. Watch this video www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMtkPsM0GUU to show children how to paint kindness rocks. Encourage children to choose their rocks and paint (or color) the whole rock. Set rocks aside to dry.

Week 2: Watch the video again (www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMtkPsM0GUU) to remind children what to do. Encourage children to add more color/designs to their rocks. Set aside rocks to dry.

Week 3: Using Sharpies or fine-tipped acrylic paint pens, encourage children to write words of kindness or Bible verses on their rocks.

Week 4: Walk around your church and its neighborhood (and your community if possible) to place your kindness rocks!

Preschool Stations

Station 1: Books/Puzzles

July 5: *Do puzzles that are nature-themed (flower, trees, animals, etc.).* | Talk about how God created the flowers, the trees, the animals and us.

July 12: *Do map puzzles.* | If needed, create your own by printing a map and cutting it out.

July 19: *Read books about light.* | Choose books from this list: https://bookroo.com/explore/books/topics/light) or use this read aloud version of Matthew Paul Turner's book *When God Made Light* (www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMlM-JAYQJLg.

July 26: *Read books about food insecurity.* | Choose a book like *Lulu and the Hunger Monster* by Erik Talkin, *Our Little Kitchen* by Jillian Tamaki, or *Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen* by DyAnn DiSalvo-Ryan to help children understand more about food insecurity and why places like Misión Peniel are needed.

Station 2: Art/Music

July 5: *Create thumb print pictures.* | Items needed: red or green stamp pads, crayons, cardstock, permanent marker, wipes. Decide if you wish to create ladybug pictures with children's thumbprints (red stamp pads) or flower pictures (green stamp pads). Place each child's thumb onto the stamp pad and then onto the paper. Talk about how God gave each of us unique fingerprints; no two of us are exactly alike! Encourage children to draw around their green thumbprints to make flowers, or to draw green grass, a blue sky and a yellow sun as a scene for their lady bugs. Add detail with the permanent markers as needed (dots for the lady bugs, outline the flower petals, etc.).

July 12: *Draw pictures of thankfulness.* | Items needed: construction paper, crayons. Talk to children about things and people they are glad they have. Encourage them to draw pictures of those things. Talk about how these things are blessings from God.

July 19: *Listen to and Sing Learning Songs.* | Items needed: TV with internet access, phonics song: www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKsIi1MH4lw&list=RDtKsIi1MH4lw&start_radio=1 (ABC Phonics Song with Sounds for Children, Rock and Learn) or www.youtube.com/watch?v=QvmZwQIsj3k&list=RDQvmZwQIsj3k&start_radio=1 (ABC Song, Learn the Alphabet, Letters, and Phonics, Mooseclumps) or www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptk68qC1woI&list=RDptk68qC1woI&start_radio=1 (Phonics Song, Gracie's Corner). Talk about how learning letters helps us learn to read.

July 26: *Listen to Music.* | Items needed: TV with internet access, worship music from Haiti: www.youtube.com/watch?v=j147qSezBmg&list=RDj147qSezBmg&start_radio=1 ; Talk about how farmworkers who come to Misión Peniel speak Kreyol, Spanish, English and even Mayan dialects. This worship music comes from Haiti, where they speak Kreyol.

Station 3: Play Pretend

July 5: *Pretend to be an explorer.* | Items needed: binoculars, encourage children to pretend to be explorers. Ask children where they want to explore (the jungle, the ocean, a forest, etc.). Talk about the things they may find there. Encourage children to explore the room and use their imaginations to "see." Talk about the things they found that God created.

July 12: *Pretend to travel around Europe.* | Items needed: tape; pictures of Germany (https://tinyurl.com/4hnyzbtf), Poland (https://tinyurl.com/mr2auw65), Romania (https://tinyurl.com/mttca3mm) and Ukraine (Kyiv: https://stock.adobe.com/search?k=%22kiev+ukraine%22). Tape pictures around the room or down the hallway, with each set of pictures being a country. Encourage children to look around and see the pictures. Talk about how Hailey and her family had to travel through Europe to find a safe place to live.

July 19: *Pretend to graduate.* | Items needed: Copy paper, crayons, ribbon, scissors, caps and gowns (optional). Talk to children about graduation and how it is a celebration of what they have done. (As they grow up, they will graduate from preschool, elementary school, high school and perhaps even college and more). Give each child a piece of paper and encourage them to create a diploma. (Talk about how you get a diploma when you graduate to show what you have done). Cut pieces of ribbon and tie each paper closed to create a diploma. Then, encourage children to walk across the "stage" to receive their diplomas.

July 26: *Play supermarket.* | Items needed: grocery bags, pretend food (or boxes of cereal, bags of rice, etc.), cash register. Encourage children to play supermarket, where they put food on the shelves, they "shop" for food, and they ring the food up at the cash register.

Station 4: Games

July 5: *Follow a path.* | Items needed: things to create a path (pieces of construction paper, frisbees or something else you would like to use). Create a path that winds through your classroom. Encourage children to follow the path by walking in different ways. First, have them just walk the path. Next, encourage them to hop down the path, skip down the path, run down the path, etc.

July 12: *Play hopscotch.* | Items needed: chalk or masking tape. Create a hopscotch board outside using chalk or inside using masking tape. (Go here to see a picture: www.playworks.org/game-library/hopscotch.) Encourage children to play by taking turns.

July 19: *Play with light.* | Items needed: flashlights (or battery-powered candles). Hide the flashlight (or battery-powered candle) while turned on and encourage children to find it. Turn the lights off for a moment so they can see where it is shining. Hide the flashlight/candle several times (or allow the children to) and see how long it takes to find it. Talk about how it is easier to see the light glowing when it is dark.

July 26: *Find the produce.* | Items needed: play fruits and vegetables. Hide the fruits and vegetables around your room. Encourage children to search for them. After they have found them, talk about how Misión Peniel gathers fruits and vegetables that people grow to give to those in need.