Day 1 Preschool Games

Simon Says and Follow the Leader

Introduction for the Station Leader:

Good morning! I wanted to start out by telling you the overall themes for the day to understand the games. The main theme for the day is God guides us. This is shown through the Bible Story in Exodus. In Exodus, the Israelites are being led out of Egypt by Moses and God. God guides them by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. God sent His Son, Jesus, to guide us and Jesus guides us through his word. God continues to guide us today.

Back in history, as settlers were traveling out west in the hopes of a better life, the settlers were not going into the prairies and deserts blind. They were led by a guidebook or a guide, who was an experienced man who had traveled the route many times. This is the connection from the West to the overall theme.

In the game Simon Says, one person is leading the group. God led the Israelites out of Egypt and continues to guide us today through Jesus and the Word. Settlers were also guided out West. This game conveys the message of guidance. There will also be a second game called Follow the Leader. Here, the children will take turns guiding each other around an area by holding onto a rope.

How to Play:

Playing this game is very simple. It is the same game as Simon Says with the same rules. One person goes to the front of the group and either says “Simon says…” or another action without the words “Simon says”. The “Simon” can either be you the station leader, the leader of the group, or a member of the group. Do multiple rounds so each child can have their turn to be Simon.  
 The second game is also very easy. You have a piece of rope, and everyone holds onto it. The person at the front guides them around an area. When their turn is done, switch who the leader.

Supplies:

* Rope
* Chalk
* Ball

Instructions for when the group arrives:

1. Welcome the group and introduce yourself
2. Explain the game and the rules that they will be playing today
3. Ask them what the theme is for the day (God guides us)
   1. They might not know or remember the theme yet so if they don’t get it, please remind them
4. Then tell them briefly how God guided the Israelites out of Egypt and how early settlers of the West were guided.
   1. Again, some groups may not have gone to Bible Story yet. Please just give a brief explanation of this.
5. Play the Game!
6. First, have you be Simon to get the group comfortable
7. Switch out with the group leader or group members so they can be Simon
8. When that is done, play the second game.
9. Explain the game and the rules
10. Choose the first leader and play
11. When you get to the other sidewalk, switch leaders
12. Note:
    1. If you have time left over or they do not want to play anymore, here are some other options:
       1. Duck, duck, goose
       2. Draw with Chalk
       3. Circle Ball
       4. Playing with a ball
       5. Anything else