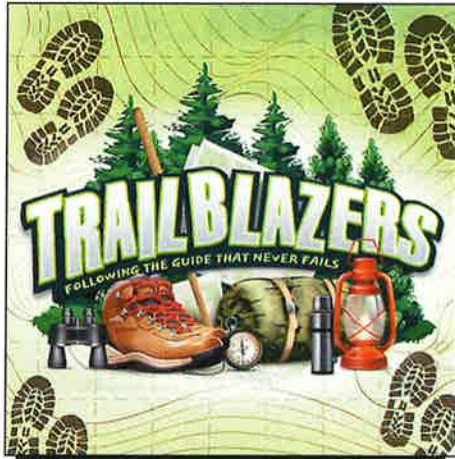




HANNAH AND SAMUEL

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 Samuel 1–3

FOCUS VERSES: 1 Peter 5:7; Luke 12:6–7; 1 Samuel 12:24; Colossians 3:17

Summary: More than anything else, Hannah wanted a baby. She prayed fervently to the Lord, promising that if He gave her a child, she would dedicate the child to God’s service forever. Hannah gave birth to Samuel. She kept her word and left him with Eli, the high priest, to serve in the temple. God called out to Samuel, but Samuel didn’t know it was Him. After several times, Eli told Samuel to respond to God. God raised up Samuel to be a prophet for all of Israel.



MONTHLY *Memory Verse*

For nothing will be impossible with God.

(LUKE 1:37)



God cares about us.

We will go deeper in God’s truth by answering these questions:



DOES GOD KNOW WHAT’S HAPPENING IN PEOPLE’S LIVES?

God knows everything, including the details of every single person’s life. He knows us and cares about us.



HOW CAN WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GOODNESS TO US?

We can respond to God with thankfulness and a willingness to serve Him.



HOW IS GOD INVITING ME TO RESPOND?

Kids will reflect and respond to the truth they learned about God.

Leader TRAINING

LEADER TRAINING TOPIC: REMEMBER IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU

When a kid responds in a way that does not meet our expectations, it's common to take that behavior personally. This can cause leaders to become frustrated and respond in ways that are not helpful and may even escalate the kid's behavior. Here are some ways to stay calm in the midst of tough situations.

- **Check your breathing:** Before responding, take a few deep breaths. This is also a great modeling for the kid who may be having a hard time. As they see us breathing deeply, often they will do the same.
- **Pray.** Matthew 19:26 says: *With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.* Need more patience, discernment or calm? Ask God for it.
- **Reframe the behavior:** Instead of being offended at the kid's behavior, consider what this behavior may be telling you and how you might help. If we approach the kid as someone needing help, we will tend to approach them in a more compassionate and empathetic way.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: FOSTER CARE

In today's story, kids might be confused why Hannah entrusted the very child she had prayed for to someone else's care. In this situation, Hannah was keeping a promise to God. She loved Samuel so much that she wanted the best for him, which in this case meant living and serving God in the temple. There are over 340,000 kids in foster care in the United States.* In these situations, kids end up living with someone other than their parents due to sickness, trouble or neglect. You may have kids in your group who have been in the foster care system. Avoid asking specifics about why kids are in foster care or about the situation of their biological parents. It might be difficult for them to discuss, but there is also a good chance they don't know the whole situation. Recognize that many kids in foster care have experienced significant trauma, resulting in emotional or behavioral challenges that they may exhibit in your group. Offer support and acceptance to all kids while partnering with foster parents to understand how best to meet kids' needs.

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

ELEMENTARY GLOSSARY

Infallible: never wrong, failing, or making a mistake

Omniscient: all-knowing

Prophet: a person who gives God's messages to His people

Temple: the holy place where God's people went to worship Him

Bible TEACHING

HANNAH AND SAMUEL

1 SAMUEL 1-3



PRAY: God, Your care for us is amazing. You heard Hannah, and You hear us too. Help us understand Your care as we listen to Your Word today. Amen.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, printable pages

PREP:

Print the printable pages or use the teaching slides.

