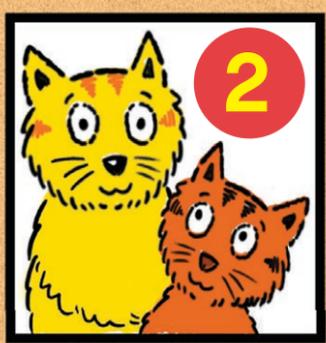




**Let's talk!**  
 What did people do to praise Jesus?



Name .....

Place stickers on the page to finish the picture.  
 Count the items.

Psalm  
9:11

# "Sing the praises of the LORD."



**Let's talk!**  
What can we do to  
praise Jesus?

I finished!

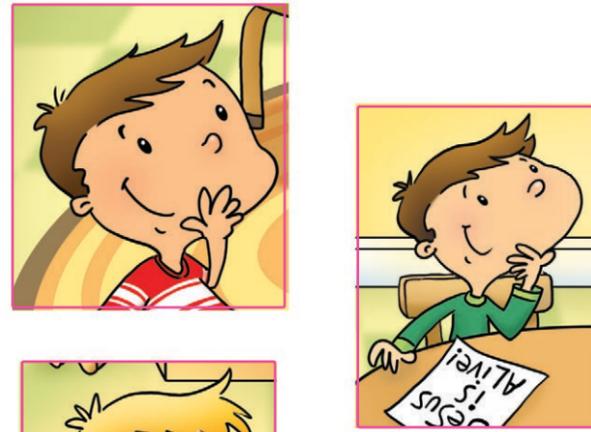
Draw a line from each instrument to the person playing the instrument.

Spring A • Lesson 1 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 2 • Preschool



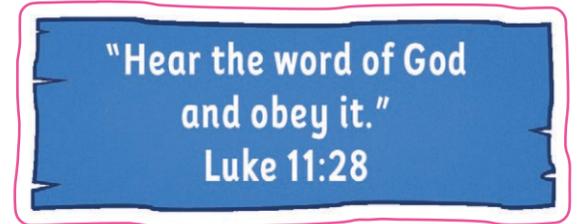
Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 5 • Preschool

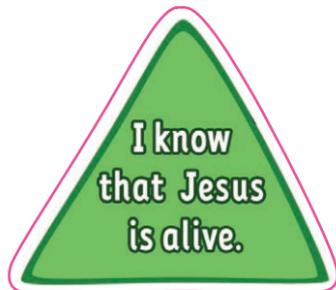


Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 5 • Preschool • Art Center

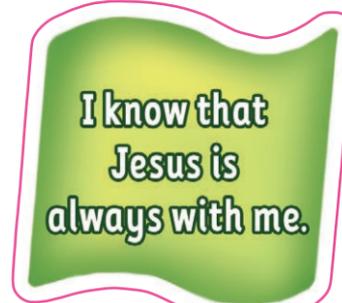


Spring A • Lesson 3 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 4 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 6 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 7 • Preschool

