

Empower

Engage

Embrace

by **Christian Record Services for the Blind**
Office of Outreach Ministries

VBS Outreach 2018

Focus: Christian Record Services, Inc.

Objective: To increase awareness about and raise funds to support the work of Christian Record Services for the Blind, an official ministry of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists.

Goals:

- Children will have basic knowledge of the work of Christian Record and the services and programs it offers to people who are legally blind.
- Children will learn, through stories, the impact they can have when they donate to “**Empower** people who are blind to **engage** their communities and **embrace** the Blessed Hope” —Christian Record mission statement.
- Children will learn how people who are blind read, enjoy fireworks, ride horses, play games, run, make friends—and much more.

What it includes:

- For Kindergarten and Primary, there are coloring sheets; for Juniors, there are word search puzzles. These can be used during class time or given as a take-home item. (All activity sheets have Christian Record’s social media links so parents can learn more about this outreach project.)
- Daily stories and photos to illustrate the stories

How it will work:

- During the Prayer/Outreach Center time each day the teacher will share a story about someone whose life has been made better by the work of Christian Record Services for the Blind. On the first day they will tell the story and with their group set a goal for the week as to how much money they think they want to try to raise. They will emphasize that the money will be collected beginning at the next VBS meeting.
- In the main meeting area, display a goal and donation device (with the total of each group’s goals), and the children will put in any money they brought.
- Each day, during the closing session the children will be told how much has been donated towards the goal and thanked enthusiastically for helping.
- During the closing program, share an overview will with the group as well as the total raised for this Outreach Project. Thank the entire group, parents, staff, and children for their part in helping with this Outreach Project. Share Christian Record’s web address, www.ChristianRecord.org, with those interested in continuing support of Christian Record Services, Inc.

Where to send donations:

- Make your check payable to Christian Record Services, Inc.
- Mail to: Christian Record Services, Inc
PO Box 6097
Lincoln NE 68506
- If wanting to donate online, you may do so at www.ChristianRecord.org/give.

Thank you for supporting our Outreach Project at VBS this year! We appreciate it!

NOTE: Please contact Jeri Lyn Rogge, editorial and outreach ministries director, with ideas for expanding and improving this program. Her email is jeri.rogge@christianrecord.org.

VBS Outreach 2018

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Outreach Group Readings/Presentations

Day 1: Alyssa Found Friendship at Camp!

Day 2: Levi Loves the Fireworks He Cannot See

Day 3: Dee Dee has enjoyed Christian Record Since She was Nine Years Old!

Day 4: Tatzia is Thankful for YOU!

Day 5: Jordy Wants to Be Jesus' Friend

Photos

Alyssa

Levi

Dee Dee

Tatzia

Jordy

Extras

Coloring Pages: Kindergarten and Primary

Word Search: Juniors (easy and advanced)

Day 1: Alyssa Found Friendship at Camp!

How many of you wear glasses? Do your brothers or sisters wear glasses? How about your mom or dad? Grandma or grandpa? Your best friend? I'm going to tell you a story today about Alyssa, a girl who wears glasses like many of you and who went to a special camp and made lots of great friends.

(Show photo of Alyssa)

Alyssa has albinism, an eye condition that causes vision problems that cannot be corrected with eyeglasses. Because Alyssa was born with albinism, she has very bright white hair, and her skin can burn easily in the sun. Alyssa also has a loving heart, and she loves to make friends. Alyssa wanted to make friends with people who are legally blind like she is.

Many kind people paid for Alyssa's week at blind camp, where Alyssa made great friends. Like Alyssa, her friends understood what it's like to live life as a person who is blind.

Alyssa had so much fun at camp! Her mom said, "Alyssa talked the entire three-hour drive home about everything that went on at camp. The best part is when she said **'Mom, there are other girls just like me!'**"

Alyssa is one of nearly 20,000 people in the United States with albinism. Thankfully, Alyssa was able to have a meaningful experience at National Camps for Blind Children.

How did Alyssa come to camp in the first place? She was given a large print Bible from Christian Record Services for the Blind. Alyssa reads her large-print Bible so much that she has it worn out.

