

Sheriff's Hacienda

An evangelistic VBS from

The Children
Count

Pocket Guide

A stylized illustration of a desert landscape. In the foreground, there are two large green saguaro cacti on the left and right sides. The middle ground features brown, layered mountains and a small, spiky cactus. The background is a light beige color, suggesting a sandy or rocky terrain.



Sheriff's

Hacienda

An evangelistic VBS

Welcome to the “Sheriff’s Hacienda”!

Are you ready to put on your cowboy hat and kick up yer boots for some real rip-roarin’ fun? You guessed it! It’s time to decorate your church with a cowboy theme, put some balloon cacti on the walls, and turn up the speakers with country music. Everyone will get in the “cowboy” mood with the new country-western tunes that help them learn each lesson. The steps to the songs will be easy to learn with line-dancing or folk dancing, Western-American style!

This vacation Bible school has an evangelistic focus. Your students will learn stories from the life of Jesus Christ each day in an exciting way with play dough. Over the week they will discover God’s ultimate plan for salvation with five key Bible verses from the book of Romans (known in some countries and denominations as the “Roman’s Road”). Each lesson is supported with a super-fun drama/skit that will kick-off each day of your VBS with laughter. Dress up your three actors to play the coyote, eagle, and jackrabbit and give them extra time getting to know the students before and after your VBS. (Everyone will love Coyote Bill, Eaglebert, and Sheriff Justy by the end of the week!)

Decoration will be easy with bales of hay or straw, cacti everywhere, red checkered table clothes, burlap, bandanas, hanging paper lanterns, cowboy

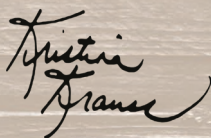
hats and of course a jail at the front of your church! You can make decorating even easier by picking up our Cactus Canyon scenery backdrop for your church's stage. (Or of course, you can download it off our website and have it printed in your city!) For extra fun, don't forget to set up a general store (old-western style) where everyone from your church can pick up some candy or even lunch after your VBS. The kids will enjoy being herded into the "Class in the Corral" where they will vote on the topic of the day, enjoy working through puzzles in their handouts, and learn the memory verse with a fun game. They head out of the corral with the lesson on a brand-new bracelet. It won't be hard to share what they have learned each day with their parents and friends since it will be on their wrists! From there, they head over to "Canyon Crafts" where they will get sticky making a new craft to take home each day. The "Old West Games" will also be a favorite because children always love competition. Each team will be easy to spot with their brightly colored bandanas. No one will forget to stop by the "Hacienda Restaurant" either for some juicy or prickly cowboy snacks.

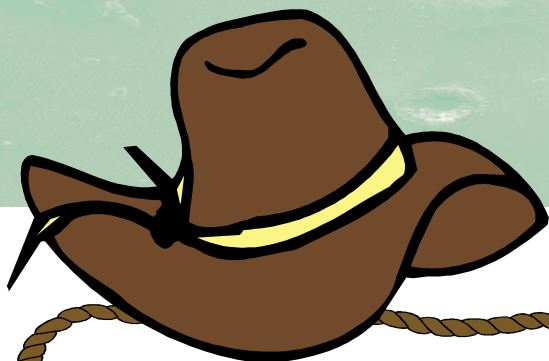
This brand-new VBS was written by the creative team at "The Children Count" and, as always, is available completely free to download, print, and use. We have written this VBS, complete with songs, actions to songs, crafts, snacks, hand-outs, and more, so that YOU can reach children in your community. Take this opportunity to evangelize because people need to hear the gospel! How can they, if someone doesn't put on a VBS? *"And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?"* Romans 10:14b

We are praying for you and your whole team. Have a good time. God is with you.

Yeehaw,

Kristina Krauss





Theme Verse

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Romans 5:8





45 minutes



Team-time

15 minutes



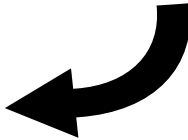
Class



Stations

30 minutes each

Crafts



Games



Snacks

15 minutes



15 minutes

Wanted

Matthew is Called

You are wanted.

