

# Activity Day!

## Outline & Printable Resources



This Month's Lesson:

# There's No Place Like Home

### Suggested Activity and Discussion for Kids

*Depending on the size and makeup of your group, you may want to divide the children into age groups for the different activities.*

#### Opening

- Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance (*located in the General Resource pdf*) You can have one of the children hold a small flag or use a larger flag. This is a great opportunity to teach the children respect and proper care and folding of the flag.)
- Recite Preamble to the U.S. Constitution (*located in the General Resource pdf, doing this each day as a family will have your children memorizing it in no time at all.*)

**Theme Story and Discussion:** *Home in the Woods* by Eliza Wheeler or *This Is Our House* by Hyewon Yum

**Song and Discussion:** Wise Man and the Foolish Man

**Game and Discussion:** Red Rover/Twister

**Activity and Discussion for older kids:** Card towers/houses

#### Closing

- Read/Recite "The American's Creed" (*located in the General Resource pdf*)
- Prayer
- Announce the next month's theme and date/location for next Activity Day

## Preparation and Materials Needed:

- Review the entire outline to consider how best to present the activities to each age group.
- Cut out the copies of the preamble and American's Creed to have on hand, or use copies from the previous Activity Day.
- Borrow/purchase the book *Home in the Woods* by Eliza Wheeler or *This Is Our House* by Hyewon Yum
- Learn or review the song The Wise Man and the Foolish Man in preparation to teach the song/sing the song with the kids for Activity Day.

Click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HVdbULOVHA>

- Borrow or buy the game Twister (or, alternatively, you can play Red Rover) for Activity Day.
- Buy disposable cups (at least 21)

Instructions to label each cup, starting with the bottom layer:

6 cups, label each of the bottom cups with one of the following phrases: "Family time for play and learning" "Children respect & listen to parents" "Important role of mother and father" "Family members listen & speak with kindness" "Families love and serve one another" "Parents care for children"

5 cups, write one word on each of the three middle cups and an arrow pointing inward on the cup on either edge: happy strong individuals

4 cups, write one word on each cup, except for one of the edge cups draw an arrow pointed inward: happy strong families

3 cups, write one word on each cup: proper local government

2 cups, write one word on one cup and two words on the other: proper state government

1 cup, write all three words on one cup: proper federal government

- Provide decks of cards for building card houses/towers.
- At least two weeks before the Activity Day, invite each family to come to Activity Day prepared to share for 2-3 minutes about a family member or ancestor who has served their community in some way. This could be through military service, being a business owner, serving as a church leader, public official, volunteer, or many other ways. Invite them to bring a picture if they can, or coordinate to have the pictures accessible digitally if you prefer to have the pictures shown on an electronic device during this activity.
- Provide crackers, soft cream cheese, and any other foods you might want to build/decorate your house snacks.

**Theme Story and Discussion:** *Home in the Woods* by Eliza Wheeler or *This Is Our House* by Hyewon Yum

**Discussion prompt questions:**

- What parts of the house in the story do you like the best? What are some things that the people in the story learned while they were at home? To them, do you think there's "no place like home"? What do you learn in your home? What do you love about your house?

**Song and Discussion:** Wise Man and the Foolish Man

Sing/learn "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man" song (Cedarmont Kids has a version on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HVdbULOVHA> ). Explain to the children that individually and as families we need to exercise faith in God and build our foundation on Him. Ask "What are some things families could do in their home to grow closer to God? What are some things your family does that help you stay close to God?"

**Game and Discussion:** Red Rover/Twister

Play Red Rover or Twister. If you play Red Rover, explain that we want our families and our nation to be strong like the two people clasping hands to stop the person trying to break through. If you play Twister, explain that we want our families and nation to have a strong foundation like when a person's hands and feet are planted firmly in a good place and they can stay in the game. If our homes are places of learning, of God, our nation won't get twisted up or have weak spots, instead we will be strong and become the people God can use to heal our nation. Ask the kids if there's any other lessons they think we can learn from the game.

**Object Lesson and Discussion:** Cup pyramid

Use disposable cups to create a pyramid and then ask for volunteers to remove the bottom cups one by one to demonstrate the importance of a foundation.

Explain that spiritual, social, and academic skills learned within the family unit are the foundation of our society. When any aspect of family life is attacked or removed the foundation of society becomes shaky at best. You might ask the kids what are some attacks on the family that they have seen or heard of.

**Activity and Discussion for older kids:** Card towers/houses

This activity again demonstrates the important role that foundations play. Watch videos online to learn how to make a tower or house out of cards. Invite the youth to follow the instructions in the videos and try making towers themselves. Ask them to discuss how families (and what we learn at home) are foundational for the success of our nation. What are the most important things they have learned at home with their families?

**Activity and Discussion:** Invite each family to take their turn spending 2-3 minutes presenting their family member/ancestor who served the community.

**Snack:** Build a House

Use crackers and soft cream cheese to build houses and then eat them as a snack. You could also use small pieces of dried fruit, pretzels, or other food to decorate the outside of the houses.