



OBJECT LESSON

[10 min]

Water Wonder

Supplies

- balloons (2 for each adult leader)
- tealights or votive candles (1 for each adult leader)
- candle lighter
- small cup
- water

Easy Prep

- Inflate half the balloons with air, and tie them off.
- Fill the other half of the balloons about $\frac{3}{4}$ full with water, and tie them off.
- Fill the small cup with water.

Tips

- Use regular party balloons, not water balloons. Water balloons are thinner and may not work as effectively.
- Have adult and teen leaders keep lighters and candles in their possession the entire time.

Watch Heat From a Candle Pop a Balloon

Say: **Today we heard about a way God showed Moses that God is real. God got Moses' attention by setting a bush on fire, and it was *amazing* because the bush didn't burn up! That's not usually what happens with fire. Let's take a look at what hot fire can do.**

- Form leader-led groups sitting at tables, and give each leader a balloon inflated with air, a balloon filled with water, and a candle. Have groups adjust how they're sitting as needed to make sure kids are safely out of reach of the candle.
- Use the lighter to light each candle.

Ask: • **What do you think will happen if we hold balloons over the hot fire of the candles? Why?**

- Coordinate leaders holding their air-filled balloons over their candles so all kids are ready for the sound. They'll hold the balloons a few inches from the flames until they pop. It won't take long for the heat from the flame to warm the air in the balloon so it quickly expands, popping the balloon.

Watch as Water Keeps a Balloon From Popping

Say: **Wow, the heat from the fire made the balloons *pop*! Your group has another balloon we're going to try, but these are a little different.**

- Have leaders hold up their water-filled balloons where their kids can see well and shake the balloons so kids can hear the water moving inside.
- Invite kids to share in their groups what they think will happen this time when the leader holds the balloon over the candle and why.
- Have leaders hold the water-filled balloons over and near the candle flames. The balloon can get within about a half inch of the flame but not directly in the flame.
- After kids can see that the balloons aren't going to pop or burn up, have leaders hold the balloons in their laps.

Talk About It

Say: **The second balloons are filled with water, and water can put out fires.** Pour some of the water from the cup over a few of the candles so everyone can watch the water extinguish the flames. Leaders can blow out any remaining lit candles. **So the water in the balloons protected the balloons from burning up or getting hot and popping from the fire of the candles!**

This gives us a picture of how amazing it must have been for Moses to see a burning bush that wasn't being burned up by the fire. But it wasn't water that was keeping the bush from burning up; it was *God*! And God spoke to Moses through the burning bush, too!

God used his power to do something amazing to show Moses—and us—that God is real.

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