

Activity Day!

Outline & Printable Resources

This Month's Lesson:



Capture the Sunshine



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.*)

Activity & Discussion: Music Videos

Story & Discussion: America the Beautiful

Movie & Discussion: Johnny Lingo

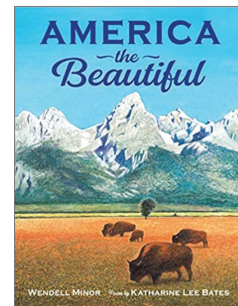
Activity: Butterfly Suncatchers

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.
- Bring an American Flag for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Prior to Activity Day, have families watch the 2003 film *Johnny Lingo*. It is available free online on Vimeo at the following link **Johnny Lingo Film**
<https://vimeo.com/382761491>
- Order the book *America the Beautiful* by Wendell Minor and Katharine Lee Bates. Available on Amazon.
- Review the how-to directions for the Butterfly Suncatchers craft options on page 5, gather supplies needed.



Activity & Discussion: Music Videos

Gather the children/youth and play the following music videos. Ask them how they feel after each video. You can have them just *listen* to the music and tell you how it makes them feel and then *watch* the videos to see if it makes them feel the same or different to see the video.

- **Happy** performed by Redhead Express
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S51IWJLNKho>
- **Mary, Did You Know?** performed by Pentatonix
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifCWN5pJGIE>
- **How Great Thou Art** performed by The Piano Guys
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHV6BjuQOZQ>
- **Paradise African Style** performed by The Piano Guys
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cgovv8jWETM>

Story & Discussion: America the Beautiful

Read the book *America the Beautiful* by Wendell Minor and Katharine Lee Bates. Ask the children if they've been to any of the places in the book and what their experience was. What other places have the children been to? You can have them share their experiences, feelings while there and what they liked best.

After the discussion you can share the book again, only this time with music. There are several versions to choose from the links below.

- **America the Beautiful** performed by United States Navy Band
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSqVkuTegxY>
- **America the Beautiful** performed by Mormon Tabernacle Choir at the Jefferson Memorial
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrOeGWMQAfQ>
- **America the Beautiful** performed by David Phelps, Wes Hampton
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3znDwYYr7_w
- **America the Beautiful** performed by Hillsdale College Choir
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmP9LvHgcaA>
- **America the Beautiful** performed by Elvis Presley
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8wZGhfEsIY>
- **America the Beautiful** performed by Frank Sinatra
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agnf96W3xeA>

Movie & Discussion: Johnny Lingo (see page 2 for the link)

Help the children understand it was the beauty and virtue within that brought Johnny and Mahana happiness.

Even through her trials Mahana did her very best to be kind and care for her father. Toma learned to do the same working for Johnny Lingo.

Discussion suggestions:

1. Why did Johnny Lingo see beauty in Mahana?
2. What made him find the beauty within himself?
3. Why did Johnny Lingo give Toma his name and inheritance?
4. Why did Toma go with Johnny Lingo and not stay with the tribe where he was to be chief?
5. Why do you think Johnny paid such a high price for Mahana?
6. How did Mahana find her beauty?
7. What resource did the natives use to barter for the price of a bride?

Activity: Butterfly Suncatchers craft #1

How-to directions are found at this link:

http://www.minieco.co.uk/butterfly-sun-catchers/?utm_content=bufferc6ba1&utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest.com&utm_campaign=buffer

This activity is not only a fun craft but also a great way to celebrate beauty while tying it into the theme "Be the Change."

Discussion suggestions:

1. Becoming the best we can be, admitting to and learning from our mistakes, being kind to others, being the light where we are.
2. When you make the butterflies they are pretty colors lying on the table but when you put them up to the sun, the light shines through bright and beautiful. This can be likened to taking on the light of Christ and trying each day to follow His example and be more like Him.

- Butterfly Suncatchers craft #2 (*optional*)

How-to directions are found at this link:

<https://www.firefliesandmudpies.com/butterfly-template/>



IDEAS FOR OLDER CHILDREN AND YOUTH (*optional*)

Use the following resources to lead a discussion about how beauty and liberty are intertwined.

Show Video: Why is Modern Art so bad?

Find at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INI07egoefc>

A video about why so much modern art is just so bad, with artist Robert Florczaak:

For two millennia, great artists set the standard for beauty. Now those standards are gone. Modern art is a competition between the ugly and the twisted; the most shocking wins. What happened? How did the beautiful come to be reviled and bad taste come to be celebrated? Renowned artist Robert Florczaak explains the history and the mystery behind this change and how it can be stopped and even reversed.

Show Video: Celebrating His Lack of Skill – Pavel Jordanowitch

Find at this link: <https://www.travelchannel.com/videos/celebrating-his-lack-of-skill-0217161>

On January 10, 1963, Representative Albert Sydney Herlong Jr., a Democratic Congressman (1949-1969) introduced “Current Communist Goals” into the Congressional Record. The list was an excerpt from the book *The Naked Communist* written by Cleon Skousen. Goal #23 reads, “Control art critics and directors of art museums.” “Our plan is to promote ugliness, repulsive, meaningless art.”

- Watch the video “Tree Change Dolls”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IG-7e1vaB18>
- Watch the Video “Lindsey Stirling Hallelujah”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VzprYCxPBQ>

Discussion suggestions:

1. How can beauty enrich our lives?
2. How can it help us see and share the light in the darkness of the world?
3. How can beauty help us better manage our own pain and trials?