



Welcome to FPS!

6th Grade Curriculum: Week 1

What we want students to learn: You have a family here at FPS.

Scripture Focus: Jeremiah 29:11

The Main Point

Welcome, 6th grade small group leaders. We are so excited that you have decided to take the challenging yet rewarding road of helping 6th graders step into a whole new terrain and experience God in a way unique in their season. In the 6th grade they may experience new doubts, new fears, and even more incredible new opportunities. And, just think, you get to walk through this journey with them! We are so excited to see how God empowers you to help 6th graders experience Him right where they are.

Overview of 6th grade curriculum:

- Week 1: Welcome to FPS
- Weeks 2-5: Best Night of the Week
 - During this series we will unpack why we do what we do here at FPS.
 - Worship, small group, preaching, etc.
- Weeks 6-8: Wired
 - During this series, we will help students understand that God made creation and God made them too.

Once the 6th grade curriculum has completed, your group will jump right into the FPS curriculum that all other grades are doing on Wednesday nights.

INTRODUCTION

Take a moment to welcome the new 6th graders. This is their first small group at FPS, how exciting!! Make sure to tell them who you are and give them a moment to introduce themselves to those around them. Have them talk about the following:

- **Name**
- **School**
- **Favorite sport or hobby**

PRAY as you begin your small group time. Pray that your students would feel welcome at FPS and recognize that they have a family here.

THROW AND TELL ACTIVITY

This year, every small group has been given a “throw and tell conversation starter ball.” This is one tool you will have to get your group up and moving and interact with them.

Instructions: Have one student start with the ball. Then, play a song on your phone. Have the students throw the ball across the circle, in which ever order and to whomever they would like. Occasionally stop the song. Every time you stop the song, the person who has the ball when you stop the song has to answer the question/do the activity that their thumb is touching. If the ball is in mid-air when the music stops, the student who just threw the ball has to do the activity or answer the question once someone tosses the ball back to them.

Spend anywhere from 5 to 10 minutes playing this with your students.

Small group tip: You will have access to this every time you have small group. So, feel free to take a break throughout any future group sessions to play if your group needs a minute to take a break or re-focus. 40 minutes can feel like a long time for your group, and we want to make the transition as easy as possible for them.

LESSON

Every time you have small group, you will have a lesson section and life application section. This is where your small group will read God's Word together and discover how it applies to their personal life. This week, your small group will be talking about one of the biggest things on their mind right now, starting middle school.

- **What excites you most about starting middle school?**
- **What are your biggest fears about starting middle school?**
 - *As their leader, explain to them what fears you had when you started middle school.*
- **What do you think middle school will be like?**

Point out any common fears that your students share. Students need to know that they are not alone in their doubts and fears. We want your small group to be a place where students can be honest with their current struggles. The tone for that can be set tonight!

LIFE APPLICATION

Now, have your group read Jeremiah 29:11

Jeremiah 29:11 - **For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.**

Explain to your group that while they may not know exactly what their first day of middle school will look like (or what the first month will even look like), God knows. God doesn't just want their middle school experience to just be "alright," God wants their middle school experience to be incredible and exceed their expectations.

CLOSING ACTIVITY

To close out small group tonight, take some time to answer any questions that students may have about the large group session coming up. This will be a totally new environment for them and we want to make them as comfortable as possible. Also, consider having your group worship together and then sit and listen to the message together.

TAKE IT OUT

Close small group out with prayer requests. As you close in prayer, pray that your small group would experience God in a way that meets them right where they are.

After prayer, be sure to remind them about THE WEEKEND services we have here at FP!