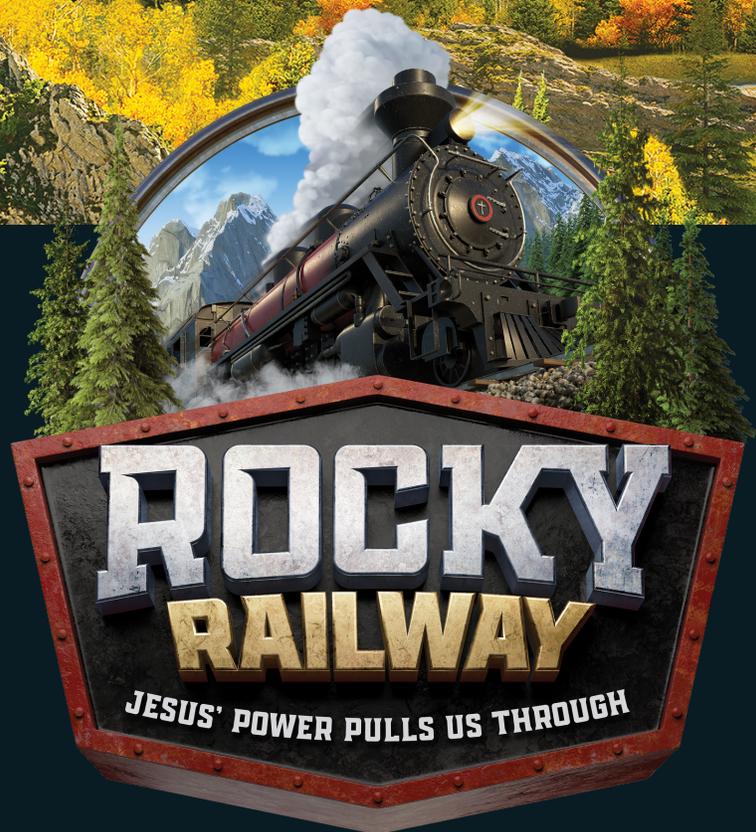




Preschool
Craft & Play
DAY 1



BIBLE POINT

Day 1

Jesus' power helps us do hard things.

Bible Story: Ananias helps Saul. (Acts 9:1-19)

Bible Verse: “For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.”
(Philippians 4:13)

Consider This...

- ▶ The Bible makes it evident that God often asks his followers to do hard things. Noah built an ark. Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son. Mary bore the Son of God. Ananias had the terrifying job of reaching out to Saul.
- ▶ To understand the difficulty of Ananias' job, it's important to realize just how much Saul hated the early church. He approved the stoning of Stephen, arrested Christians in Jerusalem, and set his sights on imprisoning Christians living in Damascus. Christians ran away from Saul—not toward him!
- ▶ Ananias' name means “protected by the Lord.” It's likely that his parents didn't know the importance of such protection during this important, history-altering mission.
- ▶ In Acts 9:15, God doesn't ease Ananias' misgivings with words of comfort or empowerment. He simply shares his life-changing plan for Saul and urges Ananias to go.
- ▶ Because of his selection and obedience, Ananias got to be the first person to welcome Saul as a Christian. In spite of any misgivings or fear, Ananias warmly greeted Saul with the phrase “Brother Saul.”



Why It Matters...

Jesus still asks his followers to do hard things. Kids know it's hard to forgive when someone hurts their feelings. Kids can tell you how tough it is to make new friends, do what's unpopular, learn a new skill in school, and reach out in friendship to someone who's lonely. That's why today's activities will encourage kids with the truth that Jesus' power can fortify them through life's challenges. Just as Ananias drew strength from God's reassurance and plan, kids will come away with renewed inspiration that *they* can trust in Jesus' power to tackle the hard things they face.

DAY 1

SUPPLY STATION

- ▶ Billy Boxcar template (use the template included in your packet or [click here to print your own.](#))
- ▶ washable markers
- ▶ colorful pompoms, cotton balls, or other light scoopable material
- ▶ spoon
- ▶ small buckets

It's time to get chugging along with some fun crafts at *Rocky Railway!* **Craft and Play** is a hands-on way to put our Bible learning into action. All suggested activities can be modified to meet your at home materials. A few "Alternate Track" ideas are included below for this purpose. ***All aboard to Craft and Play!***

OPTION 1: Billy Boxcars

This week at Rocky Railway, we're learning all about Jesus' power. We also get to think about big, powerful trains. They need a lot of power to move heavy things over the mountains and they can't do it alone. We need help to do hard things too. **Jesus' power helps us do hard things. (Trust Jesus!)** Now let's make train cars of our own!

Chug it Out!

Using the Billy Boxcar template, decorate both sides of the boxcar with markers. Fold and glue the colored template into a boxcar. Place a pile of pompoms, cotton balls, or other light scoopable material nearby. Use a spoon to fill your boxcar with these items. "Drive" the boxcars to a bucket and dump the load in.

Alternate Track

Don't have a template, use a shoe box as your boxcar, then glue decorated construction paper onto the outside of your box. Or, instead of pompoms, haul rice, beans, twigs, leaves, or Cheerios - anything light weight. Let your imagination run wild.



Cut

Fold

Fold

Fold

Cut

Glue

Fold

Fold

Fold

Glue

Fold

Fold

Fold

Fold

Cut

OPTION 2: Shape Train

Today we hear about Ananias going to pray for Saul. It was hard for him to do and he didn't know what would happen. But God did surprising things in Saul's life! Even when we don't know why we have to do something hard, **Jesus' power helps us do hard things.** (*Trust Jesus!*) We can trust that God's plan will turn out awesome. When we look at these shapes (show a handful of shapes for the craft), we don't know what they're going to be. But these shapes can make something really surprising. Let's chug along to see!

Chug it Out!

Cut the construction paper into different shapes- circles, squares, triangles, etc. Use your imagination to make a fun and surprising train by gluing the shapes onto another paper. Glue cotton balls to resemble the steam or smoke of the train.

Alternate Track

You can draw and color shapes onto a piece of white paper. You can then cut them out to make your train on another piece of paper. Or, just draw and color a train.

SUPPLY STATION

- ▶ colored construction paper
- ▶ scissors
- ▶ glue sticks
- ▶ cotton balls

