

Whirl



A PARENT'S GUIDE

to Making Faith Connections Using the Whirl: Ada & Friends DVDs

This guide applies to *Flagging Swagger and Other Inspired Adventures: Volume 2*.

Welcome to the Whirl: Ada & Friends DVDs!

Each animated episode is designed to entertain kids with a story about Ada and her friends, as they have adventures, solve problems, and learn about faith together. Every episode is inspired by a story from the Bible. Check out the reference at the end of this guide to make these connections to Scripture.

Using Whirl: Ada & Friends With Your Child

The fun animated stories on the Whirl DVDs offer parents and caregivers wonderful opportunities to laugh and talk with kids about the silly and the serious. Each episode is about four minutes long, making it easy to choose one episode for some quick family faith time together. Or you can watch several—or watch them all!—to spur dinnertime, bedtime, car-time—anytime!—conversations.

However you use them, Whirl stories are designed to set the stage for fun while viewing and great conversations afterward. This guide offers ideas such as discussion questions, activities, and other creative responses.

Everything in this guide is flexible, so use it to fit your family's needs and interests. The goal of this guide matches Whirl's overall goal: to make you and your kids laugh while helping you grow in your love of God and each other.

Discussion Questions

After watching some Whirl: Ada & Friends episodes, start a discussion with your child with these questions:

- Which episode was your favorite and why?
- What happened in the episode? What was one problem the kids faced? How did they solve it?
- What was a lesson the kids learned? What was a lesson you learned from this episode?
- Which character did you like best and why? What makes this character special?

- Which character is most like you? What makes this character similar to you? How are you different?
- What is something your whole family could learn from this episode? How could this episode help your family to grow stronger?
- How does this episode help you understand more about God?

Activities

Flip the Script

Pretend you are a cartoonist. Pick your favorite Whirl: Ada & Friends episode and draw some cartoon panels from it. Then add a twist! Change a panel to show one of the characters making a different choice or decision than he or she makes in the episode. Then draw what would happen next!

Share:

How does this change affect the story's outcome? What does that say about the choices we make and our relationship with God?

Sketch a Space

In Whirl stories, the church building itself is like a character. We see lots of spaces: the worship space, gathering areas, classrooms, and grounds outside. Think of your church building. Draw a picture of your favorite room or space or place. Draw what you like about it.

Share:

Why is this space your favorite? How does it remind you of God and God's presence?

Walk the Talk

The idea of loving our neighbors is central to the Whirl stories, just as it's central to the Bible. You can help children learn about putting love into action. Take a walk through your neighborhood, or another favorite area, and think about the people whose homes you pass.

Ask your child, "What's one way we can show this person or that family love?" Maybe you can say a silent prayer. You might bake cookies and share some with them. You might rake leaves or pull weeds, or maybe roll their garbage cans to the curb. As you walk, open your mind and spirit to the concrete ways you and your child can show neighborly love.

Share:

How do you feel when you show love through action for a neighbor? How do you feel when someone shows love for you?

Lines to Remember

These quotes capture the spirit of these Whirl episodes. Share them with your child and try making connections to your family's faith life together.

"A promise is a promise. One juice, coming up!"

—From *"Promise Pains"*

"If you want to get this done, you'll have to trust us. You can't do it all on your own!"

—From *"Fearful Leader"*

"Rules are there to keep us safe so bad things like this don't happen."

—From *"Law Limbo"*

"I see now the simple times may have been too simple."

—From *"Babied"*

"I've never heard of God giving a better version of things you sacrificed."

—From *"Lent Lament"*

"After all your talk about being there to help me, you totally betrayed me!"

—From *"Flagging Swagger"*

"Jesus is risen!"

—From *"Easter Objections"*

"Now we can all play!"

—From *"Play Partitions"*

"How can someone believe and wonder about something at the same time?"

—From *"Fish 'n' Ambiguity"*

"We're the sheep, and Jesus is our shepherd. It's a metaphor!"

—From *"Shepherd Camp"*

"Jax, what did I do to deserve this?"

—From *"Nazareth Now"*

"Jesus doesn't want to boss us around. Jesus loves us and wants to work with us to share his message of love to everyone."

—From *"Jesus Inc."*

"I guess it would go against all Matthias and his statue stood for if we ignored the word of an eyewitness."

—From *"Matthias Mystery"*

“Anyone can be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

—From “Simple Spirit”

“Who knew words could make such a mess?”

—From “Robo Monty”

“Look at him. So calm. So humble. So gentle. He’s got perfect energy to play Jesus.”

—From “Odditions”

“[To pray] you can just talk to God. Out loud or in your head. Or sing, dance, paint a picture.”

—From “Winging a Prayer”

“We’re open to the Kingdom of Heaven because our hearts and minds are uncluttered.”

—From “The Broom”

“I thought church was supposed to remind us to pay attention to God.”

—From “Chromo-Bots”

“My smallness doesn’t make me less.”

—From “Extra Agitation”

Reference

Bible Story Connections for *Flagging Swagger and Other Inspired Adventures (Whirl: Ada & Friends: Volume 2)*

Each Whirl episode is connected—sometimes loosely—to a Bible story. The stories that inspired the episodes on *Flagging Swagger and Other Inspired Adventures* are listed below. If you’d like to explore biblical themes further, look up and read the related Bible passage and talk about how it applies to the episode and to your family’s daily life.

Promise Pains

Genesis 9:1-17

The Covenant with Noah

Fearful Leader

Romans 4:13-25

Paul’s Letter to the Romans

Law Limbo

Mark 2:23-28

Pronouncement about the Sabbath

Babied

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

The Gift of Love

Lent Lament

Matthew 19:16-30

The Rich Young Man

Flagging Swagger

John 18:25-27

Peter Denies Jesus Again

Easter Objections

Mark 16:1-8

The Resurrection of Jesus

Play Partitions

Acts 4:32-35

Jesus Taught His Followers to Share

Fish 'n' Ambiguity

John 13:1-20

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

Shepherd Camp

Psalms 23

The Divine Shepherd

Nazareth Now

1 John 4:7-21

A Letter about God's Love

Jesus Inc.

John 15:9-17

Jesus the Vine

Matthias Mystery

Acts 1:12-26

Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

Simple Spirit

Acts 2:1-13

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Robo Monty

Proverbs 18

A Fool Takes No Pleasure in Understanding

Odditions

Philippians 2:1-11

Imitating Christ's Humility

Winging a Prayer

Matthew 6:5-15

The Lord's Prayer

The Broom

Luke 18:15-17

Jesus Blesses the Little Children

Chromo-Bots

Mark 10:17-31

Love God above All Things

Extra Agitation

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes