

# THE ISLAND

LEADER	DATE (am) 23 November 08 <b>**FAMILY SERVICE**</b>
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

- **SERIES / LESSON:** Old Testament Heroes / Daniel
- **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Daniel 6
- **CONCEPT:** God helps me to obey

## GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To help kids realise that God can use His supernatural power to help and protect those who follow and obey Him.
- To invite kids to ask Jesus into their hearts.

## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ DVD player / laptop / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Song DVD
- ✓ Treasure Chest – with all the props from the last 5 weeks (Moses' walking stick, bricks from Jericho's wall, Delilah's razor, measuring tape for Goliath, Esther's lotion)
- ✓ Clear storage box (with lid) filled with chocolate *Lion* bars (one per child)
- ✓ Map or globe
- ✓ Graphics of all the characters from the last 5 weeks (Moses, Joshua, Samson, David, Esther)
- ✓ Memory verse slides from the last 5 weeks
- ✓ Name tag box

## FAMILY SERVICE

The children will be in the main sanctuary from the beginning of the service and will stay throughout. The following is a programme of what takes place before The Island officially takes over the sequence. Approximate timing shows that the entire church service should last just over an hour.

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**11:30**            **Opening song – Praise team**  
**Welcome and Prayer**  
**Announcements**  
**Offering – Praise team play**  
**Worship time (2 songs) – Praise team**

**11:50**            **Invite children to the front of the church**  
**(Screen: *The Island* logo)**

**Welcome Rocky & Ringo** – Chat with the monkeys. Talk about how excited you all are that so many people are in church this morning. Ask them to help you sing with the kids.

<b>A. Worship through Music (with puppets)</b> <b>10 minutes</b> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together. ( <b><i>Everyday / Supernatural</i></b> ) 3. Ask kids to lift a mat each and sit down. ( <i>The mats could already be placed at different spots at the front of the church beforehand to save time and a human traffic jam during the service!</i> )	<b>You'll need ...</b> <i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i>
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**12:00**            **Kids should be sitting on their mats at the front of the church**  
**Follow the script with the puppets**

<b>B. Message</b> <b>25-30 minutes</b>  <b><i>Make sure to give your puppeteers a copy of the following script to prepare in advance of the service. Bring extra copies to the service to leave in the puppet box, just to be prepared!</i></b>  <b><i>Rocky –</i></b> <b><i>Ringo –</i></b>  <b>Leader:</b> Rocky and Ringo, didn't the kids sing so well today? I think they especially like singing the <i>Supernatural</i> song!  <b>Rocky:</b> Yes! Me too! We've heard some supernatural stories the past few weeks too, haven't we?  <b>Leader:</b> We sure have! We've been learning about some of God's superheroes.	<b>You'll need ...</b>
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<p><b>Ringo:</b> What? You learn about Spiderman and Batman on <i>The Island</i>?? Spiderman's my favourite superhero. When I'm swinging through the trees on <i>The Island</i> I like to pretend I'm Spideringo! Haha!</p> <p><b>Leader:</b> No Spideringo, not those superheroes! We've been hearing amazing stories about God's heroes from the Old Testament in the Bible. There were no spider's webs or batwings of steel! They were just ordinary people like us, but it was God's supernatural power that was so awesome.</p> <p><b>Rocky:</b> Yeah, remember the day you were throwing bugs and hailstones at the kids! What was that all about?</p> <p><b>Leader:</b> Eh, yeah I did throw things over the kids one day ... but they weren't real bugs, sure they weren't, kids? Now, Rocky and Ringo, let's see if the kids remember what that was all about.</p> <p>Every week we put something different from our story into the treasure chest to remind us of what we learnt.</p> <p><b>1. Recap (10 minutes)</b>  <b>Ask different children to help you take out the props from the treasure chest. Have each child stand and wait in a visible spot until all the props have been explained, stories recapped and memory verses recited. Puppets may ad lib during the recap.</b></p> <p>Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out Aaron and Moses' walking stick. Ask for someone to explain the significance of the stick and how it was used by God. Recap the story of the plagues of Egypt by asking a few follow-up questions.</p> <p>God took care of His people. He helped them when Pharaoh was so cruel to them. God set His people free, but He didn't do it as quickly as the people thought He should have. God could have done it differently, but He chose to send the plagues on Egypt to show everyone that He is the only true God of the world, and that He is awesome and powerful.</p> <p>Moses and Aaron and the Israelite people had to learn to be patient, and to wait for God to help them in <i>His</i> timing, not when <i>they</i> thought they should be set free. When they trusted God's promise, He was good to them and saved them, and then they were able to praise Him for His goodness.</p> <p>Ask if anyone remembers the verse you learnt and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. <i>"Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."</i> Psalm 27:14</p> <p>Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God helps me be patient.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*   *   *   *   *</p>	<p><i>Treasure chest with props from last 5 weeks</i></p> <p><i>Screen: Moses portrait</i></p> <p><i>Screen: Psalm 27:14</i></p>
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Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out the cardboard box bricks. Ask for someone to explain where the bricks came from. Recap the story of Joshua and the Israelites defeating the city of Jericho by asking a few follow-up questions.