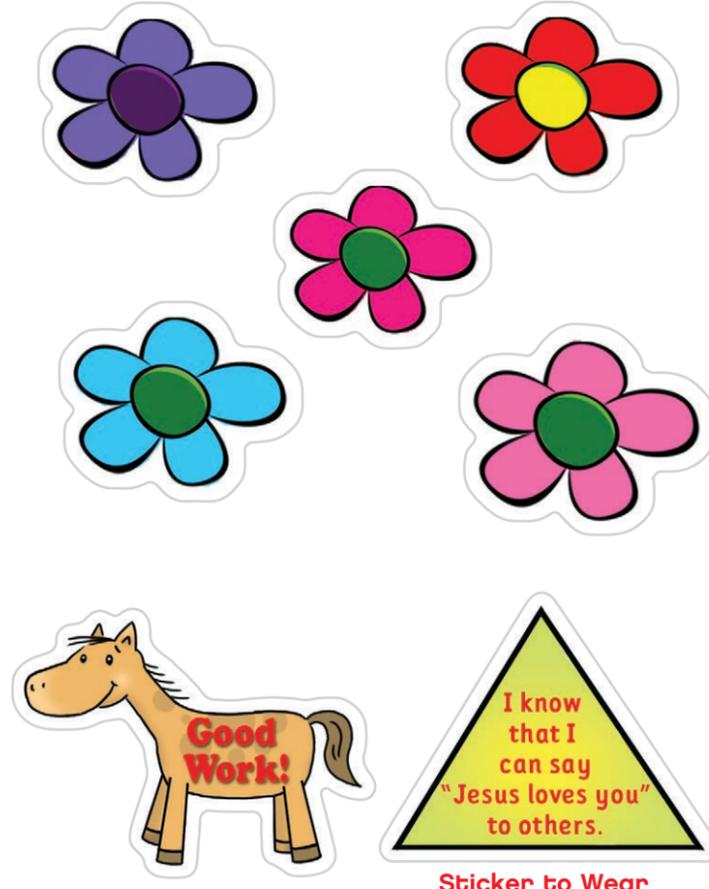


Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 7 • Preschool • Blocks Center



Spring A • Lesson 8 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 11 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 12 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 9 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 10 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Spring A • Lesson 13 • Preschool



Sticker to Wear

Bonus Stickers



# People Praise Jesus

Spring • Lesson 1

## Who?

Jesus, Jesus' friends, crowd

## What?

People praised Jesus as He entered Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11,15-16; Luke 19:28-38)

## When & Where?

At the beginning of Jesus' last week on Earth, in Jerusalem

## Why?

To help children join with their church family in showing love and praise to Jesus



**Teacher Challenge**  
Read Matthew 21:1-11,  
15-16; Luke 19:28-38.

How can this story make a difference in your own life and in the lives of the children you teach?

Look around at the beauty of the world God created. Look at the people around you, created in His image and for His pleasure. What an amazing, intelligent creator we have! And to think, He Himself entered our world as a human to save us from being separated from Him for all eternity. As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people called out in praise, full of hope of salvation from government oppression. But God's plans were to save them from much more than that!

## Goals for each child

- 1 Act out ways people praised Jesus**
- 2 Sing a song praising the Lord**
- 3 Pray, telling Jesus he or she loves Him**

- What do you need For God to do in your life?
- In what ways do you express your praise to Jesus?

The work Jesus did then is still effective today. He is alive and always interceding for you with the Father. Praise Jesus for who He is. Pray a psalm of praise from the Bible (Psalm 145, for example) as a reminder of just how great our creator is.

## Bible Verse

"Sing the praises of the LORD."

Psalm 9:11

# Prepare

Spring • Lesson 1

## 1 Play to Learn

20 - 30 minutes

Teachers guide small groups of children in one or more activities

## 2 Listen to Learn

10 - 15 minutes

One teacher leads this large-group time to guide children in hearing and understanding the Bible story and Bible verse

## 3 Talk to Learn

15 minutes

Teachers guide small groups of children to complete *TalkTime* activity page and other activities as time allows

### Art Center

Make a fabric mural of the road to Jerusalem and talk about what people did when Jesus rode into Jerusalem  
**Materials:** Bible, large sheet of butcher paper, tape, marker, 2-inch (5-cm) fabric squares, glue, toy people

### Blocks Center

Build a city wall with a gate and talk about ways people praised Jesus  
**Materials:** Bible, blocks

### Dramatic Play Center

Pretend to get ready for church, and thank Jesus for His love  
**Materials:** Bible, dress-up clothes, toy food and dishes

### Game Center

Play a music game to say the Bible verse and to talk about praising Jesus  
**Materials:** Bible, *Preschool Music #1* CD and player

### Come Together

**Materials:** None

### Bible Verse

**Materials:** Bible, Bible Verse Poster 1 from *Visual Resources*

### Prayer

**Materials:** Bible, Activity Poster 1 from *Visual Resources*

### Song

**Materials:** *Preschool Music #1* CD and player

### Puppet Time

**Materials:** Daffodil puppet, *Preschool Music #1* CD, CD player and CD case

### Bible Story

**Materials:** Bible, Figures 1-4 from *Visual Resources*, tree branch, flannel board

### TalkTime Activity Page

**Materials:** Bible, Lesson 1 *TalkTime* activity page and sticker page for yourself and each child, markers or crayons

### Bible Verse Game

**Materials:** Bible, Everyday Life Poster 1 from *Visual Resources*, large sheet of paper



- On *Preschool Music #1* CD, play “Come On In!” (track 1) as children arrive and “Are You Ready?” (track 15) during cleanup time

2

Check off one or more options for each step of the lesson

## Art Center

### Collect

Bible, large sheet of butcher paper, tape, marker, 2-inch (5-cm) fabric squares, glue, toy people.

