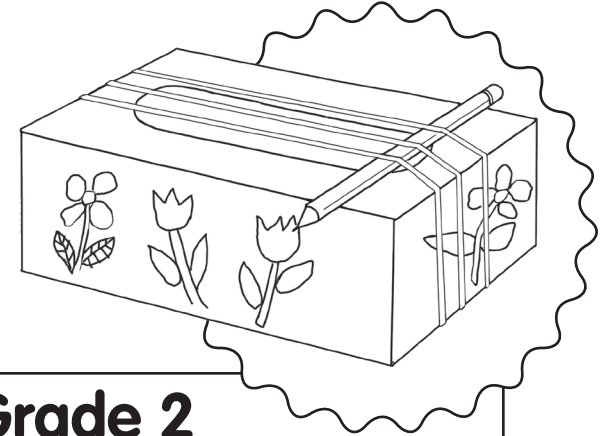


Strum a Song

Activity: Children create harps to accompany their songs of thanks to God for giving us Jesus.



Content Connection

Fine Arts

Faith Focus

- Give thanks for Jesus

What You Need

- photocopies of card front
- tissue boxes with cutout opening
- rubber bands, stickers
- pencils

Inclusion

Allow children with hearing impairments to hold the harps against their bodies as they strum to feel the vibrations.

Is that a
tissue-box harp
I'm hearing?



Grade 1

- 1 Play a selection of church songs or songs played on a harp. Arrange children in pairs and distribute materials to create harps for original songs of thanks.
- 2 Show the class how to stretch rubber bands safely around the tissue box. Keep the bands centered over the opening. Slip a pencil under the rubber bands at one end to allow for better vibration. Have children decorate their harps with stickers. Allow time for creative construction.
- 3 Encourage children to use their harps to strum along with a song. Just as the angels sang on Christmas, we can sing to thank God for Jesus.

Grade 2

- Play a selection of church songs or songs played on a harp. Arrange children in pairs and distribute materials to create harps for original songs of thanks.
- Show the class how to stretch rubber bands safely around the tissue box. Keep the bands centered over the opening. Slip a pencil under the rubber bands at one end to allow for better vibration. Have children use stickers to decorate their harps. Allow time for creative construction.
- Encourage small groups of children to rehearse one song together. Each group can present its original song to the class. Just as the angels sang on Christmas, we can sing to thank God for Jesus.



