

Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith	
Lower Elementary	<p>WORKSHOP FOCUS: We can let God's Spirit lead us.</p> <p>FRUITY SPIRIT SLUSHIES: Kids mash, squeeze, and mix "Spirit" fruit to make a slushy.</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Flip chart, colored marker set, fruit (9 kinds), fruit basket, basket for Bibles</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bible</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Mixing bowl, potato mashers, ladle, ice cube trays, drinking cups, metal spoons, water pitchers, liquid measuring cup, sponges, napkins, serving bowl, bananas, applesauce, canned peaches, canned pears, canned crushed pineapple, frozen strawberries, frozen blueberries, frozen orange juice concentrate, frozen lemonade concentrate, water, pretzels</p>
Upper Elementary	<p>WORKSHOP FOCUS: The Spirit's fruit can show us how to live.</p> <p>SPIRIT FRUIT SALAD: Kids combine all the "fruit" of the Spirit.</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Banana, orange, lemon, apple, melon, grapes, blueberries, strawberries, crushed pineapple, grocery bag, basket, sticky labels, markers, zippered bags</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Cutting boards, cutting knife, melon ball scoop, Large bowl, small bowl, can opener, strainer, medium bowl, liquid measuring cup, dry measuring cup, mixing spoons, serving spoon, sponges, bowls, spoons, napkins, melon, banana, orange, blueberries, seedless grapes, strawberries, lemon, apples, pineapple chunks, instant vanilla pudding mix, sour cream</p>
All Kids	<p>WORKSHOP FOCUS: We can live by the Spirit.</p> <p>GENEROUS JUICE: Kids practice being generous.</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Oranges, fruit bowl, baskets</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Hand juicers, pitchers, drinking cups, flip chart, or whiteboard markers, grater, microwave-safe bowl or stovetop pot, microwave oven or stove, fine strainer, liquid measuring cup, refrigerator, measuring spoons, mixing spoons, sponges, napkins, serving basket, serving tray, oranges, lemon, grated orange peel, grated lemon peel, hot water, cold water, sugar, ice, cracker party mix</p>



Looking for additional Spark content to further engage kids? Visit www.wearesparkhouse.org to learn more about these options for purchase.

- The Director CD-Rom contains Activity Pages, Coloring Pages, Family Pages, Large Group Openings, and two additional in-class activities for each lesson.
- A Sparkhouse Digital annual subscription gives you access to all content contained in the Director CD-Rom and the Spark Leader Guides, plus administrative tools and other extras.

Workshop Focus: We can let God's Spirit lead us.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.

Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

Set Up: Place flip chart and your stock of markers near your storytelling area. Place an assortment of fruit in a basket. Place a bookmark in your Spark Story Bible at today's story on page 550. Place Spark Story Bibles in a basket near your entrance or storytelling area.

Activity Instructions

Welcome kids and Shepherds to the storytelling area, reminding them to pick up a Spark Story Bible. **Today, we are reading a story about fruit.** Hold up the basket of fruit. **I'm going to pass around this basket of fruit, and I'd like each of you to take a piece of fruit.** When everyone has a piece of fruit say: **I wonder what fruit has to do with today's story.** (*I don't know. Fruit is good for the body. I know this story.*) **Hold your fruit while I read today's story. If you want to follow along, the story Fruit of the Spirit is on page 550 in your Spark Story Bible!** After reading the story, draw a picture of each edible fruit on flip chart paper. Then give each fruit a "Spirit fruit" name from today's reading—one fruit of the Spirit for each edible fruit. As an example, see picture on page 60. **I'm going to read part of the story again.**

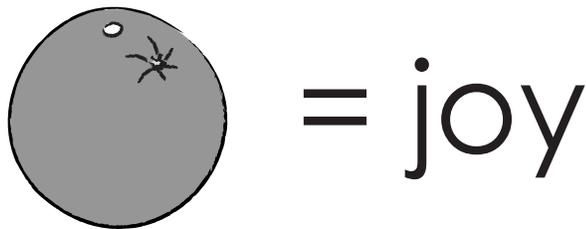
Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles

Supplies

Flip chart
Set of colored markers
9 kinds of fruit, 1 piece per kid
Fruit basket
Basket

When you hear the “Spirit fruit” you are holding, raise it high. Reread the first paragraph on page 550. Ask kids to make centerpieces using the Spirit fruit on the tables where they will enjoy slushies and pretzels.



Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Fruity Spirit Slushies

Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

Ingredients (serves 20)

- Bananas, 2
- Applesauce, 2 cups (510 g)
- Canned peaches, 15.25 ounces (432 g)
- Canned pears, 15.25 ounces (432 g)
- Canned crushed pineapple, 20 ounces (567 g)
- Frozen strawberries, 10 ounces (240 g)
- Frozen blueberries, 10 ounces (240 g)
- Frozen orange juice concentrate, 4 ounces (118mL)
- Frozen lemonade concentrate, 4 ounces (118 mL)
- Water
- Bag of pretzels, 16 ounces (454 g)

Set Up: Lightly mash the bananas. Add applesauce, canned fruit with juice, frozen fruit, and frozen concentrates. Do not mash. You should be able to identify the different kinds of fruit. Ladle mixture into ice cube trays and freeze for two hours or overnight. Set up work area with today’s supplies.

Spark Resources

Spark Story Bible

Supplies

Mixing bowl
Potato mashers
Ladle
Ice cube trays, 1 for every 4 kids
Drinking cups, 1 per kid
Metal spoons, 1 per kid
Water pitchers, 2
Liquid measuring cup
Clean-up sponges
Napkins, 1 per kid
Serving bowl

Activity Instructions

1. Send kids and Shepherds to wash hands.
2. Gather kids in workspace. Explain what has already been done. **Yesterday, I mixed together nine different kinds of fruit, and I froze the mixture in ice cube trays.** Show kids an ice cube tray. **Today, we are making “Fruity Spirit Slushies” using the mixture that I froze last night. Let’s get started.**
3. Remove all trays from the freezer. Ask a couple kids to give everyone a metal spoon, a cup, and one ice cube tray per four kids. Ask two kids to fill up the water pitchers.
4. **First take your spoons and scrape out or pop out the cubes. Put three of the cubes in your cup. If you get done quickly, please help your neighbor.**
5. Once all kids have three cubes in a cup say: **Look in your cup. Tell me the different fruits you see.** (*banana, peach, blueberry, etc.*) **Do you realize there are nine different fruits in this mixture? How many fruits have we named so far?** Count them up. **One fruit you may not see is oranges. There is orange juice in this mixture, as well as lemonade and applesauce. Those fruits are hard to see because they are already mashed up.**
6. **Well, we don’t have slushies yet. We have fruit cubes. To make your cubes into a slushy, take your spoon and start mashing the cubes.** Kids begin mashing. As kids mash away, begin a dialog. **I wonder why Paul named these behaviors such as kindness and patience “fruit.” What do you think?** See where this discussion leads. (*Fruit is yummy. Fruit is sweet. Fruit is a seedpod, and seeds make more fruit.*) **Fruit is yummy and sweet and good to eat. I like it when people are kind to me. I can’t eat kindness, but it makes me feel good inside, just like good fruit does.** Pause for kids’ responses. **Which fruit of the Spirit that we read about today feels good to you?** (*All of them. I don’t get faithfulness. I like it when my mom is patient with me.*)
7. Pass around the water pitchers. **The last step is to add a little water to your mashed cubes. You only need about ¼ cup (60 mL).** Show kids how much ¼ cup (60 mL) is or have Shepherds pour ¼ cup (60 mL) of water into a second cup for each kid. Then have the kids pour the water over the fruit cubes.
8. Spend a few minutes cleaning up the workspace. Have a couple kids open and pour the pretzels into a serving bowl and set the table for the snack.

9. Call everyone to the table. Say grace or use this piggyback prayer to the tune of “She’ll Be Coming ‘Round the Mountain.”

We can live by the Spirit, yes we can. (Oh, Lord!)

We can live by the Spirit, yes we can. (Oh, Lord!)

We can live by the Spirit. We can live by the Spirit.

We can live by the Spirit, yes we can.

