



WEEK 2

HACKS FOR TODDLERS



BY KATHIE PHILLIPS

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Body Art

Sing and move to the song "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" instead, starting out really slowly and speeding up each time you repeat the song.

ACTIVITY | The Big Picture

You can provide smaller scale outlines of people for kids to make their own, or you can ask toddlers to tell you where to add the features, and you can add it for them. Ask for color, size, shape, position, and other defining elements as you draw each body part on the large paper outline.

ACTIVITY | Missing Parts

Instead of hiding the pieces around the room, throw them into a basket with other toys parts (e.g., wheels, blocks, markers, balls, etc.). Have them rummage through the basket to find all the parts they need and build their Potato Heads.

ACTIVITY | Operation

Play this backwards – have toddlers try to place the body parts in the right place (instead of removing them with tweezers). Also, be advised that these pieces are tiny so if you have really young kids for whom this game might pose a choking hazard, try hot glue-ing each piece to the end of a coffee stirrer or [cake pop stick](#), and have kids stick those into the slots.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

KATHIE PHILLIPS



Kidminspiration.com



facebook.com/kwilliamsphillips



instagram.com/kathiephillips74



twitter.com/kidminkathie



Kathie is a children’s ministry leader at Central Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, Maryland. She’s been serving in children’s ministry since she was 13 years old. She’s a speaker, consultant and children’s ministry coach. She’s also a published author. She leads workshops at national kidmin conferences and has made guest appearances on kidmin podcasts. She wrote the book “Top 50 Object

Lessons, Games, and Activities” that was published in 2017. One of the things she’s most proud of is the preteen ministry she launched at her church. She’s been married to her college sweetheart for over 23 years and has two adult children. She loves to travel, read, and try new recipes. She loves crossword puzzles and loves to indulge in Maryland crab cake.

ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Elle Campbell, Brooklyn Lindsey, Amber Stephens, Linda Moon.

TEACHING VIDEOS: Stephanie Whitacre, Elle Campbell.

TODDLER HACKS: Kathie Phillips.

MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE: Sunny Brown.

GRAPHIC DESIGN: Josh Gosney, Jules Gray, Elle Campbell.

LAYOUT DESIGN: Jules Gray, Elle Campbell.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT: Kenny Campbell, Tash McGill, Stephen Switzer, Ali Anne, Eddie Irvin, Ari Raines, Kellee Gentry, Tim Synan, Josh McLemore, Amber Gaddis.