

# WILD WEST WIND CHIMES

DAY 1

## Supplies:

Each child will need:

- clean, empty tin can
- 2 metal jar lids (smaller than the opening of the tin can)
- about 12 inches of jute twine

## You'll also need:

- hammers
- nails
- stacks of newspaper
- permanent marker (for writing names on the crafts)



## Preparation

Before kids arrive, make a sample wind chime. Hammer around the inside of the tin cans to smooth any rough edges. (Some newer can openers don't leave a sharp edge.)

When kids arrive, hold up your wind chime and say: **Today we're making wind chimes that make noise when the wind blows. Even though you can't see the wind, you can hear the chime. That reminds me of our Bible Point, God is real.** ("Wah-hoo!") **Even though we can't see God, we see the things he has done and the things he has made.**

## Craft Creation

1. Write your name on the tin can. Then turn the can so the open end is down, and use the hammer and nail to make a hole in the bottom.
2. Set the jar lids on a stack of newspapers, and use

the hammer and nail to make a hole in the center of each one. Hammer down any sharp edges.

3. Slip one jar lid on the length of twine. Wrap the twine from the hole in the middle of the lid and around the edge of the lid. Then tie a knot. (This lid will hang vertically.)

4. Tie another knot a couple of inches above the lid, and then slip the second lid on the twine—this lid will hang horizontally. Tie a knot above the second lid (the can will rest on this knot).

5. Thread the twine through the hole in the can, and make a loop to hang your wind chime. One of the jar lids will catch the wind, and the other will clang against the side of the can.

Say: **When you hear your wind chime clanging on a breezy day, you can remember that God is real** ("Wah-hoo!"), **even though we can't always see him.**

# BUCKAROO BANDANNAS

DAY 2

## Supplies:

Each child will need:

- 1 large bandanna\*\*
- about 50 pony beads
- scissors

## You'll also need:

- ink pad\*\* (optional)
- Bible Memory Buddy Stampers\*
- fine point permanent markers (like Sharpies)



## Preparation

Before kids arrive, make a sample bandanna to wear.

When children arrive, say: **In today's Bible story, the Israelites gathered stones and built something to remember all that God had done for them. Show the beads on your bandanna. These little beads remind me of things God has done for me. Point to different beads, and share some of the things God has done for you. When I wear this bandanna, I remember that God is with us. ("Wah-hoo!")**

## Craft Creation

1. Lay the bandanna in front of you, and write your name on it.
2. Cut fringe around two edges of the bandanna. (If time allows, you can cut fringe all the way around the bandanna.) Each strip of fringe should be approximately ½ inch wide and 2 inches long.

3. Slip one or two pony beads on each piece of fringe. Each time you add a bead, share something God has done for you.

4. Tie a knot below each bead to hold it in place. If time allows, use Bible Memory Buddy Stampers to decorate your bandanna.

Say: **God is with us. ("Wah-hoo!") These beads remind us of all the wonderful, amazing things God has done for us. Since God is always with you, you can thank him when you wear your Buckaroo Bandanna!**

\*available from Group Publishing

\*\*available at [www.groupoutlet.com](http://www.groupoutlet.com)

# WOOD CLAY CRITTERS

DAY 3

## Supplies:

Each child will need:

- 1 cup sawdust
- ½ cup flour
- water
- 1 square of wax paper

## You'll also need:

- bowls
- paper cups
- wet wipes
- permanent markers (to write names on wax paper)



## Preparation

A few days before this craft, make a couple of critters of your own, such as a cow, a horse, or a dog. Check lumber mills or hardware stores to see if you can get bags of clean sawdust. (Many will give it to you for free!)

When kids arrive, ask:

• **Would you believe that I can squish a piece of wood?**

Show kids your critters, and explain that you squished wood to make them. Say: **Today we're learning that God is strong. I had to use clay made from sawdust, but God is strong enough to really bend wood. Let's make some fun critters to remember how our strong God created each of us.**

## Craft Creation

1. Write your name on a sheet of wax paper.

2. Mix 1 cup of sawdust with ½ cup of flour, and then use a cup to add water until the mixture is the consistency of cookie dough. (If it's crumbly, add more water.)

