

# EDUCATION NEWS

February 2010

## SING YOUR PRAISE TO THE LORD!

March is National Music in the Schools Month, and it's a great time to emphasize music at home as well.

Music improves spatial-temporal reasoning and promotes sensory integration – crucial factors as children develop and learn.

Use music to help children grow and learn spiritually.

- Soothe babies with calm music or singing. Play CDs with instrumental praise music or softly sing your favorite worship songs

- Use age-appropriate worship music for kids to sing praise to God. Motion promotes motor skills and helps with memory – moving to the rhythm helps kids understand that can use their whole bodies to praise God.
- Visit your local Christian store for great music resources or
- Talk to Amy Schultz or Eden Keefe about the music they use for SS Openings.



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## TIME IN THE SUN

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 14th.

In addition to setting your clocks **forward** one hour so you're not late to Sunday School or church, take time to grow closer to your children with these conversation-starters.



- Tell about a time God answered your prayer.
- What would you do if you had an extra hour every day?

- If you could spend more time with anyone in your family, describe who that would be and what you'd do together.
- What do you think "time" will be like in heaven?

## PARENTING IDEAS

This spring kids may be feeling the pressure of standardized testing at school, so give them words of truth and encouragement while they are there.

Decorate white envelopes and fill them with biblical truths such as "You are fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14) or

"God is always with you" (Matthew 28:20).

Also add specific notes such as "Michael, you always ask great questions" or

"Your smile brightens my morning, Kayla."

Tell kids to place the envelopes in their desk so they can pull them out each day before testing.

*Kristy Coughlin,  
Los Angeles, California*



If your kids take their lunch to school you can pack little notes in their lunch box too.

Try drawing a smiley face or write I U on a napkin.

You can even write a note on a banana peel with a ballpoint pen!

Tuck notes into their backpack, a textbook or their hoodie pocket.

Gary Chapman, author of *The Five Love Languages* says, "Compliments, words of encouragement and requests...all affirm self-worth. They create a more intimate relationship, heal wounds and bring out the full potential of another person."

## MICRO-LENDING FAMILY PROJECT

Micro-lending is a new movement that takes small amounts of money, as little as \$10, and loans it to people around the world to help them start small businesses...such as giving money to someone in Africa to start selling eggs or to a person in south America who want to

start a business mending shirts.

Families can choose recipients and make investments from their home computers. The people

*"Families can choose recipients and make investments from their home computers."*

who receive the money pay it back over time, sometimes with interest. Families can then decide whether they wish to reinvest the money.

For a list of organizations that provide micro-lending to low-income entrepreneurs go to Web Exclusives at

[childrensministry.com](http://childrensministry.com).

## FUN SITES TO VISIT WITH YOUR KIDS!



Did you know that Lutheran Hour Ministries has a safe and wonderful online site for children? It's called JCPayZone and it is updated frequently with

crafts, games, recipes, cards, music, etc.

[www.jcplayzone.com](http://www.jcplayzone.com)

And they have a wonderful resource for Parenting Families called JCParentZone at

[www.jcparentzone.com](http://www.jcparentzone.com)

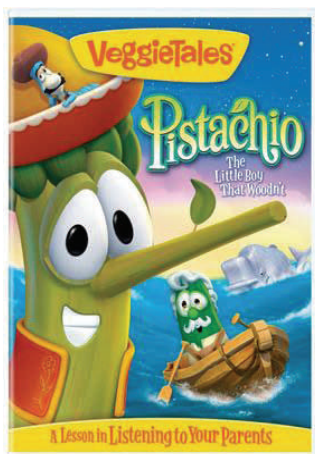
The people that bring you

VeggieTales® also have lots of online kid-friendly fun! Check out the arcade games, e-cards, activities, downloads, movies and more for big and little kids at [www.bigideafun.com](http://www.bigideafun.com).

Once there, click on the Quick Links in the upper left hand corner for your options!

## NEW VEGGIETALES® RELEASE

### *Pistachio — the Little Boy Who Woodn't*



This new VeggieTale DVD is a parody of the classic story Pinocchio. Once upon a time in the small Italian town of Bologna-Salami, there lived a lonely toy-maker named Gelato and his assistant, Cricket. Gelato had no children he could call his own, so one day he decided to carve a little boy out of wood. Imagine Gelato's surprise when he learns that this little toy boy can walk...and talk...and definitely has a mind of his own! Like the little lost sheep who strays from the fold, Pistachio decides to try

things his way and lands in a "whale" of a situation!

Will Pistachio learn that obeying the wisdom of a loving father will help him find what he really needs and could be the key to saying his whole family from becoming fish food?

Find out in this all new VeggieTales adventure with a lesson about the importance of family and listening to your parents.

Due to be released 2/27/2010.  
\$14.99 [bigidea.com](http://bigidea.com)

## MOVIE REVIEWS

### *Alice in Wonderland*

Film director Tim Burton puts his gothic twist on this classic tale. In this fresh version Alice is 17 years old and a guest at a snobby party when she follows a rabbit into a hole and ends up in Wonderland. Although she was there 10 years earlier, she has no memory of her previous visit.

### *The Last Song*

Miley Cyrus stars in this film to be released in early April. The story centers around a rebellious 17-year-old who's sent to live with her father in a small town for the summer. Ronnie hasn't spoken with her dad since her parents divorced, but through the summer she discovers how love can grow and heal hearts.

### *Children's Ministry Magazine Review:*

This updated version of the class may be a bit edgy and dark for young viewers. The strange world Alice is transported into has new twists such as when the Queen's favorite order of "Off with their heads!" results in a moat full of bobbing heads.

*"Off with their heads!"*

While sure to be visually stunning, this movie may disturb or frighten some kids.



### *Children's Ministry Magazine Review:*

The PG-rated movie takes a look at strained family relationships and how reconciliation and forgiveness can happen with love and work. It deals with preteens, relationships, love for family, and some difficult subject matter in a way that's family-friendly and ultimately heartwarming.

# THRU A CHILD'S EYES

## The Children's Bible in a Nutshell

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one, but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did. Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars. Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel. Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check. After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat. Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother. One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town. After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me. After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore. There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, 'As a matter of fact, I was.') During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats. Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him. Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead. Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again.

He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum.  
His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

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