### Prepare

Cover table with butcher paper. Tape down the ends. Outline a road on the paper.



### Do

Children work together to make a mural of the road to Jerusalem. Children glue fabric squares on to the road and use toy people to demonstrate the Bible story action.

### Teaching Tip

Before class, glue a few fabric

squares onto the outlined road to show children where to place squares.

## Blocks Center

### Collect

Bible, blocks; optional—large appliance cardboard box, craft knife.

### Prepare

(Optional: Make a city gate by cutting a hole large enough for children to walk through in two opposite sides of card-board box.)

### Do

Children stack blocks to make a wall with an opening for a gate. (Optional: Children stack blocks around box you prepared.) As you briefly talk about today's Bible story, children walk or crawl through gate.



### Teaching Tip

Remind children to stack blocks no higher than their chins.

## Talk About

• **Our Bible story today tells about a wonderful day. Jesus came to the city of Jerusalem! Many people were happy to see Jesus as He came through a big gate.**

• **The people praised Jesus. That's what our Bible verse says to do.** Show your open Bible. **The Bible says, "Sing praises to the Lord." Singing songs to Jesus is one way to praise and thank Him.**

• **I like to praise and thank Jesus because He loves us. What do you want to thank Jesus for?** Pray with children. **Thank You, Jesus, for loving us. Amen.**

### Tip for Younger Children

Give each child a sheet of construction paper on which to glue the fabric squares.

### Tip for Younger Children

Children use blocks to build a city with a gate and use toy people to show story action.

## Dramatic Play Center

### Collect

Bible, dress-up clothes, toy food and dishes.

### Do

Children use dress-up clothes and toy food and dishes to act out getting ready to go to church. Suggest different actions for the children to demonstrate (brush teeth, get dressed, eat breakfast, etc.).



### Teaching Tip

As children come and go from the Dramatic Play Center, expect to repeat your conversation many times.

## Game Center

### Collect

Bible, *Preschool Music* #1 CD and player.

### Do

Children march around an open space while you play “Sing Praises” (track 16 on CD). When you stop the music, children stand still and say, “**Sing praises to the Lord.**” Repeat as time allows and there is child interest.

### Teaching Tip

Show Everyday Life Poster 1 from *Visual Resources*. Invite children to imitate the children in the picture while walking around.



## Talk About

- Open your Bible to Psalm 9:11 and point to the Bible verse. **The Bible says, “Sing praises to the Lord.” When we praise Jesus, we can thank Him.**
- **What is something we can thank Jesus for? I’m glad that Jesus loves you and me. We can thank Jesus for His love.**
- **Christian, what do you do when you get up in the morning? You can thank Jesus for your clothes when you get dressed. What do you like to eat for breakfast? We can thank Jesus for pan-cakes and cereal.**

### Tip for Younger Children

Provide dress-up clothes that are easy to take on and off. Limit clothes with zippers, buttons and hooks.

### Tip for Younger Children

When you stop the music, say, “**Sing praises,**” and invite the children to repeat the words after you. After a few rounds, say the whole verse.

# Listen to Learn

Large-Group Time

Spring • Lesson 1

## Collect

Bible, Bible Verse Poster 1, Activity Poster 1 and Figures 1-4 from *Visual Resources*; *Preschool Music #1* CD and player; Daffodil puppet; CD case; tree branch; flannel board; optional—*God's Story for Me* Bible.

## Come Together

Lead children in saying the following rhyme:

**Hello, good friends,  
And how are you?  
Say your name,  
And we'll clap for you.**

Point to six children, invite them to stand up and say their names, and then lead group to clap. Repeat the rhyme, point to another six children who say their name, and then lead group to clap. Continue game until all have had a turn to say their name.