LEADER TIP:

Let the entire group attempt to sound out the words instead of calling on volunteers.

Say: Have you ever had trouble understanding something you hear? Today a boy named Samuel will have real trouble understanding God's voice in the night. You might also have some trouble understanding some words at points in the story. I will show you some strange-looking words. You'll need to work together with others in our group to sound out what the words are really supposed to be! Let's try it.

Say: During the time of the Judges, there was a woman named Hannah who did not have any children. Each year, Hannah and her husband would travel to this place:

Show image #1: "Thuht Emmpull."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: the temple.

Say: Hannah wept and prayed to the Lord. "If You will give Your servant a son," she said, "I will give him back to serve You his entire life."

Show teaching illustration: Hannah Prays for a Baby.

Say: This person saw her praying silently with her lips moving:

Show image #2: "Eeyl I Duh Preest."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: Eli the Priest.

Say: Eli thought there was something wrong with her. Hannah explained that she was pouring out her soul to the Lord. Eli said, "Go in peace, and may God answer your prayer."

Bible TEACHING CONTINUED

Say: God did answer Hannah's prayer. He saw her tears and knew her heart. He cared for her. He gave Hannah this:

Show image #3: "Aybay Beeb Oiy."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: a baby boy.

Say: She named the baby Samuel, which means "heard of God" because she had asked for him from the Lord. Hannah prayed, praising God.

Read 1 Samuel 2:2 directly from the Bible: *There is none holy like the LORD: for there is none besides You; there is no rock like our God.*

Say: When Samuel was a boy, Hannah took him to the temple to live, just as she promised. Samuel served the Lord in the temple, alongside Eli the priest.

Say: Eli had these who were doing very evil thing:

Show image #4: "Tuice Unns."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: two sons.

Say: Eli's sons didn't know the Lord. They didn't follow God's commands for the sacrifices, and they took things for themselves. One night, as Samuel slept, the Lord called his name, but Samuel didn't understand what he was hearing.

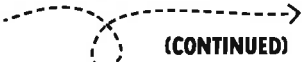
Show teaching illustration: God Calls to Samuel.

Say: Samuel ran to Eli and said, "You called me." He also said this:

Show image #5: "Heerai Yam."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: here I am.

Say: "I didn't call you," Eli told him. "Go back to bed." This happened two more times before Eli realized what was happening. "Go back to bed," he told Samuel. "When you hear your name called again, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" God spoke to Samuel again!

 (CONTINUED)

Bible TEACHING CONTINUED

Read 1 Samuel 3:11: *Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle."*

Say: God told Samuel about the evil things Eli's sons were doing. They didn't know the Lord. They didn't follow God's commands for the sacrifices and they took things for themselves.

Say: The Lord cared for Hannah and answered her prayer for a child. The Lord also cared for Israel by removing Eli's evil sons and raising Samuel to become a great prophet in Israel. This sentence was true for them and it is true for us:

Show image #6: "God Kayr Sfour Uhz."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: God cares for us.

Show teaching slide: Point to Jesus.



POINT TO JESUS

Say: Jesus' whole ministry on Earth showed that God cares for His people. Jesus healed many people, helping those who were sick or couldn't walk or couldn't see. He wept when His friends were sad because their brother Lazarus died. He reached out to people who were ignored in His society. Jesus showed that God cares about our hurt and provides for us. Most of all, Jesus showed how much God cares for us by sacrificing Himself for our sins.



THUHT EMMPUL

Image #1



**EYEL
DUH
PREST**

Image #2



**AYBAY
BEEB OIY**

Image #3



TWICE
TURNS

Image #4



HEERAI
YAM

Image #5



**GOD KAYR
SFOUR
UHZ**

Image #6

Small Group ROADMAP

1

BELONG (10 MINUTES)

Goal: For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

LISTEN FOR THE CALL!

