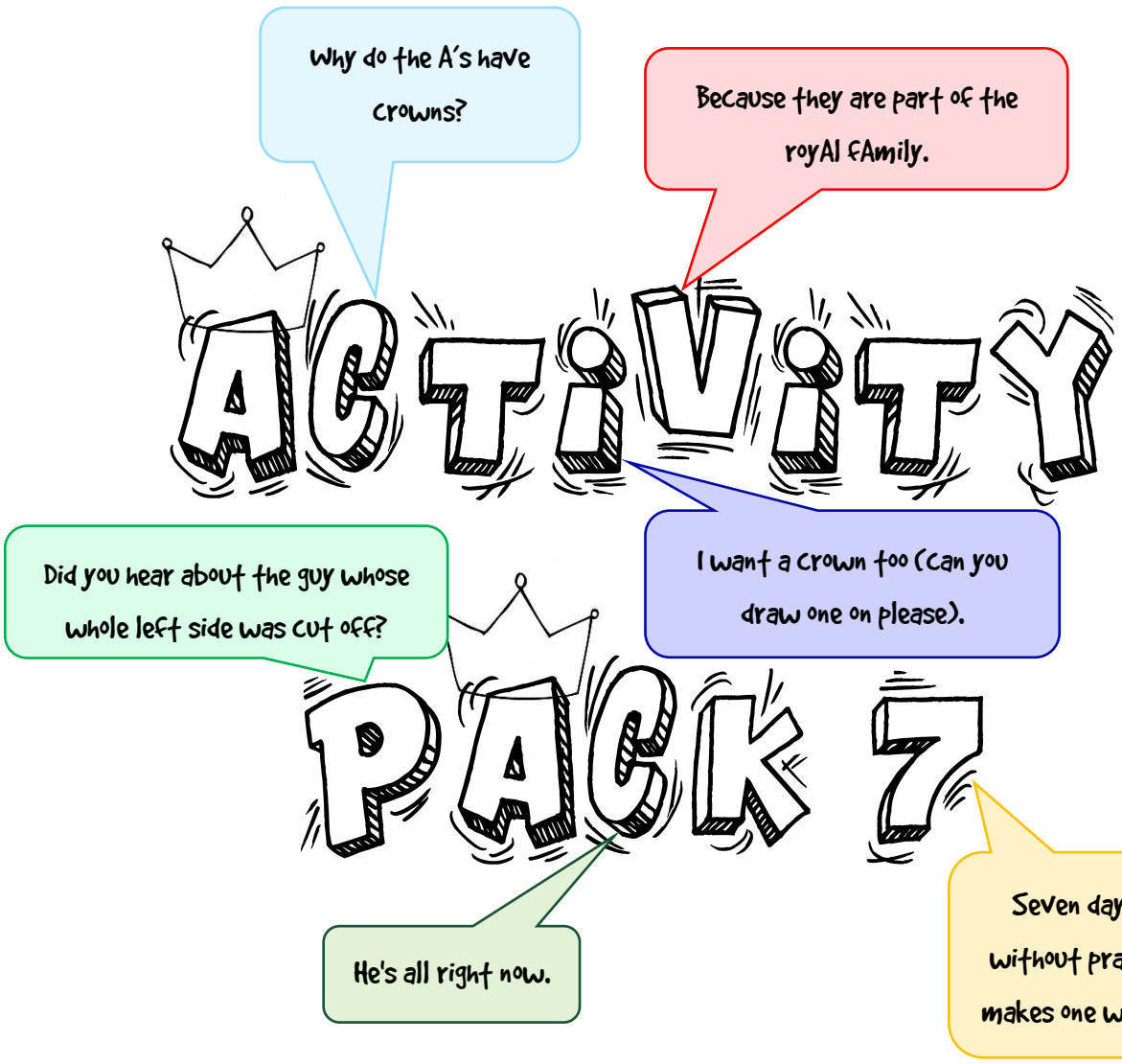
FAMILY DEVOTIONAL



SERIES 7 - THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Children CAN

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About this pack

Who made it?

