

CRAFT

Lie Down Lamb

The Lord is My Shepherd

Psalm 23:1-3

You Need

- White, gray, or black felt
- White T-shirt; 1 is enough for 3-4 children
- Lamb pattern (following sheet) 1 per child
- Business card or winding-card pattern (following sheet) 1 per child
- Heavy paper, scissors & yardstick or measuring tape
- Fabric paint, permanent markers, or wiggle eyes & glue.

Get Ready

- Copy the lamb and winding-card patterns onto heavy paper and cut out.
- Set out the felt, T-shirt, measuring stick, scissors, and patterns. Reserve the fabric paint, markers, or wiggle eyes and glue until lamb bodies are finished.

Introduce the Craft

Say Sheep are dependent animals. They need a shepherd to care for them and keep them out of trouble.

Read Psalm 23:1-3.

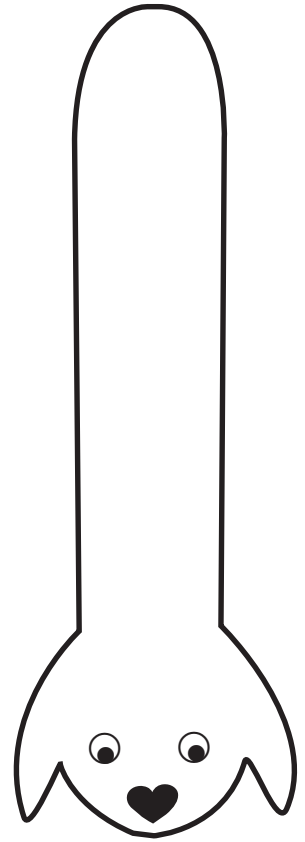
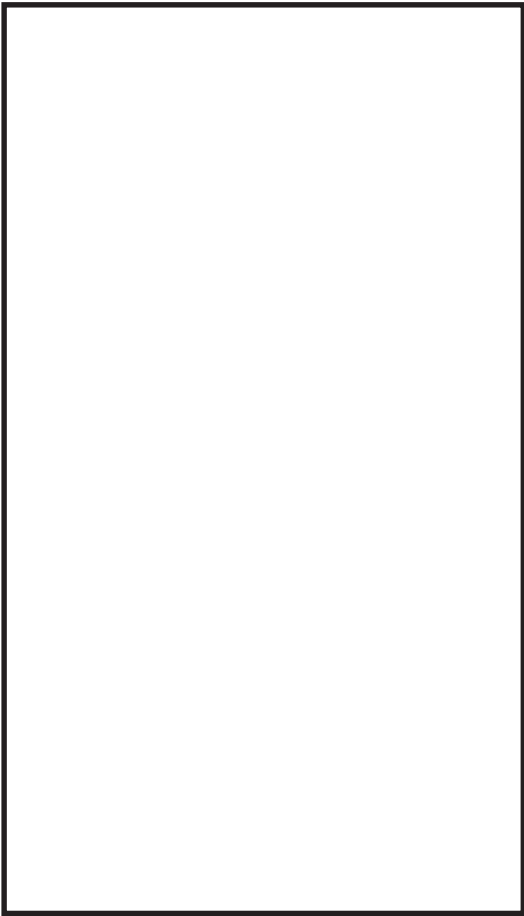
Say The shepherd in the psalm cares for his sheep. His love and care for them helps them stay calm and trusting when he is near, instead of being nervous and scared. The Bible says you are sheep.

Ask When was the last time you felt like a scared sheep? **Accept answers.**

Say Jesus is like the good shepherd in the psalm. He feeds you with His Word, the Bible, when you study it, like you are doing right now, or hear it read or sung. He helps you remember the water of your Baptism, where He restored your soul by changing you on the inside so you can know He is near. He will guard, guide, and rescue you from sin, death, and the devil. What a perfect Good Shepherd we have in Jesus!

Do This

- Use the lamb pattern to cut the felt body of the lamb.
- Cut around the T-shirt horizontally to make long strips of fabric, approximately 1 inch wide. Pull the strips to stretch and curl the material. Measure and cut two 54-inch (1.5-yard) strips and one 6-inch length of fabric per lamb.
- Wind a long fabric strip around the short side of the winding card. Slide it off the card. Repeat with other strip.
- Sandwich the felt lamb body between the two wound strips of fabric. The length of the lamb's body should be the same as the length of the wound strips. The head should stand out in front of the fabric "fleece."
- Place the sandwiched pieces on top of the middle of the 6-inch strip. Pull the ends of the 6-inch strip up and around the body, like a belt, knotting to secure.
- Use scissors to cut the fabric loops, creating the lamb's fleece. Open loops and trim so lamb looks full and fluffy.
- Use fabric paint, markers, or wiggle eyes and glue to add eyes and a small heart-shaped nose on your lamb's face.



