

# Preschool Study Guide

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## Introduction

Students from the Baptist University of the Americas (San Antonio) participate in Beach Reach.

## Bible Verses

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” – Matthew 5:14-16

## Background Information

The Beach Reach (BR) ministry began with Spring Break of 1980 and occurs on the beaches of South Padre Island (SPI). It has become a yearly event organized under the direction of the Texas Baptists Student Ministries (BSM) and Texas Baptists to reach visiting college students on spring break with the gospel of Christ. Through the BSM groups, hundreds of Christian college students from Texas and various states volunteer during Spring Break to minister to the thousands of college students who descend upon the SPI beaches.

The BR volunteers engage with Spring Breakers by meeting their physical and safety needs in order to share the Gospel. This is done by providing a pancake breakfast and midnight meals, water bottles, and van rides around the city, especially at night. Through these encounters, opportunities to share personal testimonies and present the gospel occur to meet those with spiritual needs who may be broken and lost.

Giving to the Mary Hill Davis Offering® (MHDO) for Texas Missions provides funds for the meals and lodging of the BSM volunteers. This enables the volunteers to focus on serving the

Lord during the week and allowing him to transform lives.

In addition to serving the breakers, Beach Reach volunteers hope to leave an impression on the city of SPI and local departments they serve alongside by serving meals and helping clean up the beach each morning.

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# Preparation

## Learning Objective

To provide preschoolers an opportunity to learn how Beach Reach shares about Jesus with college students on Spring Break on South Padre Island.

## Schedule

- 10 minutes – whole-group learning
  - 30 minutes – small group learning (3 rotations: 10 minutes each or 2 rotations: 10 minutes each)
  - 10 minutes – whole-group application
  - 5 minutes – lesson conclusion
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## Whole-Group Learning

# Mission Study

### Before the Session

- ☐ Provide a map of Texas with South Padre Island highlighted
- ☐ Print or show photos on a computer or iPad of Beach Reach (*Resources*)
- ☐ Print and prepare fish and shell images. Write scriptures listed below on back (*Resources*)
- ☐ Draw a van on butcher paper with windows. Children can draw themselves in the window of the van (*Resources and Optional*)
- ☐ Blow up a beach ball for activity
- ☐ Prepare pancakes to share (*Optional*)
- ☐ Print business cards with verses (*Resources*)

### During the Session

Welcome preschoolers to the room and share that we are learning about how God uses college students on the beach to tell others about His love.

#### **Ask:**

- Have you visited the beach?
- What did you like about it?
- What did you see?
- Ask if they saw families, children or a lot of teenagers / college students.

During spring break, thousands of college students like to visit the beaches at South Padre Island. Many of those students may not

know about Jesus. A ministry called *Beach Reach*, that the Mary Hill Davis Offering® for Texas Missions helps, tells students on South Padre Island about Jesus.

Beach Reach volunteers are college students from Texas and other states that come to South Padre to tell others about Jesus by giving them food and water. They also provide rides in their “bidi bidi VAN VAN.” Island Baptist Church has a place to pray (a prayer room). There is a group of people always praying for everyone during Beach Reach.

The students hand out business cards, like these (have the cards with scriptures on them to show preschoolers) with the Beach Reach Hotline phone number on it. They can

call anytime night or day to get a ride. While on the van, volunteers encourage the riders and share about Jesus. One student, Cesar, who was on the van one night, picked up six college boys at a Subway restaurant. They were laughing and having a good time on the van, when Cesar asked if he could share something with them.

Cesar shared a verse from the Bible in Ephesians 2. It was about Jesus. He tells them, “I want y’all to know Jesus.”

The volunteers also serve pancakes to those on the beach that are hungry for breakfast and at midnight when they are out late. This gives them opportunities to also share Jesus.

Beach Reachers also pick-up trash on the beach.

### **Wrap Up**

God wants everyone to know about Him. Beach Reach is doing their part to share about Jesus.

