



GAMES | DAY 1

Bible Story: Seeing God in Creation • Romans 1:20

Bottom Line: FOCUS on what you can see.

Memory Verse: "Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith." Hebrews 12:2a (NirV)

GET READY

Prepare ahead of time for the Games Rotation for VBS:

1. SPEED SEARCH

- Box or bin
- Lots of colored balls, multicolored balloons, or starbursts
 - *NOTE: Make sure you have some red items, but not too many. We suggest two or three for each team.*
- Place the red items in the box or bin, and then dump the rest of the colored items on top of them.
- Floor tape
- Timer

2. MESSY SPEED SEARCH

- Plastic bin
- Lots of multicolored water balloons or balloons filled with shaving cream
 - *NOTE: Make sure you have some red balloons, but not too many. We suggest two or three for each team.*
- Place the red balloons in the bin, and then dump the rest of the balloons on top of them.
- Floor tape (for inside) or rope (for outside)
- Timer

3. FOCUS ON ME

- No supplies needed



GAMES | DAY 1

1. SPEED SEARCH

What You Need: Box or bin filled with colored balls, balloons, or starbursts; floor tape; timer

What You Do:

- Tape a line on the floor to determine the starting line.
- Place the box or bin at the other side of the room or a determined distance away.
- Divide the kids into teams and have them line up behind the starting line.
- Tell them the time limit for the game (which you can determine based on the size of your group and/or space; we suggest an amount of time that allows each kid only a few seconds at the bin).
- Explain that there are a limited amount of red items in the bin. Red items are worth 50 points, and all other colors are worth 15 points.
- On your "Go," the first kid on each team runs to the bin and either grabs any object from the bin or takes more time to search for a red one.
- When they bring the object back, the next person in line takes a turn.
- After taking a turn, kids can return to the end of the line.
- At the end of the time period, total up the teams' points: red objects are worth 50 points, while all the others are worth 15 points.
- Variation for smaller groups: Each kid plays for himself or herself, so it's an individual competition.

What You Say:

"In today's Bible story, we talked about how we can see God in creation. We can see God's eternal power and divine nature in creation. In this game, you had the option of taking time to search for the red object or just quickly grabbing another one that was not worth as many points. If your focus was completely on the color red, without getting distracted by all the other colors that were easier to grab, you probably could have quickly found the red and received more points. You needed to **[Bottom Line] FOCUS on what you can see.**"

"In our lives, we are going to have a lot of things that draw our attention away from the things God has for us, but in those times, we need to get our focus back on God. We need to FOCUS on what we can see that reminds us of God, who cares for us, who loves us, and who promises to always be there for us. **[Make It Personal] (Talk about a time when you focused on what you could see in order to bring your attention back to God.)** When you focus on the things you can see that God has done or created, it helps you believe in the God you can't see."

2. MESSY SPEED SEARCH

What You Need: Plastic bin filled with multicolored water balloons or balloons filled with shaving cream; tape (for inside) or rope (for outside); timer

What You Do:

- Tape a line on the floor (if inside), or lay down rope on the ground (if outside) in order to create a starting line.
- Place the bin of balloons at the other side of the play area or a determined distance away.
- Divide the kids into teams and have them line up behind the starting line.
- Tell them the time limit for the game (which you can determine based on the size of your group and/or space; we suggest an amount of time that allows each kid only a few seconds at the bin).
- Explain that there are a limited amount of red balloons in the bin. Red balloons are worth 50 points, and all other colors are worth 15 points.
- On your "Go," the first kid on each team runs to the bin and either grabs any balloon from the bin or takes more time to search for a red one.
- When they bring the balloon back, the next person in line takes a turn.
- After taking a turn, kids can return to the end of the line.
- At the end of the time period, total up the teams' points: red balloons are worth 50 points, while all the others are worth 15 points.
- Variation for smaller groups: Each kid plays for himself or herself, so it's an individual competition.
- *Optional:* For more points, have kids pop balloons over their own heads or, if you are feeling fun, have them pop them over Leaders' heads.

What You Say:

"In today's Bible story, we talked about how we can see God in creation. We can see God's eternal power and divine nature in creation. In this game, you had the option of taking time to search for a red balloon or just quickly grabbing another one that was not worth as many points. If your focus was completely on the color red, without getting distracted by all the other colors that were easier to grab, you probably could have quickly found the red and received more points. You needed to **[Bottom Line] FOCUS on what you can see.**"

"In our lives, we are going to have a lot of things that draw our attention away from the things God has for us, but in those times, we need to get our focus back on God. We need to FOCUS on what we can see that reminds us of God, who cares for us, who loves us, and who promises to always be there for us. **[Make It Personal] (Talk about a time when you focused on what you could see in order to bring your attention back to God.)** When you focus on the things you can see that God has done or created, it helps you believe in the God you can't see."

3. FOCUS ON ME

What You Need: *No supplies needed*

What You Do:

- Stand on the stage or in an easily seen area.
- Show the kids a sign (touch your nose, hold up a couple fingers, etc.).
- The game is played like "Simon Says," but the sign will be made instead of saying, "Simon says."
- The kids are to do what you say ONLY when you are also making the sign.
- If you're not making the sign and someone does what you say, he or she is out.
- The last kid standing becomes the leader for the next round.

What You Say:

"In today's Bible story, we talked about how we can see God in creation. We can see God's eternal power and divine nature in creation. In this game, you had to **[Bottom Line] FOCUS on what you can see**, not on what the leader was saying.

"In our lives, we are going to have a lot of things that draw our attention away from the things God has for us, but in those times, we need to get our focus back on God. We need to FOCUS on what we can see that reminds us of God, who cares for us, who loves us, and who promises to always be there for us. **[Make It Personal] (Talk about a time when you focused on what you could see in order to bring your attention back to God.)** When you focus on the things you can see that God has done or created, it helps you believe in the God you can't see."

Travel Time

As you travel to the next track, use the following questions to keep the conversation going and to keep kids thinking about what they're learning!

- What is one of your favorite places to look to remind yourself of how God created the world?
- Where are your favorite places to focus on the things that God has done for you?
- My favorite place to experience God in creation is _____. What is your favorite place to experience God in creation?