*Screen: Joshua portrait*

How amazing that God broke down the walls of Jericho! But what a strange plan He had to do it! He could have chosen a different way to help His people, but He wanted to show the Israelites and the people of Jericho that He is powerful and in control. He gave Joshua and the Israelites very clear instructions – the Israelite people obeyed Him, they did exactly what He said, and everything turned out exactly right in the end. God helped them.

Boys and girls, sometimes we don't get everything we want, and sometimes we have problems and difficult things to go through in life. That's a good time for us to read our Bibles. When God gives us instructions in the Bible, and we do what He tells us, then everything will be okay. If we believe in God's plan, and trust Him to take care of us and protect us, then He promises to help us because we are His children.

Ask if anyone remembers the verse you learnt and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. *"Do not be afraid ... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*  
*Joshua 1:9*

*Screen: Joshua 1:9*

Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God helps me.

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Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out the razor. Ask for someone to explain the significance of the razor and what it meant for Samson. Recap the story of Samson by asking a few follow-up questions.

*Screen: Samson portrait*

Samson was a special man chosen by God to set the Israelites free from the Philistines. Even before Samson was born, his mummy and daddy promised that he would live his life completely for God and obey everything that God asked of him. However, Samson made some bad choices. He got himself into trouble because he married a woman who didn't believe in God. He got into more trouble because he became so mad and angry with the Philistine people. Anger can cause a lot of problems. And in the end, Samson fell in love with another woman who didn't believe in God – Delilah – and he told her the secret of his strength.

The thing is, Delilah and the Philistines didn't realise that Samson's strength was not really in his hair. Samson was strong because God had given him this special gift. Samson's problems started when he ignored God in his life. In fact, when you think about it, Samson actually became a weak man even before Delilah shaved his head. He wasn't strong enough to control his anger. He wasn't strong enough to resist or keep away from those women who didn't love God. He wasn't strong enough to

<p>trust and follow God's ways.</p> <p>Boys and girls, remember that we are all special to God and He has plans for each one of us. But if we are going to live for Him, then we must trust Him, and obey what He tells us to do. God still loves us when we make mistakes, but He expects us to learn from them and learn to be better people – just like Samson became a hero in the end.</p> <p>Ask if anyone remembers the memory verse and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. <i>“Even children become tired and need to rest ... But the people who trust the Lord will become strong again.” Isaiah 40:30-31</i></p> <p>Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God helps me be strong.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*   *   *   *   *</p> <p>Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out the measuring tape. Ask for someone to remind the group what you measured with the tape last week. How tall was Goliath? <i>Over 9 feet / 3 metres</i>. Recap the story of David and Goliath by asking a few follow-up questions.</p> <p>Boys and girls, David believed that God would be with him when he went out to face Goliath. He knew that God was bigger than any giant. He trusted God and believed that God would save him and win the fight for him. No armour, no arrows, no heavy weapons ... just a stone, a sling, and God! What a great story of another one of God's heroes!</p> <p>Ask if anyone remembers the memory verse and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. <i>“If God is for us, who can be against us?” Romans 8:31</i></p> <p>Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God helps me do difficult things.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*   *   *   *   *</p> <p>Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out Queen Esther's special lotion. Ask for someone to explain why Esther's cosmetics were so important. Recap the story of Queen Esther and the Jews in Persia by asking a few follow-up questions.</p> <p>God heard the prayers of Esther and His people and saved them. The Jewish people were so happy that they had a great big party to celebrate God's goodness to them. They ate and drank and gave presents to each other and to the poor people. They were happy to be alive! Then the king passed another law – he told the Jews that they should celebrate how God had saved them from Haman's wicked plan every single year. They would call it the festival of Purim. Even today, the Jewish people still celebrate God's goodness at Purim every year.</p>	<p><i>Screen: Isaiah 40:30-31</i></p> <p><i>Screen: David portrait</i></p> <p><i>Screen: Romans 8:31</i></p> <p><i>Screen: Esther portrait</i></p>
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Ask if anyone remembers the memory verse and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. *"Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you."* 1 Peter 5:7

Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God helps me.

