

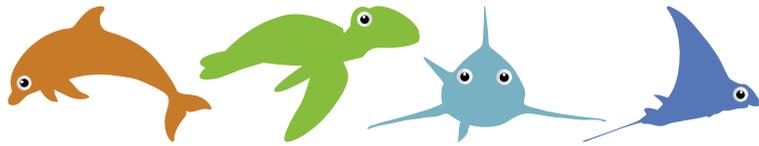


# Junior Church

**LESSON PLANS: 04-07-21**

VISIT [HARVESTCITY.ORG/JC](https://harvestcity.org/jc) FOR VIDEOS, LINKS AND RESOURCES

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# Family Fun

(All Ages)

## Splash! game

**Activity time:** 10–15 minutes

**Aim:** to discover that, even when God's friends do something wrong, God loves and wants to forgive them

**You will need:** copies of the Splash! sheet from page 124, dice, counters

1. Explain the rules: The first person to reach the 'You are forgiven!' square is the winner.
2. When everyone has finished, point out that the path starts with a seemingly small sin, which brings lots more trouble. Ask how this relates to the story of David. (His first look led to having Uriah killed.)
3. Remind the children that, however much trouble they got into at the beginning of the game, once they said 'sorry' they were forgiven by God because he loves them.

**START**

You see something you want

You decide you **MUST** have it  
(go back 1)

You steal it  
(go back 1)

You hide it  
(go back 2)

God loves you!  
(go on 5)

You realise you have done wrong and say, **'SORRY'**.

(stay here until your next turn)

You pretend you haven't seen it  
(go back 1)

God loves you!  
(go on 4)

You blame someone else  
(go back 5)

God loves you!  
(go on 3)

You take it home  
(go back 1)

God loves you!  
(go on 2)

You accuse someone else  
(go back 2)

You say you didn't take it  
(go back 4)

God loves you!  
(go on 1)

Remember, even when God's friends do something wrong, God loves them and wants to forgive them.

**FINISH**  
You are forgiven!

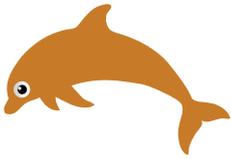


**HOW TO PLAY:**

You need a dice and counters to play this game.

Place your counter on the 'start'. Take turns to throw the dice and move the number of spaces shown.

When you reach the 'sorry' circle you **MUST** stop. Stay there and do not move past it until your next turn.



# Dolphins

(Age 3, F1 & F2)

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## Action rhyme

**Activity time:** 5–10 minutes

**Aim:** to discover that we can say sorry and God will forgive us

**You will need:** n/a

1. Give the children some tangible examples of when we may need to say sorry. This rhyme lists several but you could add more (or the children may suggest extras). All join in with the 'Say sorry' line:

*If you have a big fight, Say sorry.  
If you do wrong, not right, Say sorry.  
When you say something bad,  
and it makes someone sad,  
God says, 'Please put it right. Say sorry'.*

2. This rhyme may prompt children to think or talk about times when they have, for example, been fighting. If so, let them say briefly what they have done wrong; then suggest they say sorry to God now. Assure them that God forgives them.



# Turtles Sharks

(Year 1 & 2)

(Year 3 & 4)

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## Faces prayers

**Activity time:** 10 minutes

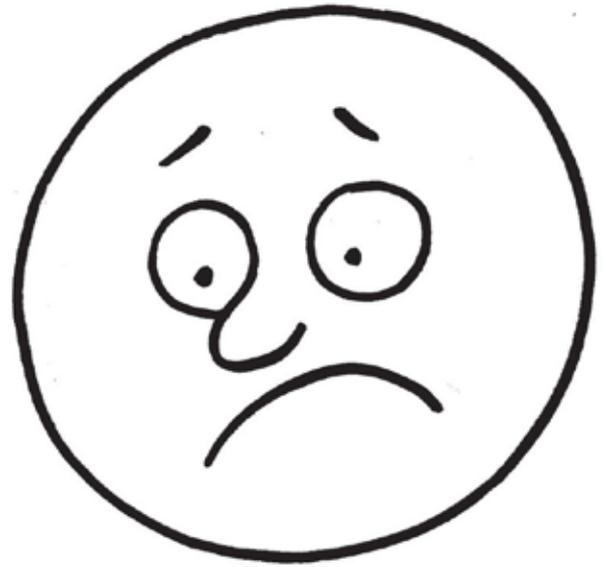
**Aim:** to talk to God about our friends

