

How to plan a lesson for a Sunday

From a blank sheet of paper to a lesson plan. (It's like a train journey!)

Keep your Theme and Aim BIG in your mind throughout
Pray to begin



Intro idea Get them standing together on the platform, ready for the journey.

Contextual (Where in the Bible/Series?): Activity to introduce where we have got to in the series.

Thematic (What are we learning?): Activity to introduce the Aim of the lesson.

Light. Not manic. Designed to focus attention, not exhaust the mind.

Link! – A linking statement so the children can understand why you did that activity and where you are going now.

"In that activity we and in exactly the same way, we're going to learn today that..."



Story with explanation Take them on a journey, in a straight line, letting them see the beautiful view.

Tell the story in an engaging way. Bring out the distinctive colour of the this story.

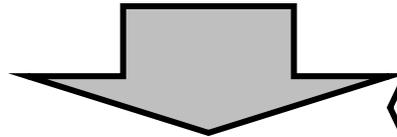
Place emphasis in the story, in order to point to your Aim.

Tell the story in chapters, giving each a chapter a point title or visual.

For younger ones, the story is everything, so consider placing all explanation in the story.

Over 8's. Open the Bible for the key one or two verses.

Key Message! – What is the single idea that we take from the story?



Game To get concentration back for the important discussion. Energy release. Can it illustrate the big idea?

Link! – How did that help us?

Small Group Discussion(for small grps or smaller age range)

You've arrived together! Enjoy the thrill of being at the destination.

Let the children do as much talking as possible. If they're talking, they're listening.

Questions: **a)** Remember the events? *Did you spot it?* **b)** Understand the logic? *Brain Drain!*

c) Apply the point? *So What?*

Apply to the heart. You need to know/love the children. You need the Spirit to work.

Under 8's spend longer on **a)**. Over 8's spend longer on **c)** (Role play, Case studies, Honesty)

A visual is needed with all ages to focus attention: eg pictures, a table to fill in, objects



Prayer

'Popcorn' prayers, or pass an object. Dictate prayers first for younger ones.

Everyone needs to respond in prayer, even if they pray it in their heads silently



Linked activity or just stop!

Craft more often appeals to girls. Can be helpful for parents to see what was learnt.

Games more often appeal to boys.

This doesn't need to link to the lesson. Hang out together!



Pray to focus on the Aim. What is the Big Thing we learnt today? Can one children give thanks for this?

Talk to parents- prioritise visitors, discouraged parents, good q's and disruptive children