Rotation Stations
Come to Breakfast!

Cooking
Come to Breakfast!

Bible Verse
They knew it was the Lord. John 21:12c

Did You Know?
Our Bible story describes a post-resurrection appearance of Jesus. The disciples have been fishing all night, but have not caught anything. In the morning, they see Jesus on the shore, though they don’t recognize him at first. Jesus tells them to let their net down on the other side of the boat. When Jesus’ instructions are followed the result is a miraculous catch of fish—153 fish, in fact. Biblical scholars have wondered why John included the exact number of fish caught. Theories range from a mathematical significance of the number 153 to the explanation that an eyewitness counted the number of fish caught. Regardless of the reason for the specific number, it’s clear that Jesus didn’t just provide fish, Jesus provided more than enough.

Jesus cooks the disciples a breakfast of bread and fish. This meal is a reminder of the miraculous feeding of the 5,000 with bread and fish. It is also reminiscent of Jesus’ last meal with the disciples before his death when they shared the Passover meal and Jesus broke the bread.

Before Jesus’ death and resurrection, he performed miracles and shared meals with his followers. In this Scripture passage, the disciples are offered gifts of an abundant catch of fish and a nourishing meal. This story demonstrates that Jesus’ ministry of love, grace, and hospitality will continue post-resurrection.

Cooking Station

Bible Story
John 21:1-14

Anchor Point
Jesus is alive!

My Plan
- Bible Story—Come to Breakfast
- 1-5-3 Bible Verse
- Campfire Snack—All Children
- Fruit Boats—All Children
- Breadstick Fish—Younger Children
- Fishy Melt Sandwiches—Older Children
- Worship

For more Bible background information, go to deepbluekids.com.

Illustrations of the Deep Blue Kids are by Tim Moen, character designer; Jesse Griffin, 3D artist; Julio Medina, 3D artist; Eric M. Mikula, facial rigging; Christopher Slavik, layout artist.

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Station Setup

Write the Bible verse on a large sheet of mural paper or a piece of poster board and hang it where the children can see it. (They knew it was the Lord. John 21:12c)

BIBLE STORY—COME TO BREAKFAST

Supplies: Deep Blue Bible Storybook

SAY: Our Bible story is about Jesus. We find stories about Jesus and things that happened after Jesus was born in the New Testament. Stories about Jesus’ life and ministry are found in the first four books of the New Testament.

ASK: What do we call the first four books of the New Testament? (the Gospels)
What are the four Gospels? (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)

SAY: The word gospel means good news. Jesus’ birth, ministry, and resurrection are all good news. Today’s story is from the Gospel of John. This story describes something that happened after Jesus’ resurrection.

• Read the story “Come to Breakfast” (p. 438) from the Deep Blue Bible Storybook.

ASK: What did Jesus serve the disciples for breakfast? (fish and bread) What do you usually eat for breakfast?

1-5-3 BIBLE VERSE

Supplies: Bible verse poster made in station setup

• Show the children the Bible verse poster.
• Encourage the children to read the verse together with you.

SAY: When the disciples caught an amazing catch of fish, they recognized that the person on the shore was Jesus. In the Bible story, the disciples caught 153 fish.

ASK: How long do you think it would take us to say the Bible verse 153 times?

SAY: It might take us a long time!

SAY: We have said the Bible verse one time. Now let’s say the verse five times.

• Encourage the children to say the Bible verse with you five times.

SAY: Now let’s say the Bible verse three more times.

• Encourage the children to say the Bible verse with you three more times.

SAY: We said the Bible verse 1-5-3 times!
Activity Options

Choose from the following activities as your time and the children’s interests allow.

CAMPFIRE SNACK—ALL CHILDREN

Supplies: pretzel sticks, shredded cheese, fish-shaped crackers, small paper plates, markers

SAY: In our Bible story today, we heard about Jesus cooking breakfast for the disciples. Jesus cooked fish over a campfire. Today, let’s make a pretend campfire that you can eat.

• Let children use a marker to write their names on the edge of a small paper plate.
• Have the children wash their hands.
• Give each child some pretzel sticks and encourage him or her to stack the pretzels to resemble logs in a campfire.
• Invite each child to sprinkle shredded cheese over her or his pretzels to represent the fire.

SAY: Let’s put some fish on our campfire to remember Jesus cooking fish for the disciples.

• Give each child a few fish-shaped crackers to place on his or her campfire snack.

SAY: Your campfires look great. You will eat your campfires during our closing worship time today.

• Set the campfire snacks aside until closing worship time.

