



## Younger Children's (K-4th Grade) Activity Sheet

*These activities can be used with the Younger Children's Lesson Plan. (Find descriptions of the various ministries there, as well as a study on the Acts and Psalms scriptures.)*

### PARACHUTE GAMES

These parachute games will help children reflect on the Holy Spirit and consider how the monies received from the Pentecost Offering help youth and young adults through the Young Adult Volunteer program and Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

#### The Spirit Moves Us

With children gathered in a circle around the parachute, ask them to grab the edge with both hands.

Read Acts 2:1-2. Invite the children to move the parachute up and down quickly and think about the rush of wind on Pentecost and the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### Spirit Calls

The Young Adult Volunteer program is one way that we encourage our young adults in faith to serve and tell God's story. Psalm 71 tells us that we are to tell of God's goodness from when we are young to when we are old. God calls each of you to tell God's story, too!

Invite children to gather in a circle with their hands gripping the edge of the parachute. At the count of three, raise the parachute high in the air. The leader will call out "The Spirit calls \_\_\_\_\_ (name of child)." That child will run under the parachute to another spot on the edge of the parachute. While they are running, have the children name a good attribute about God. Once the children reach another spot, they will start over and call out, "The Spirit calls \_\_\_\_\_ (name of another child)." Continue with children sharing God's attributes as they run under the parachute and all children have been called.

#### The Spirit Gathers

As many as 3,000 people were brought into the community of God's people on the day of Pentecost. God gathers people of all ages to the community of faith. In a moment, we'll all hold onto the edges of the parachute and lower it to the ground together. At the count of three, we'll raise our arms up and lift the parachute high in the air. Then we'll all quickly take a few steps in and step under it as we bring the edges down behind us to sit on, making a tent—our own gathering space.

## **Younger Children's (K-4th Grade) Activity Sheet** *(continued)*

Once everyone is seated along the edges on the inside of the parachute, talk about how God gathers everyone through God's Spirit. In Psalm 71, we heard about how God says that people of all ages are to tell of God's wonder and power. Ask the children to name people they know in your congregation who can tell about God's amazing power and love.

### **The Spirit Sends**

The Young Adult Volunteers in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) are spread around the world serving in God's name. Triennium participants come from all over the country—and even further throughout the world through our global partners.

We're going to put a variety of balls in the middle of our parachute. When we see these balls, let's think about all the youth and young adults spread around the world sharing God's good story.

Place the balls in the middle of the parachute and invite the children to move the parachute up and down quickly and watch the balls bounce around the parachute. The goal is to keep as many of the balls on the parachute as possible.

*These materials were written by Jenna Campbell, a Certified Christian Educator serving as the Director of Children and Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian Church in Stillwater, Oklahoma.*