



**Rainbow Valley Resource Network (RVRN)
Sunday School Resources/Strategies**

Resource/Strategy	Description	Website (if applicable)
Videos illustrating spiritual fundamentals for young learners	Created by Shelley and Emily Coolidge	The Lord's Prayer Blessed Are the Peacemakers 23rd Psalm Seven Names for God Father-Mother God Father-Mother Good
A Simple Curriculum for the Sunday School	A pdf document of a curriculum compiled by Caryl Krueger (California). The pdf is a compilation of ideas collected from Sunday Schools around the world	A Simple Curriculum for the Sunday School
Be patient	It is important to be patient with yourself. It takes time to build up a routine that works and at first you might feel like you have totally missed the mark. The good news is that next time it will be better. Along with this, be prepared for lessons to flop, and so have back up activities or routines to fall back on.	
BibleWise	A website that has puzzles, activities and other resources "Fostering a deeper love and understanding of the Bible and its application in daily life." This website was started by and continues to be run by Christian Scientists.	www.biblewise.com
Box of ideas (good and bad ideas)	Students can pick out an idea and talk through it with the group. Is this a good or bad idea (examine every thought)?	
CedarS Camps website	Bible Lesson applications and possible Sunday School ideas	http://www.cedarscamps.org/metaphysical/
Co-teach	As a teacher, observe first while another teacher is teaching. (Manual says only teachers and staff should be with SS kids. Can be a "co-teacher" if that would be OK. Do so in different classes if possible, to help prepare—as the teacher—to teach	
Create games to play (at the end of the class)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use manipulatives and pictures to help make the concept relatable. • Games can be a good way to get children up and moving if that helps the student. For example, Tares and Wheat - this can be done in so many ways - students separate good thoughts from bad 	

	thoughts, and we all need this work, so you may want to do this activity every Sunday	
Determine overarching goals for the student(s)	Determine what are the main overarching goals/ideas you have with your students. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deeper understanding of God • Synonyms and attributes for God (go deeper into this) • Relationship to God - perfect man, always loved and protected 	
Email the teacher	At the beginning of the Sunday School year (i.e. August or September) share your child's specific interests. For example, share who their school friends are, any activities they participate in, and what school they attend	
Establish a routine	Start with the same 3 activities each time, like gratitude, matching synonyms, sorting cards, etc...) Follow this with a Bible story or add a new concept/game	
Gratitude	Start each lesson with gratitude	
Handling behavior issues	If there is a behavior issue: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the behavior that is the biggest challenge and try to set up the area/environment to best handle it • Identify and encourage replacement behaviors • Once students demonstrate the expected behavior consistently, add additional expected behaviors 	
Individualize	Get to know your students, and find out what they like or are interested in, and build around those interests. These ideas will set you off on very interesting paths and you will find that you are learning as much if not more than them	
Laminate and Velcro	Laminate and use Velcro for matching activities, and for answering questions, and for filling in the blanks	
Share practical suggestions	Talk with the teacher and share practical suggestions of how to make the curriculum more accessible. For example, you may share your child is a hands-on learner and suggest they draw pictures or diagrams that the group is discussing	
Simplify and depict the Bible stories - make the stories come alive for the students	Create booklets of key Bible stories, and simplify them by writing short, concise sentences that capture the essence of the story and include pictures. Focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Bible stories • Lord's prayer • Commandments 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beatitudes • 23rd Psalm 	
Sing hymns	Singing hymns is very helpful with children that need to move throughout the class time	
Strategies from former SS students with different abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't talk down to students and simply explain things normally • Get into the mindset of the student and ask normal questions like "Tell me what you think?" • Involve the student in the story, perhaps have them be a character from the story • Make Sunday School fun for them • Read aloud or listen to the Sermon on the Mount and favorite parts of the Lesson • Discuss the Golden Rule and offer examples of ways they used it last week • Ask "What are you grateful for?" and celebrate each other's highlights of the week • Talk about what's new in life based on the hymn 218 "O Life that makes all things new" • If possible, sing hymns together away from the Sunday School area 	
Talk with the teacher	Approach the teacher and let him/her know they can ask you anything that would be helpful to instruct your child Sunday School	
Team teach	The teachers rotate and collaborate on strategies. Parents work closely with the team of teachers and suggest strategies that they know work for their child	
The Mother Church website	A website that has Sunday School resources for teachers, students, and parents	https://www.christianscience.com/youth/sunday-school
Use of 7 prismatic colors	7 prismatic colors = 7 synonyms for God. One light shining into 7 colors. Children on the autism spectrum really like the idea of a spectrum of perfection :) Great place to get colors -- in Home Depot paint supplies (samples) very big and bright colors. Can write on them or use color fields for whatever	

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