

# 252 KIDS

## MARCH 2020

### GRADES K-5

## CREATE THE ENVIRONMENT

### D.I.Y.: FORGIVENESS IS UP TO YOU

It seems like all of us love a good home improvement show. Why is that? Why is it so satisfying to watch a project come together? Maybe because we all love a good fixer-upper. We love to see the experts take something that was dilapidated and broken-down and turn it into a thing of beauty.

All of us have some relationships that we might call fixer-uppers. If we're honest, it takes a lot of strength to want to make them good as new. It requires us to let go of what's right and fair in order to fix what's broken. That's never easy. But with God's help, we have the tools we need to forgive—to decide that someone who has wronged us doesn't have to pay.

This month, think about how you can turn your environment into one giant D.I.Y. workshop. It's the perfect time to bring in or borrow some tools from home, so you can make a big visual impact without spending a lot of money.

Don't be afraid to let things be "in progress." After all, forgiveness is never done. It's something we have to choose to do continually. But in the end, it's worth it for us to have relationships that are strong, whole, and restored.

### THE STAGE

Think about how you can make your stage look like a workshop in a home garage. Put up some pegboard against your back walls, and add some tools hanging on racks. In the foreground, add some sawhorses loaded up with scrap lumber. Complete the look with a rolling tool cabinet and some industrial shelving. (Again, try to borrow as many of these items as you can.)

Establish the theme on the focal wall by making giant D.I.Y. letters with poster board. Recreate the way they look on the theme art: a D made from a protractor, an I made from a level, and a Y made from pliers.

If space allows, you can also include some vignettes with objects that suggest forgiveness is a job that's never done. Use caution tape to block off an area with paint cans and ladders, and hang a "Pardon Our Progress" sign.

### THE HOST

Let your Host have some fun by adding some accessories—like a hard hat and a tool belt full of miscellaneous tools. She could also wear flannel, overalls, work gloves, and work boots to complete the look. She's living out her dream of being an HGTV star, so she's ready for any kind of renovation!

### THE WELCOME CENTER & HALLWAYS

At the entrance, create a vignette with cinder blocks, a ladder, and some paint cans (set apart with caution tape). Paint words on pieces of lumber to use as signs reinforcing the theme language—for example: "D.I.Y.," "Forgiveness is up to you," "Colossians 3:13."



## NEED IDEAS?



PINTEREST

<http://bit.ly/2HaRdIs>



FACEBOOK

<http://bit.ly/252KidsPartnerFacebook>



SPOTIFY

<https://spoti.fi/2TqDhBJ>



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## **CREATE THE ENVIRONMENT CONTINUED**

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Add some oversized tool pictures throughout your entrance and hallways. These could be hand-drawn on poster board, or images that you enlarge and print. For example, you could have a giant tape measure going the length of your hallway.

Gather or suggest some themed accessories for your welcome volunteers to wear—like plastic hard hats, safety vests, tool belts, and/or overalls.

You could even consider playing construction sounds throughout your halls—or a playlist with songs about building (“If I Had a Hammer,” “Fixer Upper,” “Working on a Building,” “Build Me Up Buttercup,” “We Built This City,” etc.).

### **THEME FONTS**

Kalam (<http://bit.ly/38KTeqH>)