

# Missions

**Memory Seed:** Acts 1:8: *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses ...* (Short version is in bold.)

**The Big Apple:** Jesus gave the disciples the power of the Holy Spirit so they could be witnesses for Him. We have the Holy Spirit so we can be witnesses too!

## SOW THE SEEDS

**Read:** Acts 1:1-9; 2:1-11

**Memorize:** Acts 1:8

You are a witness! All those Cubbies you see at club each week have been entrusted to your care. God has given you the privilege of being His hands and feet and voice to these precious little ones. As a Christian, you have the power of the Holy Spirit to be a witness to your Cubbies. Do you grasp the importance of this? You're not responsible for their salvation, but you are responsible for sharing with them the gospel message and living your life so that they see Jesus in you.

Even young Cubbies can share the gospel with others. This lesson begins encouraging them in that direction. Cubbies will also hear about the extraordinary events recorded in the first two chapters of the book of Acts. Think about it — Jesus disappearing behind a cloud in the sky ... wind coming down from heaven ... tongues of fire landing on people's heads. These are the times to emphasize to your Cubbies that everything in the Bible REALLY happened. The Bible is not like one of the storybooks on their shelves at home, with imaginary princesses, superheroes or talking animals (although the Bible does contain a talking animal!). The Bible is the only book we can trust as entirely true, because it was written by God Himself (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

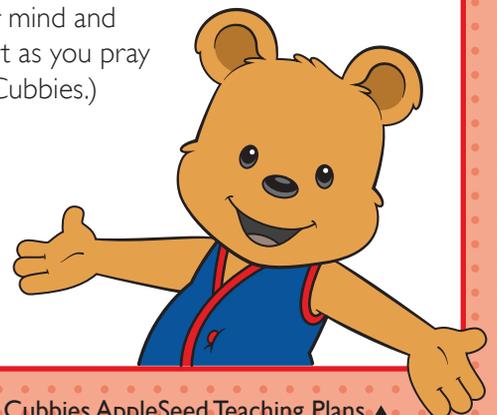
As you prepare for this week's lesson, pray fervently for your Cubbies. The Holy Spirit has given you a place of influence as a witness in their lives. Don't take that for granted; but don't be afraid either! What a privilege to show the love of God to these precious children.

## SEE THEM SPROUT!

Pray that the Holy Spirit would work through this lesson so Cubbies:

1. Believe that the amazing events in Acts 1 and 2 truly happened.
2. Know that the disciples' job was to be witnesses who tell people what they had seen and heard from Jesus.
3. Start to depend on the Holy Spirit, who gives us power to be witnesses (those who tell others about Jesus Christ).
4. Thank God that everyone who trusts Jesus as Savior has the gift of the Holy Spirit.
5. *Optional:* Meet or hear about the work of a missionary their church supports and learn that a missionary is someone God sends to be a witness to a certain place or people group.
6. \_\_\_\_\_

(Add a goal the Holy Spirit brings to your mind and heart as you pray for Cubbies.)



## Special Day 4: Missions

### COMING IN

(10-15 minutes before club officially starts)

#### IDEA 1: Gospel Book

##### What You Need

- Construction paper
- Stapler
- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Set of gospel pictures for each child (resource CD)
- Pairs of child-sized scissors

Children are often braver about sharing their faith than adults. This is a craft that will help Cubbies witness to their family and friends. Ahead of time, fold one piece of construction paper in half for each Cubbie. Give each Cubbie a set of four gospel pictures. Cubbies can color the pictures, cut them out and glue them into the book in the proper numerical order. As they work, read the captions for each picture: 1. All have sinned. 2. Christ died for our sins. 3. On the third day, Christ came alive again. 4. Everyone who trusts in Christ will be saved from sin. Let Cubbies practice saying the captions with you. In this way, they “read” the book. Encourage Cubbies to read their books to a friend or family member.

#### IDEA 2: Talking Disciple Puppet

##### What You Need

- Scissors for leader’s use
- Four-inch (10 cm) circles on Talking Disciple Puppet page cut from foam, poster board, card stock or construction paper (resource CD)
- Clothespins (the kind with springs)
- Markers or crayons
- Tacky glue (or a glue designed for wood surfaces)
- *Optional* — Eliminate drawing and cut facial features from foam for Cubbies to glue on their puppet.

