

# Keeping...

# In Step with the Master Teacher



Issue 2:4

## Understanding pre-schoolers

Pre-schoolers are sometimes viewed as babies and unable to learn much about God. However, when we understand their characteristics, we can plan meaningful learning experiences and spiritual encounters for them.



## Practical Tip

***Pre-schoolers are curious and anxious to learn; they ask many questions.***

Use suspense to get their attention such as a Surprise Apron (or a large bag) with objects hidden in the pockets. For example: If you are telling the parable of the lost sheep, put a small toy lamb in one of the apron pockets (or in the bag) and tell the children you have a surprise for them. Encourage them to listen carefully to the Bible story to learn what it might be. Tell the story with lots of expression in your voice and keep good eye contact with the children. At the appropriate place in the story, ask them to guess what is in your pocket (or bag). Take out the lamb and allow time for the children to look at it and hold it. Listen carefully to any questions they ask and answer them simply and directly, without making fun of what is being asked.

***Pre-schoolers have lots of energy.***

Hide a toy lamb somewhere in the room before the children arrive. After telling the story of the shepherd looking for the lost sheep, let the children search for the hidden lamb. When the toy is found, everyone can act out how happy the shepherd was when he found his sheep. Jesus said that's how happy God and the angels are when someone begins to love God!

*To learn more, we recommend the ISMT training session:  
**Working with pre-schoolers***

*...from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.  
2 Timothy 3:15  
(NIV)*

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