## Bible Verse

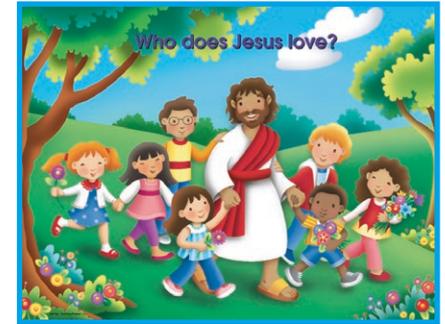
Show Bible Verse Poster 1 and open your Bible to Psalm 9:11. **The Bible says, “Sing praises to the Lord.” “Sing praises” means we should sing happy songs to Jesus and tell Him why we love Him.** Repeat Bible verse with children several times, having a different child hold the Bible each time.

## Enrichment Idea

Sing “Sing Praises” (track 16 on CD) several times. Invite children to suggest other songs about Jesus to sing.

## Prayer

Show Activity Poster 1. Point to Jesus in this picture. **Who does Jesus love?** Volunteers answer. **Let's use words to tell Jesus that we love Him.** Invite children to repeat after you: **Dear Jesus, . . . we love You. . . . Amen.**



## Song

**In our Bible story, people were happy to know that Jesus is alive, and we can be happy that Jesus is alive, too.** Play “Jesus Is Alive!” (track 8 on CD) several times, inviting children to sing along with you.

## Puppet Time

Use Daffodil puppet, *Preschool Music #1* CD, CD player and CD case to perform the puppet script on the last page of this lesson.

## Bible Story

Use tree branch and Figures 1-4 to help tell the Bible story on the next page.

# Listen to Learn

People Praise Jesus

Matthew 21:1-11, 15-16; Luke 19:28-38

Spring • Lesson 1

## Introduction

Show tree branch and let volunteer stake turns touching it. **Listen to find out what some people did with tree branches.** (Hold your Bible open to Matthew 21 as you tell the following story.)



## Friends Find a Donkey

What a happy day it was! Jesus and His friends were going to the Temple in the big city of Jerusalem. On the way, Jesus stopped. He said to His friends, “There is a little donkey in the town. Untie it and bring it to Me.”

Jesus’ friends did just as He asked them. They found the donkey and brought it back to Jesus. Jesus climbed on the donkey’s back and began riding to the big city. Clip-clop, clip-clop went the donkey’s feet. Jesus’ friends walked along the road with Him.

## People Welcome Jesus

Many other people were walking along the road to Jerusalem, too. There were girls and boys, moms and dads, grandmas and grandpas. They were excited to see Jesus! Some people were so happy to see Jesus that they spread their coats on the road in front of Him. This showed that Jesus was special.

Other people cut branches from palm trees and laid them on the road for Jesus’ donkey to walk on. That showed that Jesus was special, too! What a happy day it was!

## Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Some people ran ahead to tell others, “Jesus is coming! JESUS is coming!” And even MORE people came to see Jesus. They laughed and sang. They shouted, “Hosanna! Hosanna!” (“Hosanna” is a special word the people said to welcome Jesus.)

It was a wonderful day in the big city of Jerusalem! The children praised Jesus. The moms and dads praised Jesus. The grandparents praised Jesus. EVERYONE who loved Jesus praised Him by singing happy songs to Him. It was a happy day for the people who loved Jesus.

## Conclusion

The people in Jerusalem were glad to praise Jesus! We can **praise Jesus, too. We can tell Him we love Him. We can sing songs to thank Him for His love. The Bible says, “Sing praises to the Lord.”** (Optional: Review story by using pages 409-414 in *God’s Story for Me Bible*.)

## Creative Bible Storytelling Idea

Give each child a leaf shape cut from green paper. As the story is told, guide children in waving their leaf shapes or placing them on the ground.

