

CRAFT

Descending Dove Mobile

God Sends the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-21

You Need

- Red or orange Mylar sheets or see-through binder dividers (available at dollar or office supply stores)
- White craft foam, 1 sheet is enough for 6 kids
- Fishing line or clear monofilament
- Scissors
- Single-hole punch
- Pencil
- Fine-tip permanent marker
- Spiral pattern (next page) & copy paper

Get Ready

- Make a sample and hang it from the ceiling.
- Print the spiral pattern.
- Gather supplies and set them out.

Introduce the Craft

Read Acts 2:1-21

Say Fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, God sent the Holy Spirit. We call this special day Pentecost. *Point to the sample.* Red is the color of Pentecost. It reminds us of the tongues of fire that rested on the disciples' heads when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. The bright red (or orange) spiral falls downward in our

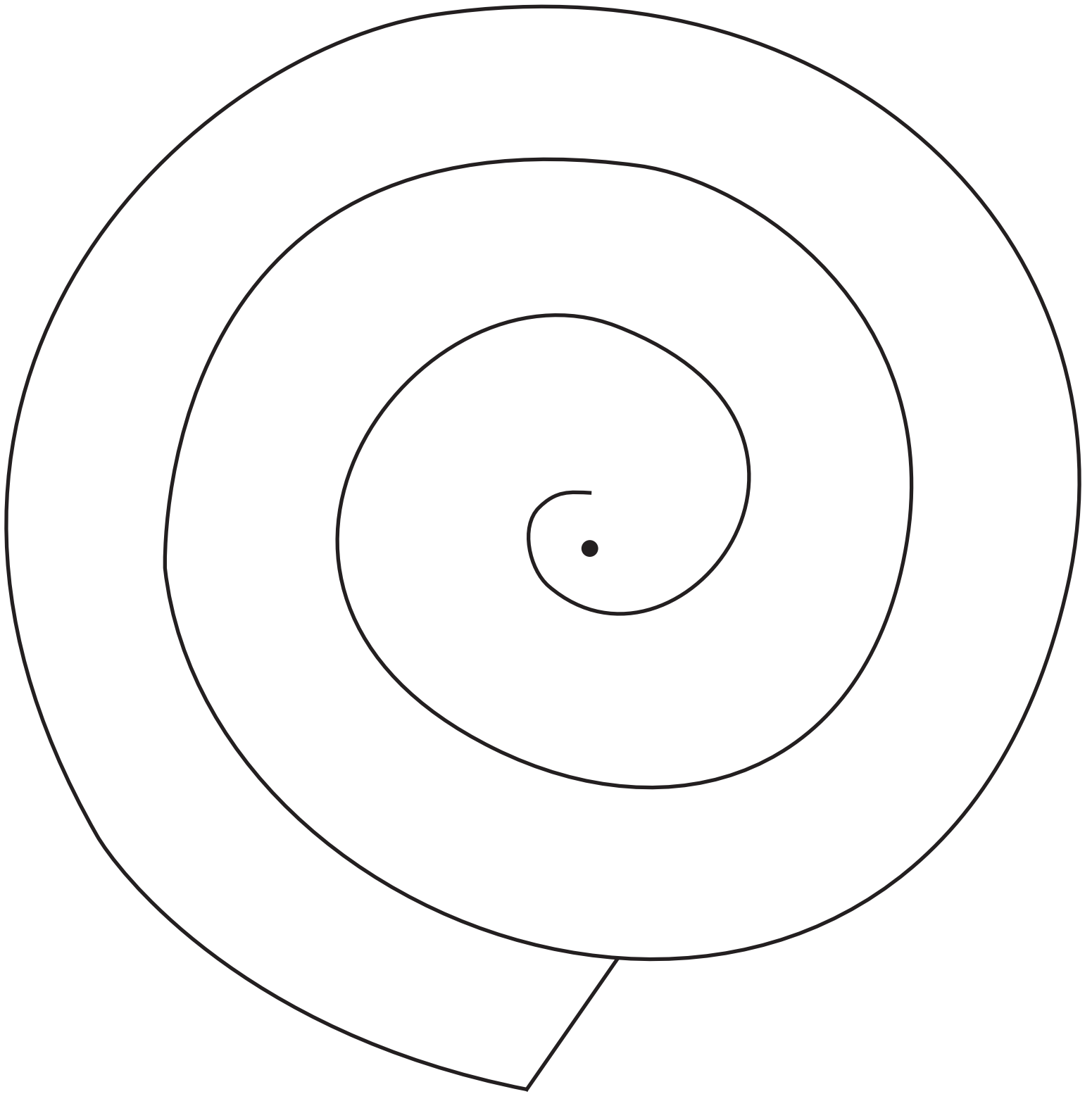
mobile and reminds us of fire. *Point to the dove.* The dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

