



Activity 1 for Grades 5-6

Connect with Life Activity

Supplies needed:

1. Gardening Tools (rakes, shovels, lawn mowers, weed eaters, gloves)
2. Flowers, Shrubs or Trees
3. Trash sacks

Preparation:

Arrange in advance with a senior citizens bible class or a local senior's center to do yard work for them one day. Encourage students to wear old clothes and bring yard supplies. Purchase flowers, shrubs or trees to plant.

Connect with Life Activity:

Explain to students:

The theme of this year's VBS is the "Big Apple Adventure: Where Faith and Life Connect."

In the story, the Caravan friends connect in New York City also called the Big Apple. Zeke explains to his friends how New York reminds his dad of Heaven because people from every country live in New York. In Heaven people from every nation will connect with God and each other.

We don't have to wait for heaven to connect with Jesus and others. We can *Connect with Life* when we help others.

Ask students:

Separate students into work crews. Some can mow, some can weed-eat, some can plant flowers, some can rake leaves or grass. After the activity, debrief students about the benefits of helping others to show God's love for them.

Some questions to start the discussion:

1. What do you think the residents thought when we helped them?
2. How does helping others without pay correlate with the Bible?
3. How do you think other people feel when we help them?

Pray with students:

Bring the discussion back around to the story of the Caravan in New York. Explain that there are many people around the world that have never experienced God's love for them. Spend a moment praying for every tribe, tongue and nation that God would raise up workers to show everyone around the world the love of Jesus.