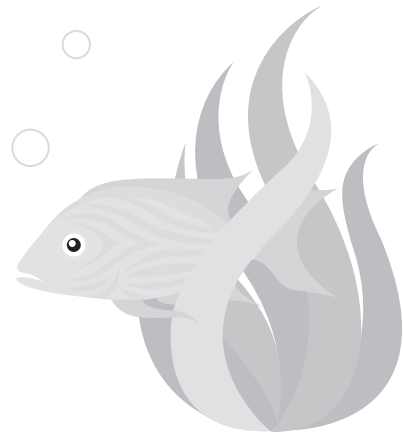


# Door of the Word



## Activities to Help Students Learn the Special Memory Passage

1. Write each verse of the special memory passage on a construction paper fish. Attach a large paper clip to the fish mouths. Provide a cane pole with fishing line and a magnet attached at the end. Turn the fish over so the writing is not seen. Students take turns catching the fish and stringing them in the correct order on a yarn line strung between two chairs or along the wall. As the student strings the fish in order, he recites the verses.
2. Let students practice the verses a few times before beginning. Purchase several bottles of bubbles and wands. Divide class into pairs. One student blows bubbles while the other recites the memory verse. The object is to see how many bubbles a student can blow before the other student finishes the verse. The person who finishes the verse correctly with the least amount of bubbles being blown is declared the winner. Option: Give the winning student the bottle of bubbles as a token reward.
3. Cut at least twelve fish from construction paper. Write one verse of the special memory passage on six of them. Leave the other six blank. Turn them over on the floor in a circle. As you sing a chorus or play music, students walk around the circle, stepping on each fish as they go. When the music or singing stops, each child turns over the fish on which he is standing. If he is standing on a blank, he does nothing. If he is standing on a verse he takes turns with the others reciting it aloud. Continue the activity until everyone has recited at least one verse.
4. Can your students look into the mirror and remember the verses or do they straightway forget? You will need several hand mirrors for this memory activity. Divide the class into pairs. One student holds the mirror in front of his face. The other student holds up an index card with one verse of the special memory passage written on it. The student holding the mirror reads the verse aloud. The team mate then lowers the card and the student holding the mirror must look into it and repeat the verse from memory. Allow enough time for students to have several tries.
5. How much of the special memory passage can you recite in one breath? This activity is based on the fact that divers must have an ample supply of oxygen to continue exploring. You will need a stopwatch and a copy of the special memory passage. The student will take a deep breath and read as much of the passage as possible before running out of breath. He then takes another breath and continues reading aloud. Keep record of how many seconds of oxygen were used by each student to read the verse. The student who took the least amount of breath to recite the passage is the winner. Give the winner a small box of refreshing breath mints.
6. Divide the class into six groups. Give one verse of the special memory passage to each group. Provide a large piece of art paper, pencils, and markers. Instruct the groups to create a rebus for each respective verse. For example, substitute a bee for the word “be,” 4 for the word “for,” etc. Let students be creative in this activity. Share each rebus with the class and recite the entire passage together.

7. Create a special memory passage fleet of ships. Write the passage on a chalk board, dividing the verses into words or phrases, depending on class size. Provide square pieces of construction paper approximately 8" x 8" and markers. Students write the designated words or phrases on the squares and attach them to wooden rulers or lightweight dowel rods. Give each sail to a student and line the sails up in correct verse order. Set the fleet in motion, circling the room. As they sail, students hoist the sails in the air, one after the other, in the correct order. The class recites the passage as each sail is raised. The fleet sails into port when the verses are all recited. Make several voyages to help instill the verses in the students' memory.
8. Cover a cardboard shoe box with brown paper and decorate to resemble a treasure chest. Cut oversized gold coins from orange or yellow construction paper. Write phrases of the special memory passage on the coins and jumble them in the treasure chest. Give each student an opportunity to open the treasure chest and unscramble the coins, placing them in the correct order in a row on the table. Let students race against themselves or classmates to improve the time it takes to place the coins in proper order.

*“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*

*For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”*

*James 1:22-27*

