(FREE) E.D.G.E.,LLC DISCERNMENT LESSON

BEGINNER LESSON PLAN



Pause, Look for Clues, and Choose Wisdom

A biblically based EDGE lesson teaching logic, critical thinking, discernment, and the fallacy of jumping to conclusions.

Age	Time	Fallacy Focus	Design
5-8	35-45 minutes	Jumping to Conclusions	ADHD-friendly

Category	What the Child Practices
Music	Hear the pattern: listen, compare, and notice what changes.
Story	Understand the choice: find clues before deciding what happened.
Art	See the perspective: notice that people may see different things first.
Movement	Practice self-control: stop the body so the mind can think.
Media	Spot the trick: test big claims before trusting them.
Faith/Wisdom	Discern what is true, good, and wise using scripture.
Family Discussion	Transfer the lesson into real life at home, school, church, and friendships.

Lesson at a Glance

The purpose, structure, and biblical foundation for this free EDGE discernment lesson.



Big Idea for Kids

A wise thinker does not decide too fast. A wise thinker listens, looks for truth, and asks God for wisdom.

Main Scripture



Proverbs 18:13 (KJV)

“He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.”
Child-friendly meaning: It is not wise to decide before you listen and understand.

Supporting Scripture References

James 1:19 Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.	**Proverbs 14:15** A wise person thinks carefully before taking a step.
Proverbs 2:6 The Lord gives wisdom.	**John 8:32** Truth brings freedom.
Philippians 4:8 Think on what is true, right, pure, lovely, and worthy of praise.	**1 Thessalonians 5:21** Test what you hear and hold on to what is good.

James 1:5	Philippians 2:4
Ask God for wisdom.	Consider the needs and perspective of others.



Teacher Preparation

Everything needed before teaching the lesson.

Materials Needed

- Short music clip or rhythm pattern
- Paper and crayons or markers
- Picture, object, or simple illustration
- Optional pretend advertisement
- Timer
- Bible or printed scripture cards
- Movement space
- Stickers or small reward tokens

Learning Goals

- Hear and repeat a simple music pattern.
- Explain why a character made a wrong assumption.
- Understand that people can see things from different perspectives.
- Practice stopping before speaking or reacting.
- Spot a simple thinking trick in media.
- Explain why jumping to conclusions is not wise.
- Use scripture to choose a better response.

Key Vocabulary

Word	Kid-Friendly Meaning
Wisdom	Knowing what is true and choosing what is right.
Truth	What is real and honest.
Discernment	Asking: Is this true, good, and wise?
Clue	Something that helps us understand what really happened.
Fallacy	A thinking trick or mistake.
Jumping to Conclusions	Deciding too quickly before you have enough facts.
Perspective	How someone sees or understands something.



ADHD-Friendly Design
Teach in short bursts. Let the child point, speak, draw, stand, move, or use a quiet fidget while listening. Use the repeated phrase: Pause. Listen. Look for truth. Choose wisdom.



Lesson Flow: Opening + Music

Sections 1-2

1. Opening Prayer and Big Question

Time: 3 minutes

Teacher Says
Today we are learning how to become wise thinkers. Sometimes our brain wants to decide very fast. But God teaches us to listen first, think carefully, and choose what is true.

Opening Prayer
Lord, please help us listen carefully, think clearly, and choose wisdom. Help us not to guess too quickly. Help us love truth and treat others kindly. Amen.

Ask the child: What should we do before we decide what is true?

- Listen
- Look for clues
- Ask questions
- Think
- Pray
- Tell the truth

2. Music: Hear the Pattern

Skill: Listening, logic, pattern recognition **Scripture:** James 1:19 - quick to listen



Teacher Says
The Bible teaches us to be quick to listen. Listening helps us notice patterns and understand what is happening.

Clap this rhythm:

Clap, clap, pause. | Clap, clap, pause. | Clap, clap, pause.

Ask: What pattern did you hear?

Now change it:

Clap, clap, pause. | Clap, stomp, pause. | Clap, clap, pause.