Inside the Bible was a note about National Camps for Blind Children. When Alyssa went to camp, it was the first time she had ever been away from her family. Her mom and dad were nervous at first, but then they were happy for Alyssa to experience independence, grow in confidence, and meet girls just like her in a Christian environment. **Alyssa learned at camp she that is not alone and that camp is a great place to make new friends.**

Your outreach donations help adults and kids like Alyssa who are blind to enjoy free books, magazines, Bibles, and special camps through Christian Record Services for the Blind. Please bring your donations each day of VBS to help us with this project. *(If you have set a fundraising goal, share it now.)*

Day 2: Levi Loves the Fireworks He Cannot See

“Bang! Crackle, crackle, crackle.” That’s how 13-year-old Levi sees fireworks.

Levi has optic nerve hypoplasia, and he can’t see fireworks. Levi was excited as he told how his mother described fireworks to him. *“They go straight up fast and then make lots of colors and come down fast!”* Even though Levi can’t see the fireworks, experiencing them is still fun.

Through your donations, Christian Record Services for the Blind and National Camps for Blind Children create amazing experiences that last a lifetime. At blind camp, Levi got to help raise and lower the flag. *He can’t see the colors in the flag, but it was exhilarating for Levi to pull the ropes and raise the flag.* He loved hearing reveille as it played every morning.

Being included in regular activities is an important part of growing up. Not everyone who is blind gets such opportunities.

Your gifts to Christian Record and National Camps for Blind Children provide opportunities for children like Levi to be a part of something bigger.

You see, when a child is blind, they likely won’t get picked first for games or invited to a swim party. At blind camp, they get picked first all the time. And they do more than just swim.

At the blind camp Levi attends, they play capture the flag, or in this case, capture the rubber chicken. Each child is paired up with a sighted guide who holds their hand while they run. Levi runs fast, but his guide runs even faster. Levi loves it! He says it feels like he’s floating on air.

The first time Levi went to camp, *it felt like a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity*, but thanks to donors like you, this summer will be Levi’s fourth time at summer camp.

Levi is so thankful for people like you, who have the heart for people like him who are blind. *“It means a lot to me. I love camp so much.”*

Thank you for having the heart for people who are blind.

Did you know that summer camp season is happening now at locations around the United States? Children, teens, and adults who are blind are enjoying camp because of people like you who give. Thank you!

Your outreach donations help adults and kids like Levi who are blind to enjoy free books, magazines, Bibles, and special camps through Christian Record Services for the Blind. Please bring your donations each day of VBS to help us with this project. *(If you have set a fundraising goal, share an update now.)*

Day 3: Dee Dee has enjoyed Christian Record Since She was Nine Years Old!

Here is a letter from a dear lady who has a lot to say about what Christian Record Services for the Blind has done for her.

My friends call me Dee Dee. Even though we have never met, I consider you a dear friend. **My life has been uplifted because you are a part of it.** You are the kind and giving person who has supported Christian Record and National Camps for Blind Children. **Your blessings have made it possible for numerous blind people, myself included, to enjoy reading the story of Jesus' birth in braille.**

I dearly love the story of Christmas. Being able to read the Bible in braille on my own is truly a gift.

Rich, my husband of 52 years, and I have been blind since birth. We have five children. All of them are sighted. When our children were young, Christian Record sent us special books that we could read to our children. Their favorite was the story of Jesus walking on water. They also loved it when we read about Moses.

Nowadays, Christian Record provides Full-Vision books that include audio with braille and regular text for parents and children to listen to and read.

If it were not for Christian Record, I do not know where I would be in my walk with Jesus Christ. I was fortunate to receive the Christian magazine called *The Children's' Friend* in braille when I was nine years old. Sixty-five years later, thanks to friends like you, *The Children's' Friend* is still being sent to blind children. **Can you imagine how many more lives your gift can impact?**

Now, Rich and I receive the *Christian Record* magazine in braille. I also just found out we are getting the books of Acts, Luke, John, and Revelation in the New King James Version. I cannot wait to read them in braille!

When you read the story of Jesus' birth, please remember us and how thankful we are that you are a dear friend.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Dee Dee

Your outreach donations help adults like Dee Dee who are blind to enjoy free books, magazines, Bibles, and special camps through Christian Record Services for the Blind. Please bring your donations each day of VBS to help us with this project. *(If you have set a fundraising goal, share an update now.)*

Day 4: Tatzia is Thankful for YOU!