This resource was created by Olly Goldenberg from Children Can, to accompany our daily podcasts.

How can I use it?

You can use this activity pack and the podcasts however you want. You can:

- Just listen to the podcast
- Use the podcast to provoke discussion
- Use them as part of a daily family devotion. It might look something like this:
- Worship together singing some songs from the internet.
    - Listen to the podcast
    - Use the 'Discuss' or 'Dig deeper' sections of this pack
    - Do the action from this pack
    - Respond in prayer and take time to listen to God
    - Do one of the activities from this pack.

How can I get in touch with you?

Send us an e-mail to info@childrencan.co.uk.

What is the copyright blurb for this pack?

Thanks for asking. Here it is.

Official Copyright notice:

We hereby give notice that you have the right to copy this activity pack and share it with as many people as you like. There are just a few things we don't want you to do with it:

- Sell it or try to make money out of it in anyway.
- Pretend that you made it.
- Change it (especially if you act as if we made it that way).
- Use it as padding to protect you.
- Make a paper aeroplane out of it.

If you think you want to do any of these things or if you want to do something that you think sound a bit like one of these things then please do get in touch with us and ask us. Actually, thinking about it, if you want to make a paper aeroplane out of this when you have finished with it please do so (unless you have not printed it off from your computer – please *do not* make a paper aeroplane out of your computer screen). We are nice and we want people to be able to use this in a way that is fair for everyone. Thank you.

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EPISODE 31: STARTING SMALL

DISCUSS

- What did you discover from today's podcast?
- Can you think of examples where God's kingdom starts small but grows bigger?
- What is the kingdom of heaven?

GO DEEPER

These Bible verses were mentioned in today's podcast.

- Matthew 13:31–32
- Genesis 7:1–24
- Acts 1:12–15
- Acts 17:6

Read this passage carefully: Matthew 13:31–32. Whenever you study the Bible it is always good to ask these questions about the passage:

- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about people?
- What does God want me to ask or think from this passage?

You might want to ask these questions too:

- What are the seeds of God's kingdom?
- What is the fruit of God's kingdom?
- How are you sowing seeds in your life?

ACTIONS

Pray for God to grow his church here on earth and for you to play your part.

