

Welcome to the Mystery Museum!

Mystery Museum is a VBS first put together in 2017. The VBS learning guides are available as pdfs like this but are also being placed online at an interactive website that goes live in early June 2020.

Everything is being offered for free for use by families and churches. Please feel free to alter the learning guides to fit your needs. Everything at the Mystery Museum may be experienced by families right in their own homes. You could even spread the resources and activities over the whole summer!

At the mystery museum, kids will encounter a place of discovery and learning where mysteries lurk around every corner but where their gifts and talents can make the difference.

Mystery Museum is designed around a simple idea, that VBS should be about service to our neighbors, based in Jesus' vision of the Kingdom of God—something I like to call Vision Based Serving. Because of that, each day centers on a community problem and a Bible story that helps to inspire solutions. There are even service learning projects the kids can take part in right at home. The learning guide also includes daily art and science projects, games, music with motions, and a whodunnit episode.

The amazing examples of Esther, Mary, Deborah, Tabitha, and Miriam will be our guide as we explore Jesus' beatitudes and solve the mystery of "blessed are who?"



Mystery Museum VBS Overview



Overarching Learning Question:
“Blessed are Who?”
 From Matthew 5:1-15

Overarching Learning Lesson:
 Your light shines before and for others, so that they may see
 your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.
 From Matthew 5:16

	Day One	Day Two	Day Three	Day Four	Day Five
Character	Esther	Mary	Deborah	Tabitha	Miriam
Key Beatitude (Light of Jesus)	Blessed are the merciful , for they will receive mercy.	Blessed are the pure in heart , for they will see God.	Blessed are the meek , for they will inherit the earth.	Blessed are the poor in spirit , for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.	Blessed are the peacemakers , for they will be called children of God.
Bonus Beatitude (More light from Jesus)	Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.	You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world.	Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness , for they will be filled.	Blessed are those who mourn , for they will be comforted.	Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake , for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Museum Exhibit	Dinosaur Domain	Hall of Inventions	Medieval Europe Encounter	Ancient China Area	Ancient Egypt Experience
Problem to Solve	Not all kids have the same access to places.	We often forget to thank important heroes.	Not everyone has healthy food to eat.	We can do better at sharing with others.	Some kids don't even have books to read.
Story	Esther the Courageous Queen <i>Esther 1-10</i>	Mary the Blessed Believer <i>John 20:1-18</i>	Deborah the Heroic Judge <i>Judges 4-5</i>	Tabitha the Beloved Servant <i>Acts 9:36-42</i>	Miriam the Fearless Prophet <i>Exodus 2:1-10; Ex. 15</i>
Service Learning Project	Accessibility <i>How do we give everyone access?</i> The kids will create a hospitality plan for your home.	Untold Hero Stories <i>How do we honor the forgotten?</i> The kids will create movie trailers for forgotten historical figures.	Growing Good <i>How can we provide more healthy foods?</i> The kids will work on creating a vegetable garden.	Clothes Collection <i>How can we better care for our neighbors?</i> The kids will collect clothes and toys for those in need.	Book Collection <i>How can more kids have more books?</i> The kids will collect books for kids in need.



<p>Art</p> 	<p>Character Crowns <i>What are you the queen of sharing?</i> Use paper plates to create crowns. Decorate with gems, stickers, feathers, foamies, etc.</p>	<p>Salt Puffy Paint <i>What fills your heart to overflowing?</i> Make puffy paint with glue, water, salt, and food coloring. Use paint to fill in empty tomb and full heart design.</p>	<p>Tube Castles <i>What gifts are you made of?</i> Cut parapets into tops of cardboard tubes. Paint the tubes and use markers to decorate with brick designs. Tape together.</p>	<p>Ancient Adventure Map <i>Where can you serve your community?</i> Create a map of your community. Decorate it with special icons and stain it so that it appears ancient.</p>	<p>Your Story Book <i>What amazing story are you a part of?</i> Cover cardboard covers with fabric/felt. Attach blank pages to cover with glue or string/yarn. Add title with fabric markers.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Digging Up the Past <i>What can we learn when we dig up the past?</i> The kids will carefully uncover dinosaur remains like actual paleontologists and recreate dinosaur fossils like a museum scientist.</p>	<p>Becoming Electrified <i>What are the secrets of discovery?</i> The kids will take part in a series of experiments about electricity and will not only learn about where electricity comes from but also what it can do.</p>	<p>Plant Power <i>What's hidden in the soil beneath our feet?</i> The kids will complete an experiment about plant growth and light, witness the way plants absorb water, and help to observe the qualities of soil.</p>	<p>Food is Fantastic <i>Are there even secrets to the things we eat?</i> The kids will experiment with how milk can magically morph colors and then turn draw a surprising substance out of their breakfast cereal.</p>	<p>Powerful as Paper <i>How can things that seem weak be so strong?</i> The kids will experiment with different structures for paper pillars and different designs for paper and straw airplanes.</p>
<p>Games</p> 	<p>Wheelchair Relays <i>What is it like to move around like someone different?</i> The kids will experience being blind at bedtime.</p>	<p>Not Dodge Ball <i>Can we play a sport where the last to be picked is best?</i> The kids will play the reverse of dodge ball.</p>	<p>Plant Power <i>Can we match the amazing power of a growing plant?</i> The kids will take part in a water relay.</p>	<p>Mapping the Minefield <i>Where can you find help while walking through the world?</i> The kids will try to navigate a difficult "minefield" map.</p>	<p>Book Toppling <i>How many books does it take to make a difference?</i> The kids will set up books like dominos and set them off.</p>
<p>Who dunnit?</p> 	<p>In episode one... Meet the Mystery Museum curator and Miss Purple while the first portrait vanishes.</p>	<p>In episode two... Shurkey Holmes is on the case! The world's greatest detective is sure to find those portraits.</p>	<p>In episode three... The portraits keep vanishing but mysterious knockoffs are popping up around the museum.</p>	<p>In episode four... Shurkey is closing in on a culprit while everyone is asking, "where's Miss Purple?"</p>	<p>In episode five... How will the Mystery Museum service without its portraits? Can Shurkey close the case in time?</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>Brave</p>	<p>Shine My Light</p>	<p>Jesus Makes Me a Hero</p>	<p>We Thank You</p>	<p>Journey</p>

