

# Adapting the Program

*Jonah: An Overboard Adventure!* can be customized for any size church or programming need. The material can accommodate a small class with an individual leader, or it can be used by a team of

leaders with any number of participants. This program is great for kids and families of all ages, too! The following chart will help you customize the material for your needs.

	Opening Assembly	Bible-times Sites – Rotation
<b>SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin in a separate classroom or meeting area.</li> <li>• If no time or place to gather before class time, simply show the video <i>Sharing God's Values Through the Story of Jonah</i>. You might also present the opening skit object lesson.</li> <li>• If you do have time but not the staff to offer the opening, ask two site or small group leaders to be the MCs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change sites every two weeks. Use session A and session B lessons for each site, and then move on.</li> <li>• Consider the <i>VeggieFamily</i> program for an intergenerational experience.</li> </ul>
<b>MIDWEEK PROGRAM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer your Opening Assembly during a dinner for the entire family. Present the video, skit, and music to introduce the program.</li> <li>• Invite entire families to participate so that everyone can eat together. You may want to use <i>VeggieFamily</i> for an intergenerational learning experience!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a minimum of 30 hours of programming in <i>Veggie-Kids</i>. Customize for your program 1 hour for 30 weeks, 2 hours for 15 weeks, or 3 hours for 10 weeks.</li> <li>• Offer one learning site at a time, and switch every 6 weeks for a 30-week experience. Do session A material the first 3 weeks and session B material the second 3 weeks.</li> <li>• Post a schedule in an easy-to-see location so that everyone can check where they should be and what lesson you are in when absent.</li> </ul>
<b>BACKYARD CLUB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a front or back porch to show <i>Sharing God's Values Through the Story of Jonah</i> video.</li> <li>• Do the object lesson found in the opening skit.</li> <li>• Use the music CD or cassette to teach kids fun, theme-related music.</li> <li>• Encourage kids to collect money for <i>Compassion International</i> to "make a whale of a difference in the life of a needy child."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If other families are interested in hosting, let kids rotate to a different backyard for each lesson.</li> </ul>
<b>FAMILY MINISTRY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep nuclear families together for five main areas or small groups.</li> <li>• Choose an adult from the group who is comfortable leading the small group.</li> <li>• Partner singles, teens, and couples without kids among other nuclear families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change needed from traditional program.</li> </ul>
<b>SAME-DAY LESSON</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin with a simple version of the Opening Assembly.</li> <li>• Welcome participants.</li> <li>• Show the <i>Sharing God's Love Through the Story of Jonah</i> video.</li> <li>• Sing one or two of the theme songs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do the lessons in the order they are found in the book.</li> <li>• Place less emphasis on individual sites and more emphasis on lesson content.</li> </ul>
<b>RETREAT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather everyone in the main meeting place. Choose several openings from pgs. 34-44 to kick off each main gathering time (for example: <i>Friday evening gathering, Saturday morning gathering, Saturday evening gathering, and Sunday morning gathering</i>).</li> <li>• Present the skit, video, and music.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you have five different meeting areas to utilize, hang the site posters found in the kit to identify them.</li> <li>• If you only have one meeting area, skip the site references altogether and focus only on the lesson content itself.</li> </ul>