SUPPLIES: Painter's tape

OR

FIND SOMEONE

SUPPLIES: Printable page, writing supplies

2

BELIEVE (10 MINUTES)

Goal: For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible

BEACH BALL TOSS

SUPPLIES: Bibles, teaching slide, beach ball, permanent marker

OR

GOD KNOWS, GOD CARES

SUPPLIES: Bibles, 4 pieces of paper, writing supplies, timer

3



DISCIPLESHIP DISCUSSION (10 MINUTES)

Goal: To engage kids in faith conversations that help them navigate a broken world with biblical wisdom

4

BECOME (10 MINUTES)

Goal: For kids to learn to follow Jesus by applying faith to their lives

WILLING TO SERVE

SUPPLIES: Bibles, Take-Home page, writing supplies, printable pages, sticky notes (several per kid), painter's tape

OR

OVERFLOWING PRAYER

SUPPLIES: Bibles, Take-Home page, writing supplies, small cups (1 per kid plus 1), pan with raised edges, bottle of water, spoons (1 per kid)



LISTEN FOR THE CALL!

SUPPLIES:

Painter's tape

PREP:

Place a line of painter's tape on the floor so that all kids will be able to line up on one side of the tape.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Allow for modified movements for kids with mobility needs (e.g., moving arms side to side or up and down to designate choice).

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*
2. **Discuss:** What was the best and worst part of your week?
3. **Discuss:** This month we are learning that God never fails. How have you seen this week that God hasn't failed you?
4. *Have kids line up on one side of the painter's tape.*
5. *The right side of the tape is the "Awake" side and the left side is the "Asleep" side. You will call out "Awake" or "Asleep" and kids will need to jump to the correct side. If kids jump to the wrong side, they are out! Call out the sides faster and faster as the game progresses.*
6. *To add a challenge round: When you call out "Pray!" everyone must freeze.*
7. *Play multiple rounds as time allows and choose kids to be the "Caller."*
8. **Discuss:** What made this game challenging? What did you have to do to stay in the game?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

It was fun to watch everyone listening for the call and keeping up! Today's true story from the Bible includes a time when someone was asleep and God called to them and woke them up.



FIND SOMEONE

SUPPLIES:

Printable page, writing supplies

PREP:

Print the printable page (1 per kid).

LEADER TIP: For larger groups, encourage kids to get a different person for each box.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Struggling readers may need assistance with reading descriptions.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*
2. **Discuss:** What was the best and worst part of your week?
3. **Discuss:** This month we are learning that God never fails. How have you seen this week that God hasn't failed you?
4. **Say:** Let's play a game to get to know more about each other.
5. **Say:** I will give each of you a paper with different descriptions. Your goal is to walk around and find people that match these descriptions. When you find someone that fits the description, write their name in the box. The first person to complete their sheet wins!
6. *Pass out supplies.*
7. *Start the game.*
8. *If the game is going on too long, stop the game and the person with the most boxes filled in wins.*
9. **Discuss:** Did you learn something new about anyone? What was it?
10. **Discuss:** How does knowing someone help you care more about them?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Today we are learning that God cares about us. He knows everything about us and what is happening in our lives.



BEACH BALL TOSS

SUPPLIES:

Bibles, teaching slide, beach ball, permanent marker

PREP:

Print or show the Memory Verse teaching slide. Inflate the beach ball and use the permanent marker to randomly write the words of the verse on the ball. Include the chapter and verse numbers as well.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For struggling kids, allow for a “phone a friend” option. They can try on their own, but if overwhelmed they can ask one friend on their team to help.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Lead kids to find Luke 1:37 in their Bibles. Read it aloud together.*
2. **Discuss:** What felt impossible to Hannah in our Bible story?
3. **Discuss:** What impossible thing did God do for Hannah? What about Samuel?
4. *Gather kids in a circle.*
5. **Say:** This beach ball has our memory verse written on it. Your challenge is to put the verse in order.
6. **Say:** We will toss the ball around the circle to each other. When you catch the ball, you will find the next word of the verse, say it and toss the ball to another person. I will toss the ball to you starting with the first word of the verse: “For.”
7. *Repeat the verse together as time allows.*
8. **Discuss:** What are some things that can happen in our lives that God knows about?
9. **Discuss:** Does God know what’s happening in people’s lives?
10. **Say:** God knows everything, including the details of every single person’s life. He knows us and cares about us.
11. *Lead kids to find Luke 12:6–7 in their Bibles. Read it aloud together.*
12. **Discuss:** What do these verses tell us about God?
13. **Discuss:** How can this verse and our memory verse help us this week?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God cares for you. He alone is God and knows what is happening in your life. Recite your verse each day and thank Him that nothing is impossible for Him!