*Boys and girls holding props may leave props and sit down.*

## **2. Set the scene**

Today, we're going to a place called Babylon. Today, we call that country Iraq. I'm sure you've heard plenty about Iraq, right? Who thinks they're clever enough to find Iraq on our globe? *Allow a child to help you find Iraq on the globe in relation to their own country.* Babylon had a new king. His name was Darius. King Darius chose 120 clever men to help him rule over his kingdom. Then he chose three of the best men to be in charge – one of whom was a man called Daniel. Here's Daniel on the screen. *Show picture of Daniel.*

## **3. Tell the story**

Daniel was a handsome man. He was very clever and knew how to do lots of different things. He understood things quickly and easily, and he had been working in the palace for a long time for the previous kings of Babylon. King Darius liked Daniel so much that he was planning to make Daniel the most powerful and important man in the whole kingdom of Babylon. Wow! The king must have been very pleased indeed with Daniel.

Now, when the other men who worked for the king found out that King Darius wanted to honour Daniel in this way, they were not at all happy about it. In fact, they tried as best they could to find something that Daniel had done wrong, some mistake that he had made, something illegal that he had done, so that the king might change his mind about him. But Daniel was a good man. Daniel loved and followed God. He lived for God every day and always did his best when he was working for the king at the palace. Daniel was always truthful to the king. Those men couldn't find a single reason why Daniel should be in trouble with King Darius.

The king's men thought really hard about how they could make Daniel look bad in front of the king. Finally, they came up with a plan. You see, they knew that Daniel lived for God. Every day, Daniel would go home, go up to his room, get down on his knees and pray to God, three times a day. The king's men agreed that this would be the best way to get Daniel into trouble ...

They went to see the king. They made a speech to King Darius and said, "King Darius, all the royal advisers and governors and palace workers agree that you, the king, should make a new law. This law should say that anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions' den." (paraphrase Daniel 6:6-7) *(Show kids a clear storage box filled with Lion chocolate bars. Explain to them that a den is just like a room or a pit in the ground where the lions*

*Screen: 1 Peter 5:7*

*Screen: Daniel portrait*

*Clear storage box filled with chocolate Lion bars (lid off)*

*stayed. If anyone broke the law, then they were thrown in there as dinner for the lions! Ask kids to imagine how frightening that would be!)* King Darius thought that this was a wonderful idea because then the people in his kingdom would treat him like a god. Just imagine, no one would be allowed to pray to anybody else – they would only be allowed to worship King Darius! The king asked for a pen, and he signed the law right there! King Darius really loved himself, didn't he?

What did this mean for Daniel? When Daniel heard about this new law, he went home to his upstairs room. "Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to God, just as he had done before. Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help." (Daniel 6:10-11) So they went running back to King Darius and said, "Did you not make a law that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or man except to you, O king, would be thrown into the lions' den? ... Daniel pays no attention to you, O king, or to your law. He still prays three times a day!" (paraphrase Daniel 6:12-13)

When King Darius hear this, he was very upset. He didn't want to punish Daniel. Remember, Daniel was his favourite worker who he wanted to put in charge of his kingdom. What could the king do to save Daniel? King Darius tried all day to find a way to save Daniel ... but it was no use. The king had signed his name on the law and he couldn't do anything to change it. He called for his men in a very sad and quiet voice, and told them to throw Daniel into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!" (Daniel 6:16) Then they rolled a big stone over the den (*put the lid on the storage box of Lion bars*) and sealed it so that there was no way Daniel could escape. King Darius went home to the palace. He couldn't eat or read or even sleep because he was so worried and upset about his friend, Daniel. It was a long night for the king. *Pause.*

The next morning, when the sun was just coming up, the king jumped out of bed and hurried out to the lions' den. He was very worried and he called out, "Daniel! Has your God been able to rescue you from the lions?" (Daniel 6:20) I'm sure the palace workers thought that the king had gone slightly mad. How could anyone survive the whole night in the den with the hungry lions sniffing and licking their lips, ready for dinner?! King Darius waited and listened for an answer. And do you know what, boys and girls? Daniel answered! Daniel was still alive! He shouted out to King Darius, "O king ... my God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I didn't do anything wrong. Nor have I ever done any wrong to you, O king." (Daniel 6:21-22)

The king couldn't contain his joy and excitement! He was so happy and relieved to hear that Daniel was still alive. He called the guards to lift Daniel out of the lions' den (*lift the lid back off the storage box of Lion bars*). When they lifted Daniel out, they saw that there were no marks on him, not a scratch, no teeth marks, nothing, because he had trusted God to save him.

