December Activities





Activity #1 - Play Cooperative Games

What You'll Need: Games that involve working cooperatively or see the "humming game"

Prepare

Three to four tennis balls and a permanent marker

I earn

The "humming game" involves choosing one person who is "it," and an item for that person to stand near. The person who is "it" leaves the room while the rest of the family chooses an item in the room (fireplace, piano, etc), and decides on a random song to hum. The "it" person returns to the room and stands in the middle of the room. Everyone hums softly. The "it" person begins to walk around the room. As "it" gets closer to the selected object, the group hums louder. When the task is achieved, the group cheers for the child who was "it."

Follow-up

It's hard to be the only person to NOT know what is going on, but if we humble ourselves, we can still have fun.

Activity #2 - Toss the Bird

What You'll Need: Outside space, small stuffed toys or squishy balls to be "birds" (Fewer birds than number of people playing)

Learn

Select one person to be "it." The child who is "it" tries to tag a child who does not have a bird. If the "it" child succeeds, the tagged child is then "it." However, the children who have "birds" try to "save" the children who do not have birds by tossing the empty-handed child a bird as "it" approaches. The child who receives a tossed "bird" must say "thank you" to the sender.

Follow-up

By helping each other and expressing gratitude for help, children learn humility.

Activity #3 - Every Knee Shall Bow

What You'll Need: Your time, a Bible (Matthew 2:10-11, Matthew 8:2, Matthew 9:18, Matthew 23:12, Psalm 22:27-28, Philippians 2:9-11)

Learn

During your study on humility, read the verses listed above. Introduce the concept of kneeling when you pray to physically demonstrate humility before God. You may wish to open your prayer saying, "Dear King Jesus...".

To introduce the concept of kneeling before royalty, you can read one of your children's favorite stories about princes, princesses, kings or queens. You can also read through your choice of the verses listed above that refer to the long-standing tradition of kneeling to show respect to God. In the New Testament verses, it is interesting to note that people who didn't even know that Jesus was God still knelt down in front of Him.