

Explore the adventure-filled book of Jonah...and show your children the Savior

# SUMMER SEAQUEST



**Simplified  
3-Day Option**

Curriculum for your VBS, Summer Camp or other Children's Ministry Adventure

Day	<p><b>Gathering:</b> Gather children in a central location to put them in their designated groups. 20-30 minutes</p>	<p><b>Probing the Depths Bible Lessons</b> See Bible Lesson Curriculum 20-30 minutes</p>	<p><b>Salvation Sea Crossing &amp; Memory Work</b> 20-30 minutes – Need to find Memory Verse games to learn the verses at this station</p>	<p><b>Recreation</b> (20 minutes) See Recreation Packet</p>	<p><b>Crafts</b> (20 minutes) See Craft Curriculum</p>	<p><b>Snacks</b> (20 minutes) See Director Guide</p>
1 <sup>st</sup> Event	<p>Songs: Almighty Creator Glory On Display God of Wonders</p> <p>Skit: This will need to be modified into a three day format.</p>	<p><b>Am I Jehovah's or Am I Jeering</b> Jonah 1:1-16</p> <p><b>Storyteller:</b> Peter the Pearl Diver</p> <p><b>Key Concept:</b> There are two kinds of people in the world – those who belong to God and those who do not (those who are His children through faith in Jesus Christ and those who are not).</p>	<p><b>Salvation Sea Crossing Buoy 1 &amp; 2</b></p> <p><b>4's and Entering K</b> For the wages of sin is death... Romans 6:23a</p> <p><b>Entering 1<sup>st</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup></b> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23</p>	<p>The Recreation Packet has some great ideas for games.</p>	<p>Sea Explorer Hats Sailor Hat Oriental Trading •48 hats in bulk •Simple Sea Stencils Amazon •Sea Shaped Stencils – more detailed •Sea Shaped Sponges Decide which to use and order either fabric and/or fabric paint markers (permanent markers would work as well) If the oldest kids attending would not appreciate the sailor hat – use a visor for them to decorate.</p>	<p>Really fun Sea themed ideas in the guide OR go simple and do basic snacks that kids will love and eat!</p>

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Event</b>	<p>Songs: Almighty Creator Glory on Display God of Wonders Only Elohim</p> <p>Skit: This will need to be modified into a three-day format.</p>	<p><b>Am I Headed to My Tarshish or My Nineveh?</b> Jonah 1:17-2:10</p> <p><b>Storyteller:</b> Washed-Up Jonah</p> <p><b>Key Concept:</b> At all times, each one of us is either obeying God, living in accordance with His will, or rebelling against Him. Those who belong to God are called to live lives of loving obedience, listening to God, and following His guidance.</p>	<p><b>Salvation Sea Crossing Buoy 3 &amp; 4</b></p> <p><b>4's and Entering K</b> For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son... John 3:16 a</p> <p><b>Entering 1<sup>st</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup></b> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16</p>	<p>Look through them and choose what will work in your context and space.</p>	<p>Sailboat Oriental Trading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Sailboat Paper Plate Craft (makes 12)</li> <li>•Sailboat Craft Kit (this one would float &amp; makes 12) Sailboat</li> <li>•DIY Wood Sailboat Kits</li> <li>•DIY Steam Boat Kit Guildcraft</li> <li>•Paddled Power Boats</li> </ul> <p>Less Expensive Option for Everyone is the Sailboat Paper Plate Craft – using Oriental Trading as a sample but doing it yourself. Replace fish with a whale!</p>	
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<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Event</b>	Songs: Almighty Creator Glory on Display God of Wonders Only Elohim  Skit: This will need to modify into a three day format.	<p><b>Have I Been Turned Around By God?</b> Jonah 3</p> <p><b>Storyteller:</b> Nazireh the Newly Repentant Ninevite</p> <p><b>Key Concept:</b> Each one of us needs to be turned around by God (brought to repentance) for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ's shed blood for our sins. Once saved as Christians who still sin, we need to be continually turned around by God, as Jonah was, to live lives that bring Him glory.</p>	<p><b>Salvation Sea Crossing Buoy 5 &amp; 6</b></p> <p><b>4's and Entering K</b> (Jesus speaking) "whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life." John 5:24a</p> <p><b>Entering 1st- 6th</b> (Jesus speaking) "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment but has passed from death to life." John 5:24</p>	Think Sea, Ocean, Pirates, Sealife Themed Games!	<p>Picture Frame Oriental Trading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Foam Bright Picture Frame</li> <li>•Sea Foam Shapes Self Adhesive (many types to choose)</li> </ul> <p>Take picture of students with SeaQuest banner on Monday to put in frame this day.</p> <p>Amazon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Colorful paper picture frames</li> <li>•Sea Stickers (many types to choose)</li> </ul> <p>Less Expensive Option: Foam Picture Frame with Verse from SeaQuest Craft book rather than picture of child. Use foamies to decorate.</p>	
	<b>Closing:</b> Go to the gathering area for dismissal					

## Sample Schedule with 5 – 30-minute rotations plus Opening and Closing.

When I use this schedule, I do 15 minutes for snacks and 15 minutes for music and try to put the areas close to each other.