*Lid for storage box*

<p>King Darius wrote to all the people throughout the land with a new law saying that Daniel's God is the only one and true living God, and that everyone must serve and worship Him. Daniel got the job of taking charge of the kingdom and he was very successful in everything he did because God was with him. King Darius and the people were so amazed at the supernatural power of God in saving Daniel from the hungry lions.</p> <p><b>4. Explain</b></p> <p>Daniel is another one of God's heroes. Just like Moses led the Israelite people out of Pharaoh's Egypt, just like Joshua led the Israelites to bring down the evil city of Jericho, just like Samson trusted God for strength to bring down the temple on the Philistines, just like David went out to face Goliath, just like Esther was brave enough to ask the king to save the Jewish people ... so Daniel trusted and followed God, and was ready to do the job God had planned for him. God used His supernatural power to help these people become heroes who we still remember today.</p> <p>I want to tell you about God's greatest hero. In the Bible, sometimes He is called a lion. A lion is brave and strong. A lion is the king of the jungle. I'm talking about Jesus, the Son of God. Jesus is Lord of the universe. He is in control of everything that happens in the world. He is mighty and powerful, just like the lion – the king of the jungle. But Jesus loved us so much, even though we make mistakes and do things wrong and make bad choices, that He went to die on a cross in our place. Remember what happened next? After three days, Jesus came back to life. He made a way for us to be saved and go to heaven to live with Him. That's how much Jesus loves you.</p> <p>Boys and girls, we make a lot of mistakes, but Jesus died to save us! If you say you're sorry for the bad things you have done and the mean thoughts you have, and if you promise to trust Jesus and live your life with Him in your heart every day, then Jesus will be with you and help you. You will be a child of the King! A royal prince or princess in God's family.</p> <p>If you want to trust Jesus, then make sure you come and see me or one of the leaders before you go today.</p>	<p><i>Screen: The Island background</i></p>
<p><b>C. Conclusion (with puppets) 10 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Let's stand up and celebrate God's goodness to us by singing our songs. Let's ask the grown-ups to stand up and sing along with us. Rocky, are you ready? Ringo, are you ready? Let's sing! <b>(Supernatural)</b></li> <li>Remind kids to come back this evening.</li> <li>Let's sing again. <b>(Everyday)</b></li> <li>Tell kids that after the prayer they should leave their name tags in the box, and because they have been so good they can pick up a <i>Lion</i> bar as they leave.</li> </ol>	<p><b>You'll need ...</b>  <i>DVD player / projector</i>  <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p> <p><i>Screen: The Island background</i></p>



5. Close in prayer.	
6. Have adult helpers collect name tags and distribute <i>Lion</i> bars.	<i>Name tag box</i> <i>Lion bars</i>

## THE ISLAND cont'd

<b>LEADER</b>	<b>DATE (pm)</b> 23 November 08
<b>HELPERS</b>	<b>TIME (mins)</b> 40 minutes
<b>PUPPETEER</b>	<b>No. of KIDS (m/f)</b>

### GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To reinforce the Bible stories and concepts of the series, Old Testament Heroes, through a quiz covering the last six lessons.

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Song DVD / DVD player / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ QUIZ: Musical statues question and answer sheet  
Bullseye question and answer sheet  
Heroes question and answer sheet
- ✓ Music (CD or mp3 files) with sound equipment
- ✓ Target board
- ✓ 2 beanbags
- ✓ Team score sheet for Bullseye and Heroes
- ✓ Cadbury's Miniature Heroes – at least one per child
- ✓ 2 containers – one for each team to collect sweets in
- ✓ Name tag box

