

**Teacher**—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

## Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

### Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Paul was trying to get Cy’s attention as Sunday school class was about to begin, and threw a small stuffed animal at him. Cy reacted by throwing another stuffed animal back. Suddenly, the whole class erupted into a stuffed animal fight! “What’s going on?” said Mr. Jeff, the teacher. “Who started the throwing?” Cy and Paul crawled out from under the table where they had taken cover. They were in big trouble now!

### Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

After taking the rest of Cy and Paul’s class to worship time, Mr. Jeff returned to the classroom. Cy and Paul immediately apologized, afraid they were in big trouble. Mr. Jeff laughed, and explained that they weren’t in big trouble—things just got a little out of hand. But Mr. Jeff also reminded them that while it’s okay to have fun, it’s not okay if having fun becomes more important than learning about God. And the other kids in the class looked up to Cy and Paul.

## Dee-Cy-Paul Story “Setting an Example”

“Hey, Cy,” Paul said as he flipped the pages of a new book in their Sunday school class. “Check this out!”

Paul looked across the room to where Cy was working on a puzzle. He hadn’t heard Paul call to him.

Cy and Paul were waiting for Sunday school to start. Most of the class had arrived and were enjoying free time before the lesson began. Paul looked around and saw a small stuffed elephant on a table nearby. When he was sure Mr. Jeff wasn’t looking, he threw it at the back at Cy’s head.

“Hey!” Cy said, looking behind him. Paul grinned.

“Oh, yeah?” Cy said, and grabbed a stuffed sheep. He threw it back across the room at Paul.

“Stuffed animal fight!” shouted another student. Cy and Paul looked at each other with wide eyes, then ducked under a table. They watched as the other kids raced to find stuffed animals and threw them around the room.

“Hey—what’s going on here?” said Mr. Jeff suddenly. “When did everyone start acting so silly?”

The kids just laughed. “It’s time to settle down,” said Mr. Jeff, ducking a green elephant that sailed past him. “No, really,” Mr. Jeff explained. “Settle down. It’s time to go to worship with the other classes. But first, who started the throwing?”

Cy and Paul crawled out from under the table they were hiding under, and raised their hands.

“Okay,” said Mr. Jeff. “You two hang out here for a minute while I take the other kids to worship.”

Mr. Jeff led his class to worship time. Cy and Paul looked at each other nervously. They were going to be in huge trouble! Soon, Mr. Jeff came back.

“Mr. Jeff—we’re really sorry!” Paul said.

“Yeah,” Cy agreed. “It will never happen again!”

“Whoa, whoa!” Mr. Jeff said, laughing. “Hang on! It’s okay—things just got a little out of hand, that’s all.”

“So we’re not in big trouble?” Paul wondered.

“Paul, this isn’t school,” said Mr. Jeff. “I can’t send you to see the principal. But,” he continued, “This is also not the playground.”

“What do you mean?” asked Cy.

“It’s good to have fun while you’re at church,” Mr. Jeff explained. “God loves it when people are happy. But it’s also important to remember that having fun should never get in the way of learning about God. Besides,” he continued, “The other kids look up to you guys. So if you’re goofing off, they think it’s okay for everyone to goof off.”

“Oh,” said Paul. “But it’s still okay to have fun, right?”

“It’s a requirement in my class,” answered Mr. Jeff, smiling. “Now, let’s join the rest of the class.”

Paul and Cy smiled and joined their teacher as they walked to worship.

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Setting an Example"

### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud.

### SCRIPT

*[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]*

**Dee:** Hi, guys!

**Paul:** Hi, Dee! Welcome home!

**Cy:** How was your trip to visit your cousins?

**Dee:** It was a great time. Since I don't have brothers or sisters, it's a very special treat for me to be able to spend time with other kids.

**Cy:** Well, you can borrow my little sister anytime.

**Paul:** Yeah—if you ever feel like you'd like an older brother or sister, just let me know.

**Dee:** *[Laughs.]* How was church and Sunday school yesterday?

*[Paul and Cy look at each other.]*

**Cy:** Uh, my weekend was great, thanks!

**Paul:** Yeah, um, me, too! So, what should we do today?

**Cy:** Well, it's supposed to be nice outside, so maybe we could go to the park...

**Dee:** Wait, wait, wait! What about church? How was Sunday school yesterday?

*[Paul and Cy look at each other again, then down at their feet.]*

**Cy:** Uh, the story was really good.

**Paul:** Yeah! And I found a really cool new book in our classroom!

**Cy:** Paul! Shh!

**Dee:** What? What's the big deal about the book?

**Cy:** Well, the book is sort of what started the fight.

**Dee:** Fight? There was a fight in Sunday school?

**Paul:** Not a real fight....

**Cy:** Yeah. It was just a stuffed animal fight.

**Dee:** Wow. Who started it?

*[Cy and Paul point at each other.]*

**Cy & Paul:** *[In unison.]* He did! *[They laugh.]*

**Dee:** I'm not quite sure I understand....

**Cy:** Well, Paul was looking at the new book he found. He called my name to show it to me, but I didn't hear him.

**Paul:** So I took a little stuffed elephant and threw it at Cy. That got his attention!

**Cy:** I picked up a little stuffed sheep and threw it back across the room at Paul....

**Paul:** The next thing I knew, stuffed animals were flying everywhere! All the kids were throwing them at each other!

**Dee:** What did you guys do?

**Cy:** We hid under a table.

**Dee:** What did Mr. Jeff do?

**Paul:** He couldn't figure out why everyone suddenly started acting so silly! He told everyone to settle down. It was time to go to worship with the other classes.

**Cy:** But first, he wanted to know who started the throwing.

**Paul:** So we crawled out from under the table and raised our hands.

**Dee:** Uh-oh. You guys were in a lot of trouble, weren't you?

**Cy:** That's what we thought, too. We waited while Mr. Jeff took the rest of the class down the hall to the worship room.

**Paul:** I was so afraid! When Mr. Jeff came back, we both said we were sorry right away.

**Cy:** And that it would never happen again.

**Dee:** What did Mr. Jeff say?

**Paul:** Well, he...laughed.

**Dee:** He what?

**Cy:** He laughed. He said it was okay, that things just got a little out of hand.

**Dee:** So you weren't in big trouble?

**Paul:** We were surprised, too. Mr. Jeff said that we weren't in school—he couldn't send us to the principal.

**Cy:** But he reminded us that it wasn't the playground, either.

**Dee:** What did he mean?

**Paul:** He explained that it's good to have fun at church. God loves it when people are happy.

**Cy:** But it's also important to remember that having fun should never get in the way of learning about God.

**Dee:** I think Mr. Jeff is right. And besides—the other kids in our Sunday school class kind of look up to you guys. So if you're goofing off, they think it's okay for everyone to goof off.

**Cy:** That's just what Mr. Jeff said.

**Paul:** He also said it was still okay to have fun in class.

**Cy:** It's a requirement in his class.

**Dee:** Well, that's good news. I love church and I love our Sunday school class, but I love learning about God most of all.

**Cy:** Me, too!

**Paul:** Me, three!

**Dee:** Now didn't someone say something about going to the park?

**Cy & Paul:** Let's go!

*[Dee, Cy, and Paul exit. Curtain.]*