Your name is on the poster, and people are out looking for you. But why?

It is because you were caught red handed.

You have been caught in sin.

The Bible says that ALL of us have sinned. But that is not the end of the story! Jesus is still looking for you! He knows that you are a sinner but wants a relationship with you anyway.

Verse

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Romans 3:23

In fact, He came to earth for sinners!

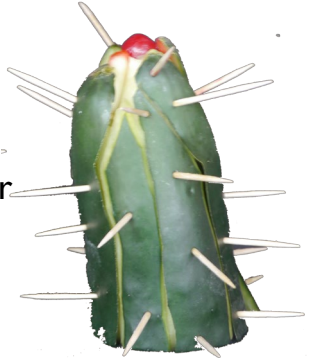
How many of you would like to have Jesus as your friend? That’s wonderful! Let’s pray together.

“Thank You, Jesus, for coming to earth for us sinners. I admit to You right now that I am a sinner. I have made mistakes. Thank You for being willing to talk to me and for being my friend. I believe in You. Amen.”

Craft
Boot



Snack
Cucumber
Cactus



Games



**Watermelon
Seed Spitting
Contest**

**Rope the
Pony**



Jailed

Woman is Caught in Adultery

You were wanted.

Your name was on the poster, and people were out looking for you.

But now you are in JAIL! That's right, you are actually locked up!

Jesus had mercy on the woman from today's Bible story and did not punish her with what her sin deserved. We, too, can receive mercy from Jesus and not receive the punishment for our sins, even though it is a punishment that we deserve.

Would you like that?
Let's pray.

Verse

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
Romans 6:23

“Jesus, I admit that I am a sinner and that I deserve Your punishment. But I ask for Your mercy, just like the woman to whom You showed mercy. Please forgive me for my wrong doings and have mercy on me. Thank You.”

Craft

Lantern



Snack

Cupcakes
with Cacti



Games

Wheel Barrow Race



Inside or Outside
Banana Olympics
(Relay Race)



Bailed

Jesus Dies on the Cross

You were wanted. People were out looking for you.
You were caught and thrown in jail.
But now you have been BAILED out!
That's right; someone
has offered to pay to set
you free!

Will you be like Judas
who chose to carry
his own sin? Or will
you choose to be like
Peter who, after sinning,
chose to return to
Jesus and follow Him?
Jesus died for sins we
have committed and
has made a way for
us to be restored to
a relationship with
God. We, too, can follow Jesus and not receive the
punishment for our sins that we deserve.
Would you like that? Let's pray.

Verse

*"But God
demonstrates
his own love for
us in this: While
we were still
sinners, Christ
died for us."
Romans 5:8*

*"Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross so I don't
have to die for my own sins. Please forgive my sins. I
will follow You. Thank You."*



Craft

Molded
Plaster of Paris



Snack

Cookie
Cowboy Hats



Games

Tug o' War



Three-
Legged
Race



Branded

Zacchaeus Climbs a Tree

You were wanted. You were caught and thrown in jail.
But then you were **BAILED** out!

And today we are learning about
cows getting branded!

Ranchers mark their
livestock with a
brand. That way, if the
cows wander off and
somebody finds them, it
will be easy to tell who
owns each cow.

When you accept Jesus
to pay for you and your
sins, you become His.
He will give you the
Holy Spirit as proof that
you belong to Him. The
Holy Spirit will convict
you of sin and help you

to say you are sorry and to admit it when you do bad
things. He will help you to live close to God and to
grow as a Christian. How many of you would like to
pray today to accept Jesus into your heart?