GOD KNOWS, GOD CARES

SUPPLIES:

Bibles, 4 pieces of paper, writing supplies, timer

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Strategically divide kids into groups who may need extra support.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Discuss:** What did God know about Hannah?
2. *Lead kids to find Luke 12:6–7 and 1 Peter 5:7 in their Bibles. Read them aloud together.*
3. **Discuss:** Does God know what’s happening in people’s lives?
4. **Say:** God knows everything, including the details of every single person’s life. He knows us and cares about us.
5. **Say:** Let’s play a game to think about all that God knows about us. I will divide you into teams and you will have two minutes to think of as many specific things that God knows about you. The team that has the most unique ideas wins.
6. *Divide kids into four teams and give each team paper and a writing supply.*
7. *Start the game and cheer the kids on.*
8. *Invite each team to read their ideas. If any other team has the same idea, they will cross it out. Continue until all the teams have shared their ideas. Declare the team with the most unique ideas to be the winner.*
9. **Say:** If we had an hour, we probably couldn’t think of all the things that God knows about us. He knows everything about us, all the specific details of our life. He knows us and His knowledge about us means He can care for us in very specific ways.
10. **Discuss:** How does God knowing everything about you connect to His care about you?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God knew Hannah’s hopes for a son. God knows everything that is happening in our lives. He knows the details of each of our lives. God knows it all and He cares about us!

 Discipleship DISCUSSION**HOW CAN I KNOW THIS IS TRUE?**

Discuss: Have you ever prayed so hard for something that you trusted God would answer?

Say: The Bible tells how Hannah prayed at the tabernacle in Shiloh, where Samuel later served. Archaeologists have uncovered the ancient site of Shiloh, including remains of storage rooms, pottery, and animal bones from sacrifices, matching the worship described in 1 Samuel. They've also found a large open area that could have held the tabernacle. Thousands of pottery pieces show people traveled there regularly to worship God. These discoveries confirm that Shiloh was a real place where people prayed, sacrificed, and met with God, just as Hannah did, and where Samuel learned to listen to God's voice.

BUT WHAT ABOUT ... FOSTER CARE?

Discuss: What did you think about Hannah leaving Samuel to grow up in the temple?

Discuss: Are there situations where kids live with people who aren't their parents?

Say: Sometimes kids live with other family members. Sometimes kids live in foster care, which means they live with another family because there is a reason they cannot live with their own.

Discuss: What do you think God has to say about that?

Say: God loves when families grow by including others. Psalm 68:6 says: *God settles the solitary in a home*. In other words, God puts those who are alone in families. Sometimes, kids end up alone because their parents are sick or going through a really tough time. God shows He cares by providing love during that really hard time. There were probably times when it was hard for Samuel to grow up in the temple instead of in his parents' house. But God used the place where Samuel was to call him and to prepare him to be the prophet of Israel. God cares about every kid and is with every kid, no matter their situation. He can use the really hard things we go through in His plan for our lives.



