Waves of Wonder

Reviewed by Juniper LaNunziata

Waves of Wonder: Snapshot



Waves of Wonder is one of Building Faith's top picks for VBS for 2025. It is a five-day VBS for young children through elementary schoolers. It is produced by Shine and co-published by Brethren and Mennonite Churches. Its focus is on encouraging children to experience wonder at God's creation and to see water as a sign of God's great love for the world. It uses creative, discovery-based learning experiences to engage children. The starter kit includes all of the educational materials needed and a physical USB drive that includes promotional materials, music, and music videos.

Waves of Wonder: The Basics

- **Theme**: Inspiration by the beauty of God's creation
- Publisher: <u>Shine</u> by <u>MennoMedia</u> and <u>Brethren Press</u>, 2025 (<u>Church of the Brethren</u>, <u>Mennonite Church USA</u>, and <u>Mennonite Church Canada</u>)
- Intended ages/grades: pre-K grade 5
- Format: onsite
- Number of sessions: 5
- Types of activities: worship, drama, art, science, active games, spiritual practices
- Starter kit cost: \$249.99
- Video: https://youtu.be/U3Sz4merypl?si=uBZHA2MYwpZD1gUP

Waves of Wonder: Scope & Sequence

- Day 1: Let's Enjoy God's Good Creation
 Genesis 1:1—2:3, Making Waves
- Day 2: Let's Join God in Caring for the Earth
 Psalm 104:5–13, Rushing Water
- Day 3: Let's Ask God for What We Need Exodus 17:1–7, Wilderness Waves
- Day 4: Let's Trust Jesus When Life Is Stormy
 Mark 4:35–41, Waves on the Sea
- Day 5: Let's Receive God's Living Water Revelation 22:1–5, 16–17, River of Life

Waves of Wonder: Where It Shines

Theological focus on water and the goodness of creation

The entire curriculum uses the lens of water to focus on celebrating God's creation, noticing God's care for the earth and responding in kind, and exploring the central importance of water in our lives and how we use water. This focus helps students to create a more just world with regard to how humans use water and other resources.

Strong activities section

"Reef Rotation Stations" promote creative, discovery-based learning opportunities for children. Each day includes exploring a sacred story, art or science activities, and active games.

Waves of Wonder: What We Miss

More decoration support and supplies

This VBS starter kit includes all of the content for VBS, including a USB drive with music and other resources. However, the online store does not include decorations, large posters, or other supplies. A Pinterest page offers suggestions, but there are no premade items for sale.

Waves of Wonder: Overall Assessment

Resource
Recommended
for 2025