Verse

*“If you declare
with your mouth,
‘Jesus is Lord,’ and
believe in your
heart that God
raised him from
the dead, you will
be saved.”*

Romans 10:9

*“Lord God, I am not perfect and I need help. I want
Jesus to come and seek me out like He did Zack.
Jesus, will You come into my heart today? Jesus, I want
to belong to YOU and to get help to follow You the
rest of my life. I choose to follow You.”*

Craft

Cowboy
Tie (Bolo
style)



Snack

“S’mores” on a Stick



Games

Blindfold
Branding



Bobbing
for Apples

Deputized

The Disciples Become Fishers of Men

You were wanted. You were put in jail. You were bailed out. You were branded.

Today we are talking about being deputized!

That's right; Jesus has a job for you!

So the question for you is this: how can your friends hear about Jesus unless you tell them? Jesus has asked us to share the good news that He died for sins and has made a way for us to be restored to a relationship with God. When we follow Jesus, we will become people that share the good news with our friends, family, and neighbors. Would you like that? Let's pray.

Verse

“And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?”

Romans 10:14b

*“Jesus, thank You for giving me good news that I will share with my friends and family. I will obey You. I choose to share with others about You.
Thank You for helping me.”*

Craft



Wall Hanging

Snack

“Trail Mix”



Games

Leap Frog



Round
up the
herd

Songs

Sheriff's Hacienda

Hey you and you and you and you come and join me.
Hey you and you and you and you come and join me.
Hey you and you and you and you come and join me
at the VBS.

The Sheriff's hacienda has wanted posters on the wall,
Your image is on one of them, in fact He's got us all.
The sins that we've committed are the reason for the
mess

So you gotta come to the VBS
Hey you and you and you and you are very welcome.
Hey you and you and you and you are very welcome
at the VBS, the VBS.

The Sheriff's hacienda has wanted posters on the wall,
Your image is on one of them, in fact He's got us all.
But Jesus paid the price for us that gives us liberty
His blood was the price he paid to make us all go free.

The Sheriff's hacienda has wanted posters on the wall,
Your image is on one of them, in fact He's got us all.
So fasten on your cowboy hat and put your booties
on
Tie on your cowboy handkerchief and shout our
cowboy song,
Hey you and you and you and you are very welcome.
Hey you and you and you and you are very welcome
at the VBS, the VBS.

Me and my horse



My horsy and me, we're happy ya see.
We're happy ya see, my horsy and me.
I don't know why, an' neither does he.
My horsy and me, we're happy ya see.
When he gets real hungry he says, "Ererer."
When he gets real thirsty he says, "Ererer, ererer, ererer."
When he gets real tired he says, "Ererer, ererer, ererer,
ererer."
My horsy and me, we're happy ya see.

My coyote and me, we're happy ya see.
We're happy ya see, my coyote and me.
I don't know why, an' neither does he.
My coyote and me, we're happy ya see.
When he gets real hungry he says, "Awoo."
When he gets real thirsty he says, "Awoo, awoo, awoo."
When he gets real tired he says, "Awoo, awoo, awoo,
awoo."
My coyote and me, we're happy ya see.

My eagle and me, we're happy ya see.
We're happy ya see, my eagle and me.
I don't know why, an' neither does he.
We're happy ya see, my eagle and me.
When he gets real hungry he says, "Ack."
When he gets real thirsty he says, "Ack, ack, ack."
When he gets real tired he says, "Ack, ack, ack, ack."
We're happy ya see, my eagle and me.

Wanted

I'm wanted, I'm wanted, I'm in for an ugly ride.
Cuz I've broken the laws of the world's creator
And there's no place for me to hide.
I'm wanted, I'm wanted, His wanted poster has my
face,
It's not plain to see, not even to my friends,
But to God it's plain as day.
Arrested, and jailed, a jail that you can't really see.
A jail of the sins that I have committed,
A place I'd rather not be.
Arrested, and jailed, only Jesus can help me out.
He has the keys to freedom,
And from that jail he can let me out.

