

ELEMENTARY SESSION FORMAT

1. WELCOME ACTIVITIES

(15 minutes minimum)

- Option A: Lesson Symbol Video Prop
- Option B: Game/Worksheet/Craft, etc.

2. WORSHIP AND TEACHING

(30 minutes)

3. WORSHIP RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

(15 minutes minimum)

- Option A:
- Option B:

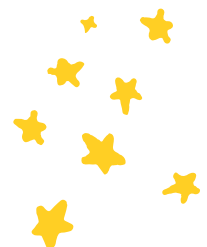
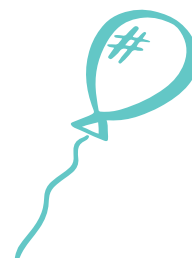
4. SMALL GROUP

(10 minutes)

5. SEND

(5 minutes)

- Send kids home with artifacts and projects to extend learning



HERE'S SOME GREAT NEWS ABOUT USING THIS CURRICULUM!

1. Small church? Large church? These lessons will work for you!

- If you have a small kids' ministry, keep all the kids in your class as one group.
- If you have a lot of kids, use the small group time to sub-divide your large number of kids into much smaller groups, one group for every small group leader you can recruit! A great leader to kid ratio is one to six.
- Even if the kids are only sub-divided during small group discussion, it will help more kids participate, which drives learning!

2. Options make the curriculum even more flexible!

- If you have a shorter service time, select only one option for each activity. (Save the extras to use another time.)
- If you have longer services and more time to fill, choose multiple options. This gives the kids plenty of fun learning activities to keep them positively engaged until the session ends.

3. Worship is important for both the elementary and pre-k units, but it can be as simple or as elaborate as you choose. Do you have live musicians? Do you use videos? Do you play audio recordings? Whatever!!

- We leave the choice of worship music up to you.
- A lively worship leader or team is highly encouraged, to model worship for the kids and to make eye contact with them. This helps engage their attention.
- The total time of 30 minutes for worship and teaching assumes about 15 minutes of worship time. If yours varies from that significantly, be sure to adjust your schedule accordingly.

4. The Worship Response Activities are designed to be done after you've completed both teaching and worship.

- Consider scheduling worship after your teaching time to facilitate the transition into Response Activities.
- The Response Activities give kids the opportunity to practice listening for what God has to say to them.

5. Small Group time is primarily discussion for life-application, so it's really important!

- Kids will be more comfortable answering questions and talking about “real stuff” in their lives if they feel a connection with the other kids and leaders. Encourage kids to stay in the same Small Group for the entire unit.
- To give groups more opportunities to build connections, try having kids complete Welcome Activities in their Small Groups, too.
- Ask small groups to sit together during the Large Group teaching and worship time. This helps small group leaders manage their group members during that time.

6. Send is the last segment. Resist the urge to rush, because important things happen here!

- Use this time to remind kids of, and answer questions about, projects kids take home to extend the learning.
- This is when kids will collect their take-home pieces. Why send them home with all this stuff? They're church-home connectors that help explain to parents what their kids learned!
- FREE BIG IDEA: Don't miss the opportunity to affirm families! When parents arrive, determine to share something positive about each child's experience. (This is the BEST NEWS EVER after all, right??)