Activities

Group Activity: Games for Giants

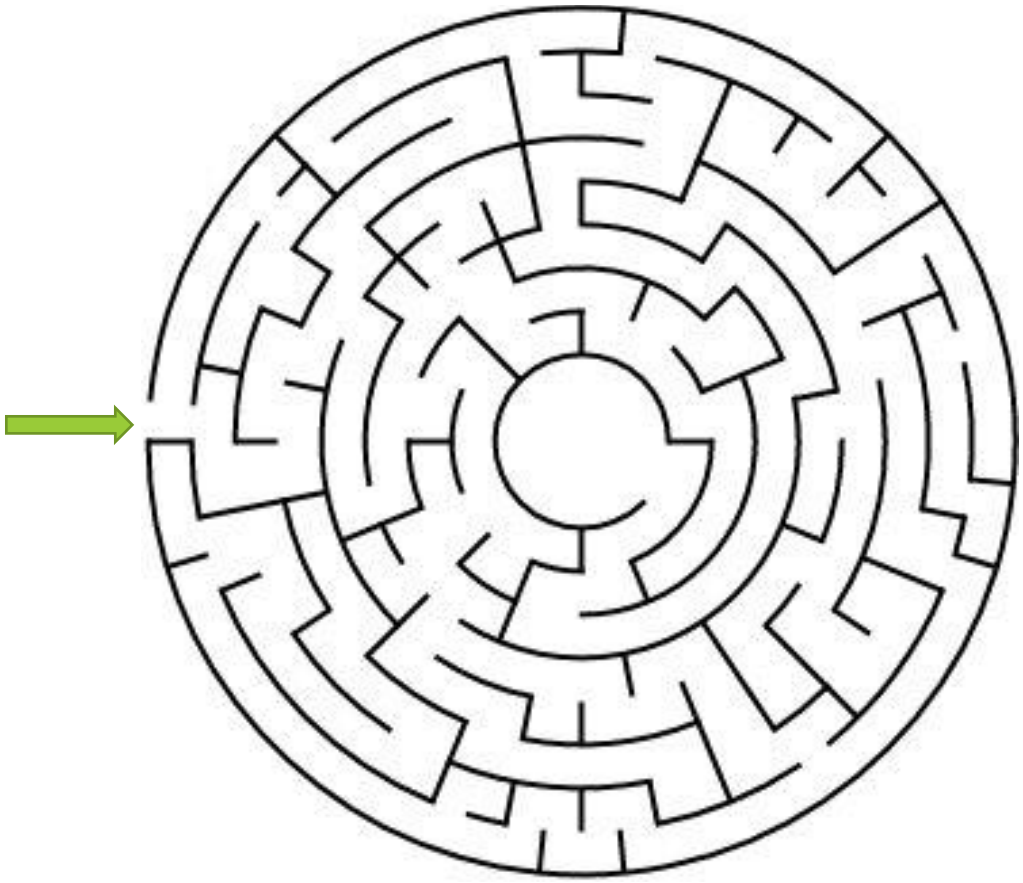
Use some large boxes as a wall to play giant Jenga.

Play giant Noughts and Crosses on your living room floor.

Snakes and ladders – put pieces of paper numbered 1 to 100 on the floor. Link some with snakes and others with ladders.

Puzzle: Tree Maze

Find your way through the maze to the heart of the tree trunk.



Go and Do It: Grow Your Plants

Buy some seeds and plant them according to the instructions. Cress seeds are great seeds to watch grow on cotton wool.

EPISODE 32: HIDDEN TREASURE

DISCUSS

- What did you discover from today's podcast?
- Is it worth giving up everything for the kingdom of God?
- What kind of treasure is there in God's kingdom?

GO DEEPER

These Bible verses were mentioned in today's podcast.

- Matthew 13:44
- Psalm 84:10

Read this passage carefully: Matthew 13:45–46. Whenever you study the Bible it is always good to ask these questions about the passage:

- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about people?
- What does God want me to ask or think from this passage?

You might want to ask these questions too:

- What was the man doing when he found the pearl of great price?
- How are you looking for God's kingdom?

ACTIONS

What has God given you – talents, money, time, etc. Talk about how you can use some of each of these things for searching after more of God's kingdom … then do it.

