

Sabbath School Workshop Notes

Beginners

KEY elements of a beginner program

- Parents coming back to church
 - Get contact information
 - Actually connect with them
 - Evangelize!
- Age range (0-2 vs 3-4)
- 2 minute attention span
- Props and decor at eye level
- Repetition

Other notes:

Kindergarten

Key elements of a Kindergarten program

- Parents +/-
- Attention span 5 minutes = lots of activities
- Repetition
- Gross motor not fine motor
- Concrete
- Lots of visual aids
- Keep things at their level
- Give opportunity for interaction (prayer time/show and tell/meet and greet/etc.)
- Stay one step ahead
- Have activities in back pocket for restless kids
- No snacks

What can they learn?

- Memorize books of the Bible (games)
- Memorize Psalms, Lord's Prayer, Beatitudes,
- Books of the Bible
- Practice understanding where books of the Bible are
- Great Controversy Concepts

Attendance and after class activities

- Get every new parent's name and number. Send a little note thanking them for coming
- Invite new parents home for Sabbath lunch
- Contact people who are not able to come
- Pray for each child

Classroom flow:

- Song time
- Prayer Time

- Mission story (fun corner)
- Object lesson
- Lesson
- Craft

Room setup

- Amazon backdrops
- Oriental trading
- Rugs to define spaces

If renting or other special circumstances

- Small room - lots of mirrors
- Renting - two large boxes to keep all supplies in (mobile supplies/painters tape/etc/PVC frames/etc)
- Sharing a classroom with other ages. Do activities together and split up for lesson time and craft time.

Other notes:

Primary

Key Elements for a Primary Program

- Moving toward abstract thinking
- Early readers (like to look up verses)
- Love stories/singing
- Love volunteering
- Need variety (something new every 10-15 minutes)
- Can sit still longer but activities should vary

Sample Primary

- Song service (consider having special “primary song books” with their favorite songs)
- Prayer/Praise Time
 - Take requests seriously
 - Keep a book of requests or write on white board
- Theme time
 - Examples of themes -
 - 1 Cor 13 verse by verse (memorize to music)
 - Ten commandments (memorize to music)
 - Books of the Bible (in more depth)
 - Authors of the Bible
 - Missionaries around the world (could do a mission story book)
 - etc.
- Mission story
 - Make as real as possible
 - Get a real missionary to come in and tell a story
- Nature story

- Make as hands on as possible.
- Bring other pictures besides what's suggested (use technology!!)
- Tie in closely to the lesson
- Lesson
 - Have kids participate in reading (names on board, choose ahead of time, etc)
 - Help kids who struggle with reading ahead of time
 - Memory verse activities
 - Question based
 - Follow teaching helps
- Craft
 - Well done crafts
 - Your own craft

Other notes:

Juniors

Key Elements

- Abstractly concrete
- Less enthusiastic (“voluntold” not volunteer)
- Wide developmental gender gap
- Games
- Apologetics and Prophecy
- “Know it all” so hate regurgitation

Building Class Participation

- Question games
 - Hot seat game
 - Wheel of names (or shoe color, or shirt color, or age, etc)
 - Hide questions under seats
 - Draw questions from a hat
- Verbal Dialogue Skits
- Escape rooms
- Bible sword drills
- Memory verse drills
- Simply go around the room and ask questions!
- Do 5 min teaching bites

Final Junior Thoughts

- Learn Hymn/month
- Get kids giving mission stories (skits)
- Read through exciting mission book
- Theme time
- Adventist History
- Roles in Church

- Prophecy
- Make object lessons as real as possible
- Incentives
- Extra things: Megalim videos (<https://www.megalim.org.il/en/>), Maps, World Events, etc.

Other notes:

Youth

- Wide age range (15-21...)
- Topic Based Lessons
- Engage and Convert
 - **PERSONAL VISITS AND**
 - **PERSONAL APPEALS**
- Personal Appeal
- Room arrangement
- Lesson
 - Three types of questions:
 - 1) Fact questions answered directly from Bible passage.
 - a) These questions perfect for your shy kids
 - b) Just have them read the Bible text
 - c) Answer the question directly from the Bible text
 - 2) Discussion questions
 - a) These questions should be discussed as a group
 - b) Throw them out there and ask the kids what they think
 - 3) Appeal
 - a) These questions are not meant to be answered out loud for everyone. They are meant to appeal to the heart.
 - b) Consider having appeal cards for some lessons that kids can fill out requesting more information/visit/etc.
- Get kids involved.
 - Mentorship
 - AY/Pathfinder leadership opportunities
 - Bible Studies
 - Colporturing
 - Mission trips

Other Notes:
