TRAIN THEME  
TITLE: “ALL ABOARD” GOD’S LIGHTNING TRAIN

LESSON ONE – “ALL ABOARD” ON GOD’S LIGHTNING TRAIN

PURPOSE

The children will understand God’s Great Commission for each of them in Matthew 28:16-20. They will know “who missionaries are” and “what missionaries do” and “how they can become “missionaries”. They will become familiar with some missionaries of today and those of the past.

ATTENDANCE (5 minutes)

_____Key Ring      ____Hole Puncher     ____Laminated Tickets

Each child will be given a “train ticket” which will be filled out by the parent or child. A hole puncher will be used to punch a hole in the “X” for that Sunday for the child to “ride God’s Lightning Train”. A helper will monitor the tickets, hole punch and keep them on a “key ring” and send the child to their first stop, the “Missions Station”. This helper will dress and act the part of a “train conductor” and have fun with the children by pretending to board the “train” and move to the “Missions Station”. Chug….choo…choo.

MISSIONS STATION (20 minutes)

_____ Video on “missionaries” from your own church or denomination or on-line videos.

_____ Bible Story Board Pictures (see pages 3-5)

_____Train Whistle           _____ White Magnetic Board

_____ Engineer kid’s hats for each child    ___Marker to write names on hats

The “Missions Station Engineer” will blow a “train whistle” to get the attention of the children and hold a short discussion on “who is a missionary” and “what do they do”. A short 5-10 minute video on showing missionary work can be used.

The Bible story from Matthew 28:16-20 will be told with the use of the storyboard pictures #1-5 on the magnetic white board. Jesus told his twelve disciples that they needed to go out into the world to tell the message of salvation to all people. Jesus said these words to all of us and that is our great “commission” or “mission” from God. Thus, we are all to be “missionaries”!

The “Missions Station Engineer” will explain to the children that they will be like missionaries today and travel around the “world” to bring God’s word to others. Therefore, they are like “engineers” on a train chugging to many places far and near to tell others about Jesus. Each child will be asked if they would like to learn how to be a “missionary” for God and be given an “Engineers Hat”. These “Engineer Hats” will be marked with the child’s name and turned in to use each Sunday they come to learn more about becoming a “missionary” for Jesus. They will be asked to “chug, chug…choo, choo” to the next stop called “the Fueling Station”.
FUELING STATION (35 Minutes)

- Cut Outs of the “Continents” (see pages 6-12)
- Cut Outs of a Star with Location (Use Velcro on stars and location) (see page 13)
- Cut out “Box Cars” with Missionary People (see pages 14-20)
- Precut Velcro strips for the ends of the “Box Cars” (1” cardboard strips ½” wide)
- Cut Outs of “Clouds with Lightning Bolts” (see pages 21-22)
- A colored engine marked with “God” (see page 23)
- Copies of “My Trip on God’s Lightning Train” (see page 23)
- Glue
- Crayons and/or markers

The “Fueling Station Engineer” will blow a “train whistle” to get the attention of the children. At this station, the children will travel to three different stops (areas in the classroom). This can be done as a group or if the group is very large, then the children can be split up to go to three different areas and rotated every 10 minutes. Make sure there are helpers at every area to help the young children complete their “mission” and go on to the next “stop”.

At the first stop, the “Fueling Station Engineer” will explain that “missionaries” go all over the world. Taped to the floor will be the seven continents of the world. Each child will receive a “star with a city name” and go searching for the “color matched” star on the continents and attach it to the Velcro spot. Each time a “star” is matched, the “Fueling Station Engineer” will read the city and the name of the continent for the children. Spend only 10 minutes with this activity and then move the children to “Stop #2”.

At the second stop, the “Fueling Station Engineer” will explain that “people” are “missionaries for God”. The children will sit at the tables, pick a precut “Missionary Box Car”, glue on a “hook up” (a small strip of cardboard about 1” long). They will place a “Velcro strip” onto the box car hook up. While they are doing this, the “Engineer” will talk about some of the “missionaries” shown on the “box cars”, talking about “how God directed them to become missionaries”. The older children can help read the names of the missionaries on their “box cars”. After completing their mission in about 10 minutes, each child will take their “box car” to the next “stop”.