**You will need:** faces from page 125

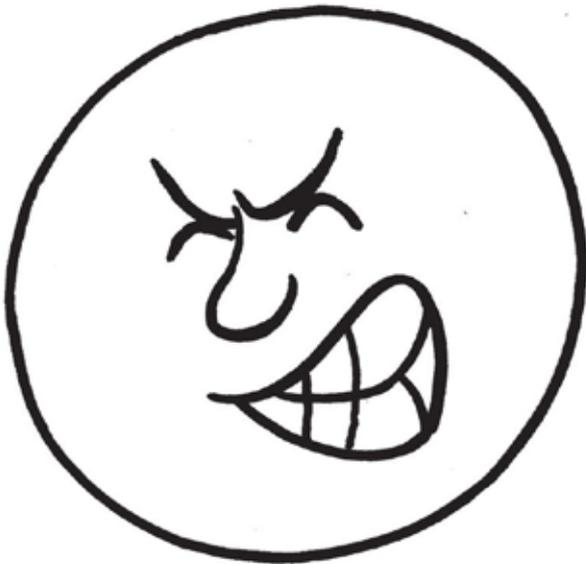
1. Display or draw the faces one at a time and ask the children for examples of times their friends make them happy, sad or angry.
2. Explain that, just as we feel these things with our friends, so God feels them with us. Ask: 'What might we do that makes God happy, sad or angry?'
3. Show the 'sorry' face and remind the children that saying 'sorry' is an important part of friendship.
4. Give everyone two or three sticky notes and encourage them to draw or write prayers about their friends – perhaps saying 'thank you' for a happy time or asking for help to say 'sorry'. They might also write a 'sorry' prayer to God. Encourage the children to stick their prayers around the relevant faces.



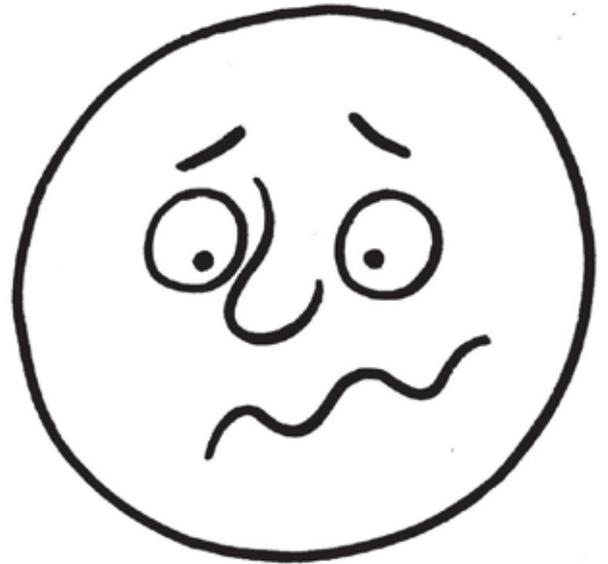
**Happy**



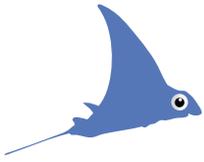
**Sad**



**Angry**



**Sorry**



# Stingrays

(Year 5 & 6)

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## Psalm psinging!

**Activity time:** 10–15 minutes

**Aim:** to thank God for his mercy and forgiveness

**You will need:** copies of the Xstream sheet from page 127, paints (optional)

1. Encourage everyone to read the excerpts from David's psalms on the Xstream sheet from page 127. Talk about how David used his songs to express how he was feeling, and what he knew about God. Talk with the children about things that they might express in a psalm, poem or song.
2. With the children in small groups, challenge them to write their own psalms, which they can sing to the tunes of popular songs. If you have children who struggle with words, ask them to create a visual psalm with paint.
3. Invite the children to share their creations with each other!

**XSTREAM**

# Psalm psinging!

"You, Lord, are my shepherd. I will never be in need. You let me rest in fields of green grass. You lead me to streams of peaceful water."

**Psalms 23:1,2**

"Be true to your name, Lord, by forgiving each one of my terrible sins. You will show the right path to all who worship you."

**Psalms 25:11,12**

"The voice of the Lord makes lightning flash."

**Psalms 29:7**

"How great is God's love for all who worship him? Greater than the distance between heaven and earth!"

**Psalms 103:11**

Make up your own psalm, poem or song to tell God what you think and feel about him.