“We are all woven together in the great web of humanity, and whatever we can do to benefit and uplift others will reflect in blessing upon ourselves.” — Ellen White

Tatzia (pronounced TOT-zee-uh) has Leber congenital amaurosis, which means her peripheral vision is gone, and she has no clear distance vision. Put your hands up beside your face so you cannot see to the right or left. This is similar to how Tatzia sees. She can see that a tree is a tree at a distance because of the shape, but objects near each other blend together. She mixes up colors that are similar, like blue and green, red and orange.

Tatzia tells us, “My eyes also have that shaking thing, nystagmus.” At school, Tatzia’s classmates make fun of her when she uses her device that projects books onto a screen so she can see the words.

Because of you, Tatzia had a life-changing experience where no one made fun of her blindness. She learned about compassion in this world and gained confidence in her ability to rise above the teasing. At blind camp, she is in a safe place where she can experience true joy and make lifelong friends with kids who are compassionate and caring.

We asked Tatzia “Has camp taught you anything about God?”

She said, **“He can bring you blessings that you might not expect. The beauty of the camp and the freedom to enjoy it is a gift!”**

It is a gift indeed. **A gift made possible with your gracious support.**

Your outreach donations help adults and kids like Tatzia who are blind to enjoy free books, magazines, Bibles, and special camps through Christian Record Services for the Blind. Please bring your donations each day of VBS to help us with this project. *(If you have set a fundraising goal, share an update now.)*

Day 5: Jordy Wants to Be Jesus' Friend

Jordy is a young man who loves going to winter and summer camps through National Camps for Blind Children. Besides the camp activities, Jordy also leads song services, playing the piano, and singing camp songs. He also enjoys reading audiobooks and braille magazines from Christian Record Services for the Blind.

Recently, Jordy told a friend he was thinking about getting baptized, but there was a problem. "I really can't be baptized unless I have a Bible," Jordy said. **"If I want to be Jesus' friend, I need to know what the Bible says."** Christian Record gave Jordy a special audio Bible, one that he can carry in his pocket. It has a solar panel, so Jordy can put it in a sunny place so it can recharge. Jordy is also studying with his church pastor.

Have you thought about being Jesus' friend like Jordy? You can read about Jesus in the Bible and learn about Jesus at Vacation Bible School. You can also talk about Jesus with your family and your friends. But here's the best part: You can ask Jesus into your heart right now. Do you want to do that? If you do, let's have a special prayer.

Dear Jesus,

Many of our precious friends want to know you more, and they are asking you to come into their hearts right now. Thank you for people like Jordy, Dee Dee, Levi, and Alyssa, who have shared their stories with us. We know you love all of us, and we want to be your friend. Thank you for being our friend, Jesus. Help us to show Your love to everyone.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

