

Game: **Monster from Mars***
Discussion: **Have no fear; Jesus is near**
Scripture : **Psalm 56:3**
YOU WILL NEED: *No items needed.*

Monster from Mars

Explain the Game: Have children line up against a wall or on a sidewalk and choose one child to be the “Monster from Mars.” This child will stand with you about 10 feet in front of the others. All the children against the wall will chant with you, “Monster from Mars, Monster from Mars, can we chase you to the stars?” The child with you will reply, “Yes, if...” and then they will give a description—i.e., ...if you are wearing blue...or, if you have brown hair...or, if you are wearing shorts. All the children that fit this description will run after the Monster from Mars. The first one to tag him or her becomes the next Monster from Mars.

Helpful Hints: Guide the game by being vocal—When the Monster says the description, immediately call it out to make sure that all the kids have the same chance of hearing it. When the Monster is tagged, immediately say, “Stop and come back! Everybody to the wall (or sidewalk!)” Watch closely in case there is any dispute about who tagged the Monster first.

Inside adjustments: If you have a lot of kids and not a lot of space, use the following variations to adjust for this:

- (1) Have the kids play the game by hopping on one leg
- (2) Have the kids play the game by doing a duck walk.
- (3) Have the kids play the game by doing a bear crawl.

Safety precautions: Always be aware of items or objects in your playing area that could be harmful—i.e., a hole in the ground, the corner of a cabinet, a chair off to the side, etc. Point out these dangers to your children.

Getting Attention: Use a control tool to help your kids re-focus. If you need to give instructions and get your kids listening, simply do this: Shout out, “Who should be number one in your life?” The kids are to yell, “Jesus!” Do it a second time but challenge them to be louder or see if the boys can be louder than the girls. Immediately following this, say, “On the count of three, I want you to...” and give them the instructions in a quick and clear manner.

Discussion

Intersperse these discussion points throughout the game. They are quick-hits. In other words, this isn't preaching time, but make a strong, solid point and return to the play.

POINT 1

SAY: Raise your hand if you are scared of anything.

Ask the Kids —**What should we do when we are scared?** (Quickly choose a volunteer)

Repeat after Me —

Leader: **The Bible says** (*Kids: The Bible says*)

Leader: **When I am afraid** (*Kids: When I am afraid...*)

Leader: **I will trust in Thee** (*I will trust in Thee...*)

Leader: **Psalm 56:3** (*Kids: Psalm 56:3*).

SAY: “Thee” is an old way of saying, “You.” When you are afraid, you can trust in Jesus.

Play the game some more...

POINT 2

SAY: Is there any such thing as a monster from Mars. No! But there will be things in life that scare you. How many of you are scared of:

Tornados
Lightning
Spiders
The Dark
Ladybugs (just kidding)

SAY: The next time you’re scared, you can trust in Jesus.

Repeat after Me —

Leader: **The Bible says** (*Kids: The Bible says*)

Leader: **When I am afraid** (*Kids: When I am afraid...*)

Leader: **I will trust in Thee** (*I will trust in Thee...*)

Leader: **Psalm 56:3** (*Kids: Psalm 56:3*).

Play the game some more...

POINT 3

Ask the Kids — **What are some other things that scare you?**

This is a great time to share something that scared you when you were a child...but share it quickly and be brief.

SHOUT OUT COMPETITION

SAY: When I point to this side, I want the all the boys to say, “**When I am afraid ...**”

Then I’ll point to the other side, and I want all the girls to say, “**I will trust in Thee.**”

Then I’ll say, “**Psalm 56:3**”

Go back and forth between the two sides three times to see who can be louder.

SAY: The next time you’re scared, you can trust in Jesus.

*Original source unknown.