

# You're Special Camp Program

## English & Biblical Lessons Outline

### **Aims of the camp:**

- To teach students that they have value (in God's sight!!)
- To help students think of how different they are from everyone else in the world
- To stimulate interest about where we came from and create interest in God
- To teach God's creation of the world and mankind
- To create an atmosphere of God's love and acceptance by showing love and interest in our students' lives

### *Guidelines for use of these materials:*

- 1. These lessons were originally designed for use at an English camp in Thailand. (The theme is an important truth that God has an individual interest in the people He has created.) Being in an outdoor setting away from normal life, was a good opportunity to share these truths with a group of students and young adults from Buddhist families. The atmosphere of love and acceptance is probably what they still remember to this day.*
- 2. These lessons and activities are designed for use with small groups lead by Christians who can share the truths in a low key and fun manner! Working through the program together as a team before camp is a good way to make the truth real to those who will be presenting the message of these lessons in small groups. When it is real to you, you will be able to pass on the truth effectively! (Note: Although a camp setting would be the best, these lessons could also be used as a series of English lessons, shared over three or four weeks.)*
- 3. These are copyrighted materials. Please feel free to make photocopies of these sheets for use in your teaching. Please don't reproduce them for resale. Thank you.*
- 4. You will notice that there is more than one version of some of the handout sheets. Hopefully one of them will be suitable for your use!*

*My prayer is that God will reveal Himself to those exposed to these truths of His love and acceptance. God's says to each of us, "You're Special!"*

*Wishing you God's best,*

*Arlene Sorenson*

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# You're Special Camp Program

## English & Biblical Lessons Outline

Camp Theme: *You are Special!*

Theme Statement:

You are different from everyone else in the world!

There is only one YOU in the whole world!

There is only one ME!

God made only one YOU and only one ME!

You are special!

I am special!

Let's treat each other that way!

### Introduction to the Theme: You're Special

i. **Camp Ice breaker: Getting Acquainted** (Do together in one large group)

Give a candy to each person who raises his or her hand to indicate the following:

**Find out who:**

was born in Bangkok (name your location)

was born the farthest from (your location)

went to a movie last week

speaks another language at home with their parents

who is the oldest child of their mother

does not use a computer at work

lived with their grandmother when in primary school

has the most brothers & sisters

has been to Singapore

is wearing a ring

is an only child

who is the youngest in their family

has ridden on a roller coaster

**Read the theme statement together:**

During this camp, we want to learn that each person in the world is "special" and life is valuable!

- a. Suggestion: Introduce the topic of each person being different from everyone else in the world in the following way!

Reach into a bag and bring out your hand with your thumb tucked in and your other hand covering it. "I have something very valuable in my hand! It's rare, special, hard to find another just like it!" (Explain these words.) "What do you think it is?"

Give students a chance to guess what it is!! Then show them that it is **your thumb!**

- b. Tell the students to look at their thumbs: Explain how different it is from every other thumbs in all the world! Speak also of the uniqueness of handwriting, fingerprints, size and shape of hand, etc.

**Divide into small groups - not more than 12 people. They will stay in the same group throughout the camp. It may be helpful to have those with more limited English put with those with better English so they can help each other.**

**"You're Special" - Session 1**

**1. Ice Breaker: "Talent Competition"**

**Choose the contestants carefully so as not to offend anyone and then tell them what they are to do! *Don't give any hint that the winner is not the one they expect!***

Leader announces the winner (telling the category) after the person acts out and give a prize (candy) to each winner! (Most of these are the winner by what they **are** instead of what they **do** so it is not actually a talent contest.) \* (See discussion questions below.)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a. Arm wrestling:                         | winner: the one with the smallest hand!  |
| b. Blow up a balloon:                     | winner: the shortest person!             |
| c. Demonstrate driving a motorcycle:      | winner: who looks like the safest driver |
| d. Sing a song (any language):            | winner: one who smiles the most          |
| e. Thread a needle:                       | winner: one with biggest thumb           |
| f. Demonstrate having car trouble:        | winner: the one who laughs the most      |
| g. Play basketball (invisible!!):         | winner: the tallest person.              |
| h. Demonstrate washing clothes:           | winner: one with cleanest fingernails    |
| i. Walk a straight line with eyes closed: | winner: the one with the biggest feet!   |
| j. Throw a balloon:                       | winner: the one with the smallest hands  |
| k. Demonstrate making pancakes:           | winner: thinnest person                  |

## 2. Group Discussion: Questions about the "Talent Competition"

Page 3

**Discussion Questions:** How did you win? \*  
How do we usually win?  
How did you feel when you won or lost?  
What is success or what makes you feel successful?