Ask: What changed?

Student Activity
Let the child create a 3-part rhythm using clap, stomp, tap, hum, or snap. Ask: What is your pattern?

Lesson Flow: Story

Section 3

3. Story: Understand the Choice

Skill: Cause and effect, moral reasoning, fallacy recognition **Scripture:** Proverbs 18:13 - do not answer before listening

Short Story: Mia and the Missing Marker

Mia walked into the art room and saw that her favorite purple marker was gone. She looked across the table and saw Jamal using purple on his paper.

Mia said, “Jamal took my marker!”

Jamal looked surprised. “No, I brought my own purple marker from home.”

Then Mia lifted her paper and found her marker hiding underneath.

Mia said, “I’m sorry. I guessed too fast.”

Discussion Questions

- What did Mia think happened?
- Did Mia know for sure?
- What clue did she see?
- What clue did she miss?
- What should Mia have done before blaming Jamal?
- Which scripture helps Mia? Answer: Proverbs 18:13.

Teacher Says
Mia jumped to a conclusion. That means she decided too fast before she had enough facts. God wants us to listen before we answer.

Better Choice Practice

Instead of saying: “Jamal took my marker!” Mia could say:

- Jamal, have you seen my marker?
- Is that your purple marker?
- I need to look around first.



Lesson Flow: Art + Movement

Sections 4-5

4. Art: See the Perspective

Skill: Perspective-taking, observation, flexible thinking **Scripture:** Philippians 2:4 - consider others



Teacher Says

Sometimes we only see things from our own side. Wisdom helps us think about what someone else may see, feel, or know.

Show the child a simple object or picture: a shoe, toy car, backpack, playground picture, or child holding crayons.

- Ask: What do you see first?
- Then ask: What might someone else notice first?

Activity

Have the child draw two small pictures: 1) What I see. 2) What someone else might see. Children may also point and explain instead of drawing.

5. Movement: Practice Self-Control

Skill: Stop-think-act **Scripture:** James 1:19 - slow to speak, slow to anger



Game: Freeze and Choose Wisdom

When you say “Move,” the child moves around safely. When you say “Freeze,” the child stops and says one wisdom question.

- What do I know?
- What do I not know yet?
- Did I listen first?
- Am I guessing?
- What would be wise?
- What would be kind?

Call-and-Response
Teacher: Quick to listen. Child: Slow to speak.
Teacher: Slow to anger. Child: Choose wisdom.



Lesson Flow: Media + Faith/Wisdom

Sections 6-7

6. Media: Spot the Trick

Skill: Media literacy, fallacy spotting, truth testing **Scripture:** 1 Thessalonians 5:21 - test everything; hold on to what is good

	**Pretend Advertisement** "This Super Sparkle Pencil will make you the smartest kid in class! Everyone who uses it gets every answer right!"

Ask

- What does the ad want you to believe?
- Can a pencil really make you know every answer?
- Is this true, or is it a trick?
- What should we ask before believing it?
- What does the Bible say we should do?

Teacher Says
Some messages want us to believe quickly. Wise thinkers test what they hear. We ask: Is this true? Is there proof? Is this good?

EDGE Wisdom Phrase: "Test it before you trust it."

7. Faith/Wisdom Option: Discern What Is True, Good, and Wise

Skill: Biblical discernment **Scripture:** Proverbs 2:6 and James 1:5 - the Lord gives wisdom; ask God for wisdom

	**Three Wisdom Questions** 1. Is it true? 2. Is it kind? 3. Is it wise?

- Was Mia's first thought true?
- Was blaming Jamal kind?
- Was it wise to accuse him before checking?

- What would God want Mia to do?
- What should we do when we are not sure?



Lesson Flow: Family Discussion + ADHD Supports

Section 8 and implementation notes

8. Family Discussion: Transfer the Lesson Into Real Life



For us parents

Use this to connect the lesson to home, school, church, friendships, and media choices.

Ask your child:

- Have you ever guessed something before you knew the truth?
- What happened?
- What could you ask next time?
- How can you be quick to listen?
- How can our family practice “test it before you trust it”?
- What is one wise question you can ask this week?

