

# Bonus tips on literacy, language, and more!

coloring

**Color with children** | It's a good activity for quiet thinking as well as for talking. If you dare to scribble outside the lines or make surprising color choices, kids will appreciate your sense of fun and not feel badly when they compare their work to yours.

**Inspire imagination** | These simple drawings leave room for children to add their own ideas.

- On the pilot page, what could be in the background? Mountains? A jungle? A castle?
- On the animal doctor page, what other creatures could be there? A dog? A turtle? A kangaroo?
- On the teacher page, what else might be on the table? Art projects? Toys? Lunch?

**Ask questions** | Show interest in children's thinking.

- "What does a fisherman need on his boat?"
- "If you were an athlete, what sports would you play?"
- "What does music sound like that makes you want to dance (or march, jump, sleep, or be silly)?"

**Affirm responses** | Keep dialogue going with positive feedback.

- "You'd be a good doctor because you care about people."
- "I've seen you build tall towers with blocks, so I think you could build a strong house someday too."
- And the never-fail response: "Tell me more!"

**Relax** | Not every interaction with a child needs to be educational.

learning

**Learn about geography** | Where are some of these jobs needed? Find those places on a map. Talk with respect about how that place is different from where the children live. Remind the children that because God made the world, all of it is beautiful and special to Him.

**Learn about cultures** | Look for related pictures or information. Talk with respect about how the people, food, clothing, and customs of that place are different from where the children live. Remind the children that because God made all people, they can understand His love for them in every culture.

growing

**Grow into God's purpose for their lives** | *Read to children:* "Think about all the different things God made. Not all colors are the same, or creatures, or seasons, or senses. Being different makes them wonderful, special, and fun. God made many different kinds of people, too — including you! Think about what you like to eat, play, pretend, wear, build, draw, sing, or read. They are all part of how God made you. Some of the things you have fun doing now will be part of what you do when you're all grown up. No matter what jobs you do when you're little or when you're big, you can use them to show God's love to others."

**Grow in discipleship** | A disciple is someone who lives and loves like Jesus and helps others to do the same. Disciple-making is sharing God's truth through real friendship wherever life happens — a bakery, fishing boat, soccer field, hospital, or toy store. As we live and love like Jesus wherever we are, people can learn how much God loves them.

**Grow in understanding God's view of jobs** | People who want to share God's love with others can do many different jobs. Talk about or draw pictures of some of these jobs in the Bible: ambassador, archer, artist, athlete, baker, blacksmith, builder, cook, counselor, designer, doctor, farmer, fisherman, guard, horseman, innkeeper, jailer, jeweler, judge, lawyer, merchant, midwife, musician, perfumer, potter, servant, shepherd, soldier, weaver, and writer.

obeying

**Different people do different jobs, but they are all important.**

"Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly" (Romans 12:6).

**Use your job to live and love like Jesus.**

"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

**Use your job to help others.**

"...By working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'" (Acts 20:35).

**No matter what your job is, do the very best you can.**  
"Whatever you do, do your work heartily" (Colossians 3:23).

writing

**Use the blank lines** | Under the text on each page are three blank lines for optional use as practice for penmanship, spelling, literacy, or foreign language study.

**Preschoolers**

- Practice writing a single letter or a single word.
- Practice writing their name.
- Trace over a word written by an adult, such as the type of job on that page.
- Dictate to an adult what they want to say.
- Scribble.

**Lower grade schoolers**

- Copy the text onto the three lines.
- Write three sounds (or smells, textures, tastes, or sights) they might experience in that page's setting.
- Complete the sentence: "If I did this job, ..."
- Write their own words.

**Bilingual children**

- Copy the text in English.
- Copy the text in another language as provided by an adult (use Google to translate text).
- In a classroom setting, write the text on a chalkboard for all the children to see.