

MEETING 1

I Have Eyes

MEETING AIMS:

The children will:

- learn that God gave them eyes that can see.
- feel thankful to God for their eyes.
- practice using their eyes in various activities, and work on the concepts of big and little.

Scripture: Luke 18:35-43

Bible Words: “God made me” (Psalm 100:3)

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

OPENING—name buttons, shares bank, attendance chart, supplies needed for free play options of your choice, Skippy puppet

OPENING ACTIVITY—supplies needed for activity of your choice

BIBLE STORY—Skippy

BIBLE WORDS—for each child: Take Home Paper, Memory Verse sticker

SNACK (optional)—round crackers, soft cream cheese, knife, raisins

PLAY TIME (optional)—construction paper, scissors

CREATIVE ACTIVITY—crayons; for each child: Activity Paper, Activity Sticker

SONGS (optional)—your choice

CLOSING—for each child: Take Home Paper

PLANNING AHEAD FOR MEETING 2:

Locate a recording of rhythmic music (or a rhythm instrument).

OPENING

10-15 minutes

Do Ahead:

Decide which free play options to do, and gather supplies.

As Skippers arrive, pin on name buttons. Take attendance, and collect shares.

Help each child choose one of the free play areas.

Free Play Options

Blocks. Help children build a big and a little block tower. Ask children to use their eyes to see if the towers are the same.

Books. Read books about eyes or books about things that eyes see. Tell children who made eyes. Talk about big and little things their eyes can see.

Home. Bring a magnifying glass and household items (houseplant, sponge, dry oatmeal, etc.). Let children examine each item with the magnifying glass. Talk about what they can see with the eyes God gave them.

Pictures. Bring a mirror and pictures of eyes of different colors. Let children look at their eyes in the mirror. Help them find pictures of eyes like theirs. Talk about how God made each child’s eyes special.

Sounds. Make a tape of sounds made by big or little animals that live indoors, outdoors, in zoos, and on farms. (Or check your library for recordings.) Play the tape, and ask children to identify animals. Then talk about where they might see each animal.

At the end of free play, have Skippy lead the Skipper theme song (inside front cover). Sing it several times.



OPENING ACTIVITY

8-12 minutes

Do Ahead:

Select an activity, and gather supplies.

Look and See. Show Skippers three familiar objects on a tray. Ask children to name each item. Then have children close their eyes and cover them with their hands. Remove one object. Have children open their eyes and guess which object is missing. Repeat, removing a different object. Talk about who made eyes.

Sorting Game. Bring two sizes of pasta (or blocks, toy trucks, etc.) and two containers. Glue (or tape) a sample of each size pasta to a container. Have children sort pasta by size into containers. Talk about how eyes help us.

PARENT HELPER



The parent helper could:

- prepare the sorting activity
- cut out and hide construction paper circles for Play Time



BIBLE STORY

8-12 minutes

Do Ahead:

Read Luke 18:35-43. Gather supplies. Practice Introduction with Skippy.

Introduction

Lead Skippers to the story area.

Skippy: **When I woke up this morning, I opened my eyes and saw the sun shining in my room. But I still felt sleepy. So I closed my eyes again.** Asks children:

- **Can you close your eyes? Show me.** Skippy: **When I closed my eyes, I couldn't see anything. Everything was dark.** Asks children:

- **Keep your eyes closed for a minute. What do you see? Raise your hand if you see just darkness.**

Skippy: **Then I opened my eyes again. I opened them wide.** Asks children:

- **Can you open your eyes wide? Show me.**

Skippy: **After I opened my eyes, I looked out the window. I saw blue sky and white clouds. I saw green grass and red flowers and a big tree. I saw a little bird flying.** Asks children:

- **What can you see when you look out your window at home? Raise your hand if you can see sky or clouds or grass or flowers or trees.** *Option:* Let Skippers name what they can see out a window in the room.

Skippy: **God made all these beautiful things that we see outside. I'm glad God gave me eyes to see what he made. But some people can't see with**

UNIT 1 / MADE BY GOD

their eyes. Listen to a story about a man who couldn't see anything even when his eyes were wide open.

Put Skippy away.

