

August Extra Activities

For Threes and Fours

Sew on Plastic Canvas

Supplies: plastic mesh needlepoint canvases (one per child), plastic darning needles, two-foot lengths of colorful yarn, masking tape

In advance, cover canvas edges with masking tape. Thread each needle with a piece of yarn.

Show preschoolers how to push the needle in and out of the canvas to sew a design. Help re-thread when needed. Say: The Laredo Send Relief Ministry Center has sewing classes for people who visit the center. The people can learn new job skills and then get a job to help care for their families!

Block Party

Supplies: party decorations, Tex-Mex music, preschool games, preschool snacks

In advance, decorate the room for a block party. Set up the preschool games and snacks. Post the allergy alert chart.

Invite preschoolers to pretend they are at a block party in Laredo. As they play games, listen to music, and enjoy snacks, say: The Laredo Send Relief Ministry Center invites families to block parties.

Prayerwalk

Lead preschoolers on a prayerwalk in the classroom or around the church outdoor play area. Stop at regular intervals to pray for the Lermas, the Laredo Send Relief Ministry Center, the people who visit the center, and the volunteer helpers who go to help the Lermas. Say: Missionaries Osvaldo and Vanessa Lerma go for walks around Laredo and pray for the people while they are walking. That is called going for a prayerwalk!

Water Sponge Fun

Supplies: soft sponges, bucket of water

Go outside so preschoolers can play with wet sponges. Encourage them to pretend they are living in hot Laredo and share how the water feels to them. Say: Mr. and Mrs. Lerma give children water balloons to play with so they can cool off on hot days.

Caution: Supervise carefully.

For Kindergarten

Taco Bar

Supplies: paper plates and napkins, taco shells, taco ingredients (cooked ground chicken or beef, shredded cheese, tomatoes, lettuce, and so on)

Post the allergy alert chart. Invite kindergartners to build their own tacos using the taco ingredients. Enjoy sharing a meal together. Share that missionaries Osvaldo and Vanessa Lerma enjoy eating tacos. Say: The Lermas like to provide a meal for hungry families. The Send Relief Ministry Center also has a food pantry so people can get food for their families.

Draw to Music

Supplies: electronic tablet; paper, markers, crayons, and colored pencils

In advance, search online for instrumental Tex-Mex music.

Set out drawing supplies. Encourage kindergartners to draw pictures as they listen to the Tex-Mex music while it plays on the tablet. Say: The Lermas often hear Tex-Mex music and see bright colors all around them in Laredo.

Baseball

Supplies: foam baseballs, T-ball tee, plastic bat, bases

Divide kindergartners into two groups to play baseball. Teach the rules and give tips on how to hit the ball, catch the ball, and run bases. Say: The Lermas' youngest son, Osvaldo Lerma Jr., plays baseball with other children in Laredo. They enjoy playing baseball together.

Tip: Play this game in a large area with plenty of room for running and hitting the foam balls.

Build with Bricks

Supplies: brick, cardboard building bricks, cardboard boxes

Post the allergy alert chart. Show the brick and allow kindergartners to hold it. Invite kindergartners to build with cardboard building bricks and cardboard boxes. Discuss things a family could build with bricks. Say: Some businesses in Laredo, Texas, make bricks! What could we build with those bricks?