



Follow an Action

GRADES 2-3, ENERGY 2

What Kids Do

Kids will follow a leader by making motions.

Get Ready

Find out whose birthday is closest to today!

Supplies

None

Baobab Trivia

Elephants depend upon a definite community structure for protection and support. Female African elephants and their offspring are led by a matriarch who is the oldest and most knowledgeable animal in the elephant group.

Helpful Hint

To make the game more challenging, you can have the kids count off and then shuffle the kids to mix up the numbers. You can call out a number for that person to start a new motion.

Let's Do It!

1. Today we heard the story of Jesus and the disciples. Jesus went to the lake where the disciples were fishing and got into the boat with them. He told them to let down their nets and they obeyed. Later, Jesus invited them to follow him, and then he taught them about God's kingdom. They had to pay attention so they would know what Jesus wanted and could follow him.
2. When the elephants follow the head elephant they need to pay attention so they can do just what the head elephant and the elephants ahead of them do. Baby elephants learn to eat grass and leaves by watching the grown-up elephants. They learn to guard against dangers by watching the other elephants.
3. We're going to play a game in which you will need to pay very careful attention so you can follow a leader in the circle.
4. Get into a circle (or sit in the circle of chairs). Wait for the other kids to get in a circle and listen for the next instruction.
5. I am going to pick one person to be the leader. The leader will start a motion, such as patting his or her head, clapping his or her hands, swinging his or her arms, etc. Each of you will follow by making the same motion. When everyone is doing the motion, the person to the left of the leader will start another motion. Everyone will then change to doing the second motion. This process will continue with each person around the circle until everyone has had a chance to add a new motion.
6. The child who I will pick is the one whose birthday is closest to today.
7. *Teachers: Be sure everyone understands the instructions. Remind them they will need to pay attention to spot when a new motion is started and be ready to start a new motion.*
8. Remember to pay attention so you can follow the new leader.

Follow-up Questions

What did you have to do in this game in order to follow the leader?

Why do you think the disciples decided to follow Jesus?

Why do you want to follow Jesus?

Faith in Action

The baby elephants follow the adults and pay attention to what they do so that they can find food and not get into dangerous situations. As kids play this game they can think about the importance of paying attention to Jesus so that they can learn how he wants them to live.