Family Practice Phrase

Pause. Listen. Look for truth. Choose wisdom.
Say it three ways: whisper voice, normal voice, and superhero voice.

ADHD-Friendly Teaching Notes



Why this works

This lesson uses short, varied learning moments instead of long seated instruction. The child can move, speak, draw, point, and repeat key phrases.

- Keep each section between 3-7 minutes.
- Let the child stand, rock, stretch, draw, point, or speak answers.
- Use rhythm to support memory.
- Use call-and-response for scripture phrases.
- Keep writing short and allow oral answers.
- Use visual scripture cards.
- Give movement before discussion.
- Praise wise thinking, careful listening, and self-control.
- Give choices: Do you want to draw your answer or tell me?



Printable Student Activity Page

Page 1 of 2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Lesson: Pause, Look for Clues, and Choose Wisdom



1. My Scripture of the Day

Proverbs 18:13 teaches me to:

☐ Answer quickly
☐ Listen before answering
☐ Guess before checking



2. Music Pattern

I heard this pattern:

_____

Something that changed was:

_____



3. Story Thinking

Mia thought Jamal took her marker. Did Mia know for sure?

☐ Yes ☐ No

What should Mia have done first?

	_____ _____

	**4. Spot the Fallacy** Jumping to conclusions means: ☐ Deciding too fast without enough clues ☐ Listening carefully before answering ☐ Asking God for wisdom



Printable Student Activity Page

Page 2 of 2

	**5. Wisdom Questions** Before I believe something or blame someone, I can ask: 1. Is it _____ ? 2. Is it _____ ? 3. Is it _____ ?

6. Draw It

Draw a time when someone should stop, listen, and choose wisdom.

7. My EDGE Wisdom Phrase

Today I learned: Pause. Listen. Look for truth. Choose wisdom.

I can use this when:

_____

_____



Teacher Answer Guide

Use this for quick checking and discussion support.

Scripture Question

Proverbs 18:13 teaches me to:
Listen before answering.

Story Questions

What did Mia think happened? She thought Jamal took her marker.
Did she know for sure? No.
What thinking mistake did Mia make? She jumped to conclusions.
What should Mia have done first? Looked for her marker, asked Jamal kindly, or listened before accusing.

Media Questions

Can a pencil make someone the smartest kid in class? No.

What is the trick? The ad makes a big promise without proof.
What should the child ask? Is this true? Is there proof? Should I trust this?

Quick Teacher Language

Say this when a child gets stuck
A wise thinker does not need to know the answer right away. First we pause, listen, look for truth, and choose wisdom.

Extension Ideas

- Use a new pretend ad and ask the same truth-testing questions.
- Use a Bible story where someone listened wisely before acting.
- Have the child make a "Pause and Listen" poster.
- Turn the family phrase into a song or chant.

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Simple Scoring Rubric + Closing

Track growth without over-testing young learners.

Skill	Not Yet	Growing	Strong
Notices a music pattern	☐	☐	☐
Explains Mia's choice	☐	☐	☐
Understands jumping to conclusions	☐	☐	☐
Names one clue before deciding	☐	☐	☐
Spots a media trick	☐	☐	☐
Connects the lesson to scripture	☐	☐	☐
Uses the phrase: Pause. Listen. Look for truth. Choose wisdom.	☐	☐	☐

Closing Script

Teacher Says

Today you practiced thinking with wisdom. You listened for patterns, looked for clues, thought about another person's perspective, practiced self-control, spotted a media trick, and learned that God wants us to listen before we answer.

Final Call-and-Response

Teacher: Do we guess too fast?
Child: No!

Teacher: What do wise thinkers do?
Child: Pause, listen, look for truth, and choose wisdom!

EDGE Takeaway

At EDGE, a home for every unique learner, children learn that biblical wisdom and strong thinking go together. Logic helps children look for clues. Critical thinking helps them test what they hear. Discernment helps them choose what is true, good, and wise.