3. Shape the mixture into an animal or person.

4. Set the critter on the wax paper to dry for a few days. When the figure has dried, you can sand it or paint it, as if it were carved from wood!

Say: **We weren't really strong enough to squish or sculpt wood. But God is strong. ("Wah-hoo!") Keep your critter in a spot where it can remind you of our powerful God.**

**Trail Tip**

The sawdust clay takes several days to dry, so plan to give kids their finished crafts at the end of Day 5.

# SKYE CATCHERS

DAY 4

## Supplies:

Each child will need:

- one 16-ounce water bottle, empty, clean, and dry
- 2 feet of lightweight string
- 1 pingpong ball
- 1 brown or white feather (optional)
- 2 small wiggly eyes per child (optional)

## You'll also need:

- brown, orange, and yellow markers
- bright colors of electrical tape
- X-Acto knife (optional)
- tape
- Glue Dots\*\* (optional)
- scissors

## Preparation

Before kids arrive, cut the bottom off each water bottle. You may want to use an X-Acto knife to puncture the bottles so that scissors can easily slide into the opening and cut away the bottom.

Make one sample Skye Catcher to show children.

When kids arrive, show them your Skye Catcher, and demonstrate how to swing the ball into the air and catch it with the decorated bottle. This isn't as easy as it seems, so be sure to practice a bit ahead of time—or just admit to the kids that they might be better at this than you are!

Say: **Skye the eagle soars high in the air and reminds us that God is awesome.** ("Wah-hoo!")  
**We each can make our own Skye Catcher to remind us of Skye, flying high up in the clouds. Let's get started!**

