

# Beady-Eyed Zipper Pulls

Kids create beaded zipper pulls as they remember that not everyone can see the light of the world.

**Resource Type:** Art

**Story Name:** Pool of Siloam

**Learner Level:** Grades 5-6

## Supplies:

Large wooden beads, or other beads of choice

Yarn or leather cording

Key chain rings

Craft paint

Small paintbrushes

Permanent markers (optional)

## Set Up:

Pour small amounts of paint onto paper plates. Place them around the work area for kids to share.

**Instructions:** In our story today, Jesus healed the blind man so that he could see. We know that Jesus didn't do that just so the blind man could see the world around him. Jesus also wanted to help the blind man to see the truth of God's word. Jesus helps all of us to see that truth. Sometimes, it is hard to remember what that truth is, but during those times, all we have to do is ask Jesus for help—just like the blind man did! You're going to make a zipper pull that you can use on your backpack, gym bag or purse. Each time you pull the zipper, you can remember that Jesus helps you see the truth.

1. Give each kid several beads, a cord, and a key chain ring.
2. **String a single bead onto your cord, then even up both ends of the cord before you tie a knot around the bead.**
3. **String the rest of your beads onto both cords, pushing them down firmly as you go.**
4. **Tie the loose ends of your cords through your key ring.**
5. Show kids how a key ring can be attached to a zipper as a zipper pull.
6. Invite kids finish by painting eyes on one or more of their beads. Eyes can be any color or design. Encourage diversity and creativity in the designs.
7. Set aside to dry.

**Not everyone can see the Light of the world, but I hope your zipper pulls will help you remember that YOU always can!**

If you have less time . . .

Invite kids to use permanent markers instead of paint to decorate the beads, or use beads that are already colorful/decorated.

If you have more time . . .

Encourage kids to make additional zipper pulls to share with friends and family to spread the light of Jesus.

# Court of the Blind

Kids role-play as they remember that not everyone sees the Light of the world.

**Resource Type:** Wild Card Extra

**Story Name:** Pool of Siloam

**Learner Level:** Grades 5-6

**Supplies:** Kid-friendly magazines

**Instructions:** After Jesus healed the blind man in today's story, the man began to see who Jesus really was. When the Pharisees asked the man about Jesus, he told them the truth. But they refused to believe him, because they couldn't see the truth. They didn't believe in Jesus as the Son of God, so their spiritual eyes could not be opened. Let's play a game to show how it can feel to explain something to someone who can't see.

1. Ask for volunteers, one to be "the explainer" and several additional volunteers to be "blind."
2. Direct the "blind" volunteers to close their eyes.
3. Provide the explainer with a kid-friendly magazine, then ask him or her to silently choose a picture from it.
4. **Explainer, without directly saying what your picture is, describe the image and help the blind to see what you see.**
5. Give the kids a few minutes to guess what's in the picture, giving clues as necessary until the picture is described correctly.
6. Repeat for other volunteers.

**Not everyone can see the Light of the world, but we can all be happy that Jesus helps us see!**

If you have less time . . .

Choose a picture to explain to the kids without showing it to them. Ask all of the kids be "the blind" and encourage them to try to guess the picture together.

If you have more time . . .

Invite kids to draw their own pictures without showing them to anyone, then play the game using the kids' drawings.

**Prayer:**

Dear Jesus,

Without you in our lives, it would be dark. We thank you for opening our eyes and giving us light. Help us share that light with the rest of the world everyday. Amen.