Scripture Story

Open your Bible. **The Bible tells us this story. Long ago, a man sat by the side of a road. He could not see with his eyes** (point to eyes).

The man couldn't see the sky or the trees or the animals. He couldn't see other people. But he could hear. This is what he heard. Close your eyes and listen. Have Skippers close their eyes and cover them with their hands. Then stomp your feet to make the sound of footsteps. • **Open your eyes now, and tell me what you heard.**

Make the sound of feet walking with me. Have children stomp their feet with you.

The man heard something else, too. Close your eyes and listen. Have children close their eyes and cover them with their hands. Then say, **Jesus is coming!** • **What did you hear me say? Say it with me.** Have Skippers say, "Jesus is coming!" with you.

The man heard people saying, "Jesus is coming!" So the man yelled, "Jesus! Help me!"

Jesus heard the man. Jesus said, "What do you want me to do for you?" This is what Jesus heard the man say: "I want to see." Say it with me. Have children say, "I want to see," with you.

Right away Jesus made the man's eyes able to see. Now the man could see everything! He could see people. He could see the beautiful world God made.

The man was very happy. He praised and thanked God for eyes that could see.

Application

• **Who gave you eyes that can see?**

You can thank God for your eyes, too. Teach Skippers this action rhyme: **I can see** (make "binoculars" with fingers in front of eyes)

Green trees (stretch arms over head).

I can see (make "binoculars" with fingers in front of eyes)

Blue skies (wave one hand in an arc over head).

Thank you, thank you, God (clap)

For my two eyes (point to eyes).



BIBLE WORDS

5-7 minutes

Do Ahead:

Memorize the Bible words from Psalm 100:3 and practice the motions. Gather supplies.

Say the Bible words, and do the following motions.

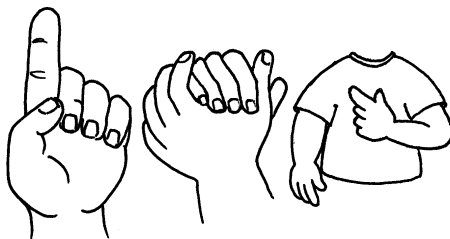
"God" (point up)

"made" (cup hands back and forth as if forming a ball)

"me" (point to self).

Have Skippers stand and do this with you.

Hand out Memory Verse stickers, and have children put them on the unit Bible words on their Take Home Papers.



"God made me" (Psalm 100:3)

SNACK



optional

Do Ahead:

Gather supplies. Spread cream cheese on crackers. Place two raisins on each cracker for eyes.

Pray together: **Thank you, God, for food we eat. Thank you, God, for this good treat. Amen.**

Serve the snack.

PLAY TIME



optional

Do Ahead:

Gather supplies. Cut big and little circles out of construction paper. Hide the circles in obvious places around the room.

Show Skippers a circle. **Use your eyes to find more circles in the room. Bring the circles you find to me.** Clap whenever a child brings a circle. Say, (Child's name) **found a** (big, little) **circle!**

TODAY'S CHILDREN...

need a sense of security in order to learn and develop.

- Follow the same general routine in every club meeting.
- Make the same basic equipment available for children to enjoy over and over again.
- As much as possible, keep the same leaders and helpers from week to week.



CREATIVE ACTIVITY

10-15 minutes

Do Ahead:

Gather supplies.

Hand out Activity Papers (p. 13, *Hearing About God Activity and Take Home Papers*) and crayons. Let Skippers color. While they work, talk about their ability to see God's creation.

• **Who made your eyes?**

For each item on the Activity Paper, ask:

• **What do you use to see this?**

• **Who made this?**

When children finish, write their names on the papers, and stick on Activity Stickers.

SONGS



optional

Do Ahead:

Choose songs about eyes. (See Pioneer Clubs catalog for song resources.)

Sing the songs you chose.

CLOSING



5-7 minutes

Do Ahead:

Be prepared to sing the Skipper prayer song (inside front cover). Gather supplies.

Sing the Skipper prayer song together, and pray a short prayer, thanking God for eyes. Review the Bible words and motions.

Collect name buttons. Hand out Take Home Papers.