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## **Small Group Learning (Rotation)**

- Seashell Scripture Find
- Fishing for Men Scripture Find
- Van Mural

Divide preschoolers into two or three groups if possible.

Comb the beach for seashells or go fishing.

According to your time allowed, the seashells will be a shorter activity than the

fishing activity.

The other group will color and draw on the van mural.

Rotate between the groups so that everyone will have a chance to draw (and color) their face in a van window.

### **Seashell Hunt**

Make copies of seashells and write scriptures on the back.

Hide or place the seashells on the floor or walls for preschoolers to “comb the beach” to find.

### **Fishing for Men**

Make copies of the fish and write scriptures on the back. Clip a paper clip on the tail of the fish. Tie one end of a string around a magnet and the other end around a pole or stick. Let each child “fish” for scripture. Share with the group.

### **Van Mural**

Draw the “bidi bidi VAN VAN” on a piece of butcher paper with many windows. Encourage the preschoolers to draw (and color) themselves in the window of the van.

If you have space, consider drawing two vans so all the preschoolers will have a window.

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## **Whole-Group Application**

When activities are complete, invite preschoolers to make a circle (sitting

or standing). With a beach ball, tell the preschoolers they will pretend they are on the beach and take turns tossing the ball to one another.

Before the ball is tossed, the child holding the ball will say the person's name they are throwing it to by saying, "Jesus loves you, \_\_\_\_\_" and then toss the ball.

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## Lesson Conclusion

Give each preschooler a business card with the scripture and tell them to share the card with someone this week.

Prior to the lesson, collect the following items:

- ☐ Prints of seashells (*Resource*)
- ☐ Prints of fish (*Resource*)
- ☐ Pole or stick
- ☐ String
- ☐ Magnet
- ☐ Printed or hand-drawn van on butcher paper
- ☐ Crayons or markers
- ☐ Beach Ball
- ☐ Texas map for banks (*Resource*)

## RESOURCES

Scripture verses to be used on business cards, seashells, and fish

- *God made the ocean and dry land. (Psalm 95:5)*
  - *Do good and share. (Hebrews 13:6)*
  - *Love one another (1 John 4:7)*
  - *Pray for one another. (James 5:16)*
  - *Let your light shine. (Matthew 5:16)*
  - *With God all things are possible. (Matthew 19:26)*
  - *God loved us and sent His Son. (1 John 4:10)*
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WORDS THE PRESCHOOLERS MAY NOT KNOW. SPEND SOME TIME EXPLAINING THEM.

- Beach Reach
  - Volunteers
  - Island
  - bidi bidi VAN VAN
  - HOTLINE Phone
  - College
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## WRITER

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Phyllis' love for preschoolers and children is evident as a Mission Friends leader and a VBS mission leader. She is a three-time participant in the Women's Build. A grandmother of eight wonderful grandchildren keeps her busy.

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# About Mary Hill Davis

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## Mary Hill Davis

*Mary Hill Davis, president of Texas WMU from 1906 to 1931, saw Texas as a rich harvest field with its mixture of Anglo, Black, European, and Mexican populations. In 1910 she led the Baptist women of Texas to set aside a week to pray for the needs in the state and to take up an offering as was done for foreign and home missions. Following her death in 1934, the Texas missions offering was named in her memory.*