10. Pass around some pretzels. While slurping, read aloud the first paragraph of page 552 in the Spark Story Bible.

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven’t already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

Bring a piece of the “Spirit fruit” you used during Open the Bible. **We can live by God’s Spirit. Let’s think one more time about the names we gave to the Spirit fruit.** Prompt kids by holding up a piece of fruit and saying: **What was our** [name of fruit] **today?** (*love, kindness, gentleness, etc., as assigned in Open the Bible*) Continue until each fruit is recalled. **Like the people in Galatia, we can try to remember Paul’s words and show God’s love to others.**

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

A piece of the “Spirit fruit”
from Open the Bible

Prayer Time

Use the prayer written below or repeat the prayer song used before Fruity Spirit Slushies were enjoyed today.

God,
Today we mashed together love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Help us always remember to live with a mix of all those wonderful ways of being alive.
Amen.

Workshop Focus: The Spirit's fruit can show us how to live.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.

Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

Set Up: Have fruit and other supplies stowed away in a grocery bag near the storytelling area (blueberries and strawberries each in a zippered bag). Think about where to display the fruit. If you sit in a circle, use the middle of the circle. If you sit around a table, use the middle of the table. Have Spark Bibles in a basket near the doorway so kids can pick up one on their way in.

Activity Instructions

Welcome kids and Shepherds and remind them to pick up a Spark Bible from the basket. Ask everyone to gather in the storytelling area. Hand out a marker and sticky label to every other kid. Then give the grocery bag to the kid sitting nearest to you who does not have a sticky label. **Would you please pull out a piece of fruit?** Then say: **You pulled out a** (insert fruit). **Now pass the bag to a neighbor who doesn't have a label. Everyone who doesn't have a label gets a piece of fruit today, so keep passing the bag on. Today, we will read from the book of Galatians. The passage we will read today is often called "The Fruit of the Spirit." Open your Spark Bibles to Galatians 5:16-26 on page 1293, and follow along as I read the passage.**

Spark Resources

Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies

Banana
Orange
Lemon
Apple
Melon
Grapes
Strawberries, 4-6
Canned crushed pineapple,
20 ounces (567 g)
Blueberries, handful
Grocery bag
Basket
Sticky labels, 1 for every 2 kids
Markers
Zippered bags

Why in the world does Paul call actions like love and kindness *fruit*? (*Fruit is a sign of a healthy tree. Fruit is good. It's sweet.*) Hold up a piece of fruit. **So is this piece of fruit love?** (*giggles, noooooo!*) **Trees and plants bear fruit. Fruit contains seeds so that more fruit can grow. With that information, think again why Paul would call these actions *fruit*.** (*Kindness makes more kindness, like seeds make more seeds by growing more fruit.*) **Paul is telling the Galatians to be seeds for more love, patience, kindness, and every other fruit of the Spirit. Now let's decide which fruit has a similar personality to each fruit of the Spirit.** As a group, decide what Spirit fruit each actual fruit will represent. Have kids help each other label each fruit with its Spirit name.

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Spirit Fruit Salad

Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

Ingredients (serves 12)

- Melon, 1 cup (160 g)
- Banana, 1
- Orange, 1
- Blueberries, 1 cup (145 g)
- Seedless grapes, 2 cups (350 g)
- Strawberries, 1 cup (160 g)
- Lemon, 1
- Apples, 2
- Pineapple chunks, 20-ounce (567 g) can
- Instant vanilla pudding mix, 3.4 ounce (95 g)
- Sour cream, 1 cup (230 g)

Set Up: Today, you will use the fruit from Open the Bible during the Activate Faith Activity. Set up the workspace so that the supplies and ingredients are easy for kids to access. You'll need stations for washing and cutting fruit and making the pudding topping.

