Parable of the Sower

Luke 8:1-15 Grades 4,5

Large Group(Where we all meet together and introduce the lesson)

Materials needed - Computer, projector and screen, 4 hula hoops, small plastic balls

- Greet all the kids as they come in. Ask them how they are doing, and chat with them about their week. Pray together, ask anyone if they have any prayer requests.
- Our memory verse for the month is Matthew 28:19, Therefore go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Play this video while singing along. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuVMm3EKSss

Play a large group game

- Divide the group into four teams (birds, stones, thorns and good soil)
- Divide the room into four sections so that each team gets their own section with a hula hoop at the corner of their section.
- The object of the game is run to the centre of the room where there are a number of balls, take one of the balls and put it in your own teams hula hoop. The team at the end of the game who has the most balls wins.
- Teams can also go to another teams hula hoop, take a ball and put it in their own hula hoop. The catch is that no one can steal from the good soils hula hoop.
- players can only take one ball at a time from any location, and they can not throw balls.
- Play a few rounds of the game, until the kids complain about the unfair advantage the Good Soil team has over the rest.
- Sit down afterwards and talk about what it means to be in good soil and why we should all want to be in good soil. How can we stay close to God, how can we put God first in our lives?

Let's watch this video together.

Break up into small groups

Review The Story (a chance to review the bible passage with the small group)

Materials needed - bibles

- Greet everyone in your small group, make sure everyone knows each others names. Say a prayer together either by repeating after one of the teachers or just letting them pray.

Read Luke 8:1-15 in the bible

- Ask all the kids to go off by themselves and read Luke 8:1-15
- Ask them to write down two or three questions they have about the passage.
- Come back as a group and get the kids to ask the questions. Let them talk about each of them as a group and answer each others questions. If no one can answer the question, either guide them to the right answer or tell them that was a good question and move on.

Life Application (an opportunity for kids to apply the lesson to their own lives)

Materials needed - small pots, soil, seeds, Parable of the Sower Scenarios

Plant something.

- Give each of the kids a small pot.
- They can decorate the pot with markers or paint. Ask them to draw things about God on their pot.
- Let each of the kids fill their pots with soil and plant some seeds.
- Talk with the kids about seeds, being planted in good soil.
- What would happen if we planted our seeds in a bunch of rocks? What would happen if some birds came and ate our seeds? What would happen if we planted lots of seeds and there there isn't enough space for all of them to grow up? What happens if we plant our seeds in good soil and give them enough sun light and water?

Parable of the sower scenarios.

- Go through the four scenarios of the seeds, write each of them on the board so the kids can remember the four scenarios.
- Read through the scenarios of Tim. Ask the kids to relate Tim's scenarios to the scenarios in the bible.
- Ask the kids to make up their own scenarios, or talk about things that they have seen
 or something that has happened in their own lives that they can relate to. (an
 example would be going to a christian camp or a retreat and getting all excited about
 Jesus, but after a while that excitement fades)

Memory Verse(a way to introduce and reinforce this months memory verse)

Materials needed - memory verse sheets,

Read through the memory verse with the kids

- As a group make up different actions for the verse.