

Spirit Streamers

Kids construct streamers that blow in the wind as they remember to share the Spirit.

Resource Type: Art

Story Name: The Holy Spirit

Learner Level: Grades 1-2

Supplies:

Rulers

Stapler or duct tape

CD player

Spark Song CD

Streamer materials (curling ribbon, ribbons, crepe paper streamers, fabric strips, etc.)

Handle materials (shower rings, dowels, or unsharpened pencils)

Set Up: Cut lengths of ribbon, streamers, or fabric in lengths of 12-24 inches (30-61 cm). Plan to use 3-4 pieces per kid.

Instructions:

Today, we are learning about Pentecost. How did the Holy Spirit come to the disciples during our story? (fire, wind, and spoken word) Can you see fire? (Yes.) Can you see wind? (No.) Today, we are going to make something that will help us “see” the wind and remind us that even though we can’t see it, the Holy Spirit is very powerful and it is always with us. We will use the streamers we make to praise the Lord with our dances!

1. Have each kid choose 3 or 4 pieces of material or ribbon for his or her streamer.
2. Invite each kid to select a handle, then use a stapler or duct tape to secure one end of each streamer to the handle.
3. When kids are finished constructing their streamers, ask them spread out in the room and practice using them. Show kids how to move the streamers up and down, side to side, in circles, like a snake, zigzagging, and making figure eights.
4. **Now that you’ve had a chance to show how the wind of the Holy Spirit may have moved the streamers, I’d like you to use your streamers to praise the Lord and dance along with some of our favorite songs!**
5. Play any track from the Spark Song CD and invite kids to dance creatively to the music.

I know that the power of the Holy Spirit was in each of you as you danced today! I hope that every time you dance or move with your streamer, you’ll remember to share the Spirit!

If you have less time . . .

Skip the dancing.

If you have more time . . .

Extend the dance time or plan a performance to share with another class.

Who Can See the Wind?

Kids observe the power of wind as they remember to share the Spirit.

Resource Type: Activity

Story Name: The Holy Spirit

Learner Level: Grades 1-2

Supplies:

Fan

Pinwheel

Paper streamers

Tape

Confetti or a few cotton balls

Wind chimes, small

Set Up:

Gather materials and establish a power source for the fan. Test your fan and make sure that your wind chimes are light enough to ring with the power of your fan.

Instructions:

We know that the Holy Spirit is powerful. It was so powerful that it caused all of the people in our story to speak in new languages! It also blew through the room like a mighty wind. Today, we are going to use this fan to show us how powerful wind can be.

1. Invite the kids to sit near the fan.

2. Hold up the pinwheel. **How do you think this pinwheel can help us see the wind?** (*It will turn.*)

Hold the pinwheel up to the fan. Experiment by turning the fan from low to high and observing the difference in the pinwheel's movement. **Was the wind powerful?** (*Yes!*) **Yes it was! It was able to turn this pinwheel. The Holy Spirit can turn our lives around, too!**

3. Turn off the fan. Attach paper streamers to the front of the fan with tape. **What do you think will happen when I turn this fan on?** (*The streamers will move.*) Turn the fan back on. Observe the streamers and the effect of the fan on them. **That was a very strong wind. It blew our streamers straight out in the air!**

4. Show kids a handful of confetti. **What do you think will happen when I turn on the fan?** (*The fan will blow the confetti all around.*) Instruct the kids to stay seated when you turn on the fan and release the confetti. Watch the confetti fly! **Now I would like each of you to get up and step carefully around the room to see just how far our wind blew the confetti. When you find a piece, collect it and bring it back to me.** As kids pick up the confetti pieces, comment on how far the wind blew the confetti. **[Kid's name] found confetti over by the door. [Kid's name] found confetti under the chair. Our wind blew the confetti all over the room—the Holy Spirit travels all over the world!**

5. Show kids the wind chimes. **What do wind chimes do?** (*They make sounds. They ring.*) **How do wind chimes make sound?** (*The wind blows them. The wind moves the chime pieces, they touch each other, and they make sounds.*) **Do you think our wind is powerful enough to make these wind chimes ring?** Hold the wind chimes in front of the fan. Ask kids to watch and listen to observe how the sounds of the wind chimes change when you operate the fan at different speeds. **We heard the wind chimes get louder as the wind got stronger. The Holy Spirit was VERY strong in our story today – so strong that it caused the people to speak in languages that were new to them!**

The Holy Spirit is a powerful, and we shouldn't keep it to ourselves. I hope you'll help spread the word and share the Spirit!

If you have less time . . .

Choose only one or two of the experiments.

If you have more time . . .

Experiment with heavier objects. Find out how far the fan can blow a small ball, a small empty box, or a pencil.

Prayer:

For our closing prayer today, we are going to thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to be with us, and we're going to make it sound like the Pentecost story in our room! When the disciples all spoke in different languages, they all spoke at once and it was noisy! I'll start our prayer, then—when I ring the bell—I'd like each of you to start offering prayers at the same time. When I ring the bell again, I'd like all of you to stop saying your prayers aloud. Then we'll finish the prayer together.

Please pray with me:

Dear Jesus,

We thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to be there with us when we need it most.

Ring bell. (Children pray aloud individually, all at once.)

Ring bell. (Children stop praying aloud.)

Thank you for the Holy Spirit.

Amen!