<b>D. Worship through Music (with puppets)</b> <b>10 minutes</b> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together. ( <i><b>Supernatural / Everyday</b></i> ) 3. Open in prayer.  4. Ask kids to remain standing.	<b><i>You'll need ...</i></b> <i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i>
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<p><b>E. Quiz (with puppets)</b> <b>25 minutes total</b>  <i>The quiz is made up of 3 separate activities. Try to stick to the time limit assigned to each activity so that the majority of the quiz questions are covered.</i></p> <p><b>Musical statues</b> <b>7 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Explain:</i> When you hear the music play, you should move around the room. When the music stops, you must stand completely still as if you are a statue. If you move at all or make a sound, then you must answer a question correctly to stay in the game. If you give the wrong answer, you must sit down at the side of the room.</li> <li>Have an adult helper control the music. Play music and encourage kids to move around – walking, hopping, dancing, etc.</li> <li>Stop the music. Adult helpers should check that all kids are still like statues. If someone moves, ask him/her a question from the quiz sheet. They may continue to play if they answered correctly, otherwise they should sit at the side.</li> <li>Repeat steps 2 and 3 for as long as time allows, or until you are out of questions.</li> </ol> <p><b>Bullseye</b> <b>10 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Divide kids into two teams, e.g. reds and blues. Have them stand in lines, side by side, at one end of the room.</li> <li>Set the target board some distance away, facing the teams.</li> <li><i>Explain:</i> I will ask the first person in the red team a question. If they give the correct answer, they can throw the beanbag to land on the target board. The target board has different points to be won, depending on where the beanbag lands – <i>show kids the board to illustrate what you mean.</i> Wherever the beanbag lands, you win that number of points for your team. Then you must walk to the back of your team line. The first person in the blue team then has a chance to answer a question and score points on the target board. If you get the question wrong, you go to the back of your team line without throwing the beanbag. The question may be passed over to the other team, who have the chance to steal the points by throwing the beanbag.</li> <li>Ask the first question from the quiz sheet to the first person in the red team.</li> <li>If they answer correctly, give them the beanbag. Tell them to throw the beanbag so that it lands on the target board. Have an adult helper standing near the target board to record the score on the team score sheet, and return the beanbag to the next person in the blue team line. If the child answers incorrectly, send them to the back of their team line without throwing the beanbag.</li> <li>Ask the next question from the quiz sheet to the first person in the blue team, and repeat step 5.</li> <li>Repeat steps 4 and 6 until the questions are finished.</li> <li>Count up the final scores for each team.</li> </ol> <p><b>Heroes!</b> <b>8 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tell kids to stay in their two teams, e.g. the reds and blues. Have them sit on the floor at either side of the room.</li> </ol>	<p><b>You'll need ...</b></p> <p><i>Musical statues question and answer sheet</i></p> <p><i>Music (and sound equipment)</i></p> <p><i>Target board</i>  <i>2 beanbags</i></p> <p><i>Bullseye question and answer sheet</i></p> <p><i>Bullseye score sheet</i></p>
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set out two small containers – one for each team.</li> <li><i>Explain:</i> This game is called <i>Heroes</i> because we have spent the last six weeks learning about some of God's heroes. I will ask each team a question. You can talk to the other people in your team to discuss the answer, but you must not shout out the answer. When you are ready to answer, put up your hand. If you get the answer right, we will put a sweet into your container. If you get it wrong, the other team has a chance to answer your question and get your sweet!</li> <li>Ask the first team their question from the Heroes quiz sheet. If they answer correctly, put a <i>Heroes</i> sweet into their container. If they answer incorrectly, allow the other team a chance to answer and 'steal' the sweet.</li> <li>Ask the second team their question and repeat step 4.</li> <li>Repeat steps 4 and 5 until the questions have all been asked.</li> <li>Count up the number of sweets in each team's container and award one point for each sweet.</li> <li>Add the points from Heroes to the points won in Bullseye. Congratulate the winning team.</li> </ol>	<p><i>2 containers to hold sweets</i></p> <p><i>Heroes question and answer sheet</i></p> <p><i>Cadbury's Miniature Heroes sweets</i></p> <p><i>Score sheet (Bullseye and Heroes)</i></p>
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<p><b>F. Conclusion (with puppets)</b> <b>5 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remind kids: Today was the last day of our series – Old Testament Heroes.</li> </ol> <p><i>Remember:</i></p> <p><i>Moses taught us that God helps us to be patient;</i></p> <p><i>Joshua and Samson taught us that God helps us to be strong and trust in Him;</i></p> <p><i>Esther and Daniel taught us that God hears our prayers and is ready to help us in difficult situations ...</i></p> <p><i>... and this morning we heard that Jesus is God's greatest hero.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sing <b><i>Supernatural</i></b> together.</li> <li>Close in prayer. Remind kids to come back next week for the beginning of our new series!</li> <li>As kids leave, collect their name tags in the box and give them a sweet each.</li> </ol>	<p><b>You'll need ...</b></p> <p><i>DVD player / projector</i>  <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p> <p><i>Name tag box</i>  <i>Cadbury's Miniature Heroes – one or two per child</i></p>
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