Activity Instructions

1. Send kids and Shepherds to wash their hands.
2. Gather everyone in the work area with the labeled fruit from Open the Bible.
Can you guess what we are making today by looking at our ingredients? (*fruit pudding, fruit parfait*) **We are making a fruit salad today out of the fruit we just labeled. We labeled each of these nine edible fruits with one fruit of the Spirit. Our fruit salad will have nine kinds of fruit plus . . . a yummy**

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Cutting boards, 4
Cutting knife
Melon ball scoop, 2
Large bowl
Small bowl
Can opener
Strainer
Medium bowl
Liquid measuring cup
Dry measuring cup
Mixing spoons, 2
Serving spoon
Clean-up sponges
Bowls, 1 per kid
Spoons, 1 per kid
Napkins

pudding topping. We may have to practice a bit of fruity self-control with the pudding!

3. Explain the day's jobs. **Today, most of you will be washing and cutting fruit. We also need two or three kids to be pudding makers and two others to be pudding spreaders.**
4. Assign jobs. Remind kids that everyone will help clean up the work area before eating.
5. Have a Shepherd in charge of cutting the melon in half if it is whole. Kids may scoop out seeds and use the melon ball scoop.
6. Help kids get started washing and cutting fruit (banana, orange, blueberries, grapes). Provide a large mixing bowl for the cut-up fruit. Show kids how to top a strawberry and quarter it. Also show them how to squeeze lemon juice on the apples in a small bowl to prevent browning. Save a piece of each fruit for decorating later.
7. Have kids helping with the pudding follow these instructions: **Open the can of pineapple, strain juice out of the pineapple chunks, and keep the liquid. Pour pineapple into the bowl of fruit. Pour the pineapple juice into a liquid measuring cup, and add water to yield $\frac{3}{4}$ cup (180 mL) of liquid. Pour liquid into a medium-size mixing bowl. Add the pudding mix and sour cream. Mix it all up.**
8. Have the kids in charge of spreading follow these instructions: **Spread the pudding on top of the fruit salad when it is finished and decorate it with the nine pieces of leftover fruit.**
9. Ask kids to clean up. **We are all done making our Spirit Fruit Salad. What do we need to do before we can eat it?** (*clean up, set the table*) **Okay! Let's clean up and set the table.**
10. Invite everyone to sit down. Pass out napkins, spoons, and plates. Say grace.

Dear God,

May the fruit of your Spirit help us to eat together this day in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Amen.

11. Eat and enjoy fruitful fellowship!

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

Today, we read from the book of Galatians. The apostle Paul helps the people in the churches of Galatia understand how to live together. Paul said, "If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit." What does the Spirit guide us with? (*love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control*) **We can live together in God's Spirit. With some work, we can live together because God has given each of us the ability to be loving, joyous, peaceful, patient, kind, generous, faithful, gentle, and self-controlled.**

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Prayer Time

It's time to quiet ourselves both inside and out. Let us pray.

Spirit of gentleness,

Show us how to live with each other in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Amen.

Workshop Focus: We can live by the Spirit.

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Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

Set Up: Make a cut in one orange ahead of time so you can peel it easily. Place Spark Story Bibles and Spark Bibles in a basket near where kids enter the space or gather for storytelling. Put bookmarks in your Spark Story Bible and Spark Bible at today's readings.

Activity Instructions

Welcome kids and Shepherds to the storytelling area. Gently remind kids to pick up a Bible from the basket. When everyone is settled, peel an orange. Eat one slice and then say **Mmmm. This is so good!** Look at the kids gathered. **Hmmm... it doesn't seem right to eat this in front of all of you. What do you think?** See what kids say to your actions and comments. **It doesn't feel right to just eat this orange all by myself. I wonder what the Bible says about what I'm doing. Let's read today's scripture lesson. It is from the book of Galatians. Paul is telling the church in Galatia how to live by God's Spirit. Open to Fruit of the Spirit on page 550 of your Spark Story Bible or to Galatians 5:16-26 on page 1293 of your Spark Bible.** Help younger kids find the right page. Read today's story first in the Spark

Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles
Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies

Oranges, 1 for every 6 kids
Fruit bowl
Baskets

Story Bible. Then read verses 22-26 in the Spark Bible. **After hearing those words from the Bible, what do you think I should do with my orange?** (*be generous and share it*) **Yes, I think I will be generous and share my orange.** Pass around pieces of orange. As kids munch on orange slices, introduce today's activity. Older kids may want to use their Spark Bible Stickers during this time.