Beforehand, cut out a circle for each Cubbie. Circles should be four inches (10 cm) in diameter. Cut off the bottom third of each circle. Show Cubbies how to draw the side of a face on the larger, top piece of the circle using markers and crayons. Cubbies can draw hair and one eye, eyebrow, nose and ear. The mouth should be drawn across both the top (larger) and bottom (smaller) pieces of the circle. (See the finished craft sample on the Talking Disciple Puppet page.) To make a puppet, lay a clothespin on its side. Glue the larger circle piece to the side of the top piece of the clothespin and the smaller circle piece to the side of the bottom piece of the clothespin so that the puppet’s mouth will open when the clothespin is pinched.

Remind Cubbies that the disciples were witnesses for Jesus. The disciples would use their mouths to tell other people what they saw and heard from Jesus. After the puppets dry, let Cubbies form pairs and use their puppets to practice telling each other about Jesus. (Children are often more comfortable communicating through puppets.)

#### IDEA 3: Building Churches Play Area

##### What You Need

- Pictures of the land and people from another country
- Blocks

Show pictures from another country. (If Cubbies will learn about a specific missionary during Lesson Time, try to bring pictures from the missionary’s country.) Talk about life in that country and the need for the people there to hear about Jesus. Ask Cubbies to use the blocks to build a church for the people in that country.

### STARTING TIME (3-5 minutes)

Continue your starting routine. Include the “Cubbies Song,” Cubbies key verse, Cubbies motto and the A and C verses along with your favorite visuals, songs and motions.

# PUPPET SHOW

(3-5 minutes)

### What You Need

- Cubbie Bear puppet
- Katie Collie Puppet

**LEADER:** Hi, Cubbies! Are you ready to see Cubbie Bear? (*Let Cubbies say “YES!”*) Wait — I can't hear you! Say it louder! Are you ready to see Cubbie Bear? (*Wait for the “YES!” again.*) OK, let's call him out together. One — two — three! CUBBIE!

**CUBBIE** (*hopping excitedly*): Hi, everyone! I'm so happy to see you!

**LEADER:** We're happy to see you too, Cubbie.

(*Have another leader make barking noises.*)

**CUBBIE:** That sounds like my friend, Katie Collie!

(*Bring the Katie Collie puppet into view, breathing heavily.*)

**LEADER:** Hi, Katie. Is everything OK?

**KATIE** (*breathless*): Whew! I just ran here. I need to catch my breath.

**CUBBIE:** Katie has many jobs on the farm. One of them is to alert everyone when a car comes in the driveway.

**KATIE** (*breathing normally again*): Yes, that's one of my jobs. And I get so excited when I see a car that I can't help but run around and bark!

**LEADER:** You must get lots of exercise from running so much! Sometimes there are a lot of cars that come to the farm.

**KATIE:** Yes, especially when it's time to pick the apples. Cars come to the farm every day. I enjoy letting Timothy's mom and dad know when a car is coming. I want to make sure they are ready for their guests.

**LEADER:** That's a pretty important job! Don't you all think so? (*Allow response from Cubbies.*)

**KATIE:** I have other jobs too. When Timothy and Cubbie go exploring, I run in front of them or behind them to make sure they don't get hurt. I also like to chase the train that's on the farm.

**LEADER:** The one that Timothy and Cubbie ride?

**KATIE:** That's the one. Sometimes I race beside it to see if I can run faster than the train can.

**LEADER:** Do you ever win?

**KATIE:** Sometimes, but not all the time.

**LEADER:** Cubbie, what's your favorite job at the farm?

**CUBBIE:** Hmm ... probably picking apples. I like to help Timothy and his dad fill all the baskets. But I got in trouble last time, because I kept on eating all the apples I picked. At the end of the day, my basket was empty!