At the third stop, the “Fueling Station Engineer” will explain that each missionary has a special “PURPOSE” for their work. The different purposes will be explained on each “cloud with a lightning bolt”. These clouds will be explained and put on the wall. The “Engineer” will then ask the children if they have a missionary that fits that “purpose” on their box car. For example, those missionaries that are doctors and nurses will be placed under the “Lightning Cloud of “To Heal””. Each child will then place their “box car” under the correct “purpose cloud” to complete their mission. The children will connect all the box cars to the engine that is marked “GOD”. The “Engineer” will explain that God has given everyone a “purpose” in telling others about God. HAVE PRAYER!

Each child will receive a take home paper entitled “My Trip on God’s Lightning Train”. They can work on these papers until parents pick them up. Make sure there are crayons and/or markers available for coloring.
STORY BOARD PICTURES

#1
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
CUT OUT THE CONTINENTS
CONTINENT OF "AFRICA"
CONTINENT OF "SOUTH AMERICA"

= Where Can Do! Visitors are located
CONTINENT OF AUSTRALIA

Indian Ocean

Timor Sea

Arafura Sea

Gulf of Carpentaria

Great Barrier Reef

Coral Sea

Western Australia

Northern Territory

South Australia

New South Wales

Queensland

A.C.T.

Victoria

Southern Ocean

Tasmania

Bass Strait

Tasman Sea

Great Australian Bight
CONTINENT OF ASIA
PLACES WITH MATCHING COLORED STARS TO CONTINENTS

- MOSSEL BAY, AFRICA
- ECUADOR, SOUTH AMERICA
- ANTARCTICA
- SOUTH INDIA, ASIA
- KRAKOW, POLAND, EUROPE
- MEXICO, NORTH AMERICA
- VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA
“MISSIONARY BOX CAR” FOR THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA

JOSH AND ABBY DAVIS WITH THEIR CHILDREN

PLANTING GARDENS FOR FOOD FOR PEOPLE IN MOSSEL BAY, AFRICA.

(http://joshandabbydavis.wordpress.com & video available -14-)
January, 1956, five missionaries died in an attempt to share the gospel with the Wadani tribe in Ecuador.

Roger Youderian
Pete Fleming
Jim Elliot
Nate Saint
Ed McCully

Now, 50 years later, their sacrifice has resulted in reconciliation and transformation in the tribe. This story has inspired thousands to serve Christ...
“MISSIONARY BOX CAR” FOR THE CONTINENT OF ANTARCTICA

FR. PHILIP GIBBS, SVD BUILT A CHURCH IN ANTARCTICA
A SCIENTIST IN GEOLOGICAL DRILLING, BECAME A MISSIONARY TO BUILD A CHURCH
“MISSIONARY BOX CAR” FOR THE CONTINENT OF ASIA

DR. JOSHUA RAJ AND DR. FRANKLIN CASTRO, ORTHOPEDIC SURGEONS PERFORM MEDICAL SURGERIES FOR PEOPLE IN INDIA
“MISSIONARY BOX CAR” FOR THE CONTINENT OF NORTH AMERICA

DENNIS AND LUCY SMITH BUILD HOMES FOR THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO
Doug and Lila Groth and their two children helped to establish the church in Rabka, Poland and teach at a 1st grade Christian school in Krakow in the Fall of 2006 with 19 students in two classes.
“MISSIONARY BOX CAR” FOR THE CONTINENT OF AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE CITYMISSION IN AUSTRALIA……..provides residential services for people living with disabilities, and many more services.

For over 155 years we have been changing lives in Melbourne and Victoria
MAKE 8 COPIES, CUT OUT, GLUE A PURPOSE ON EACH ONE……
CUT OUT THE “PURPOSE”, GLUE ONTO LIGHTNING CLOUD AND LAMINATE:

“TO TEACH”
“TO HEAL”
“TO LISTEN”
“TO BUILD HOMES”
“TO BUILD CHURCHES”
“TO GROW CROPS”
“TO TELL ABOUT GOD”
“TO GIVE FOOD & CLOTHES”

MY TRIP ON GOD’S LIGHTNING TRAIN for Lesson One

PARENTS: READ ABOUT GOD’S GREAT COMMISSION FOR US – Matthew 28:16-20

WOULD “I” GO IF GOD CALLED ME?
Train

Directions:
1. Decorate each train side with Crayola® markers or crayons.
2. Cut out each train and glue to a recycled, clean juice box or milk carton.

"All Aboard"
God's Lightning Train

"All Aboard"
God's Lightning Train