Strum a Song

21

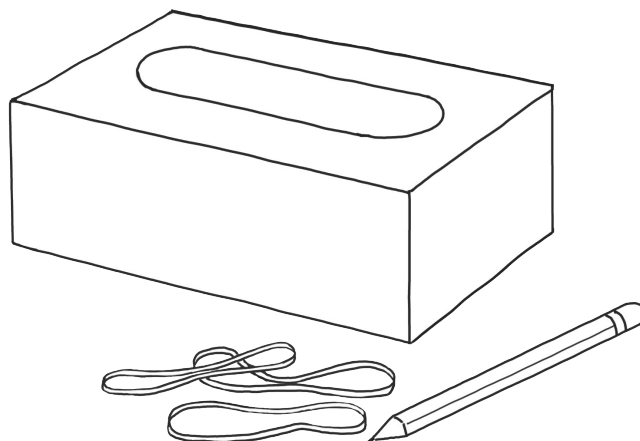
JESUS
Grades 1-2

Name _____

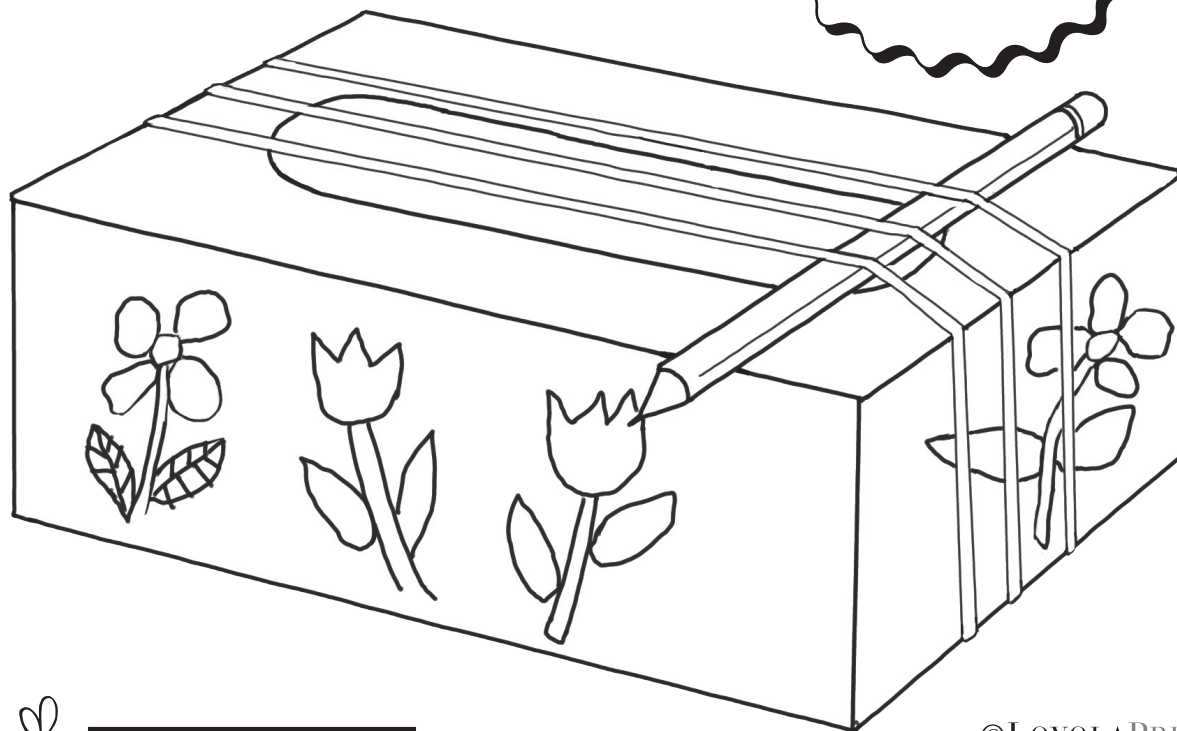
Date _____

Directions

1. Place the tissue box, with the center removed, on your desk. Hold the box steady as a partner stretches five rubber bands across the length of the box. Be sure the rubber bands stretch across the opening of the box.
2. Slide a pencil under the rubber bands near one end of the box.
3. Decorate the harp with stickers or drawings.
4. Share the harp as you sing songs to thank God for Jesus.



**Sing a
song to
thank God
for Jesus.**



Growing in Love

Activity: Children demonstrate the actions to an action rhyme with a message about caring for others.



Content Connection

Fine Arts

Faith Focus

- Show ways to grow in love by helping others

What You Need

- photocopies of card front

Inclusion

Extend this action rhyme to children with attention differences to practice the social skill of introducing a friend and joining a group.

	Grade 1	Grade 2
1	Introduce the idea of an action rhyme by reviewing different actions seen daily: a wave of the hand, a nod of the head, the thumbs up sign. Remind children that we grow in love every day as we share these simple gestures.	Introduce the idea of an action rhyme by reviewing gestures seen daily: a wave of the hand, a nod of the head, the thumbs up sign. Invite children to think of other friendly gestures. Remind children that we grow in love every day as we share these simple gestures.
2	Using the rhyme and gestures as a guide, say each line of the rhyme, demonstrate the action, and have children repeat after you. After a few times, narrate for children to act out the rhyme.	Using the rhyme and gestures as a guide, say each line of the rhyme, demonstrate the action, and have children repeat after you. After a few times, narrate and allow the children to act out the rhyme.
3	Ask children to sit quietly and reflect on the words of the rhyme. Encourage children to turn to a classmate, shake hands, and express an idea of how each of them can grow in God's love together.	Ask children to sit quietly and reflect on the words of the rhyme. Encourage children to turn to a classmate, shake hands, and express an idea of how each of them can grow in God's love together.



Growing In Love

30

JESUS
Grades 1-2

Name _____

Date _____

Directions: Stand for an action rhyme. Echo both the words and movements after your teacher.



We can grow in love *(crouch down and pop up)*
And bloom each day. *(gesture outwards)*
We can care for others *(gesture to other children)*
Through the words that we say. *(cup hands at mouth)*
With all of our actions we can do good *(nod)*
And live our lives the way we should. *(shake hands with another child)*