## Scripture Cards

God made the  
ocean and dry land.  
- Psalm 95:5

Do good and  
share.  
- Hebrews 13:6

Love one another.  
- 1 John 4:7

Pray for one  
another.  
- James 5:16

Let your light  
shine.  
- Matthew 5:16

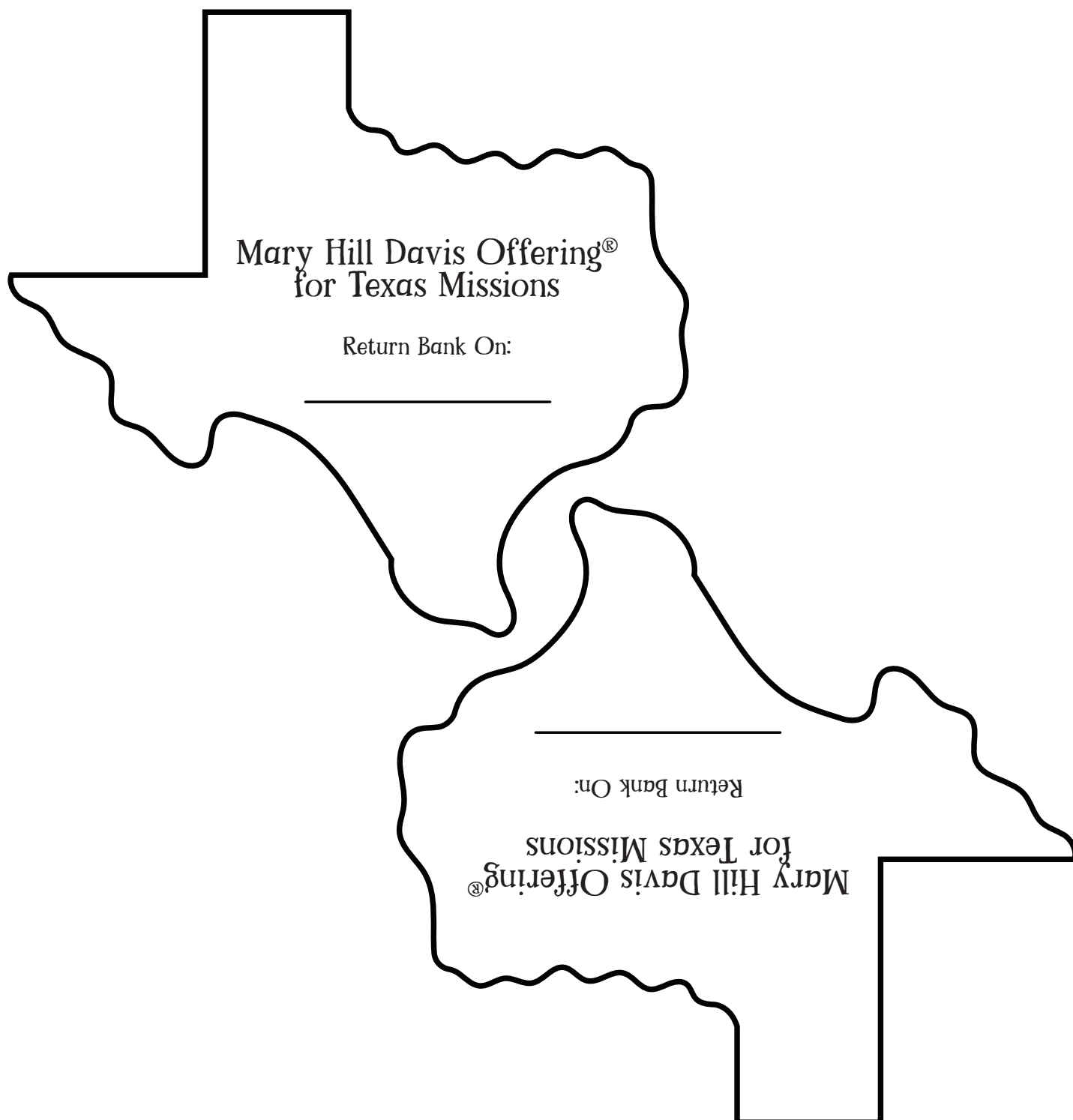
With God all things  
are possible.  
- Matthew 19:26