**LEADER** (*chuckling*): Why am I not surprised, Cubbie Bear? I know how much you love apples!

(*Katie perks up and stops to listen.*)

**KATIE:** Wait! Did you hear that?

**CUBBIE:** Hear what?

**KATIE:** A car is coming! I have to go! I need to let Timothy's mom and dad know that a car is coming!

**LEADER:** OK, let's all say goodbye to Katie! (*Allow Cubbies to respond.*)

**CUBBIE:** I should go and see if Timothy needs help with the apple-picking today.

**LEADER:** OK, bye, Cubbie. Try not to eat all the apples this time.

**CUBBIE:** I'll try not to. Bye, everyone!

(*Children wave goodbye as the puppets are put away.*)

## Special Day 4: Missions

### SNACKS (5-10 minutes)

Snacks are optional and can be done at any time during club.

#### IDEA 1: International Snack

##### What You Need

- A food typically eaten in another country (e.g., shortbread from Scotland, crepes from France, egg rolls from China)

Explain to Cubbies that people who live in other parts of the world often eat different foods than we do. Missionaries (the people God sends to certain people groups or places to tell others about Jesus) get to try new foods when they live in a different country.

**NOTE:** Make sure your snack is safe and appealing to preschoolers. If you will have a missionary guest, ask the missionary for snack ideas from his or her country of service.

#### IDEA 2: A Snack to Share

##### What You Need

- A snack that comes in pairs or is easily shared (e.g., cracker sandwich packs, yogurt cups that snap apart, graham crackers or granola bars to break in half)

Divide Cubbies into pairs and give a snack to one Cubbie in each pair. Show Cubbies how to give part of their snack to their partner. Talk about how God wants us to share the gospel with others too. We share the gospel when we tell others that Jesus died for our sins and came alive again.

### SONGS (3-5 minutes)

Songs can be done before or after Lesson Time.

##### What You Need

- TC11 and TC14 or a construction paper A and C
- *Optional* — Globe

#### SING:

- **“Where Is the A and C?”** to the tune of “Where Is Thumbkin?” (from Bear Hug 2). For the first verse, display TC11 or a paper A when you sing “Here it is!” For the second verse, display TC14 or a paper C when you sing “Here it is!”

Where is the A? Where is the A?

Here it is! Here it is!

Tell us what it stands for.

Tell us what it stands for.

... *All have sinned* ...

... *All have sinned* ...

Where is the C? Where is the C?

Here it is! Here it is!

Tell us what it stands for.

Tell us what it stands for.

... *Christ died for us.*

... *Christ died for us.*

(Repeat the last two lines but use these words.)

... *While we were yet sinners,*

... *Christ died for us.*

... *Christ died for us.*

- **“This Little Light of Mine”** Have some flashlights available for Cubbies to shine around the room as they sing.
- **“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”** Hold a globe and let it spin as you sing. So Cubbies don’t think God is literally holding the world, explain that the song means that God knows everything that happens in the world and we can trust that He is watching over everyone everywhere.

### PRAYER (1-2 minutes)

Cubbies, after Jesus went up to heaven, He gave the disciples a helper called the Holy Spirit so they could be His witnesses. When we trust the Lord Jesus as Savior, we also receive the Holy Spirit. Let’s pray and thank God for giving us the Holy Spirit to help us be witnesses for Him.

### LESSON TIME (15-20 minutes)

#### What You Need

- Teaching Cards (TC) 14, 16, 99
- Bible with markers placed at Acts 1 and 2
- Picture of a fire flame (resource CD)
- *Optional* — large fan or materials for leaders to wave in the air to create wind, missionary guest speaker or photos of a missionary, missionary presentation visuals

*(Adapt the words of this lesson to fit you and your Cubbies. Open with prayer.)*

Today, Cubbie Bear and Katie Collie told us about their favorite jobs on the farm. Do you remember what their jobs are? *(Allow response.)* Jobs are important! *(Display TC99. Prepare to use this card later.)* Before Jesus went back up to heaven, He gave His friends, the disciples, a big job to do. What kind of job do you think He gave them? *(Allow Cubbies to offer ideas. To build interest, don't tell them if they are right or wrong yet.)* Let's see what the Bible says!