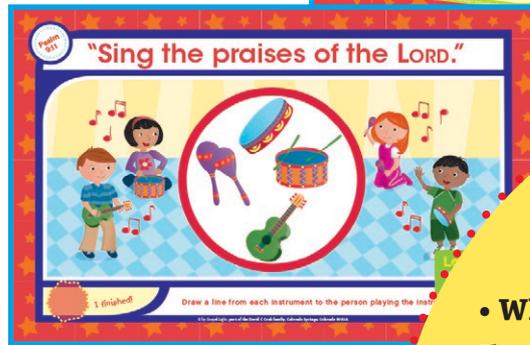
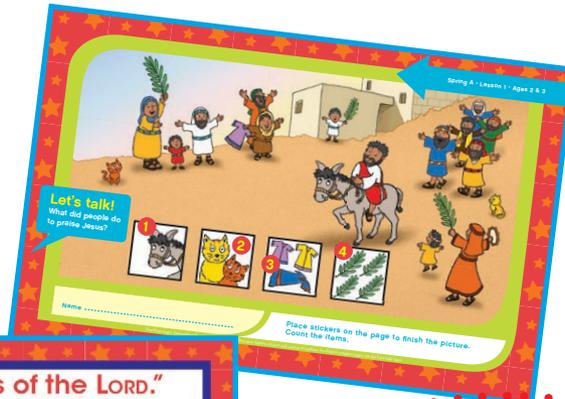
## TalkTime Activity Page

### Collect

Bible, Lesson 1 *TalkTime* activity page and sticker page for yourself and each child, markers or crayons.

### Do

Distribute *TalkTime* activity page and sticker pages, and markers or crayons. Demonstrate how to complete the page. Then as children complete their own page, talk about the items on the page.



## Bible Verse Game

### Collect

Bible, Everyday Life Poster 1 from Visual Resources, large sheet of paper.

### Do

**The Bible says, “Sing praises to the Lord.” We can praise Jesus in many ways.** Show Everyday Life Poster 1 partially covered with large sheet of paper. **This poster shows a way to praise Jesus.** Ask questions to help children guess what might be shown under the sheet of paper. **What do you see in this corner? What do you think it might be part of? Let’s slide the paper a little bit to see if you guessed right.** Continue asking questions and revealing more of the picture until children identify the way of praising Jesus. **These people are praising Jesus by singing. What can we do to praise and thank Jesus?**

### Talk About

- The people in Jerusalem were glad to see Jesus. They did many things to praise and thank Jesus.
- What can we do to praise Jesus?
- Show your Bible open to Psalm 9:11. **The Bible tells us, “Sing praises to the Lord.” We can sing happy songs to Jesus and thank Him for the good things He has given us.**
- Pray with children. **Dear Jesus, we love You. We are glad that You love us, too! Amen.**

### Family FunTime Page

Show page 1 of *Family FunTime*, review conversation suggestions and give to children to take home.

### Music Fun

During transition times, invite children to sing along as they listen to “Jesus Is Alive!” (track 8), “Come On In!” (track 1) and/or “Wave Good-Bye” (track 14) on *Preschool Music #1 CD*.

# Puppet Script

Spring • Lesson 1

## Sing It!

(Note: Play both parts, changing your voice for the puppet. Or you may have a helper play one of the parts.)

**Daffodil:** (Holds a CD case in her bill and then drops it to speak.) Hi, Teacher!

**Leader:** Hello, Daffodil! Tell me, why were you carrying that music CD?

**Daffodil:** Cuz it has my special favorite songs on it, and I love to sing them!

**Leader:** I didn't know that!

**Daffodil:** (Nods head.) Oh, yes! I love to sing. I sing when I'm swimming, I sing when I'm ready to take a nap in the soft grass—I love to sing!

**Leader:** What are your favorite songs about?

**Daffodil:** Well, right now I like to sing songs about the springtime—about the new baby ducks and the tadpoles in the pond and the blossoms in the woods!

**Leader:** That reminds me of a time in the Bible when people sang a special song to Jesus. They sang a special song to show they welcomed Jesus!

**Daffodil:** Really? Can I hear your song to welcome Jesus?

**Leader:** Okay, kids. Let's sing! (Asks a helper to play "Sing Praises" [track 16 on CD]. All sing while DAFFODIL turns from side to side, listening carefully.)