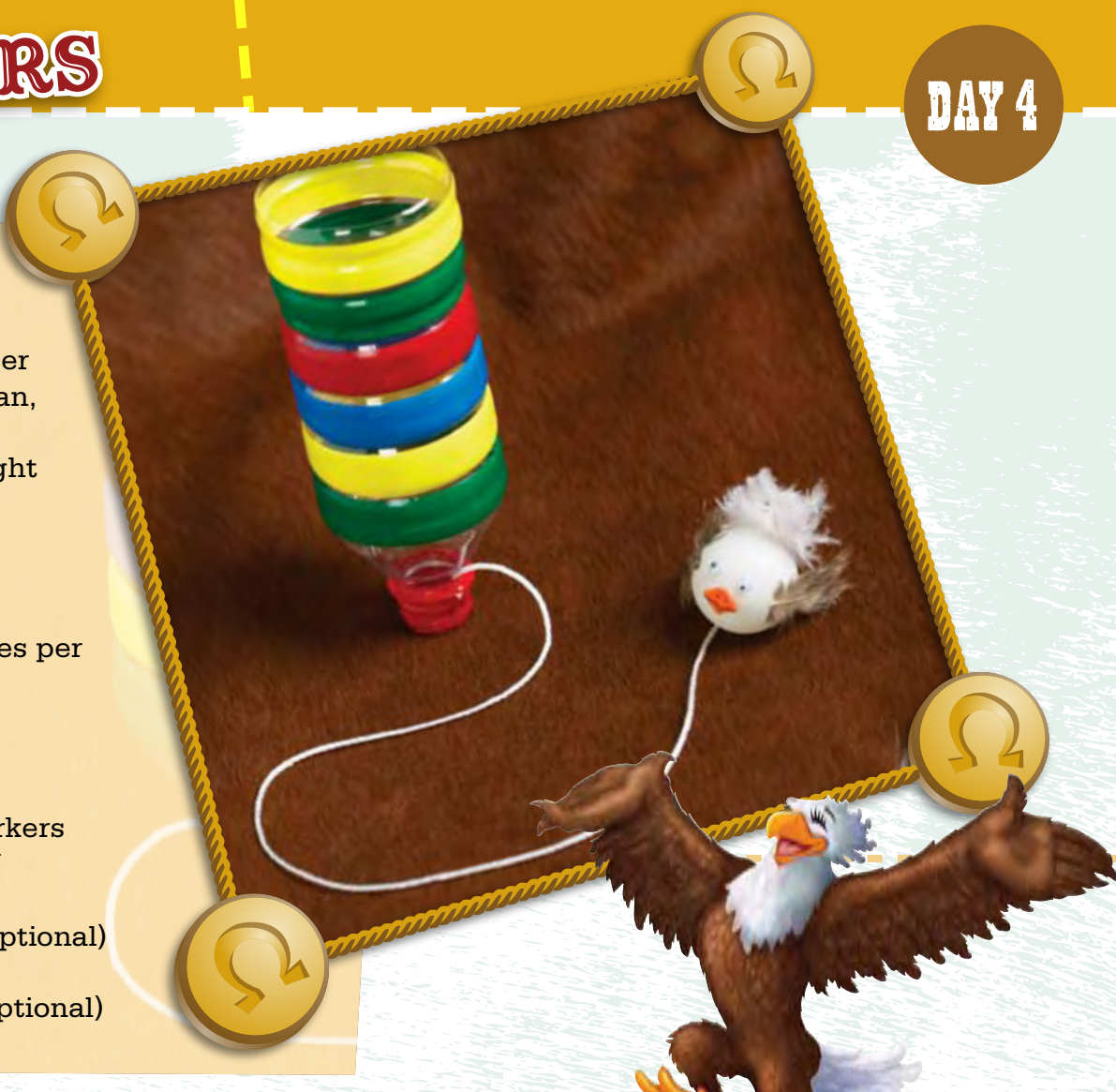
## Craft Creation

1. Demonstrate how to cut short strips of electrical tape and place these on the bottles. Kids can work in pairs to cut the tape, as younger ones might need help with this sticky step. Encourage children to keep their strips of tape about as long as their index fingers so the lengths are easier to manage. It's fun and easy to make bright designs with many colors of tape!

2. Show children how to tie one end of the string to the neck of the water bottle. If little fingers find this a challenge, encourage older children to help younger ones, or add a bit of electrical tape to help secure the string.

3. Let children use brown, orange, and yellow markers to make their pingpong balls look like Skye. If you've provided wiggly eyes and feathers, let them use Glue Dots to secure these to the pingpong balls to make them look even more like Skye.

4. Demonstrate how to use tape to secure the



# SKYE CATCHERS

DAY 4

end of the string to the pingpong ball. Then set kids free to play this ball-catching game themselves!

When each child has finished creating this toy, use your Wrangler Ringer to get everyone's attention. Say: **How fun to play with these Skye Catchers! Every time you catch your eagle, you can remember Skye flying high into the clouds. What an awesome sight! And even more awesome than an eagle...is God! God is awesome! ("Wah-hoo!") Every time you play with this fun toy, you can remember how awesome God is, and tell your friends who you share this toy with as well!**

\*\*available at [www.groupoutlet.com](http://www.groupoutlet.com)



# BOSS' HORN HOOK GAME

DAY 5

## Supplies:

Each child will need:

- 1 sheet of lightweight brown or tan card stock or poster board
- 3 white or tan chenille wires
- 12 small wiggly eyes
- 1 envelope or self-sealing plastic bag

## You'll also need:

- markers
- photocopies of Boss template
- tape
- Glue Dots\*\*
- scissors



## Preparation

Before kids arrive, make photocopies of the Boss template. You'll need one template for each crew.

Make one sample game to show to children.

When kids arrive, invite one or two children to help you demonstrate this game.

Children hold one of the Boss figures and try to pick up a second one using only the horns. Then they try to pick up another figure, and so on, until they can't pick up any new figures without dropping one. It's quite a challenge to get your chain of Boss figures longer than four pieces!