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Generous Juice

Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

Ingredients (serves 14)

- Oranges, 8
- Lemon, 1
- Grated orange peel (made from the oranges), 2 teaspoons (4 g)
- Grated lemon peel (made from the lemon), 1 Tablespoon (6 g)
- Hot water, 1 cup (230 mL)
- Cold water, 3 cups (710 mL)
- Sugar, 1 cup (200 g)
- Ice
- Cracker party mix, 16-ounc (454 g)

Set Up: Set up today's work area. Slice all citrus fruit in half and place next to the hand juicers. Heat water. Make a job chart on a whiteboard or flip chart with today's jobs. Write each task and draw a simple picture of the task next to it. Jobs include juicing, grating, mixing, pouring, and serving. Each week, kids will help you decide with whom you'll share the juice and crackers.

Activity Instructions

1. Send kids and Shepherds to wash their hands.
2. Gather kids and Shepherds in the work area. **Today we have a bunch of oranges, a lemon, and a juicer, a pitcher, and some cups. I wonder how we can use these items to share and be generous with other people in our congregation.** (*Make some juice and share it with _____.*) **Yes, it looks like we can use these items to make some juice. What fruit of the Spirit will we need to make and share this juice?** (*To share, we need to be generous and kind. We might need to be patient to squeeze the juice out of the oranges.*) **We will need to use lots of Spirit fruit to do our work today. Let's get to work on this juice—this Generous Juice!**
3. Go over the job chart with kids and help them choose jobs for today.

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Hand juicers, 4
Pitchers, 3
Drinking cups, 1 per kid
Flip chart or whiteboard
Markers
Graters, 2
Microwave-safe bowl or
stovetop pot
Microwave oven or stove
Fine strainer
Liquid measuring cup, 3
Refrigerator
Measuring spoons, 2
Mixing spoons, 3
Clean-up sponges
Napkins
Serving basket
Serving tray

4. Send the serving helpers off either to invite a group or to scope out how and where your group will share the juice. Send along a Shepherd for some supervision if necessary.
5. Show kids how to juice an orange and allow all kids to take turns juicing.
6. While juicing helpers are working, graters grate some orange and lemon peel.
7. With adult assistance and supervision, have hot-water helpers place the citrus peel and the sugar in the hot water and heat to boiling in the microwave or on the stovetop. When that mixture starts to boil, remove it from heat. Have the strainer helpers ready with a pitcher and the strainer. Pour mixture into the strainer to strain out the peels.
8. Cold-water helpers fill one of the pitchers with 3 cups (710 mL) of water and place in the refrigerator.
9. When juicing helpers have squeezed 2 cups (470 mL) of orange juice and 4 Tablespoons (60 mL) of lemon juice, ask them to pour the juice into the hot water mixture so the mixing helpers can mix.
10. Cold-water helpers pour the cold water into the juice mixture and mixers mix some more.
11. Ask all kids to help clean and wash up the work area and tools.
12. Now that the juice is ready, servers get to work by filling cups with ice, pouring the juice in, and pouring the cracker party mix into a serving basket. Remember the napkins! Now, take today's Generous Juice and cracker mix to the determined site to share and enjoy! Before eating and drinking, say grace.

Dear God,

Thank you for the fruit of your Spirit. Thank you for love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Amen.

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

We can live by the Spirit. I wonder who remembers how we can live by the Spirit.

(Be patient with each other. Share. Be kind . . .) **Every time we are loving, joyous, peaceful, patient, kind, generous, gentle, faithful, or self-controlled, we are living by God's Spirit. As we grow older and have lots of practice, we can live in God's Spirit more and more.**

Prayer Time

Let's prepare to pray. Let's quiet ourselves, fold our hands, and close our eyes. Please repeat after me.

Dear God,

May we live fully with one another in the Spirit.

May we live together in love.

May we live together in joy.

May we live together in peace.

May we live together in patience.

May we live together in kindness.

May we live together in generosity.

May we live together in faithfulness.

May we live together in gentleness.

May we live together in self-control.

May we live fully with one another in the Spirit.

Amen.