

Wave Maker

Bible Story: Creation • *Genesis 1 and 2*

Bottom Line: God made people with a purpose.

Memory Verse: “Whoever believes in me . . . rivers of living water will flow from within them.”
John 7:38 (NIV)

GET READY

Prepare ahead of time for Snacks Rotation for VBS:

- Provide several large trashcans, large bottles of hand sanitizer, or a large container of wet wipes each day during the snack rotation.
- The first two snack suggestions below pertain to the overall “Making Waves” theme. The “What You Say” section for these first two options has been written with today’s Bottom Line in mind, but you could use these snack ideas for *any* of the five days. The third idea is specific to today’s Bottom Line or Bible Story. The last option is a grab-and-go, buy-in-bulk-at-a-big-box-store option for churches expecting a large crowd!
- You’ll notice that one option below is marked as “virtual.” These are more labor intensive and are better served to children at home or in small groups. However, some of the virtual options can easily be adapted to work for your in-person VBS!
- We suggest serving water with all snacks listed below.
- Use the “allergy alert” template that we’ve provided to type in the food items you’ll be serving each day. Make sure to post these signs clearly in a place where parents can see them at drop off. You might also consider capturing allergy information for each child at registration and noting that somehow on their nametags or rosters to alert volunteers.

1. Sand Dollar Cookies

What You Need: small paper plates, plastic knives, homemade or store-bought plain sugar cookies, icing, almond slivers

What You Do:

- Give each child a plate with two sugar cookies, a small glob of icing, a few almond slivers, and a plastic knife.
- Encourage the children to spread the icing on their cookies and place three or four almond slivers into the center of the cookie, with the point towards the center of the cookie to mimic the look of a sand dollar.

What You Say:

“Have you ever been to the beach to collect seashells and sand dollars? Sand dollars are similar to sea urchins, and sand dollars breathe through those holes you see on the top. The sand dollars you find on the beach are white because they’ve been bleached by the sun. While alive in the ocean, sand dollars can be anywhere from reddish brown to a vibrant purple.”

“Who made sand dollars and all the amazing creatures in the ocean? God did! That’s right. Just like those sand dollars have a purpose as a part of the ocean, people—me and you—have a purpose too! **[Bottom Line] God made people with a purpose!**”

2. Ocean Pudding Cups (Virtual Option)

What You Need: small, clear punch cups; vanilla pudding; blue food coloring, graham cracker crumbs
optional: Trolli gummy octopus candies

What You Do:

- Make a batch of vanilla pudding according to the package directions. As you whisk in the milk, add blue food coloring to desired color.
- Spoon an inch of blue pudding into the bottom of a clear punch cup.
- Sprinkle a layer of graham cracker crumbs into the cup, followed by another layer of blue pudding. Repeat once more, adding another layer of graham cracker crumbs and pudding.
- Top the cup with more graham cracker crumbs on one-half of the cup. Add one more small spoonful of pudding next to the graham cracker “sand.”
- Optional: Add an octopus candy to the top if provided.

What You Say:

“Your pudding cups look delicious. Where does sand come from? Sand forms when rocks break down. But did you know that sand can also come from parrotfish poop? It’s true! Because parrotfish eat algae off of rock surfaces, they ingest little bits of rock with each bite. Those small bits of rock go through their bodies and come out as sand!

“In one year, one large parrotfish can produce one thousand pounds of sand. That’s how much an average grand piano weighs! There are so many amazing creatures in the ocean. Each one was made by God with a purpose! God doesn’t create anything by accident. Everything He makes, He makes with care and attention and purpose. **[Bottom Line] God made people with a purpose.**”

3. Making Waves

What You Need: small plates, plastic knives, graham crackers, yogurt-covered raisins, blueberries, blue icing

What You Do:

- Give each child a plate with a small glob of icing, two graham crackers, a few blueberries, a few yogurt-covered raisins, and a plastic knife.
- Encourage the kids to spread the icing over the surface of the cookies with the plastic knife.
- Instruct them to add blueberries (for the water) and yogurt-covered raisins (for the white caps) to create waves.

What You Say:

“This is yummy! Have you learned about waves in school? Waves on the ocean surface are typically formed by wind. When the wind moves quickly for a long period of time without being interrupted, you get big, BIG waves. The largest waves occur when there are big expanses of open water like Waimea Bay in Hawaii, Mavericks in California, Mullaghmore Head in Ireland, and Teahupoo in Tahiti. The Bible

reminds us that God controls the wind and waves (Psalm 89:9). After all, He made the sea and everything in it! What an awesome, creative, and powerful God! But He didn't just make the ocean. God also made people! And He made You! I'm so glad that ***[Bottom Line]* God made people with a purpose.**"

4. God Made That! (Grab-and-Go Option)

What You Need: individual packs of animal crackers

What You Do:

- Give each child an individual bag of animal crackers.
- Point out how each of the animals were made by God.

What You Say:

"God made all kinds of amazing things. He made the roaring lion and the long-necked giraffe. He made the vast ocean and the majestic mountains. But of all that God made, YOU are most like Him. You were made in God's image to make a difference! Because God made us, He's counting on us to share His love with others. I'm so glad that ***[Bottom Line]* God made people with a purpose.**"

GET READY

Prepare ahead of time for SNACKS Rotation for VBS:

1. Sand Dollar Cookies

- Small plates—one per kid
- Plastic knives or spoons—one per kid
- Homemade or store-bought, plain sugar cookies—two per kid
- White icing—one glob per kid
- Almond slivers—5 to 10 per kid

2. Ocean Pudding Cups (Virtual Option)

- Small, clear punch cups—one per kid
- Spoons—one per kid
- Vanilla pudding
- Blue food coloring
- Graham cracker crumbs
- Optional: Trolli gummy octopus candies

3. Making Waves

- Small plates—one per kid
- Plastic knives—one per kid
- Graham crackers—two per kid
- Blue icing
- Blueberries
- Yogurt-covered raisins

4. God Made That! (Grab-and-Go Option)

- Individual bags of animal crackers