

Keeping...

In Step with the Master Teacher



Issue 2:11

Involving children in learning

If you are content to let children listen to a Bible story each week without involving them in any other way, you are ensuring they will only remember 10% of what they hear. However, they will remember 90% if they are able to hear, see, say, and do something as you explore the Bible together.



Practical Tip

Here is an example of how children can hear, see, say, and do something as you teach.

Hear – Tell the story of Joshua leading the children of Israel across the Jordan River (Joshua chs.3-4), emphasising that God keeps His promises. Explain that God had promised to give the children of Israel a land of their own.

See – Visualise the story with the following items: two large blue sheets or plastic tablecloths for the Jordan River; twelve large stones; a box painted gold with two large dowel sticks poked through it for the Ark; a large card with the words LAND printed on it; a small stone for each child.

Say – Every time you say the word “land”, hold up your card and get half the group to ask, “What land?” and the other half to answer, “The promised land!”

Do – Have all the children act out the story as you tell it. Choose one child to be Joshua, four children to be the priests who carry the Ark, and twelve children to pick up the large stones and build the memorial. Ask one leader to hold up one sheet/tablecloth when the water stops flowing and another leader to remove the other sheet/tablecloth to show the stopping of the flow of water (ask them to replace the water after the children cross the river). In conclusion, explain that just as God kept His promise to give Israel a land of their own, he will keep his promises to us. Give the children a small stone as a reminder that God will keep his promises to them. Let them paint a promise on the stone. Take time to pray, giving thanks to God for his promises.

To learn more, we recommend the ISMT training session:

Involving the Senses

I remember what the Lord did. I remember the miracles you did long ago.

Psalm 77:11

(International Children's Bible - NCV)



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