

March 28th & 29th
2 & 3 Year Olds



Spring Lesson 4

Bible Passage: Matthew 21:1–11; Mark 11:1–11;
Luke 19:28–38
(Triumphal Entry)

Jesus Is King

Schedule

1. Gather: Big God Story
2. Respond: Worship and optional activity
3. Bless: Speaking God's Truth over your child

Supplies

- Bible
- Stuffed animal with small paper crown
- Paper cut into crown shape
- Tape or stapler
- Small pieces of foil or sequins
- Markers, crayons

GATHER// 25 minutes



*Children experience and learn more about God through traditions, song, and storytelling from **The Big God Story**.*

Normally we use a hedgehog puppet (Hamilton) to help introduce the Big God Story. Since Hamilton is social distancing to keep others safe, choose a stuffed animal from your home and introduce him as "Hamilton's friend." You might explain, "Hamilton needs to be home with his family right now just like we are staying home so his friend _____ came to help us tell the story today."

Welcome

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*see Resources

SUPPLIES

- Bible
- Hamilton puppet friend (choose a stuffed animal from home to help tell the story)
- Toy crown (small- Consider making this with a sticky note, pipe cleaners, etc. Something simple)

The Point: Jesus Is King

Hi, family! I'm so excited to hear our Big God Story today. So, Hamilton the Hedgehog normally joins us for our story today, but he needed to stay home with his family just how we are staying home right now to keep others safe. His friend _____ is here to help us tell the story! Pull out the stuffed animal you have chosen as Hamilton's friend with the crown.

Hi, Hamilton's friend! I'm so glad you've joined us today. Family, what does Hamilton's friend _____ have in his hands? Stuffed animal holds up his crown and children will answer. That's right! He has a crown. I like your crown. Family, today we are going to learn about a special King. His name is Jesus.

Now it's time for us to dig, dig, dig right into God's Word! Hold up Bible—Hamilton's friend hops excitedly. Let's all stand up and sing our Bible Song together.

Bible Song (sung to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb")

Now it's time to hear God's Word

Hear God's Word

Hear God's Word

Now it's time to hear God's Word

So let's look in the Bible

The Big God Story

The Big God Story is written for a three-year-old audience. It can be told in its entirety or shortened if your child is on the younger side.

Triumphal Entry

Jesus Is King

From Matthew 21:1–11; Mark 11:1–11; Luke 19:28–38

SUPPLIES

- The Big God Story images #1–2
- Bible

RELATE

Family, before we go any further, let's all pray together and ask God to teach us. Lead family in a Prayer of Release to pause, be still, and ask the Holy Spirit to quiet their hearts and minds.

One day, Jesus was walking with two of His friends. They were walking to a town where people were very excited to see Jesus. What did Jesus ask His friends to bring Him? Yes, a donkey. Show image #1.



IMAGE #1



When people asked Jesus' friends why they were taking the donkey they answered, "The Lord needs it." And so the men brought the donkey to Jesus. They placed a coat on its back. Jesus got on the donkey and rode into town.

The people in the town were so excited to see Jesus. Do you remember what they laid on the ground in front of Him? Allow children time to remember and answer. Yes, they laid their coats and palm branches on the ground in front of Jesus. Hamilton's friend holds up his crown excitedly. **It looks like Hamilton's friend wants one of you to wear his crown and pretend to be Jesus.** Invite a child or family member to put on the crown (Hamilton's friend can assist). Then encourage this child to pretend to ride a donkey around the room as you continue to tell the story.

As Jesus rode past the people, they began to shout praises to Him. "Hosanna, Hosanna!" they shouted. Let's shout it together. Shout "Hosanna!" with the kids. **Wow, great job! This word was telling God that the people needed a king who could save them. Who is the King who can save all people? Kids will answer. Jesus! That's right. Jesus is King! That makes me so excited that I want to shout, "Hosanna!" again. Let's all shout it one more time.** Shout "Hosanna!" again with the kids. **Let's also shout, "Jesus is King!"** Wait for kids to repeat. Invite your child/family member to return the crown to Hamilton's friend and find a seat.

This is such an important part of The Big God Story. Let's do it again, but this time, I need some extra help. Hamilton's friend bounces up and down as if to say, "Pick me!" **It looks like Hamilton's friend wants to play the part of Jesus. Now I need two of you to be Jesus' friends and one of you to be a donkey.** Choose children and family members to be two friends and the donkey. Anyone remaining will be townspeople. The children will be on their feet at various points throughout the story. Help them act out the story below with actions.