SNACK

Follow the Flock

Jesus is the Good Shepherd

John 10:1-10

You Need

- A plate, plastic knife, and toothpick for each child
- 7 small cauliflower florets for each child
- 2 black olives for each child
- Assorted vegetables to serve on the side, such as carrot sticks, cucumber slices, cherry tomatoes, and bell pepper slices
- Ranch dressing or veggie dip
- A small cup or muffin wrapper with dip for each child

Get Ready

- Clean and dry the vegetables.
- Cut cauliflower into small florets. Each child needs seven florets.
- Cut and prepare other vegetables, such as carrot sticks and cucumber slices, if desired.

Introduce the Snack

Read John 10:1-18

Say Today we'll learn how Jesus cares for us and gathers us together. Let's make a snack to help us remember Jesus cares.

Sheep follow their shepherd. Did you know sheep are gregarious? That's a big word. Say it with me: gregarious. That means sheep stick together. They are born with strong instincts to stay in a large group—a

flock—and follow one another. Sticking together helps protect sheep from predators. Their gregarious instinct helps a shepherd to care for them! Sheep want to follow a friendly person who will protect them and lead them to food and water. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, takes care of us and protects us from sin and the devil. Jesus cares, now and forever!

Do This

Say To help you remember this, we're making a snack that looks like a sheep. Demonstrate as you explain: Arrange the cauliflower. Put the florets in an oval shape in the middle of your plate for the sheep's body. Place a black olive on the left side to be the sheep's face. Use the knife to cut a second black olive into one small piece for an ear and four long pieces for legs. Arrange them on your sheep. Dip a toothpick into the dressing and draw an eye on your sheep's face. Make a pasture by putting green vegetables around the plate. Add flowers to the pasture by cutting tomatoes or red peppers. Hold up the finished example.

Say After you make your edible sheep artwork, dip your veggies in the dressing and enjoy. Help yourself to extra veggies! Jesus, our Shepherd, cares for us by providing this healthy food. Let's thank God for this healthy snack. Lead a snack prayer.

GAME

Sheep Herding

Jesus is the Good Shepherd

John 10:1-10

You Need

- 1-2 white balloons to start (more on hand as replacements)
- 1 long-handled flyswatter
- 4 cones or hay bales
- Optional: permanent marker, curly ribbon, tape

Get Ready

- Blow up white balloons to be the sheep.
- Optional: Give them faces and wool marks with permanent markers. Add curly ribbons for tails.
- Have extra balloons ready for those that pop along the way.
- Set up four cones or hay bales in a line about five feet apart.

Introduce the Game

Read John 10:1-10

Say In today's Bible story, we heard about Jesus, our Good Shepherd. How do shepherds take care of their sheep? **They lead their sheep to food and water, protect them from danger, etc.** Jesus cares for us just as shepherds care for their sheep.

Do This

Have children line up behind the cone/hay bale.

Say Sheep are known for not being the best listeners. Sometimes, they wander off from their shepherd and try to go their own way. I hope you are ready to work on your "sheep herding" skills today. When I say, "Go!" use this sheep herding tool (fly swatter) to guide the sheep (white balloon) in and out of the cones/hay bales and back to the front of the line. Try to go as fast as possible.

Keep the extra balloons nearby in case any balloons pop. When finished, sit with children and discuss the point.

Make the Point

Say Did the sheep always go the direction you wanted them to go? Was it frustrating? **Let children answer.** Jesus tells us that His sheep know His voice and listen. Sometimes, we listen to our Good Shepherd and go where He leads; sometimes, we don't. But Jesus loves us, cares for us, and leads us to everlasting life with Him.

Game Notes

Put a little rice in the balloons to help give sheep some weight and keep them from blowing around outdoors.

Slightly under inflating the balloons helps prevent popping.

Check your flyswatters for sharp spots and cover them with tape.

Have plenty of extra sheep balloons prepared. They *will* pop, especially when playing outdoors on the grass.