ACTIVITIES

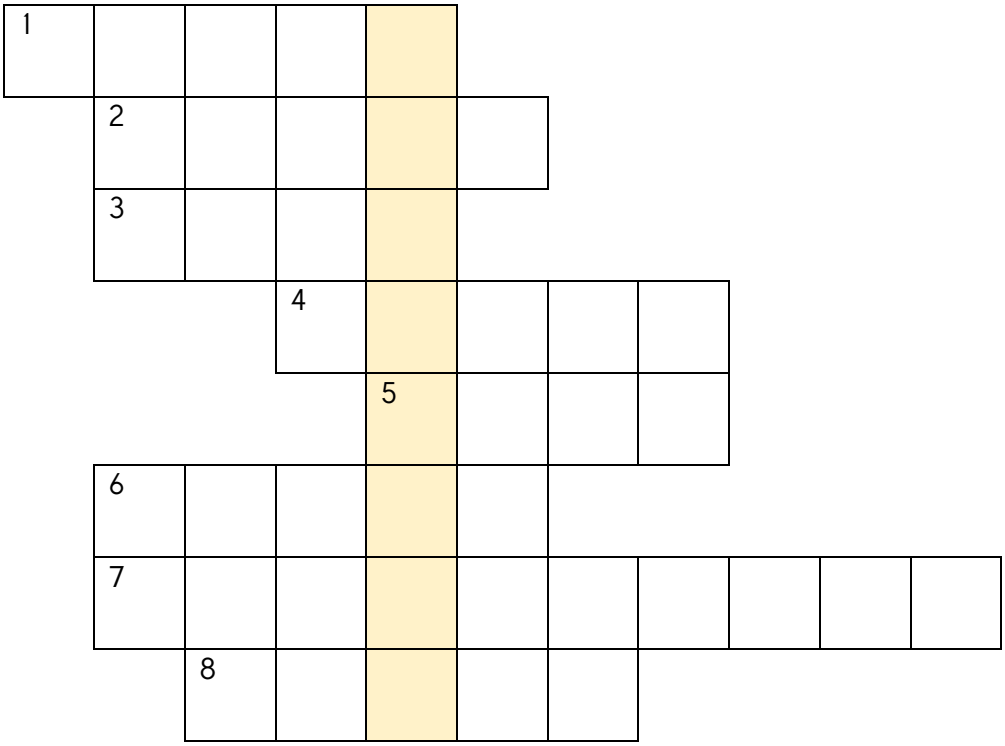
GROUP ACTIVITY: OBJECT HUNT

Each person selects three objects and has to hide it somewhere in the house. Then go object hunting – the person who finds the most hidden objects wins.

PUZZLE: CROSSWORD

Use the clues below to find the missing words, then discover the missing word in the shaded boxes.

Clues:
1 Very large in size
2 A hard, shiny, white ball that is formed inside the shell of an oyster and is used as jewelry
3 Jesus gives us eternal _____
4 The amount of money that something is worth
5 Swapped an object for money
6 God's son
7 What the man sold
8 Where the treasure was hidden



Missing word: ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

GO AND DO IT: CREATE A JOKE BOOK

Create your own joke book with all your favourite jokes in it.

EPISODE 33: TIME TO RISE

DISCUSS

- What did you discover from today's podcast?
- What does the kingdom of God effect?
- How do we mix God's kingdom in with our lives?

GO DEEPER

These Bible verses were mentioned in today's podcast.

- Luke 13:20–21

Read this passage carefully: John 17:15–18. Whenever you study the Bible it is always good to ask these questions about the passage:

- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about people?
- What does God want me to ask or think from this passage?

You might want to ask these questions too:

- What is 'the world' in this passage (the planet, the people, the way of thinking)?
- In what way(s) are we in the world?
- How are we not of the world?
- Jesus sends us into the world, how can we impact it (think about the yeast in today's devotional)?

ACTIONS

Call one person today who you have not spoken to for a while and have a chat with them to bring a bit of God's kingdom to them.

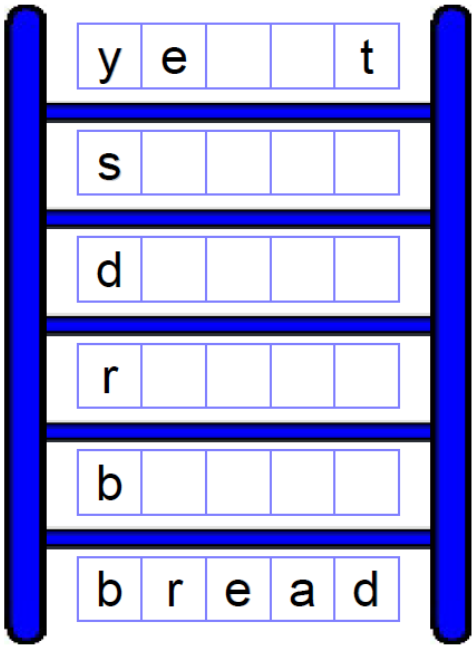
Activities

Group Activity: Silly Songs

Write the names of ten songs that everyone knows on ten pieces of paper and do the same for ten names of famous people (may be fictional) or animals. Put the two lists into two separate bowls. Each person has to choose one song and one person, they then have to sing the song in the style of that person or animal.