Jesus and His friends were walking into town. Have Hamilton's friend (who is portraying Jesus), with his crown in hand, pretend to walk alongside the two children who are portraying Jesus' friends. **Jesus asked His friends to bring Him a donkey.** Have one of the children ask for a donkey. **The friends found the donkey and brought it to Jesus.**

Have the child who is portraying the donkey get down on all fours. Then have the two friends bring the donkey to Jesus. **They laid a coat on the donkey.** Have them pretend to lay a coat on the donkey. **Then Jesus rode the donkey into town.** Have Hamilton's friend pretend to ride the donkey as they walk along.

Wait a second here, it looks like Jesus has a crown. Do you think Jesus wore a crown when He rode into town? Give children a chance to respond. **Actually, Jesus wasn't wearing a crown!** Have Hamilton's friend drop the crown. **He just looked like an ordinary person.** Show image #2.



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TB 3.3-3.4

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But the people still knew He was the King they'd been waiting for. They were so excited that Jesus was coming. They laid their coats and palm branches in the road. Townspeople pretend to lay coats and palm branches on the ground. **Then the people shouted "Hosanna!"** Have townspeople shout "Hosanna."

Wow! You did a great job helping me tell The Big God Story. Let's celebrate together that Jesus is the King!

Have the children say good-bye to Hamilton's friend as he goes back into his house and thank him for coming to be a part of The Big God Story.

Listen to God

Have the children sit quietly or lay down without touching anyone. **"We just were talking about how Jesus is King. Can you say that with me quietly? 'Jesus is King.' Let's listen to God. Does He want to tell you anything? Sometimes we hear Him in our heart or in our brain. He usually doesn't say things out loud. Listen quietly and see what He wants to tell you."** Let the children listen for 30 seconds to 1 minute. **"All right. Let's sit up. Did you hear God say anything?"** Give them a chance to tell you what God said to them.

RESPOND//15 minutes



Children reflect on what the Holy Spirit is teaching them and respond through worship, creative activities, and games.

Song of Celebration

The people shouted, “Hosanna!” when Jesus came into town. Were they excited? Invite responses. Yes, they were very excited. We’re going to sing a song that talks about the people shouting “Hosanna.” Jesus is the Son of God, and He is King!

Lead kids in a celebratory worship song from your favorite place to play music that refers to Hosanna or Jesus is King.

Optional Activity

Jesus Is King

Children decorate a crown to help them remember that Jesus is King.

SUPPLIES

- Paper cut into a crown and strips of paper, tape or stapler
- Markers
- Stickers
- Small pieces of foil or sequins

RELATE

Today we learned that Jesus is King. Even though Jesus didn’t wear a crown in this part of The Big God Story, we’re going to decorate one to help us remember that Jesus is King. Cut out a crown for each of your children. Model how to use the markers and foil/sequins to decorate the crowns. Then invite the children to decorate their own crowns. Explain to children that Jesus is King and kings wear crowns. You can even reenact the Big God Story using the crowns you have now made.

BLESS//5 minutes



Children receive a blessing from YOU! A chance to speak God’s truth over your child. You don’t want to skip this part!

SUPPLIES

- Bible

RELATE

Gather the children around you to bless them. Encourage them to quiet their bodies and close their eyes as you pray over them:

Children, may you always know that Jesus is King every day and every night.

Open a Bible and read Psalm 10:16a:

The LORD is King forever and ever.

April

Matt. 28; John 19-20

2-3 year olds



MORNING TIME

Say this blessing over your child, "[Insert child's name], Jesus is alive! May you know His great love for you today and always!



MEAL TIME

Read John 20. Ask your child, "Why wasn't Jesus in the tomb?" Because He is alive!

Did you know that some believe that the stone sealing Jesus' tomb weighed more than a thousand pounds?!



CAR TIME

Remind your child that Jesus wants us to tell everyone the good news. Discuss some people in your life who need to hear the gospel. Brainstorm with your child how you can share the good news!



BED TIME

Open a Bible and read Isaiah 6:3b; "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." Practice saying together the verse a few times. Try different voices (tiny voice, big voice, robot, etc.)