WILLING TO SERVE

SUPPLIES:

Bibles, Take-Home page, writing supplies, printable pages, sticky notes (several per kid), painter's tape

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Print the printable pages. Tape the signs around your space.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Pair kids who may struggle with this activity with a friend who can help.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Discuss:** How did God show His goodness to Hannah?
2. **Discuss:** What did Hannah do to show her gratitude to God?
3. *Lead kids to find Colossians 3:17 in their Bibles. Read it aloud together.*
4. **Discuss:** How can we respond to God's goodness to us?
5. **Say:** We can respond to God with thankfulness and a willingness to serve Him.
6. **Discuss:** How has God shown His goodness to you?
7. **Say:** God has shown His goodness to us in many ways, especially in sending Jesus to die for our sins.
8. *Point to the signs around your space, reading each one: hands, feet, mouth.*
9. **Say:** I will give you some sticky notes. Think of ways that you can serve God using each of these parts of your body. Write one idea on each sticky note and then stick them by the sign it matches.
10. *Pass out supplies and give kids time to write on their sticky notes and stick them to the matching signs.*
11. *Read some of the sticky notes around each sign.*
12. **Say:** Now we will tell God that we are ready and willing to serve Him. Take one more sticky note and write your name on it. Then put your sticky note on the sign that represents how you want to serve God this week.
13. **Pray:** God, thank You for knowing the details of our lives and caring about us. We are so grateful for Your goodness and want to serve You. Amen.
14. **Say:** God cares about us. Let's take time to respond to Him.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Lead kids to use the "Me Question" box on their Take-Home pages. Ask fun, relationship-building questions while kids wait to be picked up. As parents arrive, connect with them and point out the Take-Home page.



OVERFLOWING PRAYER

SUPPLIES:

Bibles, Take-Home page, writing supplies, small cups (1 per kid plus 1), pan with raised edges, bottle of water, spoons (1 per kid)

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid).

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Discuss:** What did Hannah do in response to God's care for her?
2. **Discuss:** How can we respond to God's goodness to us?
3. **Say:** We can respond to God with thankfulness and a willingness to serve Him.
4. *Take out the supplies. Place a cup in the middle of the pan.*
5. **Say:** Imagine this cup is our lives and the water is God's goodness to us.
6. **Discuss:** How has God been good to us?
7. *As kids share different ways God has shown His goodness, pour water into the cup and allow it to overflow the cup and go into the pan.*
8. **Say:** I will give you each a spoon and a cup. I want you to fill your spoon with water from the pan. Then you will pray and thank God for His goodness. You can spoon water into your cup for each way God has been good to you personally.
9. *Pass out supplies and have each kid take a spoonful of water.*
10. *Invite kids to pray and thank God for His goodness in their lives.*
11. **Say:** When we understand and recognize God's goodness, we are so grateful that our gratefulness overflows to action. We want to serve and show love to God for His goodness.
12. *Lead kids to find Colossians 3:17 in their Bibles. Read it aloud together.*
13. **Discuss:** What does this verse mean?
14. **Discuss:** How can you thank God and serve Him this week?
15. *Pray aloud for the entire group, thanking God for His goodness.*
16. **Pray:** God, thank You for knowing the details of our lives and caring about us. We are so grateful for Your goodness and want to serve You. Amen.
17. **Say:** God cares about us. Let's take time to respond to Him.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Lead kids to use the "Me Question" box on their Take-Home pages. Ask fun, relationship-building questions while kids wait to be picked up. As parents arrive, connect with them and point out the Take-Home page.



FIND SOMEONE

OLDER ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP
HANNAH AND SAMUEL

PAGE 1 OF 1

PREP: Print the printable page (1 per kid).

FIND SOMEONE WHO...

loves math.	has more than 3 siblings.	has had stitches.
can use chopsticks.	wakes up early.	has a pet.
can whistle.	is afraid of spiders.	likes spicy food.
does not like broccoli.	has seen a snake in the wild.	has ridden a horse.



WILLING TO SERVE

OLDER ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP
HANNAH AND SAMUEL

PAGE 1 OF 3

PREP: Print the printable pages.



HANDS



WILLING TO SERVE

OLDER ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP
HANNAH AND SAMUEL

PAGE 2 OF 3

PREP: Print the printable pages.



FEET



WILLING TO SERVE

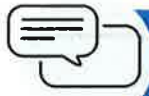
OLDER ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP
HANNAH AND SAMUEL

PAGE 3 OF 3

PREP: Print the printable pages.



