

Two Little Hands

Description:

two finger plays and ethnic dress-up

Aim: teach children that they can give God's Word to people who wait

Audience: 3-year-olds through second grade, any size class with adequate helpers

Time: 3 minutes with A-Z story, 2 minutes alone

Equipment:

From Akebu to Zapotec book, optional clothing

Scripture to Study:
2 Timothy 3:15

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Leader's Instructions:

Pre-class preparation: Bring the book **From Akebu to Zapotec*.

Make overheads or Power Point slides from pages one and three for leaders.

Class time: Have children stand in circles or rows. (Finger plays are good small-muscle activity for three-year-olds. They appeal to this age group's love of rhyme, improve manual dexterity, and help memorization of important concepts, while working out wiggles! Four- and five-year-olds enjoy them, too.)

Two little hands,

(Hold up both hands with fingers spread wide, palms outward.)

One and two.

(Extend first one hand, then the other.)

God gave them to me!

(Both index fingers point to self.)

God gave them to you!

(Both index fingers point to another child.)

Would YOU like to see,

(Touch index finger to thumb, making goggles in front of eyes.)

What my hands can do?

(Wiggle all fingers rapidly.)

Hands can give,

(Smile, cup hands & extend to others.)

Or hands can grab!

(Quickly clench fists and draw close to self while frowning.)

Fold in prayer,

(Palms together pointing upward.)

And make God glad.

(Index fingers pull corners of mouth upward into a smile.)

Small hands, big hands,

(Scrunch down close to the Ground and then pop up high.)

It's never too late,

(Wave finger back & forth in no-no signal, with other hand on hip.)

To give God's Word,

(Hands together, palms up, forming the shape of a Bible.)

To people who wait.

(Sit down with folded hands in preparation for story time.)

When seated, read the children one page from the book *From Akebu to Zapotec** and pray a short prayer for that Bibleless people group. God answers!

Even more fun!

1. Each week before you read, dress a child volunteer according to the story for the day. Make, or collect, a replica of a piece of clothing, jewelry, or tool seen in the week's lesson. Choose a necklace from Brokpa, a grass skirt from Woleai or a set of shoulder baskets from the Phuan. (No hats, please. They risk spreading head lice.)
2. *From Akebu to Zapotec* gives you beautiful pictures from which to work a small child's bite-sized story each week. In a few weeks, you'll have quite a collection of paper, cloth, begged and borrowed pieces! Pretty soon everyone can wear something! (For good review, label each garment with the people group and country. At least the teacher can read the signs and know for sure!)
3. The children will look forward to this part of class *and* already be outfitted for a demonstration during your annual church-wide, or school-wide Mission Conference. Give yourself nearly a month of Sundays to finish them all! Up to six months of practice will make children confident with this finger play and the one to follow!

**From Akebu to Zapotec*, by June Hathersmith and Alice Roder, is available in some Christian bookstores or from the Wycliffe Bible Translators Media Resource Center: 1-800-WYCLIFFE (1-800-992-5433). If the book is not available, you can search for a used copy at www.bookfinder.com/ or download and print identical color pictures and texts for 12 people groups from the Children's Prayer Journal at <http://www.wycliffe.org/Resources/Kids/FreeCurriculum/PrayerLessons.aspx/>.

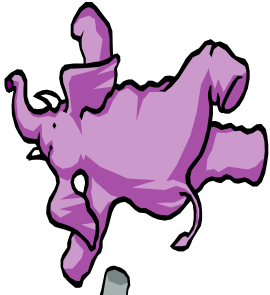
Notes:

Leader's Instructions: Use this finger play after the story to reinforce the teaching that kids can do missions, too.

I Can, Too, Though I Am Small!



God says "Go tell, *(Cup hands to mouth, then . . .)*



Everyone, *(Fling arms out widely.)*

Tell them Jesus, *(Point to heaven.)*



Is God's Son. *(Cradle baby in arms.)*

He died and rose, *(Slump down, then pop up with arms high.)*

To save each one." *(Embrace imaginary group of people.)*



Missionaries go to all. *(Swing arms and walk in place.)*

Near and far, *(Both index fingers point to floor at feet and then palms reach far out in front and up.)*

Hear them call. *(Cup hands around mouth.)*



I can, too, *(Thumbs jab three times toward chest, with other fingers in a fist.)*

Though I am small. *(Lace fingers together over head and bob up and down, doing deep knee bends.)*



Yes, I can, too, *(Thumbs jab three times toward chest, while nodding head yes.)*

Though I am small. *(Lace fingers together over head and bob up and down, doing deep knee bends.)*