FRUIT BOATS—ALL CHILDREN

Supplies: pineapple, assorted fruit of your choice (strawberries, grapes, blueberries, bananas, and so forth), spoons, knives, large bowl, large spoon

Before class: Cut the pineapple in half. Hollow out the pineapple, to leave the two pineapple shells as serving boats. Place the edible pineapple aside. Remove and discard the pineapple core from the pineapple shell.

SAY: We’re going to make fruit salad. We’ll serve our fruit salad in pineapple boats to remind us of the disciples going fishing.

• Have the children wash their hands.
• Divide the children into small groups and give each group a type of fruit to prepare for the salad, giving one group the pineapple flesh.
• Have the children prepare their fruit, washing, peeling and cutting it into bite-size pieces as appropriate.
• Invite the children to add their prepared fruit to the large bowl.

TIPS

Younger children can easily manage washing grapes and picking them off of the stems. Older children can use table knives to cut strawberries, bananas, and pineapple.
• After all of the fruit has been added to the bowl, have the children stir the fruit salad and place it in the pineapple boats.

**SAY:** We’ll eat our fruit salad during our closing worship time.

• Refrigerate the fruit salad until time for closing worship.

**BREADSTICK FISH—YOUNGER CHILDREN**

**Supplies:** refrigerated breadstick dough, baking sheets

**Before class:** Preheat oven to the temperature recommended on the breadstick package.

**SAY:** In today’s Bible story, Jesus fixed bread and fish for the disciples for breakfast. We’re going to be a little silly and make fish-shaped bread!

• Have the children wash their hands.

• Let the children help you open the refrigerated breadstick dough.

• Give each child a breadstick and have him or her shape it into the outline of a fish (like the one pictured to the right) by laying one end of the breadstick over the other end about an inch from each end.

• Have each child place his or her breadstick fish on the baking sheet.

• Encourage the children to continue forming breadstick fish until all of the breadsticks have been shaped.

• Bake the breadsticks according to the package directions.

**SAY:** We will enjoy our breadstick fish during our closing worship time.

**FISHY MELT SANDWICHES—OLDER CHILDREN**

**Supplies:** 1 large can of tuna packed in water, shredded mozzarella or cheddar cheese, mayonnaise, salt, small sandwich buns, can opener, mixing bowl, measuring cups and spoons, mixing spoon, colander, aluminum foil

**Before class:** Preheat an oven to 350 degrees. Tear pieces of aluminum foil large enough to wrap a single sandwich bun.

**SAY:** Today we heard a story about Jesus cooking bread and fish for his disciples. Let’s combine bread and fish to make sandwiches.

• Have the children wash their hands.

• Let the children open the can of tuna and dump the tuna into a colander to drain.

• Encourage the children to work together to make the sandwich filling following these directions.

• Place the tuna in a mixing bowl.

• Add 1 cup shredded cheese to the bowl.

• Add 1/4 cup mayonnaise and 1/8 teaspoon salt.

• Stir mixture well.

**TIP** Have the children make enough breadstick fish for each child in the class to have one.

**TIP** Have the children make enough sandwiches for each child in the class to have one.
• Have the children place a heaping spoonful of tuna in each sandwich bun.
• Let the children wrap each sandwich in a piece of aluminum foil.
• Pile the wrapped sandwiches on a baking sheet.

SAY: Jesus cooked bread and fish over a campfire. Since we don’t have a campfire, we will cook our bread and fish in the oven. We will eat our sandwiches during closing worship time.
• Bake the sandwiches in the preheated oven for 10 minutes.
• Let the sandwiches cool slightly before serving.

Worship

Supplies: Leader’s Guide—p. 6, food made during the lesson time, serving utensils, napkins

Before class: Make copies of the “Reproducible Family Letter” (p. 6).

SAY: As we share our snack together, we remember Jesus and the disciples eating breakfast together.
• Invite each child to find his or her campfire snack.
• Encourage children to serve themselves food. Remind children to wait until everyone has been served to begin eating.

PRAY: God, thank you for stories about Jesus. We are glad Jesus is alive. Today we celebrate that we are Jesus’ followers. Amen.
• Enjoy the snack together.
• Send a family letter home with each child.
Reproducible Family Letter

Today we explored the story of Jesus cooking breakfast for his disciples after his resurrection through cooking experiences.

Do This Activity at Home With Your Family

MAKE EDIBLE BOATS

You will need:

• canned peach halves
• cottage cheese (or apple sauce)
• triangle chips
• plate
• spoon

Directions

1. Open the canned peaches and drain off the juice.
2. Place the peaches, rounded side down, on a plate.
3. Scoop a spoonful of cottage cheese into each peach half.
4. Place a triangle chip in the cottage cheese in each peach half so it stands up to resemble a sail.
5. Enjoy your edible boats while reading the story together from John 21:1-14!