

TITLE OF GAME: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Bible: Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)

SUPPLIES

- Construction Paper (one sheet of green, yellow, red, and purple)
- 4 Cones (or other objects to mark four corners)
- Sheet of Paper and a Pen
- Bucket
- Upbeat Music

GAME PREP

This game requires a few items, but will not take more than a couple of minutes in prep time.

Tear (or cut) the piece of paper into four pieces and use the pen to write a number on each piece, from 1-4.

Then, tear (or cut) a piece off of each sheet of construction paper and place them in the bucket.

Fold the numbered pieces of paper in half and place them in the bucket.

Use cones (or some other object) to mark four corners in your room.

Divide students into four teams of equal size.

Assign each team with the name of a fruit: lime, bananas, apples, and grapes.

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME

Say: We're going to play a fun game that's all about fruit!

Each of your teams have been given the name of a fruit.

Raise your hand if you're on Team Lime.

Raise your hand if you're on Team Bananas.

Raise your hand if you're on Team Apples.

Raise your hand if you're on Team Grapes.

Okay!

Now that everyone knows which team they are on, let's talk about how we will play the game.

When the game begins, the music will start and everyone will start moving around the room.

You can dance, skip, or walk in a silly way, but you can't run.

When the music stops, everyone will go to a corner and stand there.

Each corner has a number.

Point to each corner and assign a number to each one.

Then, I will pull a number out of the bucket and read it.

I will also pick a color out of the bucket.

You will have to pay close attention to the color.

Each fruit matches a color in this bucket.

Yellow = Bananas

Green = Lime

Red = Apples

Purple = Grapes

If I call your corner's number and the color that matches your fruit, then you are out of the game.

The last person left in the game is the winner.

TEACH

Say: What is your favorite fruit?

Allow a few responses from students.

Did you know that there are over 2,000 types of fruits around the world?

Yet, we only eat about 200 types of fruit.

So, there are over 1,800 types of fruit that you have never tried before.

Some of those fruits may be really good for you—they might have a lot of vitamins and they might even taste better than the other fruits you've eaten.

But you may never have the opportunity to try them.

Ask: How does it make you feel to know that there are amazing fruits in the world that you may never get to try?

Allow a few responses from students.

In the Bible, we learn about the kind of fruit that the Holy Spirit produces in our lives as we follow Jesus.

Read Galatians 5:22-23.

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

In this Scripture, it doesn't say that each of those things are different fruits.

It says the fruit—just one—that is produced in our lives.

Now, when I read that list of fruit, maybe you thought, "I don't have all of those things in my life."

Let me read it again: *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*

For some people, it might be easy to have joy because you're a joyful person.

Or maybe you are a patient person.

Some people may struggle with some of those things.

Maybe you don't demonstrate a lot of self-control, you just kind of do whatever you want.

That's not what God wants for your life.

He knows if that list of fruit is shown in your life, then other people will see a difference in the way you live and it will be a witness to what God can do.

God also knows if those things are not being displayed in your life, then you aren't allowing the Holy Spirit to work in your life the way He wants to.

God actually transforms, or changes, you to become more like Him—and He has all of these qualities that we read about.

Just like the fruits in the world that we will never have the opportunity to try, it's really sad when a Christian doesn't have all of the fruit of the Spirit in their life.

Today, ask God to keep working in your heart and mind until He has produced all of that good fruit in you.

Then, you will be able to fully experience all that God has for your life.