

Top 10

Tips for Crafts and Activities

1. Choose a craft or activity that either helps jog students' memory of part of the story or helps students remember the theme of the story.
2. Gather the materials several days before Sunday. This will give you a chance to pick up any materials you forgot before Sunday rolls around.
3. Make a sample of the craft or try the activity at home. This helps in many ways. First, if it's a craft, it provides you with a model for your students. Second, it helps you understand what difficulties your students may have with the craft. Third, it helps ensure that you have all the materials you need to do the craft on Sunday. Fourth, it will give you a rough idea of how long it will take students to complete (usually twice as long as it takes you).
4. Let students make their own craft with as little assistance from you as possible. A perfect craft means little to the student if he/she did not make it him/herself.
5. Use this time to talk about why you are making the craft. Making crafts and talking about them is a "sneaky" way of reviewing the Bible story.
6. Use this time also to "connect" with your students. Get to know them. They want you to care about them.
7. Compliment the behaviors you would like all students to practice. (For example: "I like how Jimmy colors in the lines." "Suzie is doing a great job with the glue. She only puts a few drops on to hold the pieces together." "Look how Steve cuts carefully on the solid black lines." "I love the colors you chose for your project, Leo!")
8. Display one or two crafts in the room. At least one student will gladly volunteer to have their craft hung on the wall.
9. Point to the crafts that are on the wall from previous weeks. Ask students to tell why the craft was made. This is another "sneaky" way of reviewing the Bible stories from previous weeks.
10. Recognize effort, not products. If students are trying their best, let them know how proud you are. Their products are not as important as their effort.