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5
<b>8:45-9:15</b>	Gathering	Gathering	Gathering	Gathering	Gathering
<b>9:15-9:45</b>	Bible Lesson	Snacks & Music	Crafts	Recreation	Salvation Sea Crossing
<b>9:45-10:15</b>	Salvation Sea Crossing	Bible Lesson	Snacks & Music	Crafts	Recreation
<b>10:15-10:45</b>	Recreation	Salvation Sea Crossing	Bible Lesson	Snacks & Music	Crafts
<b>10:45-11:15</b>	Crafts	Recreation	Salvation Sea Crossing	Bible Lesson	Snacks & Music
<b>11:15-11:45</b>	Snacks & Music	Crafts	Recreation	Salvation Sea Crossing	Bible Lesson
<b>11:45-12:00</b>	Closing	And	Dismissal		

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## 1. Decide how to do the intake/gathering of children.

Prepare registration ahead of time so that as each child (sea explorer) comes they know where to go to sit with their team (squadron). One way of doing this is

As families enter on first day have three designated areas for check-in:

1. Welcome packet has all the family names on the outside with their Squadron number.
2. Get their check-in badges (or nametags)
3. Get a t-shirt if you are using/providing them.

Finally, they enter the Worship Area where music is already being sung and parent takes each child where they see a Squadron number on a sign. Their guide ( Sea Commander) for the week greets the child and checks them in on their attendance sheet.

**2. Decide if you will sing/do skit during the gathering of the children.** If so, allow drop off 15 minutes before Music/Skit time starts.

## 3. Decide on your stations.

Suggested:

Bible Lesson – 1<sup>st</sup> teaching time

Bible Memory/Gospel Presentation/Bible Games – 2<sup>nd</sup> teaching time

Crafts

Snack (I often combine this with Crafts, Music or Recreation and make it a 15 minute/25-minute rotation. Especially if I add the music rotation!)

Recreation

## Music

If you average 10-12 children in each age group, using the schedule above would allow you to have 50-60 kids in your VBS. Because I have the space to do so, I average 15 preschoolers/20 elementary per group. If you want to add more children, you simply create another schedule. I create three schedules - one for preschool, one for younger elementary, one for older elementary this allows me to grow the VBS numerically if needed.

**Bible Lesson – 1<sup>st</sup> teaching time** – Use the SeaQuest Probing the Depths Bible Lessons on Jonah! Find your best dramatic teacher(s) for this. You will need one teacher per schedule/rotation you create. And this is the best part of VBS Reachout Adventures – the content of the lessons. The kids will love the teachers dressed up for this! Peter the Pearl Diver, Washed Up Jonah, and Nazireh the Newly-Repentant Ninevite. You will need costumes for each teacher.

### **Suggested costume ideas:**

Peter the Pearl Diver – tight fitting jumpsuit or jogging suit, diver cap helmet, nose clip, heavy weight stone on a rope, basket around neck, pearls or oyster shell, diving gloves with fingers cut out.

Washed up Jonah – Old Testament attire: tunic, sash, head dress, beard, sandals. For washed up look mist/spray hair and costume. Add fishing net and seaweed to outside of costume

Nazireh the Ninevite – Old Testament attire with heavy make-up, elaborate jewelry; outlandish hairstyle; dagger/sword inserted into sash; black headband and armband, burlap sack cut open to drape over shoulders ashes for top of head.

**Salvation Sea Crossing – Memory Verse – 2<sup>nd</sup> teaching time.** This is where I modify the curriculum a bit. Our second teaching time is the Salvation Sea Crossing (rather than using it as part of opening/closing). The teacher will spend 20 minutes on the Gospel presentation each day and 10 minutes doing a fun interactive game that helps teach the Bible verse. This is just a modified suggestion that works for us.

**Crafts** – You can choose any type of craft you would like. I just picked what I thought the kids would enjoy most. The cap, boat and picture frame are suggested in the curriculum, and I found most of what would be needed to do them on Oriental Trading and other sources.

**Recreation** – The games in the curriculum match the theme well!

**Snacks/Music** – You can use themed snacks or just food you know they will eat. We do snack for 15 minutes followed by 15 music to help them learn the VBS songs and motions.

## 4. Decorations Ideas

**Note:** I keep decorations simple.... I don't tend to decorate in the craft or music rooms or the hallways. I put the most effort into the main stage area. Then we use a lot of paper type decorations for the two teaching rooms.

### **The Main Stage –**

Banner or digital image of the ocean with waves and sailing ship. Create ship for skit either with wood or as a realistic digital image on foam core to stand on the stage, lighthouse in the background, fishing nets, seaweed, ship's wheel, etc. Hang seagulls from ceiling

### **The Bible Lesson Room –**

Under the Sea backdrops/bulletin board paper/plastic tablecloth around the walls. Sea garland or sea creatures hanging from ceiling. Decals could also be used. Christmas blue lights can be hung. Could make coral and seashells with digital images and foamcore. Create the idea of being inside the ocean. Lots of ideas on oriental trading, amazon, Pinterest.

### **The Gospel Presentation Room –**

Nautical theme with Lighthouse. Looking for a lighthouse cardboard cutout as the main part of the room. Decorate walls with nautical images. Hang paper lanterns from ceiling.

**5. Simplified Take Home books** –Take-home books have large sticker pages that the kids will fill each day as they complete each station. Divide the stickers into what they will receive each day so that they will have a full sticker page at the end of the 3rd day. The take-home books will also give the parents some idea of what the children have studied, and a gospel presentation is included.

Order the 2's and 3's booklet for simple coloring pages and activities for younger children. You can take out the sticker pages for each child attending and use, send home, or save the activity pages for future use.

**7. Dismissal** – Everyone arrives back to the Worship Center/Sanctuary area with their Squadrons. Another song or two. We use dismissal to discuss and promote a missions project. We have parents come into the Worship Center a few at a time, show their pickup badge to the adults and take their children.