Say: **Boss reminds us who the real "boss" is in our lives—God! When we see Boss, we remember that God is in charge. ("Wah-hoo!") You'll each make**



It will be easier for children to trace the templates if you photocopy them onto heavy paper or card stock.

**your own game to play, and you can play with a partner and see just how long your chain of Bosses can be!**

## Craft Creation

1. Have crew leaders follow the dotted lines and cut apart the Boss figures on the template and give one to each child in the crew. Crew leaders do not need to cut out the details; children can do that themselves.

2. Demonstrate how to cut out the Boss figure and trace it on a piece of card stock or poster board. Each child should trace six figures and then cut these out.

3. Show children how to use Glue Dots to glue



You can reuse the templates created during the first rotation for following rotations. Just have children leave them behind for the next group to use. Do have extras on hand for those that get damaged by being used repeatedly.

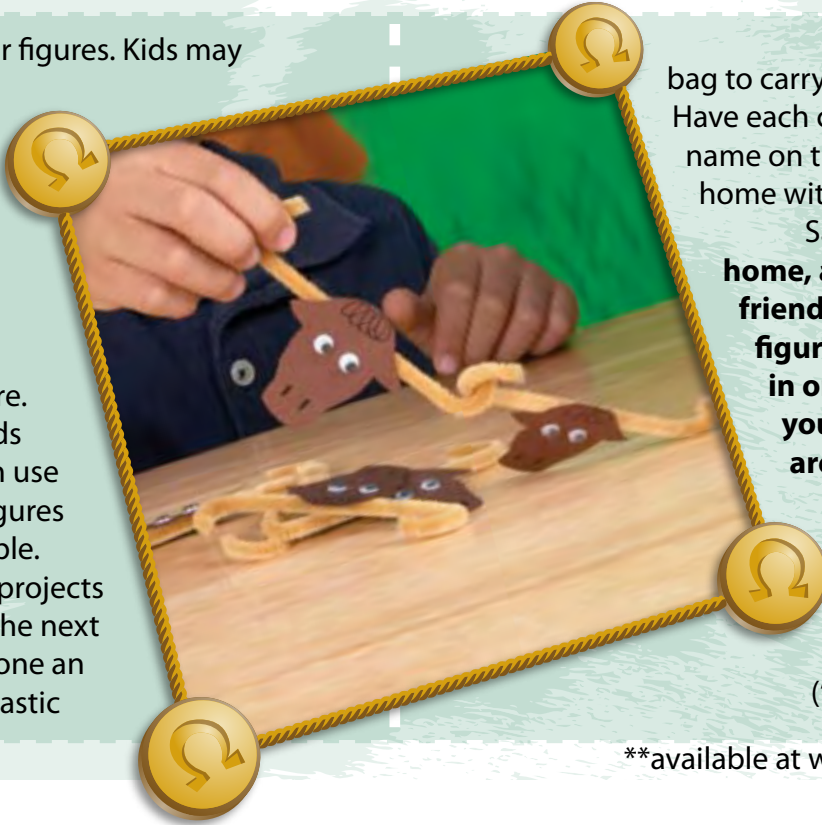
# BOSS' HORN HOOK GAME

DAY 5

two eyes onto each of their figures. Kids may use markers to further decorate their figures to look like Boss or his friends.

4. Demonstrate how to cut each chenille wire in half and then use tape to secure one section to the back of each Boss figure. Children can curve the ends to look like horns and then use the horns to hook other figures placed on the floor or a table.

As children finish their projects and before they leave for the next area, be sure to give each one an envelope or self-closing plastic



bag to carry the game pieces in. Have each child write his or her name on this so everyone goes home with the correct game.

Say: **Take this game home, and play it with a friend. See how many Boss figures you can pick up in one turn! And while you and your friend are playing this game, be sure to tell your friend about Boss and how he reminds us that God is in charge!** ("Wah-hoo!")

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