Games

Game 1: "Benjamite Search"

Objective: To find and unite all the "lost" Benjamites, reinforcing themes of community and reconciliation.

Players: 4-10

Materials Needed:
- 10 index cards with the word "Benjamite" written on them
- A timer
- A small box or bag to place the cards in

Setup:
- Hide the index cards around a designated play area before starting the game.
- Place players in a circle and explain the basic story of Judges 21, focusing on the need to ensure the tribe of Benjamin had enough members.

Instructions:
1. Set the timer for 5 minutes.
2. Players must find as many "Benjamite" cards as possible within the time limit.
3. Once all or most of the cards are found, gather together.
4. Discuss what it was like to find and bring together the "lost" Benjamites.
5. Reinforce the lesson of helping others and working together as a community.

Educational Reinforcement:
This game teaches teamwork and empathy by showing children how the other tribes helped Benjamin. It emphasizes the importance of community support.

Game 2: "Circle of Resolution"

Objective: To reconstruct a circle representing the unity of the tribes, highlighting reconciliation.

Players: 6-12

Materials Needed:
- 12 large paper circles, each labeled with a tribe name (including Benjamin)
- A large space to form a big circle

Setup:
- Scatter the paper circles randomly around the play area.
- Arrange players into two teams.

Instructions:
1. Each team takes turns finding and retrieving a paper circle.
2. When a circle is found, the team reads the tribe name aloud and places the circle to start forming a larger circle.

3. Continue until all tribes are included, ensuring the tribe labeled "Benjamin" is the last to be added.
4. As the final circle is completed, discuss the significance of the tribes coming together to aid Benjamin.

Educational Reinforcement:
This activity symbolizes the resolution the Israelites reached and the importance of unity and cooperation within a community.

Game 3: "Judges Story Puzzle"

Objective: To piece together key events from Judges 21, promoting comprehension of the story's resolution.

Players: 4-8

Materials Needed:
- A simple 12-piece cardboard puzzle, customized to illustrate events from Judges 21
- Markers and crayons (if making the puzzle pieces)

Setup:
- Create and color puzzle pieces that depict scenes from Judges 21.
- Mix up the pieces.

Instructions:
1. Split players into pairs.
2. Each pair works to assemble the puzzle pieces to reveal the full story.
3. Upon completion, have each pair describe their reconstructed story to the group.
4. Discuss the significance of each part of the story, relating to themes of reconciliation and peacemaking.

Educational Reinforcement:
By reconstructing parts of the story, children gain a deeper understanding of the narrative's resolution and learn to appreciate the importance of peacemaking and collaboration.

Each of these games facilitates understanding and retention of the biblical narrative through interactive, cooperative play.