God loved us and  
sent His Son.  
- 1 John 4:10

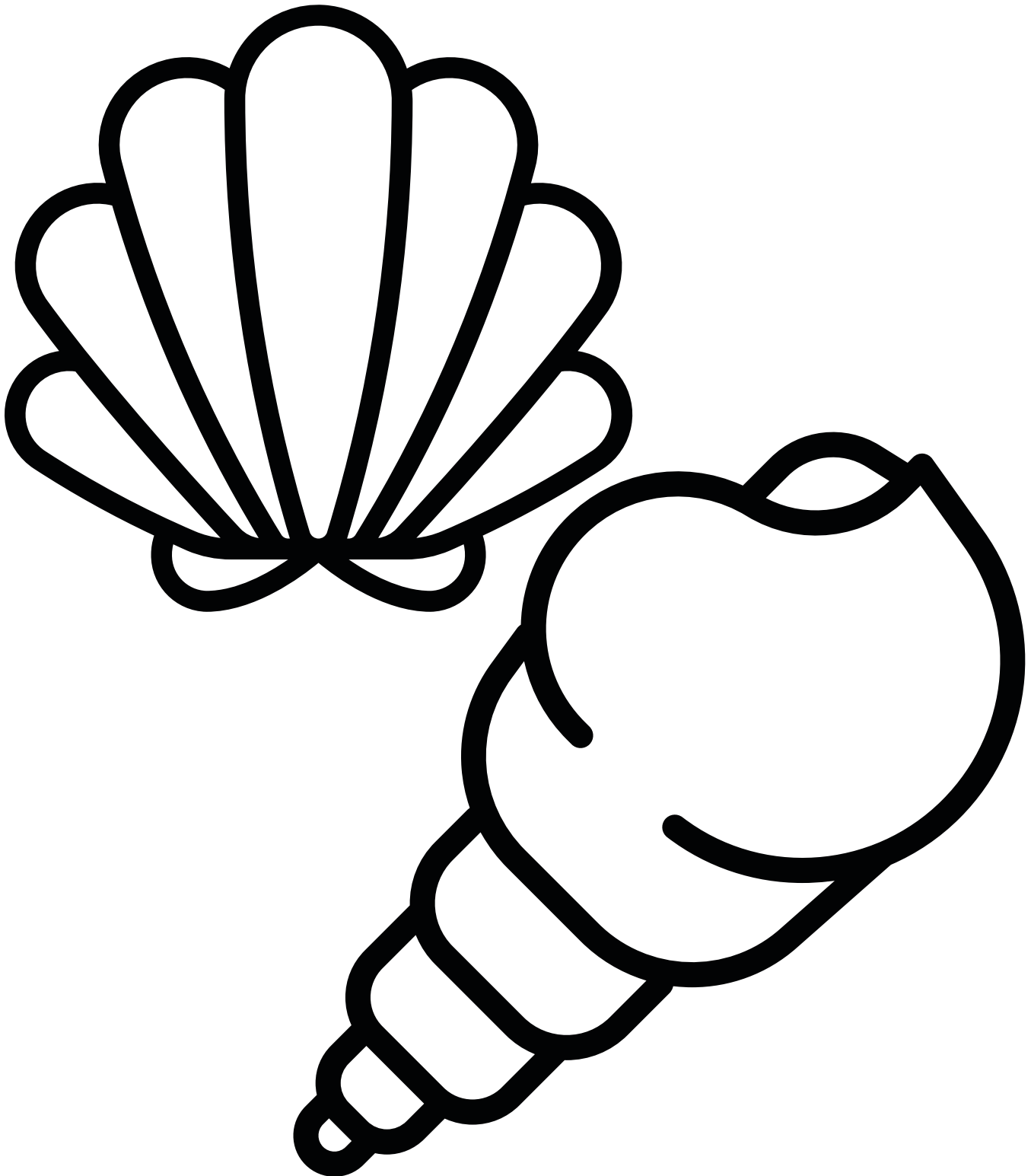


# Bank

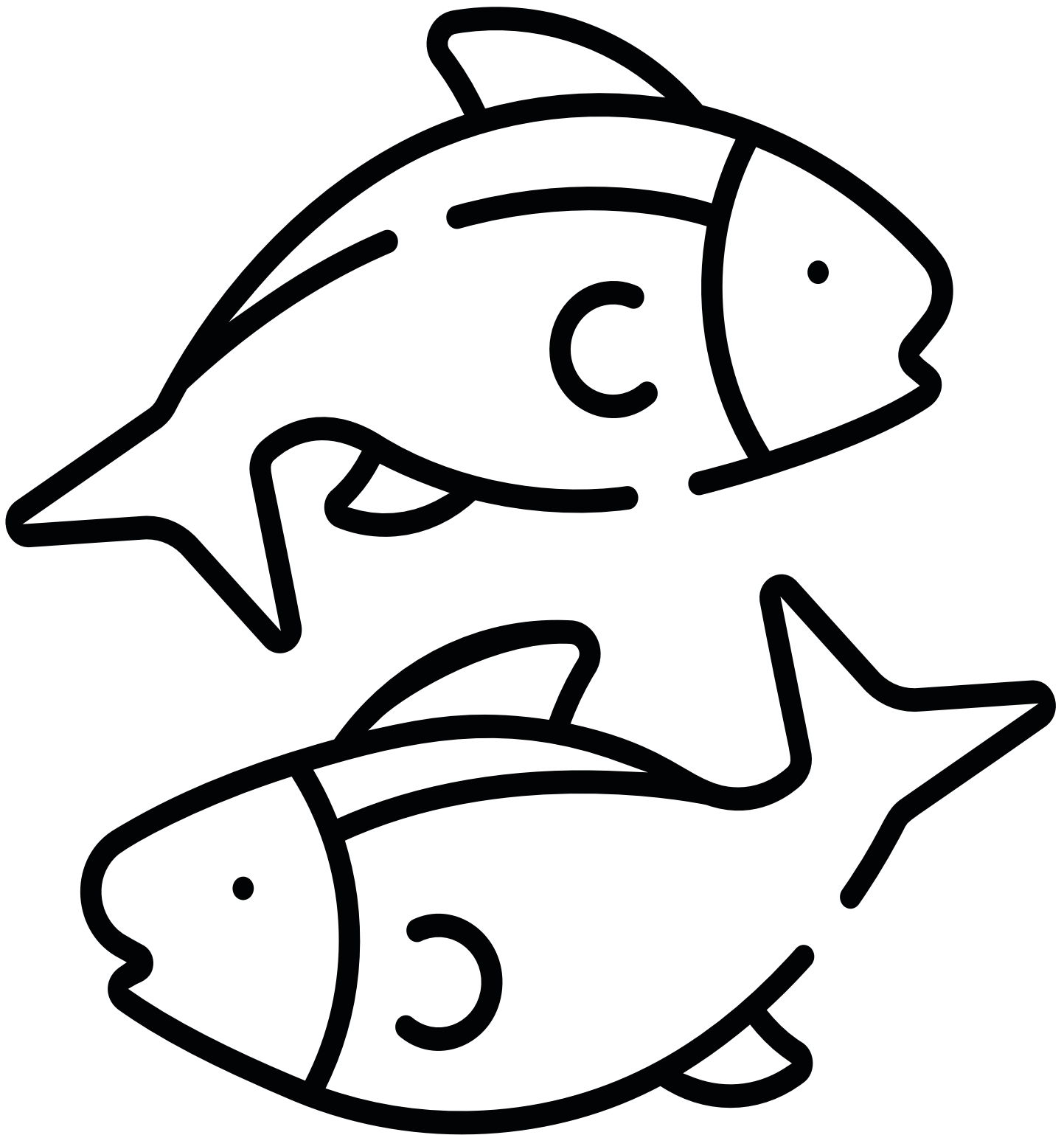
*Place the Texas outline on a Box with a slit for money or use small pails to send home to collect money for Texas Missions.*



## Seashells



# Fish



## Van Example to Draw on Butcher Paper

