

Balaam's Donkey and An Elephant Never Forgets

Game Game Volunteer:

Game Volunteer:

Game Puppeteer:

Supplies List:

Elephant panel

Basket for peanuts

Donkey panel

Tails

Basket for tails

Blindfolds

Basket for blindfolds

Dryer vent

- candy bucket

- sign

- chairs

Game Instructions

These two games are the simplest of the small children games. These are games made for very little ones, so older kids most likely won't be challenged. If limiting older kids to one try is necessary, go ahead and do so. Also, if an older child keeps coming back to take advantage of the easy ability to get candy, after a few times gently point them to a game more fitting for their age range.

- Balaam's Donkey is the classic Pin the Tail on the Donkey game. Small children have no need to be blindfolded, while older children can be for the challenge. A player gets 3 chances to pin. Whether or not they come close to pinning the tail in the correct spot, each child receives 3 pieces of candy.

- An Elephant Never Forgets is a cute game in which children put peanuts into the nose of an elephant and candy is returned back through the nose. The puppeteer uses his hand inside the nose to move it around and to be playful with the children while making silly elephant noises. The game leader helps the children put the peanuts in and receive candy back out.

Game Information

- Balaam's Donkey is based upon the story of Balaam and the talking donkey in Numbers 22.

- An Elephant Never Forgets can be tied into God not forgetting His promises to us. Children need to know that God hasn't forgotten about them. He is constantly seeking after them. While you most likely won't be able to share the themes with every child, if the opportunity comes up, take advantage! If you get a group of kids, tell the themes to all of them at once, and then continue to play. All these kids need to hear the word of God and to learn that God loves them! Listed below are verses for you to read and memorize, a "how to" present the instructions for the game, and an example conversation you can have with a child to share the theme.

Helpful Verses to Memorize/Read

- Numbers 22:21-35

"Never! Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne? But even if that were possible, I would not forget you! (Isaiah 49:15 NLT)

- 2 Peter 3:8-9

Conversation Example

Game Instructions to Child

"Welcome to Pin the Tail on Balaam's Donkey! You get three chances to put this donkey's tail where it belongs."

"Next, come over here and meet The Elephant Who Never Forgets. He likes peanuts. If you feed him 3 peanuts, he will give a special treat back to you."

Sharing God's Word

"A man named Balaam was riding his donkey to a place that God didn't want him to go when the donkey saw an angel blocking the path so she laid down under him. Balaam couldn't see the angel, so when the donkey refused to get up Balaam got mad and hit her. The donkey spoke to Balaam and then the angel appeared to Balaam. God was trying to tell Balaam to stop heading in the direction he was going. Sometimes God works in mysterious ways. We need to look and listen to God for how He wants to work in our lives, even if it doesn't seem to make sense to us."

"This elephant never forgets. That reminds me of God. He never forgets either. It says in Isaiah 49:15- 'Never! Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne? But even if that were possible, I would not forget you!' We might feel like people don't think about us, but God will never forget us, He will never leave you. He is always there for you. He loves you so much. You can learn more about God's love for you at the Gospel Castle!"