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	Activities	Decorations
<b>SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choose crafts that are easy to do and simple to clean up.</li> <li>Choose “unmessy” games that don’t require large open spaces if you cannot go outdoors.</li> <li>Choose simple snacks or modify the snacks in each session.</li> <li>Focus on only your favorite songs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use site posters provided in the kit. Order more, if needed.</li> <li>Hang simple decorations that give a general feel for the site and are easy to put up and take down.</li> <li>Share site decorations with other teachers if you are willing to work on different lessons at one time.</li> </ul>
<b>MIDWEEK PROGRAM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offer crafts that are more elaborate.</li> <li>Kids have generally been in school all day. Offer games that involve large motor skills. Take kids outside or in a gym, if possible.</li> <li>Tie in snacks with a meal, if desired. Consider offering Bible-time foods that Jonah would have enjoyed.</li> <li>Provide more opportunities for music. Let children prepare a song for presentation during worship.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offer one site every six weeks. If you can keep this site up, recruit a decoration person. Then create an atmosphere kids will look forward to visiting as their “special” spot each week.</li> <li>If you cannot leave decorations up, create and use simple decorations. Make transparencies to create a background that can be tacked up each week, easily folded up, and put away between meetings. Create signs or mount pictures on sturdy posterboard that can be tacked up and taken down each week.</li> </ul>
<b>BACKYARD CLUB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have fun! Set realistic goals, and ask other parents to donate time, supplies, or money.</li> <li>Choose crafts that use materials you have available at home.</li> <li>Choose outdoor games. Have a simple rainy-day option.</li> <li>Involve kids in preparing their own snacks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus more on the lesson content than on the decorations.</li> <li>Involve your own child(ren) in decorating. Use some of their ideas.</li> <li>Offer and decorate for one site each day. Make sites simple. Hang the site poster offered in the kit and several simple decorations so that the kids get the general theme.</li> </ul>
<b>FAMILY MINISTRY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kids should remain with their families throughout each activity.</li> <li>Tots may be dismissed for a short while for free play. Their attention span is too short for a three-hour program.</li> <li>Refer to the activities in <i>VeggieFamily</i>. These activities promote intergenerational learning experiences.</li> <li>Involve families in the presentation itself whenever possible.</li> <li>Select crafts that everyone can work on together.</li> <li>Choose games that adults will enjoy and will not intimidate or embarrass them.</li> <li>Encourage families to work together to prepare their own snack.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage families to help in site decorations. Ask them to sign up for specific responsibilities and encourage them to work together on whatever they chose.</li> </ul>
<b>SAME-DAY LESSON</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To offer variety, allow participants to rotate to various centers for crafts, games, snacks, and/or music.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use simple decorations that can be easily set up and taken down.</li> <li>Use the site posters provided in the kit and order more, if needed.</li> <li>Create a general feel in the room, rather than using elaborate decorations.</li> </ul>
<b>RETREAT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep craft activities simple, particularly if you are off-site. Remember you have to haul any supplies you will need.</li> <li>Do large motor games that encourage community building.</li> <li>Offer simple snacks, or skip if food is not allowed in the your meeting room.</li> <li>Focus on only a few key songs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus more on lesson content than decorations.</li> </ul>



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## Schedule

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### Sample one-hour program:

- Opening (15 min.)
- Intro. activity (10 min.)
- Bible presentation (15 min.)
- Craft or game (10 min.)
- Life application (10 min.)

#### Sample two-hour program:

- Opening (15 min.)
- Intro. activity (10 min.)
- Bible presentation (30 min.)
- Craft (20 min.)
- Game (15 min.)
- Snack and music (15 min.)
- Life application (15 min.)

### MIDWEEK PROGRAM

#### Sample one and one half-hour program:

- Opening (15 min.)
- Intro. activity (15 min.)
- Bible presentation (20 min.)
- Craft (15 min.)
- Game (10 min.)
- Life application (15 min.)

#### Sample three-hour program:

- Opening (15 min.)
- Intro. activity (15 min.)
- Bible presentation (20 min.)
- Meal and music (30 min.)
- Craft (25 min.)
- Games (20 min.)
- Life application (30 min.)

### BACKYARD CLUB

- Offer the program during the morning when the weather is the coolest and kids are more receptive and alert.

#### Sample schedule:

- Open in your living/family/TV room.
- Show video. (15 min.)
- Intro. activity (15 min.)
- Bible presentation (30 min.)
- Craft and games (60 min.)
- Snack and music (15 min.)
- Social time (15 min.)
- Life application (30 min.)

### FAMILY

- No change needed from traditional program.

### SAME-DAY LESSON

- No change needed from traditional program.
- Allow time for participants to move from different activity centers, if you choose that option (crafts, games, snacks, and/or music).



## RETREAT / Sample Schedule

### FIRST EVENING

- Welcome and Opening Assembly (30 min.)
- Intro. activity (30 min.)
- Jonah review (30 min.)

### FULL DAY

- Opening Assembly 2 (30 min.)
- Bible presentation (30 min.)
- Craft, snack, and game (75 min.)
- Life application (30 min.)

- Lunch (60 min.)
- Intro. activity (30 min.)
- Bible presentation (45 min.)
- Craft, snack, and game (75 min.)
- Life application (30 min.)
- Free time and dinner (2 hours)
- Opening Assembly 3 (30 min.)
- Intro. activity (30 min.)
- Bible presentation (30 min.)
- Craft, snack, and game (60 min.)
- Life application (30 min.)

### HALF DAY A.M.

- Opening Assembly and Worship (90 min.)
- Intro. activity and snack (15 min.)
- Bible presentation (30 min.)
- Craft and game (30 min.)
- Life application (15 min.)
- Lunch

### SECOND FULL DAY P.M.

- Dismiss or repeat full day schedule.