

# May



The West Knox Lions Club will be here May 13 & 14 to perform a **FREE VISION SCREENING** for your child. This free service is a great way to detect any vision problems your child may have. Please see your child's teacher to sign a permission slip.

We will be closed **Monday, May 27**, in observance of Memorial Day! We are thankful for the many men and women who have given their lives for our freedom. Please enjoy a safe holiday with your family.



We still have openings for our summer session so please tell your friends!



To all of you moms, we would like to wish you a very Happy Mother's Day this month. Thank you for all you do, for us and for your families. You are very much appreciated!

Beginning in August, tuition will increase to **\$130/month** and the curriculum fee will increase to **\$35**. As always, we will continue to work with you should you need to make payment arrangements.

Comments/Questions: Please contact Ms. Kelley (kelleyjones@ridgedale.org) if you have any questions or concerns. We are always here to listen and assist in any way possible.

### NEED PRAYER???

Ridgedale's Prayer Ministry meets weekly and would love to pray for you. Just send an email to [prayer@ridgedale.org](mailto:prayer@ridgedale.org)



## May 2013

### A Fresh Perspective On Discipleship



Ever think that if you hear yourself say, "No!" or "Don't!" one more time, your nerves might truly fry? The truth is, every parent, grandparent, guardian, teacher, and coach faces that same frustration at some point. If you sense your attempts at positive discipline aren't working or you just need to ramp up your discipline approach, try this perspective makeover.

Rather than focusing on the verbal "do's" and "don'ts" inherent in discipline, focus on the greater impact you'll have in *modeling* the kind of behavior you'd like to see from your kids. Think of how Jesus instructed his disciples. Sometimes he gave verbal direction, but most importantly, he lived the way he wanted the disciples to live. He gave them compelling examples to follow, and he willingly talked them through why he was doing what he was. Examine the nonverbal messages you send your kids about their behavior choices, and ask yourself whether those messages line up with your words. Aligning the two will make a big difference.

### POWERSOURCE

#### ASK GOD:

1. For patience for those moments when your kids seem to be purposely testing you.
2. To guide you in *discipling* your children rather than just disciplining them.
3. For help providing consistent expectations for your kids as they grow and mature each year.

### The Disciple in Discipline

*"The words discipline and discipleship both come from the Latin word discere meaning 'to learn.' When you provide calm, intentional discipline you create a space where kids can dive into learning. But even better, you model God's patient love and disciple children to know, love, and follow Jesus."*



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## TEACHABLE MOMENT

**Now I See:** In your house, backyard, or at a local park, set up an obstacle course with objects of various sizes without your kids seeing it. After the course is ready, explain to your kids that the goal is to get through the obstacle course without running into any of the objects—while blindfolded. You'll guide them with these directions:

- Tap on the left shoulder = a left turn
- Tap on the right shoulder = a right turn
- Tap on the knees = crawl on hands and knees
- Tap on both shoulders = a BIG step over an object

After blindfolding your kids, take them one at a time through the course. Once they're through, ask:

- Why was paying attention to what I told you important to get through the course?
- How was this experience like or unlike when I ask you to behave or follow rules?

Discuss how your rules in their lives are meant to keep them safe.

“Whoever heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray.”

Proverbs 10:17

### The Root of Misbehavior

All children misbehave; it's a natural part of their development. As you lovingly correct their behavior, kids learn how to conduct themselves appropriately—with or without you there to keep watch. Here are three common reasons children misbehave (and solutions for each), adapted from Group's *Children's Ministry Pocket Guide to Discipline*.

**1. ATTENTION:** Kids crave attention—and not just yours. If acting up earns friends' or siblings' attention and applause, kids won't mind risking your displeasure.

**Solution:** Don't reinforce misbehavior with too much attention; briefly address it, and move on. Proactively give attention to positive behaviors verbally and with nods and smiles.

**2. BOREDOM:** Children not involved in an engaging activity *will* find something interesting to do—which can often result in misbehavior.

**Solution:** Plan ahead and provide your kids with options for activities that engage all five senses. Tapping into all the senses is a quick way to captivate kids' attention while providing an effective learning environment—kids learn best when all their senses are involved. This does mean extra planning on your part, but the upside is you can always repeat some of your kids' favorite activities as you discover them together. Safe, interesting activities for your kids frees you to get some to do's crossed off your list without needing to turn on the TV.

**3. CONFUSION:** Fuzzy rules, lax or inconsistent enforcement, and no consequences are guaranteed to spark misbehavior. Kids get confused: Do the rules matter or not?

**Solution:** Establish clear household rules and expectations for your kids (and the adults, too) in your household. Remember, you set an example with your behavior. Consistency and fairness are your greatest allies.

the  
Parent  
LINK



## MEDIA MADNESS



### MUSIC

**Artist:** Jason Dunn

**Album:** *Abandon Progress*



**Artist Info:** Dunn was lead vocalist and founding member of the Christian rock band, Hawk Nelson, and has recently turned his focus to his first solo album.

**Summary:** The album features songs with the fun pop/punk sound Hawk Nelson fans love, mixed with contemplative, soulful tunes like the single, “Second Chances”—currently available on iTunes.

**Our Take:** The musical style and Dunn's voice offer a sound that many kids enjoy—particularly preteen boys. Dunn is a young, influential man singing with a positive Christian message. This is “punk” music—minus the punk.

### MOVIES

**Title:** Epic

**Genre:** Animated/Fantasy/Comedy



**Rating:** Not yet rated as of publication date, PG expected

**Cast:** Amanda Seyfried, Beyonce Knowles, Colin Farrell, Josh Hutcherson

**Synopsis:** Think *Fern Gully* meets *A Bug's Life*. A teenage girl is shrunk to the size of an insect and goes on an adventure discovering what keeps the natural world alive—and what evil forces are out to destroy it.

**Our Take:** This movie looks captivating and entertaining, but the theme of magical, mystical creatures that oversee nature is questionable. Be prepared to explain the fiction of the story and use it as a springboard for discussion about where the beauty of the natural world really comes from—God's creation.

## GAMES, SITES & APPS

Title	Content	Rating & Platform
<b>Scribblenauts Unlimited</b>	Kids problem-solve their way through the game by spelling out the objects they need to complete each challenge.	E for everyone by the ESRB. Ages 10 and up. Prices vary for Nintendo WiiU, 3Ds, PC.
<b>National Geographic for Kids</b>	A great place for kids to explore the world from home and find inspiration for science projects, recipes, and more.	Content for ages 3 to 14. kids.nationalgeographic.com
<b>Swapsies Occupations</b>	A fun game that boosts cognitive learning for your little ones as they mix and match items from 10 occupations.	Best for ages 4 to 6. Winner of Parents' Choice Award. \$2.99 at iTunes, for iPad, iPhone.



## CULTURE & TRENDS

If you haven't already thought ahead to your kids' summer plans, now's the time! May will go fast and your elementary kids will be out of school before you know it. If you've never sent your kids to a Christian summer camp, check into some in your area. Kids often make life-transforming decisions about their faith at camp; learning lessons about God that go with them well beyond the campfire. Ensure the highlight of their summer is growing their relationship with Jesus—a week at camp is a great way to do just that.



### Quick Stat

A recent study conducted in Great Britain reveals that kids ask their mothers nearly 3,000 questions—*per day!*