THEME: **Lying**

ABOUT THIS CLASS: The theme for this Frolic Family Faith Class is **Lying**. You will read the Frolic storybook titled *Jo and the Not-So-Little Lie*.

Prep Time

Lying in the Bible

Stories about lying in the Bible are not in short supply! In the Garden of Eden, the snake lied to Eve, Eve lied to Adam, and they both lied to God, resulting in their eviction from the garden. Joseph's jealous brothers wanted Joseph out of their lives, so they lied to their father, saying Joseph was dead. Because lying is so destructive and its consequences can live on through generations, one of the Ten Commandments God gave was to "not bear false witness." Jesus came to show us an abundant life—a life free from sin and deceit, which separate us from God.

A Parent's View of the Theme

A parent's sweet little child is learning words, then sentences—and parents celebrate! Then one day this sweet little child uses their new grasp of words and sentences to construct a lie—and parents wonder what went wrong. But while disappointing, this is a normal part of child development. Lying may seem like a way for children to avoid consequences and/or keep from disappointing an adult, but they will learn that lying actually results in more trouble. While children have the capacity to lie, they are not very good at it, so parents are presented with opportunities for teachable moments when the stakes are not so high.

A Child's View of the Theme

Around the age of two or three, children begin to develop higher cognitive thinking—if I do this, then that will happen. If they don't like a foreseeable consequence, they might lie—changing, bending, or denying the truth. Also, children at this age are still making distinctions between reality and fantasy, so their "untruth" could be their way of exploring the distinction. While lying seems to come more easily to some children than others, young children should never be made to feel that they are bad because they lied. Empathetic teaching and forgiveness will build trust, creating safety to tell the truth next time.

Bible Verse

"Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices."
—Colossians 3:9

Today's Ritual

Lead parents and children through this ritual together.

I have two eyes to see love. *(Point to eyes.)*
I have two ears to hear love. *(Point to ears.)*
I have one mouth to speak love. *(Point to mouth.)*
So let's all say, "I love you." *(Give a hug.)*

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Make copies of the Coloring Page and place on a low table with crayons and blank paper.

For Leaders

Lying Coloring Page on page 156, crayons, and blank paper

Supplies

This center supports **coloring skills**. *For toddlers.*

Let's Color Together

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THEME: **Lying**

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Let's Color Together

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

Encourage your child to color the images from the book. Delight in their colorful creations!

Your child is learning this!

- When I color, I develop my fine motor skills.
- Using crayons helps me learn the names of colors.
- **When I color pictures from this story, I remember that God forgives me when I lie and gives me courage to tell the truth.**

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Jo looked down into the basket.
He'd eaten almost all the berries Ava picked!

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Provide a space where caregivers and children can sit together. Set out a few copies of the ASL Sign Sheet.

For Leaders

ASL Sign Sheet from page 157

Supplies

This center supports **large motor skills**, **emotional development**, and **language**.

For infants and toddlers

Give Me a Sign!

THEME: **Lying**

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Give Me a Sign!

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

"I'm sorry" and "I forgive you" are good responses when we do something wrong—like lying. Help your child practice using their words and hands to apologize and forgive. Caregivers with infants and toddlers can teach these actions and words to their little ones during daily life whenever an "I'm sorry"/"I forgive you" situation arises.

Your child is learning this!

- When I do something wrong, I can say, "I'm sorry."
- I can forgive others when they do wrong to me.
- **God gives us words and actions to make things better when we hurt each other.**

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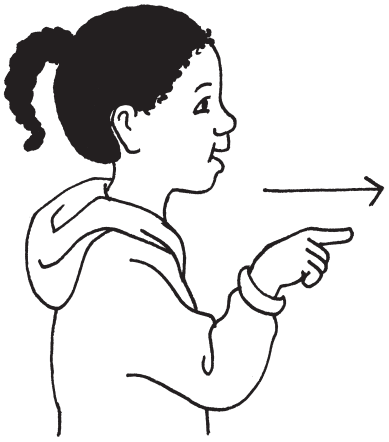
ASL Sign Sheet

I'm sorry.

I

forgive



you.

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THEME: **Lying**

True or False?

This center supports **cognitive development**, **language**, and **early literacy**. *For toddlers.*

Supplies

Green sheets of construction paper that say "TRUE" and red sheets of construction paper that say "FALSE"

For Leaders

Toddlers will have fun deciding whether the statement is true or false.

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THEME: **Lying**

True or False?

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

Read these statements one at a time and invite your child to decide whether the statement is true (they hold up the green paper) or false (they hold up the red paper).

I am your grandpa.	We have a dog.	You like ice cream.
You like pizza.	You like to play outside.	There are four people in our family.
We live in a house.	You like to drink milk.	Purple is your favorite color.
You drive the car.	I love you.	God loves you.

Your child is learning this!

- I am learning what *true* and *false* mean.
- **God gives me the gift to think so that I can determine if something is true or false.**

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THEME: **Lying**

Building on the Truth or a Lie

This center supports **fine motor skills**. *For infants and toddlers.*

Supplies

Building blocks, a table or floor space, and a thick blanket

For Leaders

Set out building blocks and a thick blanket on an open table or floor.

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THEME: **Lying**

Building on the Truth or a Lie

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

Stack blocks on the hard floor or table. How many blocks can you stack? Then stack blocks on the thick, soft blanket. Now how many blocks can you stack? Stacking blocks on a hard surface is like telling the truth. Stacking blocks on a soft surface is like lying. Caregivers with infants can model stacking where your infant can see you. While this activity may be abstract for some children, it helps to lay a foundation of understanding that telling the truth is more stable than telling a lie.

Your child is learning this!

- I am learning to stack blocks.
- I am learning to count.

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THEME: **Lying**

Peek-a-Boo!

This center supports **language** and **cognitive skills**. *For infants.*

Supplies

Scarves and stuffed animals

For Leaders

Provide an area where caregivers and infants can be together as they play this revised game of peek-a-boo.

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THEME: **Lying**

Peek-a-Boo!

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

With the scarf in front of your face, play peek-a-boo. When you reveal yourself, say, "Peek-a-boo! I'm your (mommy, daddy, grandma, etc.)." Alternate your face with the stuffed animals. When a stuffed animal is revealed, say, "Peek-a-boo! This is not your (mommy, daddy, grandma, etc.). This is a (name of animal)."

Your child is learning this!

- Distinguishing between what is and what is not is a way I learn about truths and lies.
- I am learning the names of animals.
- **God gives me people who love me very much!**

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