



The Teacher's Aid



*"Teacher-Friendly" Ideas and Helps for Your Children's Ministry.
A training resource of BCM International (Canada) Inc.*

Fall
2015

PRE-SCHOOL POINTERS



WHOOO...?

for review and attendance

Try this "easy-to-make and use" visual as a great motivator in your class.

Supplies:

- * 1 sheet black poster board
- * 1 sheet of brown poster board
- * 1 sheet yellow construction paper
- * owl pattern (See pattern page)
- * tan or assorted colors construction paper or cardstock
- * white chalk or crayon



Preparation:

Draw a freehand tree branch from brown poster board the length of the black poster or enlarge and trace one from the pattern page. Paste it in the middle of black poster board (Use picture as guide as well as for placement of owls.). **Option:** Attach a real branch to poster.

Trace owl pattern onto tan and/or varied colored construction paper, making the number of owls you will need. **Option:** Owls can be printed/copied directly onto construction paper or cardstock. Cut out owls and make facial markings with fine black marker. Trace and cut out moon pattern and glue it to top right corner of poster board as shown. Use white chalk or crayon to print title "Whooo...?" onto poster board. **Option:** The title letters can be cut out of white paper and pasted on.

Procedure:

Review Idea: Prepare review questions from lesson ("Who Am I?" questions are most appropriate if they work for you.) As a child correctly answers a question, they can attach an owl on the branch using masking tape roll or Plasti-Tac. Be sure each child gets a turn.



Attendance Chart: Prepare an owl for each child and write their name on it. As each child arrives at class, they can add their owl to the branch.

Helper Chart: Place children's owls on the branch. As helpers are needed, choose children in the order their owl is sitting on branch. Remove from branch as help is given.



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A Thanksgiving Finger Play

God's Gifts

God gave me ears to hear,
Thank You, God!!
God gave me eyes to see,
Thank You, God!
God gave me a nose to smell,
Thank You, God!
God gave me a mouth to talk,
Thank You, God!



God gave me fingers that wiggle,
wiggle, or fold up like this,
Thank You, God!
God gave me legs that can stand up
straight or bend way down,
Thank You, God!
God gave me feet that can walk, jump,
and hop,
I don't look like you, and you don't
look like me,
But God made each of us just right.
Thank You, God, for all these good
gifts to me.

Finger Play Procedure:

Use this finger play to teach your children to be thankful for the way God made them. Don't attempt to teach the words, but instruct children to follow you in doing the motions as you recite the words.

As you say the words, point to the part of the body named and do what the words suggest. Add other motions to accompany the words as needed.



The Thankfulness Game

Supplies:

- * Pictures of things to be thankful for—family, home, food, church, teacher, pet, etc....
- * Sponge Ball, bean bag or Nerf® ball
(See instructions to make sponge ball on pattern page.)

Procedure:

Direct the children to form a semi-circle by sitting on the floor or on their chairs. On the floor inside the semi-circle, scatter the pictures leaving space for the children to walk among them. Pictures should be large enough for the children to see from their seats. Explain that you will throw the ball to them, one child at a time. When the child catches the ball, he is to place the ball on any one of the pictures and say, "Thank You, God for (the item in the picture)." Then he is to toss the ball back to you. After everyone has had a turn, ask the children to share any other things for which they are thankful. Take time to say "Thank You" to God for them as each item is mentioned by the children.



Helping Hands



This ideal is a great tool to choose **weekly helpers** in a fair and fun manner.

Supplies:

- * Poster board or card stock—a variety of colours
- * Hand pattern (Use your own.)
- * Felt tip marker
- * Large metal notebook ring
- * Hole punch

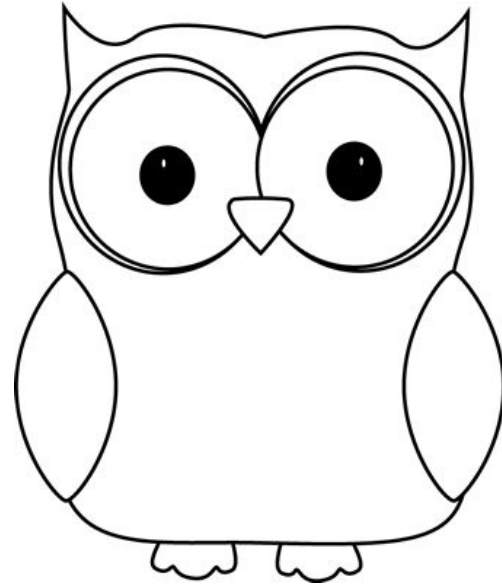
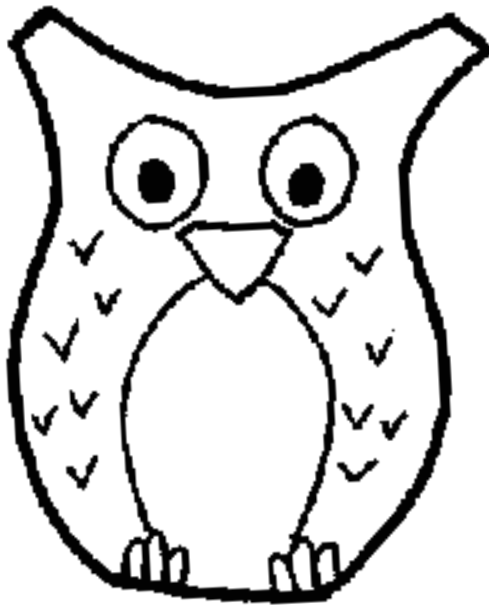
Preparation:

Trace one hand per child on poster board/cardstock. Write each child's name on a hand. Prepare some extra hands for visitors. Cut out hands and punch a hole in the same position on each hand. Place all hands on ring interspersing the visitor hands throughout.

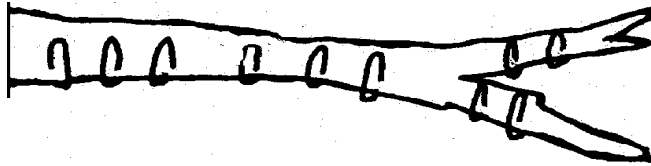
Option: Have each child trace their own hand on choice of colored paper. Cut and label as above.

Procedure:

As helpers are needed in class, flip the hands on the ring and use the next name. After help is given, be sure to flip over that hand to a new hand/name .



WHO Game patterns



Sponge Ball—make your own!

Collect colored sponges (no scratch pads on one side) The multi-coloured ones from the \$1.00 store work well. For each ball use 3-4 sponges, cutting strips lengthwise in sponges, 4-5 strips to a sponge (or 3 rows of strips stacked 6 strips high for a real fat ball), using sharp scissors (fabric ones work well.). Use strong string (even dental floss) and gather strips in middle and tie tightly to cinch the center of the strips together. The tighter the cinch the fluffier the ball. Cut off any uneven ends. One nice feature of the sponge ball is it can be washed after many uses.