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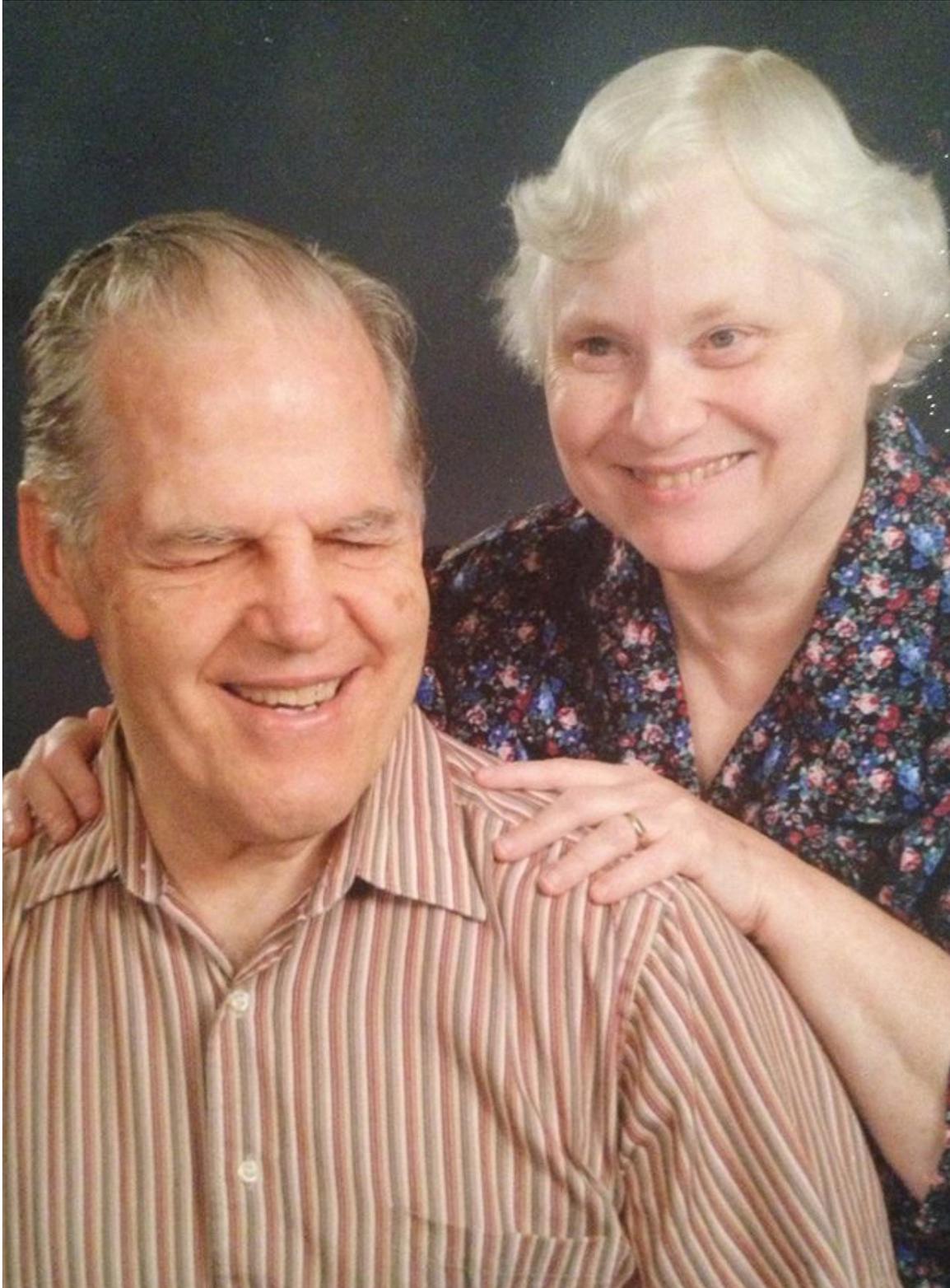


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Day 3: Dee Dee has enjoyed Christian Record Since She was Nine Years Old!



