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## YOU ARE SPECIAL

### *Children's Curriculum* Ages 2-8

## How to Use This Curriculum

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### AGE RANGE

This curriculum is designed for use with children in preschool (ages 2–4), kindergarten, and early elementary (grades 1–3). Adjustments can be made for specific age groups where appropriate.

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### USING THE MAX LUCADO BOOKS

Every lesson includes a complete reading of one of the following books by Max Lucado: *You Are Special*, *Just In Case You Ever Wonder*, *The Tallest of Smalls*, and *Hermie, A Common Caterpillar*, which are available as a boxed set called *Max Lucado's You Are Special and Three Other Stories: A Children's Treasury Boxed Set*.

There are full-sized versions of 3 of the books available as well (all but *The Tallest of Smalls* are still in print and available from [www.ChurchSource.com](http://www.ChurchSource.com)). The full-sized

## You Are Special: How to Use This Curriculum

books have the advantage of larger-scale pictures to show to the class during the reading of the story.

Participation ideas and comprehension questions in the lesson plans are based on the shorter versions of the books contained in the boxed set. Be sure to let parents know what books you are using for this series. They may wish to purchase the *You Are Special* boxed set to read at home and reinforce the lessons.

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## USING THE BIBLE

All scriptures in this curriculum are from the International Children's Bible, and the discussion questions are based on the wording of the ICB. The key verses for pre-school are a paraphrase of the Bible text.

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## TIMING

The time notations indicate the *suggested* times for each activity and the following discussion. Total lesson time is approximately 55 minutes.

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## LIST OF MATERIALS



It is important to prepare and assemble the materials for each session ahead of time. The following materials lists are summaries of items needed.

### Materials Needed for Every Week:

- Max Lucado's *You Are Special and Three Other Stories: A Children's Treasury Boxed Set*
- Bible
- Coloring sheets (1 per child for each lesson)
- Crayons
- Songs downloaded to a media player with portable speakers
- You will probably want to provide a snack. The snack time may be inserted anywhere you would like.

## You Are Special: How to Use This Curriculum

### **Materials Needed for Bible Lesson:**

- Lesson 1: 4 large round stickers, 4 circles of paper the same size and color as the stickers, and a Bible
- Lesson 2: large sheet of paper with the outline of a person drawn on (gingerbread man–style), markers, and Band-Aids
- Lesson 3: one piece of lightweight white paper
- Lesson 4: paper, any color (1 piece per child)
- Lesson 5: clear plastic or glass pitcher, water, and 2 oranges
- Lesson 6: large sheet of paper, crayons, and skit script (2 copies)

### **Materials Needed for Memory Verse Activity:**

- Lesson 1: 24 Styrofoam cups
- Lesson 2: 3 x 5 index cards (1 per child)
- Lesson 3: ball
- Lesson 4: lightweight ball, such as a beach ball
- Lesson 5: 32 3 x 5 index cards
- Lesson 6: white board, a marker, and an eraser

### **Materials Needed for Craft:**

- Lesson 1: medium-size rocks (1 per child) and paint or markers
- Lesson 2: picture frame template, cardstock (1 piece per child), foil, tongue depressors, and sequins
- Lesson 3: lightweight white paper (1 per child) and crayons
- Lesson 4: puzzle piece template, cardstock (1 sheet per child), and crayons
- Lesson 5: cloud template, white construction paper (1 sheet per child), construction paper strips in red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple (one strip per color for each child), markers, and glue

## You Are Special: How to Use This Curriculum

- Lesson 6: inexpensive wooden or craft foam picture frame (1 per child), white construction paper or cardstock (1 sheet per child), and markers

### Materials Needed for Game:

- Lesson 1: 2 identical sheets of stickers, 2 pieces of paper, and tape
- Lesson 3: Nilla Wafers or Oreos (1 per child)
- Lesson 4: chairs and music
- Lesson 5: bag of M&M's, a small bowl, poster board, and colored markers
- Lesson 6: pair of dice

### Materials Needed for Activity:

- Lesson 1: star template, yellow paper, tape, and markers
- Lesson 2: old, dirty pennies (at least 1 per child), a new penny, mason jars (1 for every 3–4 children), vinegar, iodized salt, and stir sticks
- Lesson 3: lightweight white paper (1 per child) and crayons

MAX LUCADO'S YOU ARE SPECIAL AND THREE OTHER STORIES: A CHILDREN'S TREASURY BOX SET

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