Puzzle: Wordladder Puzzle

Start with the word at the top of the ladder and work your way down to the bottom of the ladder. On each step you must replace 1 letter of the word – you can change the order of the other letters.



The leavener used in pizza dough.

Look for a long time, eyes wide open.

Found in a calendar and a fruit bowl.

To understand what people are saying by watching the movement of their lips.

Thread these on string to make a bracelet.

A baked food made from a mixture of flour and water.

Go And Do It: Make Bread

Make your own bread and watch the dough rise.

EPISODE 34: GETTING PAID

DISCUSS

- What did you discover from today's podcast?
- What wages does God pay the workers in God's kingdom?
- What work do the workers in God's kingdom do?

GO DEEPER

These Bible verses were mentioned in today's podcast.

- Matthew 20:1–16

Read and act out this passage carefully: Matthew 20:1–16. Whenever you study the Bible it is always good to ask these questions about the passage:

- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about people?
- What does God want me to ask or think from this passage?

You might want to ask these questions too:

- In what ways do some people join the labour field later in the day?
- In what ways are we all equal in God's kingdom?
- What does Jesus mean by the first will be last and the last will be first?

ACTIONS

Think what we learn about God and what we are reminded about ourselves from today's passage.

Use these thoughts to praise God that he is bigger than us and fairer than us.