Ask When did the Holy Spirit descend like a dove? **At Jesus' Baptism.**

Say The Holy Spirit works through His Word, Baptism, and Holy Communion to give you faith and keep you in faith. This mobile will remind you of Pentecost and your Baptism, when the Holy Spirit worked to forgive your sins and bring you to saving faith in Jesus.

Do This

- Use a pencil to trace a dove pattern onto the white craft foam. Cut out the dove.
- Place the circular spiral pattern under a sheet of Mylar and use a permanent marker to trace around the spiral onto the Mylar. Cut the Mylar along the lines.
- Use a hole punch to make a hole in the tight end of the spiral, where marked on the pattern. Use the tip of a sharp pencil to bore a hole into the tail of the white dove.
- Cut a 2-foot length of fishing line (monofilament) and run it through the hole in the spiral. Make sure to leave several inches of fishing line from the top for hanging the mobile. Tie a knot in the fishing line to attach it to the Mylar. Let the longer end of the fishing line drop down along with the Mylar, which is now hanging as a descending spiral.
- Thread the dove onto the bottom of the fishing line so it hangs near the bottom of the spiral. Knot the fishing line to secure the dove, and trim the excess fishing line.



SNACK

Pentecost Cupcakes

God Sends the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-21

You Need

- Pre-made cupcakes with icing (any flavor)
OR ingredients to make cupcakes and icing at home (many recipes can be found online)
- Red and orange sprinkles
- Platter
- Plates and napkins

Get Ready

- If making cupcakes: prepare and bake cupcakes according to directions. Top with icing.
- Set out cupcakes on a platter.
- Have plates and napkins ready for children.

Do This

- Have children help put red and orange sprinkles on the icing of the cupcakes.

Introduce the Snack

Read Acts 2:1-21

While eating the cupcakes **Say** Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church because it is the day the Holy Spirit came to be our helper. He makes us brave to tell others about Jesus so more and more people

will believe in Jesus and become part of His Church. *As children snack, talk about the color red that they see in church on Pentecost.*

Ask What are things that are red? What does red remind them of? *Accept answers.*

Ask How did the Holy Spirit come on Pentecost? *Accept answers.*

Say God the Holy Spirit is our helper.

Check for understanding of the Bible story by asking children to tell how the Holy Spirit helped Peter and how He helps us.

ACTIVITY

Invisible Wind

God Sends the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-21

You Need

- Deflated balloon
- Handheld fan or a piece of paper accordion-folded to make into a fan
- Straws
- Lightweight objects such as cotton balls, paper, or feathers
- Pinwheels

Do This

Fan air toward children.

Say I am using a fan to make the air blow on you. Can you see the air? **No, we can't see air.** How do you know it is there? **Can feel the air.** *Fan again.* Yes, you can feel the air on your skin or face or hair.

Say If I blow up a balloon, I am filling the balloon with air from inside my body. *Demonstrate.* You can't see the air inside of me, but you can see what it does to a balloon! It fills the balloon and makes it bigger.

Show children how to blow through the straws or use the paper fans to move lightweight objects, or have them blow on the pinwheel.

Ask What makes these things move? **Wind.** Can you see wind? Can you hear wind? **No.** The air is all around us, even though we can't see it. But, we can hear the wind blowing in the trees and we can see it making the leaves move.

Today we'll hear about a special sound of wind in our story.

Make the Connection

Our story today is about something else we can't see. It is about God the Holy Spirit. After Jesus went back to heaven, He told His friends He would send the Holy Spirit to be our Helper. Even though we can't see Him, the Holy Spirit works faith in our hearts through Baptism and God's Word. He helps us learn about Jesus. He helps us grow in faith and share Jesus' love. Let's listen to how the Holy Spirit came to the disciples at Pentecost, just as Jesus said He would.

Read Acts 2:1-21