MOUTH



TAKE-HOME

HANNAH AND SAMUEL

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 SAMUEL 1-3 Hannah prayed for a child and promised to dedicate him to the Lord. God gave her Samuel, and she kept her promise. God called Samuel and raised him up as a prophet for Israel.

POINT TO JESUS: Jesus' whole ministry on earth showed that God cares for His people. In many ways He showed that God cares about our hurt and provides for us. Most of all, Jesus demonstrated how much God cares for us by sacrificing Himself for our sins.

BRITE Idea
God cares about us.



MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

For nothing will be impossible with God.

(LUKE 1:37)

FAMILIES, ASK THESE THREE QUESTIONS!



WHAT WAS THE MOST INTERESTING THING YOU LEARNED ABOUT HANNAH AND SAMUEL?



DOES GOD KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PEOPLE'S LIVES?

God knows everything, including the details of every single person's life. He knows us and He cares about us.



HOW CAN WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS TO US?

We can respond to God with thankfulness and a willingness to serve Him.

HOW IS GOD INVITING **ME** TO RESPOND?

CHOOSE ONE:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ I can talk to God about ... | ☐ I wonder ... |
| ☐ I can remember ... | ☐ I can ... |



DRAW OR WRITE YOUR RESPONSE

YOUR FAMILY'S WIN THIS WEEK ...

Ask your pastor one way your family can serve your church family this week.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD

Foster Care can be a tough topic for kids. We can help kids view this topic through the lens of Scripture. Learn more about this and how to have a conversation at home here. [Britecurriculum.com/tough-topics](https://britecurriculum.com/tough-topics)

WANT MORE AT-HOME DISCIPLESHIP DISCUSSION? SCAN ME!



GOING DEEPER

Read God's Word this week! Read each passage and answer the three questions.

☐ DAY 1

**Read: 1 Samuel 1:12-18,
26-28**

HE: What do these verses tell us about God?

WE: What do these verses tell us about people?

ME: How is God inviting me to respond?

?

☐ DAY 2

Read: 1 Samuel 3:1-14

HE: What do these verses tell us about God?

WE: What do these verses tell us about people?

ME: How is God inviting me to respond?

?

☐ DAY 3

Read: 1 Peter 5:6-7

HE: What do these verses tell us about God?

WE: What do these verses tell us about people?

ME: How is God inviting me to respond?

?

☐ DAY 4

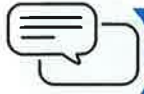
Read: Psalm 55:22

HE: What do these verses tell us about God?

WE: What do these verses tell us about people?

ME: How is God inviting me to respond?

?



TAKE-HOME ACTIVITIES

HANNAH AND SAMUEL



WHAT'S DIFFERENT?

REBUS PUZZLE

1  Name

2  

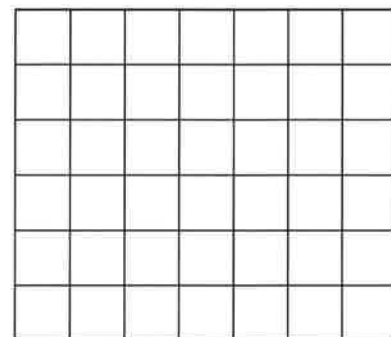
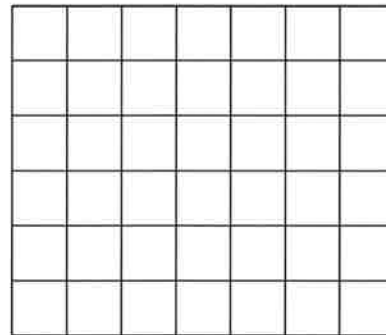
3 

4

E
K
A
W

1.. Design 2. Love Birds 3. Wake Up

CONNECT FOUR



Find a partner.
Take turns putting an "x" or "o" in boxes. You must put your shape in the lowest box in the column.
The first player to get four in a row in any direction wins!