*(Open your Bible to Acts 1.)* Jesus had finished all His work on the earth. It was time for Him to go up to heaven to be with His Father, God. But first, He gave His friends and helpers, the disciples, an important job. He said: *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses ... (Pause and look at Cubbies with a confused expression.)* Witnesses? But what is a witness? What does a witness do? *(Leave the question hanging as you call a Cubbie volunteer, preferably an older or highly verbal Cubbie, to the front.)*

Cubbies, our friend, *(insert the Cubbie volunteer's name)*, is going to help me show you what a witness is. *(Display TC14 so only the volunteer can see it.)* Cubbies, a witness is someone who tells what he or she sees. *(Insert the volunteer's name)*, can you tell the rest of the group what you see in the picture? *(Allow the volunteer to share.)*

Thank you, *(insert volunteer's name)*! *(Show TC14 to the group.)* A witness also shares what

he or she hears. *(Whisper the phrase "Christ died for our sins" in the volunteer's ear.) (Insert the volunteer's name)*, can you tell the rest of the group what you heard from me? *(Allow the volunteer to share.)*

*(Choose a new volunteer and repeat the process using TC16 and the phrase "On the third day, Christ came alive again.")*

Cubbies, witnesses are people who tell others what they have seen and heard. The disciples' job was to tell others what they had seen and heard from Jesus. Jesus wanted the disciples to tell everyone that He died on the cross for their sins and came alive again. Jesus wanted them to tell everyone to trust Jesus as Savior.

But Jesus knew His disciples weren't strong enough to be witnesses yet, so He told them to wait for a gift from Him. Then Jesus went up to heaven. *(Display TC99 again.)* Let's all stand and look at the sky like we're watching Jesus go up to heaven. *(You and the Cubbies hold your hands up to your eyes, like you're searching the sky.)* Watching Jesus go up to heaven must have been exciting! OK, let's all sit down again. After Jesus went into heaven, the disciples went to the city of Jerusalem and waited for the gift Jesus promised to send.

*(Open your Bible to Acts 2.)* One day, the disciples were all together in one place. Suddenly, a sound like a strong, whooshing wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where the disciples were sitting.

**Optional:** To help Cubbies imagine the wind, turn a large fan on high and let Cubbies feel the breeze. If a fan is not available, ask leaders to wave several poster boards or blankets to create wind.

Flames of fire appeared and landed on each disciple. *(Hold the picture of the flame [resource CD] above your head.)*

Remember, Cubbies, everything in the Bible really happened! This amazing fire from God

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## Special Day 4: Missions

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did not hurt the disciples. God sent the fire so they would know the gift from Jesus had arrived! The gift was the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came inside all the disciples and gave them power to be witnesses for Jesus. Remember, what Jesus said in Acts 1:8. (**Open your Bible to Acts 1:8 and repeat the verse a few times with Cubbies.**)

The disciples began telling people from all over the earth about Jesus. Jesus wanted them to tell as many people as possible!

(**Show an excited expression.**) Cubbies, guess what! When you trust Christ as Savior, you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit too. That doesn't mean you will hear wind or see fire like the first disciples did. But you will know that the Holy Spirit is living inside you. The Holy Spirit will give you power to be a witness for Jesus Christ.

Cubbies, how can you be a witness for Jesus Christ? (**Allow Cubbies to share ideas.**) You can be a witness by telling others about Jesus. You can tell people that Jesus died on the cross and came alive again to save us from our sins.

**Optional:** Bring photos of a missionary or invite a missionary to speak briefly to Cubbies. The missionary can be an Awana missionary or a missionary your church supports, whether a local or foreign missionary. Explain to Cubbies that Christ tells all of us to be witnesses wherever we live, but God sends some Christians out to a certain place or people group to be a witness. These Christians are called missionaries. You or the missionary can explain about the work he or she does to tell others about Jesus. Cubbies will love to see pictures, videos, maps, cultural artifacts or other objects related to the missionary's work.

Cubbies, who is one person you'd like to tell about Jesus? (**Encourage Cubbies to think of a friend, family member or person they see every day.**) When you see that person next, tell them

something you know about Jesus! Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be a good witness for Jesus. (**Pray and thank God for giving you and the Cubbies the gift of the Holy Spirit so you have the power to be good witnesses.**)

## HANDBOOK TIME

(15-30 minutes)

Give each handbook group leader a copy of the Special Day 4 Handbook Leader Sheet from the resource CD.