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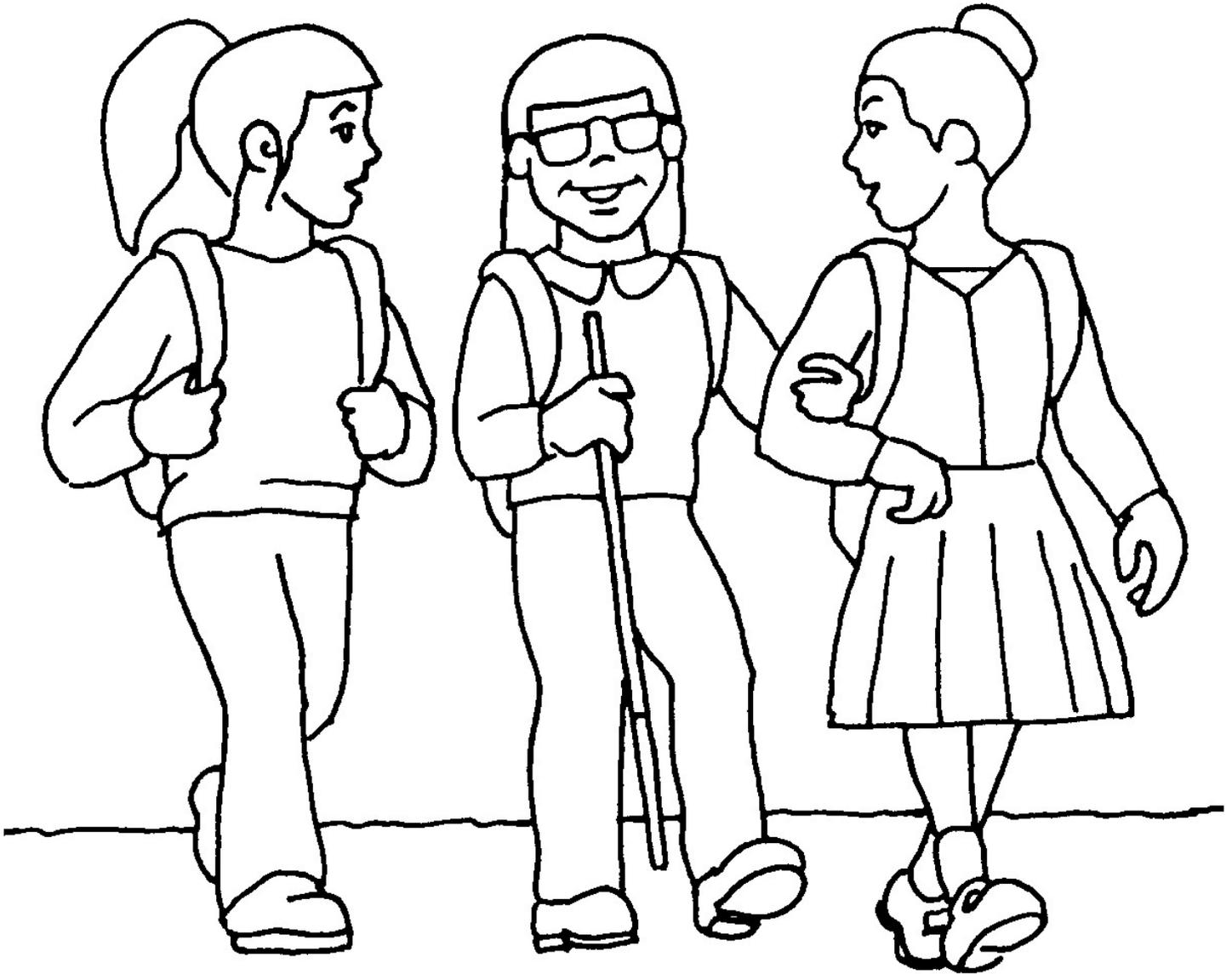
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People who are blind learn to read braille. Braille is paper with bumps on it that make letters and words.



Braille is read with your hands.