**Daffodil:** (To children, when song is finished.) You are good singers. And that is a good song!

**Leader:** Well, Daffodil, the Bible says that it's good to sing praises to the Lord.

**Daffodil:** I liked it! Especially the "la-la-la-la" part! (Begins to sing "la-la-la-la" as on recording.)

**Leader:** (Interrupts.) Oh, Daffodil! You can sing well, too!

**Daffodil:** You know, Teacher, I really like to sing! It shows how glad I am!

**Leader:** We have another way to show we're glad for Jesus, too.

**Daffodil:** You mean there's MORE ways to show you're glad?

**Leader:** Yes! We can TELL Him. We can pray to tell Jesus how we feel and to say we love Him. (Prays a short prayer.)

**Daffodil:** Oh, that's a VERY good way to show you're glad!



# let's play

## Everyday Worship

Worshipping God as a family sounds like a great idea—but how? Here are simple, age-appropriate ideas:

- Ask, “What can we thank God for that is red?” After each family member tells, pray briefly and mention every idea. Ask a different question each day. Thanking God together IS family worship!
- Read a short Bible story at bedtime.
- Sing a praise song your children understand and love while you ride in the car or walk to the park. (This can quickly become a family tradition!)

For small children (and maybe for the rest of us, too), family worship is most meaningful when we incorporate it into the everyday moments of our lives!

## Signs of Spring



Go on a scavenger hunt together. Before you go, use different colors of crayons to make a color list on a sheet of paper. Encourage your child to find things that match each color. You may walk around the block or drive to a nearby hiking trail. For older children, also search for different shapes. Ask, **What do you see that you want to praise Jesus for?**

## “Sing the praises of the LORD.”

Psalm 9:11

### let's talk

#### Today I learned:

People praised Jesus because they loved Him. We love Jesus. We can praise Him, too!

#### Ask me:

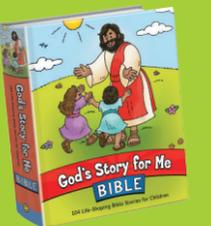
When do you like to sing? What song could you sing to praise God?



I see children shouting. Why are they shouting? What do you think they are saying?



Read the story on the next page and on pages 409-414 in *God's Story for Me Bible*.



# let's listen

## Bible Story

Matthew 21:1-11,15-16; Luke 19:28-38

Walk your fingers whenever you say the word **walk**. Cup your hands around your mouth whenever you say the word **shout**. Invite your child to copy your motions. **For older children:** How many branches can you find in this picture?

Jesus told His friends, “**Walk** to the place I tell you to go to. You will find a donkey there. Untie it and bring it to Me.”

Jesus’ friends **walked**. They found the donkey. They brought the donkey back to Jesus. Jesus’ friends spread their coats on the donkey’s back. Jesus sat on the donkey. The donkey began to **walk** down the road to Jerusalem. Jesus’ friends came, too.

Many other people **walked** on the road. They began to **shout**, “Look! Jesus is coming!”



People wanted Jesus to know they were glad to see Him! They **shouted** praises to Jesus. Some people laid branches on the road. Some people laid their coats on the road. The road looked like a colorful carpet!

People **shouted** praises to Jesus. They **walked** with Him and waved branches. It looked like a big parade!



Jesus **walked** into the Temple. Many children **walked** with Him. They **shouted** praises to Jesus. It was a wonderful day in the big city of Jerusalem! People everywhere showed love for Jesus by praising Him. It’s good to praise and show love for Jesus!

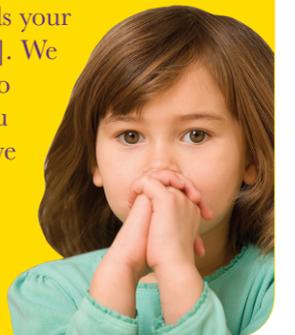
## Prayer Time

Things to talk about:

- What Bible verse do you know about praising Jesus? [Repeat today’s Bible verse with your child.]
- What are some words we could say to praise Jesus? To tell Him we love Him?

Words to pray together:

Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us. We [repeat words your child said]. We are glad to praise You because we love You! Amen.



## Family Talk

Show your child a leaf. Help your child notice details about the leaf. Ask,

- What color is this leaf? Is it large or small?

- Are the edges of the leaf pointed? Is the top of the leaf smooth or fuzzy?
- When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, what did people do with leaves and branches?