

GET IN THE GAME!

VBX 2023

Welcome to the amazing world of Preteen VBX! You'll want to bring your A-game to this week of Bible Study as you lead fifth and sixth graders to discover that trusting Jesus as Savior and following Him changes the game entirely! You will find that teaching preteens is going to be full of twists and turns, just as in life! But the material created for this week--plus your phenomenal VBX preteen teaching team--will be the perfect Game Plan to make you ready for anything!

CONNECT 4

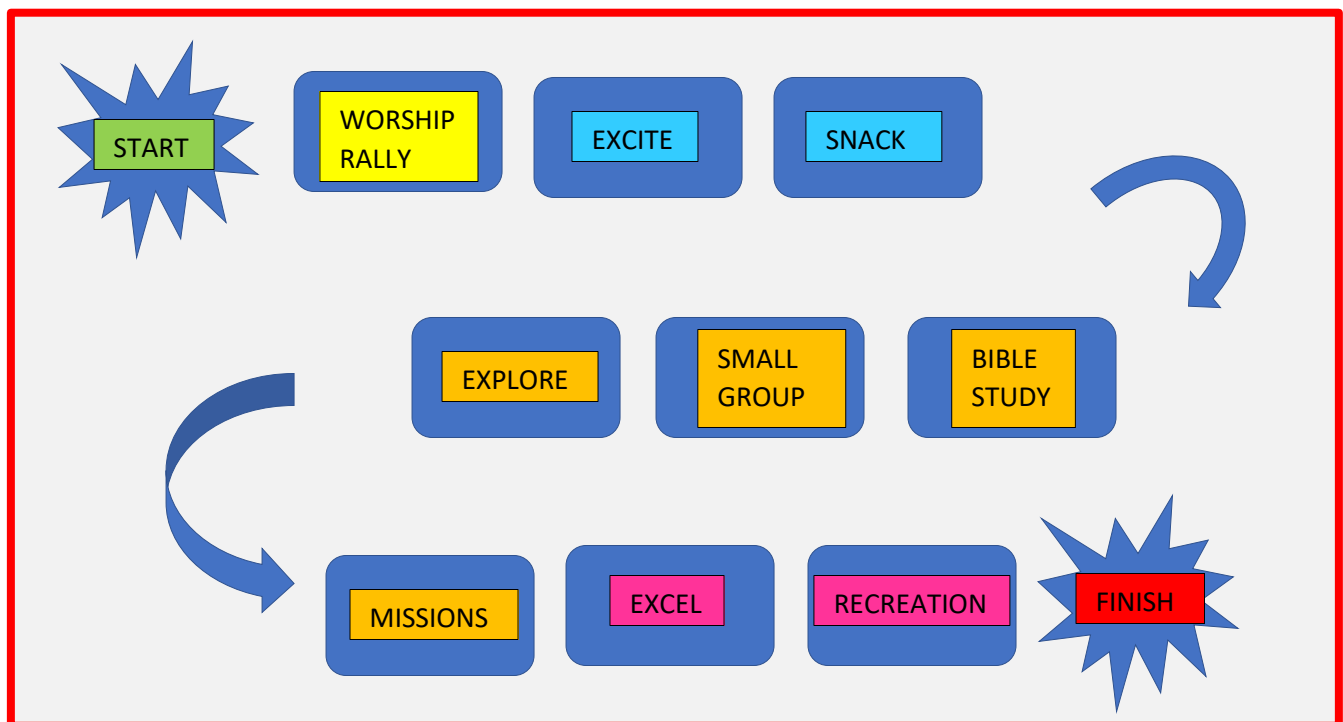
It is important to understand our preteens—how they think and how they grow spiritually.

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| <p>Physical:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many enjoy sports and competition (boys vs. girls' games are always a win with preteens!).• Plan activities with both gross and fine motor skills.• Incorporate movement breaks often. Give preteens choices whenever possible. | <p>Social/emotional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preteens are worried about rejection and not fitting in.• They may experience emotional highs and lows, even during the week of VBS.• They are beginning to question authority and expect perfection.• They need proof that you are trustworthy ... they need proof that Jesus is trustworthy!• The proof they are searching for is in the Bible! |
| <p>Mental:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preteens are creative, curious, and critical.• They have a good sense of humor but will question everything! Do not give preteens "fluff" answers. Point them to the truth always and lead them to know how to find it for themselves. | <p>Spiritual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preteens are beginning to develop a value system of their own based on their understanding of Scripture.• They value what their peers think.• They need you to model Christian behaviors and teach them how to apply Scripture to their daily lives. |

MAKE YOUR MOVE

Your team's game plan for preteens is to use all the resources at your disposal to help them seek the truth of Scripture. Preteens learn about God's plan for their lives through Bible study, games, creativity, and fun! Here's what Lifeway has provided as resources for a successful VBX this year!

- **The Bible** (most important resource, always teach from an actual Bible, not an app on your phone. Encourage gamers to bring their Bibles and make a plan to provide a Bible for any child who does not have one at home.)
- **VBS 2023 VBX Preteen Leader Guide** (contains checklists, decorating ideas, Daily Lessons, and lists of supplies needed. A must have for your team planning!)
- **VBS 2023 VBX Preteen Leader Pack** (contains colorful and fun posters, questions, response cards and handouts to use with each lesson)
- **VBS 2023 VBX Preteen Activity Book** (designed for preteens to give a daily overview for each day's Bible story. Also contains fun challenges and activities to engage preteens and reenforce what they have learned.)
- **VBS 2023 Memory Maker** (mnemonic device made of daily tags to help preteens remember each day's Bible story)
- **VBS 2023 Music for Kids CD**
- **Lifeway.com/VBS** order resources for VBS 2023!



PLAY THE GAME

Overview: Daily Bible Teaching

In the *VBS 2023 VBX Preteen Leader Guide*, Excite, Explore, Excel and a Small Group Time section explain how to level up and play through the day!

Excite introduces the theme and daily Bible content with an icebreaker game and introductory activity. There are several options to choose from each day.

Explore engages preteens in the Bible story and makes the Bible connection to daily life. This is the core content.

Excel reviews the Bible story and life application for the day. There are several options to choose from.

Small Group Time includes the opportunity to discuss the "Small Group Discussion Questions" (pack item 7) each day. Remember to pair preteens who are more familiar with the Bible with those who are not.

VBX 3-Hour Schedule:

- Worship Rally (30 minutes)
- Excite (20 minutes)
- Snack (15 minutes)
- Explore (55 minutes)
- Missions (20 minutes)
- Excel (40 minutes).

Please contact me if you have ANY questions!

I would love to help you plan and make this opportunity the BEST for your preteens!

Serving with you,

Susan Spaulding

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LEVEL UP!

If your church follows the traditional VBS rotation plan, use the Explore section as your core Bible study time. If additional plans are needed, use the activities from either the Excite or Excel sections. Preteens will break for missions and snacks. Recreation and crafts will take place during the Bible Study Time (Explore). Some churches offer a separate recreation rotation or a separate craft rotation for preteens. Please follow the plan that works best for your church, using the curriculum as your guide and consider the characteristics of your preteens and their space as you choose activities for each day.