### Special Day 4 Activity Sheet

#### What You Need

- A copy of the Special Day 4 Activity Sheet for each Cubbie
- Crayons
- *Optional* — orange tissue paper

As Cubbies color the sheet, talk about the job Jesus gave the disciples: to be witnesses that tell others what they had seen and heard from Jesus. Encourage Cubbies to be witnesses too, who tell others about Jesus. Talk about the gift of the Holy Spirit and direct Cubbies to draw an orange flame or glue on an orange tissue paper flame above each disciple's head.

### PLAY TIME (15-20 minutes)

#### IDEA 1: Missions Obstacle Course

##### What You Need

- Boat paddles or blue rug
- Pillows
- Chairs
- Children's crawling tube
- Two jump ropes
- Stuffed animals
- Dolls

Explain that Christ tells all of us to be witnesses wherever we live, but God sends some Christians out as missionaries. These missionaries go to a certain place or group of people to be a witness. Sometimes the people can be far away and traveling may be hard. Lead Cubbies on an imaginary missionary adventure. Pretend to row a boat across the ocean (blue rug or paddles). Walk through a forest (several chairs to zigzag around). Climb over a mountain (pile of pillows). Crawl through the jungle (crawling tube). Wade through a river (two parallel jump ropes). Quietly tiptoe past the sleeping wild animals (stuffed animals). Find a group of people who have never heard about Jesus (dolls).

#### IDEA 2: "Jesus Loves You" Tag

##### What You Need

- Bandanas or crepe paper streamers (18 to 24 inches [46-61 cm] long)
- Whistle

Give each child a streamer or bandana. Tell the Cubbies to scatter around the room. Tap some of the Cubbies on the back and tell them to run and tag a friend. They'll tell the friend "Jesus loves you" and give him or her their streamer. Those with two streamers give away a streamer to a new friend who has only one streamer or no streamers. After everyone has traded streamers a few times, the leader can signal by blowing a whistle. Then all the Cubbies throw their streamers in the air and say, "Tell the world that Jesus loves them!"

#### IDEA 3: Around the Word Children's Games

##### What You Need

- Items will vary

Play a game played by children in another country. For example, let the group break a piñata (Mexico) or play a game of Limbo (Trinidad). Your missionary guest may be able to teach a children's game from his or her country of service. Here's a tag game from Japan: Choose a person to be "It." He tries to tag someone in a silly spot (knee, elbow, ear, etc.). The tagged person is the new "It" but she must run while holding her tagged spot with one hand as she tries to tag the next person. After tagging someone, she runs normally again and can be tagged. Model this game for preschoolers as you explain it.

Since many children of the world play soccer, you could also introduce some simple soccer skills: 1. Arrange Cubbies in a large circle. The game leader stands in the middle and kicks a soccer ball to each child. The child tries to kick it back to the leader. 2. Place a large ball in the center of the Awana circle. Cubbies stand outside the circle. They try to kick one or more soccer balls into the large ball and knock it out of the circle.

### GOING HOME (5-10 minutes)

As Cubbies wait for parents to arrive, play Musical Globe. Cubbies sit in a circle and pass an inflatable globe as music plays. Whoever is holding the globe when the music stops, says Acts 1:8 or "Tell the world that Jesus loves them."

**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses .... (Acts 1:8)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Write the name of one person you can tell about Jesus. \_\_\_\_\_



**Thomas**



**Andrew**



**Peter**



**James**



**John**

**Basic Instructions:** Jesus told His disciples to be witnesses that tell others what they had seen and heard from Jesus. Color Jesus' disciples. Not all of them are pictured here.

**Even More Fun:** Draw an orange flame above each disciple's head or glue on an orange tissue paper flame. The flames of fire showed that the gift from Jesus had arrived. What was the gift? (The Holy Spirit)

**Ultimate Fun:** Who is one person you can tell about Jesus? Ask a grown-up to help you write his or her name on the line.