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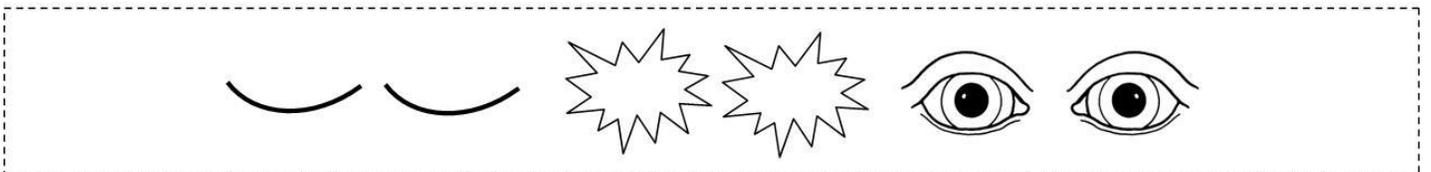
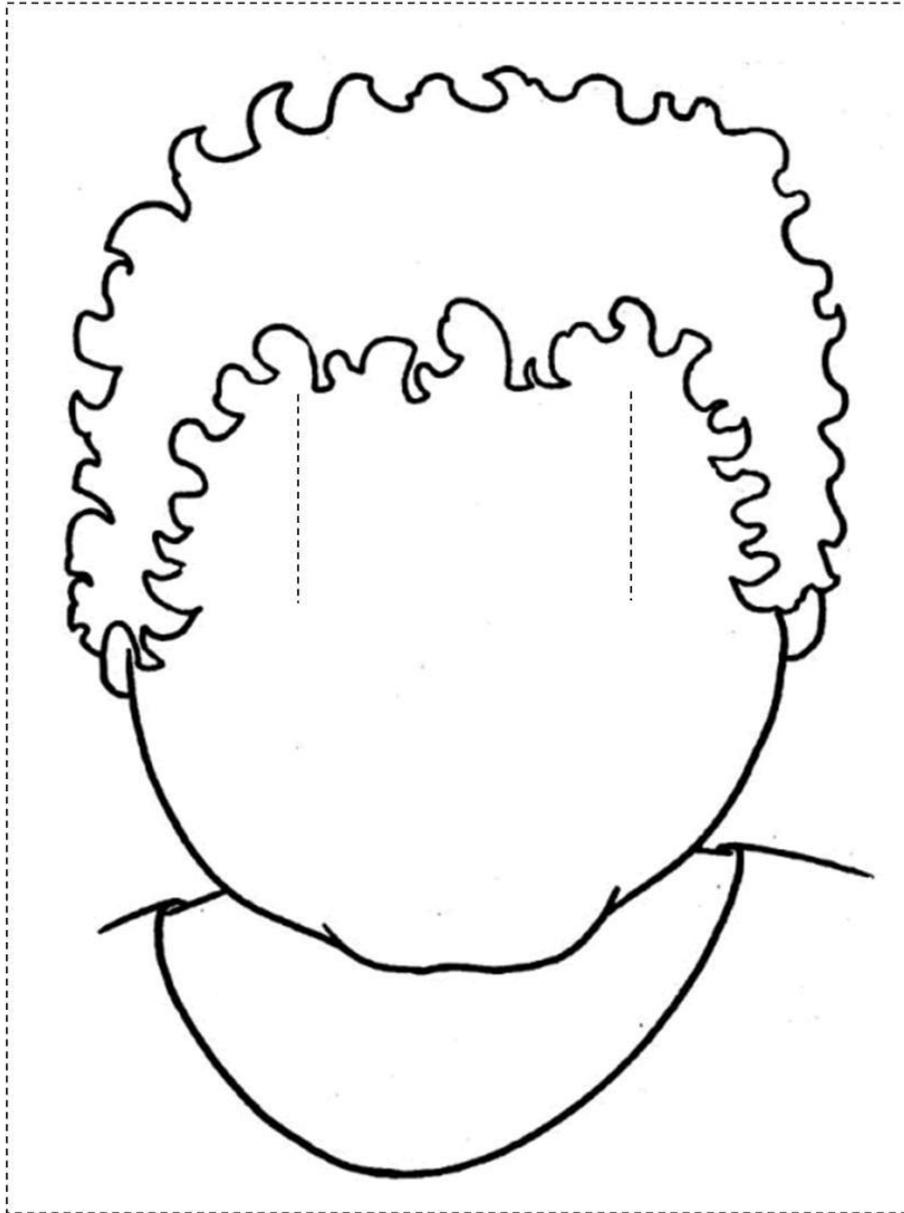
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I Can See! Slider Craft

- Cut out portrait & slider bar on dotted lines; cut slits in face as indicated by dotted lines
- Color portrait & slider bar. Make sure to give the man a nose & a big smile! And color those splotches on the slider bar brown for mud ☺
- Slip the slider bar through the slits in the man's face & move it to tell the story



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Baptism
 Bible
 Blind
 Camp
 Braille
 Campfire

Christian
 Record
 Crafts
 Flag
 Friendship
 Fun

Games
 God
 Guide
 Horses
 Jesus
 Kids

Love
 Pizza
 Stories
 Swimming
 Worship



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| Adults | Christian | Fun | Ministry |
| Albinism | Record | Games | Pizza |
| Audiobook | Confidence | God | Reading |
| Baptism | Crafts | Horses | Stories |
| Bible | Exercise | Independence | Swimming |
| Blind | Eyeglasses | Jesus | White |
| Blindness | Fireworks | Kids | Worship |
| Braille | Flag | Print | |
| Campfire | Friendship | Love | |



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To learn more about blindness and the free services
Christian Record offers to those who are blind, please contact us.



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