

Pick Up Sticks

By Christy Olson



Learn and share about being citizens working together to build up God's holy world. Serve others by picking up sticks at your favorite playground.

For

Young Family (very young)

Season

Summer

Needed

Cardboard box, string (10-16 feet), Bible

Prepare in Advance

- Cut string in 2-foot lengths (at least one length per person)
- Tie a loop on one end of each piece of string
- Mark Bible to Ephesians 2:19-22 (or see next page)
- Choose a playground to pick up. This can be in your yard, at a park, or elsewhere in town.



Activity Plan

1. Gather by a window together. While gazing out the window, pray:

God, we are citizens of the world you created. Each place is a holy place. Help us to care for this holy world. Amen.

2. Read the Bible passage from Ephesians 2:19-22. Discuss these questions:
 - What does it mean to be a citizen of the world?
 - Where is the foundation of a house?
 - I wonder if a playground is a holy place.
 - How can we be good citizens of our place of play, the playground?
3. Take the cardboard box and twine to the playground. Pick up sticks that have fallen in the summer storms. Put them into piles. Wrap the piles with the string by encircling the pile. Pull the flat end of the string through the loop on the other end. Put your piles in the cardboard box.
4. When the box is full of stick piles, gather around the box. Talk about why picking up sticks is a good way to serve others. Before you leave, shout together "We are citizens of God's holy world!"
5. Take the sticks to the playground trash area for pickup. Sticks need to stay in the area they were gathered to keep from relocating any insects or disease. One more way we are good citizens in God's world.