\* Most of the time by what you are instead of what you *do*.  
(The world's value of success and God's is different.)

## 3. Group and Pairs Discussion: "You are different from everyone else ..." Clip art worksheet\*

**To introduce how we are different from each other:**

Explain that each picture represents a different part of our lives:

**Elicit answers from students as to what the sketches represent:**

Basics (male/female, different nationalities)

1. Likes and Interests
2. Experiences
3. Appearance
4. Background
5. Personalities

\*This has two versions:

Two-page (English may be slightly easier, but needs more time for discussion)

Half-page format (Can be used in any order and choose fewer or more topics.)

**Discussion** (as a group or in pairs): Have students discuss *briefly* how people are different in each of these areas. (These will be used later for Conversation Practice.)

## 4. Biblical Teaching: \*You're Special - Reading (with pronunciation practice)

**Suggestions:** Leader can read it aloud once before the students are given copies  
You could provide listening questions for them to listen for the answers

To give opportunity for help with pronunciation, have one student in the group read a paragraph while others listen. Go over each paragraph to make sure they understand the vocabulary and meaning before going on to the next paragraph. Students take turns reading.

\* #1 easier version with grammar exercise

\* #2 more advanced with more discussion questions.

**1. Ice Breaker: World map puzzle competition**

In the same groups a Session 1, compete with each other to make the world! Prepare an identical map for each group. If there are as many as 12 in each group, consider making two maps per group. You could then compete within the small group to complete the puzzle.

**Suggestion:** Making your World map puzzles

You can download a world map from the Internet, enlarge it to A4 (or 8½" x 11") and print off a master copy. Glue it to a sheet of heavy paper (using different colors or marking each map set with a certain identifying mark). Cut each map with identical pieces using straight cuts. Keep in mind that you don't want this to take too much time, but needs to be a bit challenging to be fun! Think of your students and gauge accordingly (20 pieces may be adequate).

(Internet: click "images," type in World map, click on black & white.)

**2. Conversation Practice: Worksheet Page 1**

**3. Biblical Teaching: Creation of the World - Reading (with pronunciation practice)  
"A Special Place Prepared for Special People!" (and discussion questions)**

God created the world in 6 days. Let's see if your groups can put together the order in which He created the world and everything in it." Let them work in pairs, but don't help them so they can grapple with it. Remind them that they have been given the answer for one of the days already (day 4).

**Answers:**

The first day:	light (day and night)
The second day:	the atmosphere (sky)
The third day:	seas and land (and plants and trees)
The fourth day:	sun, moon and stars
The fifth day:	fish and birds
The sixth day:	animals and man

**4. Discussion Questions: take a few minutes for these short questions**

Which came first - the chicken or the egg?

- (optional) 1. **Friendship Newsletter** handout- **A Night to Remember** is an additional handout has been provided which shares of the "wondering" heart of a little girl. You may want to have students take this to read at home on their own time.
2. **Creation Awareness Exercise:** Leader share Matt. 10:29 (about sparrows). Ask the students to try and find some birds or other animal while they are at camp and watch what they do. The animal is important to God and you are more important than it is! Encourage them to take some time to look at the sea or lake (if you have one nearby), trees, sky, and other things around them and think of where they might have come from! Each flower, tree, bird, etc. is also special - different from all others! Try to give them a chance to share what they observed.

1. **Ice Breaker: "I am Special" drawing exercise - Do you believe that you are special? How are you special? Think about it and draw it!**

Give each student a small piece of paper. They must be exactly the same and each person needs to use a pencil or pen with blue ink. Tell the students we will be guessing who drew the picture so they need to scatter around the area to do their drawing. **"Don't show anyone!"**

Tell them to draw something that they think is special about themselves or their family. (They may draw things like a smile or a car.) Have them fold the paper in the same way and give them to you. Then pass them out to the students. (You may choose to tell them that if they get their own, they should not tell so it will be harder to guess whose it is!)

Begin with one student showing the paper they have and explain what they think it means. Then try and guess whose it is. The person who had drawn it is the next person to show their drawing and explain it. Have fun!

2. **Conversation Practice: Worksheet Page 2**
3. **Biblical Teaching: Creation of First Man & Woman - Reading** (with pronunciation practice)  
**"The First Man and Woman - Created Special People!"**  
**Lesson - 1 version                      Questions - 2 versions:**
4. **Group Conversation: Sharing Creation Awareness** (group shares observations about nature.)
5. **Writing or Group Sharing: Friendship Awareness**

If you have provided a camp notebook, you could prepare a page or two for others in their group to write a short note about how they think you are special. This can be very encouraging for each person!

Think about the others in your group. Think of something that makes them special or what you like about them! Each person is - not like anyone else, so they are special.