Bailed

I was in a jail and I couldn't get away
My sentence getting longer with no way for me to pay.
My sadness just kept growing and I ached for liberty.
I cried a lot and prayed a lot and then I was set free.
Jesus made the payment to release me of my load.
He paid the debt my wanted poster said that I had
owed.
Jesus bought my life and now I don't belong to me.
I gave my very life to him and now live faithfully.
I gave Him my own life so I can now live faithfully.
You might not think it's true, but talk to Jesus so you
see.
I gave Him my own life so I can now live faithfully.
I gave Him my own life so I can now live faithfully.

Branded

I'm the happiest cowboy in town
My wanted poster in heaven has come down.
Jesus you looked for me, You pardoned me
And You branded me for you.

Now that I am freed I intend to do
Your will for me with help from you.
You gave Your life so I can live.
I am so happy now.

Deputized

Now that I know just how much Jesus loves me
I have a deep happiness in my being.
All of my friends really do want to have that
But it was not easy for me.
He ransomed me with His precious blood
And branded me with the Spirit of God.
I believe this by the faith He has given me
And I am happy now.
Follow me to the church so I can show you
All of the things that Jesus wants to do.
Follow me to the church just to know
That Jesus also deeply loves you.



Yes, Lord

I was walkin' along, kinda lonely, leading along my little pony,

And I heard a voice saying, "Are you there?" I said, "Yes, yes Lord."

He said to me, "Now buck up, son, you and I are gonna have some fun.

'Cause there's a guy needs our help." I said, "Yes, yes, Lord."

Soon I saw a lad lookin' pretty sad 'cause he was crying,

But for why, I couldn't say.

So I told him then, "Your tears are gonna end, God loves you very much. And He's my Lord. He's my Lord. He's my Lord. He's my Lord."

Talkin' with my newfound friend I told him He's a friend who'll never leave you

If you put your trust in Him, 'cause He's the Lord.

'Cause He died so He could buy you, so that now He's free to pardon you

And help your life improve, 'cause He's the Lord."

The young man who'd been crying very soon instead was praying, and he opened up his heart.

His tears of grief instead turned into humble tears of joy as he received the Lord.

Received the Lord. Received the Lord. Received the Lord.

Walkin' along not quite so lonely, God was leading me
like I led my pony,
The God of all the universe, He's my Lord.
I listen to his voice a talkin' no matter where I might
be walkin'
And with ever whom I might be yakkin' about the
Lord.
There are souls 'most everywhere who need to have
His love and care
And with whom I ought to share, about the Lord.
Walkin' along with my little pony, needing to rest but
not so lonely,
With my Lord.
With my Lord. With my Lord. With my Lord.

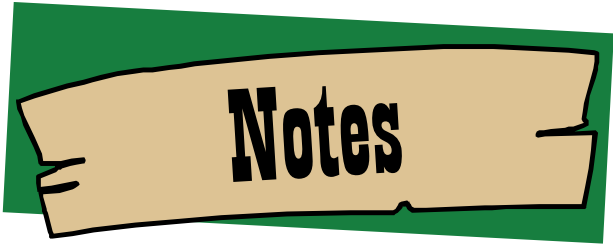
Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.





Notes





Go to our brand-new English website for all things children's ministry.

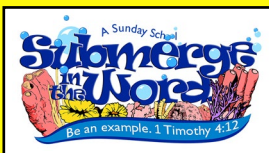
Vacation Bible School

- + New curriculum each year
- + Free Books
- + Free Music
- + Ideas and Tips



Sunday School

- + New curriculum each year
- + Free Books
- + Free Videos
- + Ideas/Tips



+ Training

- + Check for updates and more materials coming soon.

*You're here to change lives;
we're here to help!*

www.TheChildrenCount.com

Or check out our Spanish website for more than 350 free downloads (all in Spanish):

www.LosNinosCuentan.com



Sheriff Pocket Guide