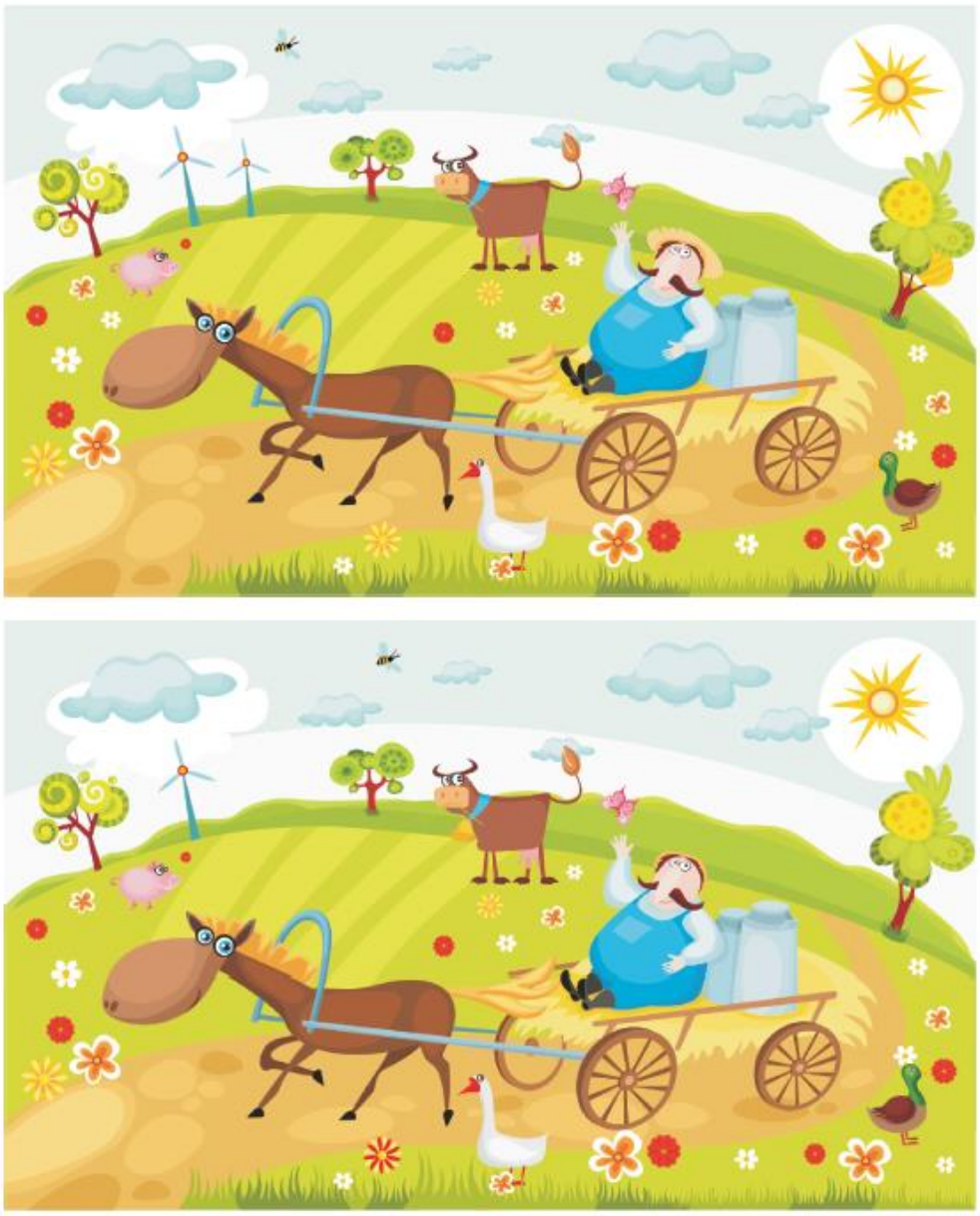
Activities

Group Activity: What's the time

Play 'What's the time Mr Wolf' (also known as 'Grandmother's footsteps') – creeping up on one person to see if you can touch them before they get you.

Puzzle: Spot the difference

Can you find 10 differences between these two pictures?



From www.myhomeschoolmath.com (more spot the differences available there).

Go and Do It: Set up shop

Set up a sweet shop and give out sweets to each person in your family.

EPISODE 35: KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

DISCUSS

- What did you discover from today's podcast?
- What do the keys help Peter to do?
- Does God still give his church this authority today?

GO DEEPER

These Bible verses were mentioned in today's podcast.

- Matthew 16:19
- Matthew 4:17
- 1John 4:18
- 1 John 1:9
- Matthew 21:22
- John 14:25–27

Read this passage carefully: Mark 10:13–16. Whenever you study the Bible it is always good to ask these questions about the passage:

- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about people?
- What does God want me to ask or think from this passage?

You might want to ask these questions too:

- How does Jesus say we should receive the kingdom of God?
- When we have received the kingdom of God what difference does it make to us and those around us?

ACTIONS

Choose a key of God's kingdom to unlock something in your family's life. Take the Bible verse to God and use it in your prayers today.

ACTIVITIES

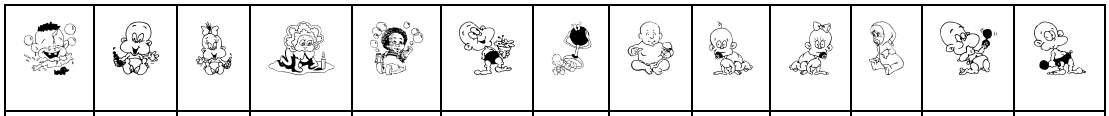
GROUP ACTIVITY: AT HAND

Each person chooses three objects that are in reach of them. After you have chosen the objects, put the names of jobs/occupations into a hat. When you pull out a job the one person has to use their first object whilst pretending to be doing the job. For example a sailor may use a shoe as a pair of binoculars. Make it funny and be creative! Job ideas: Doctor, teacher, soldier, chef, lion-tamer, builder, pilot, shop assistant, cleaner, etc.

PUZZLE: UNLOCK THE CODED MESSAGE

Use the key to unlock the coded message.

The key:

												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M

												
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

The message:



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