

All Ages Curriculum Chart 2008-2009

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Samples of all these curricula may be borrowed from most regional staff in your area. We strongly recommend that you make use of the interactive websites to see samples of each curriculum.



To order from The Bookroom:
Call: 1-800-619-7301
Email: bookroom@presbyterian.ca

Category	General				Lectionary based		Multi-media based		Rotational			
Title	Bible Zone	Children and Worship	Rock Solid	Walk with Me	Seasons of the Spirit	The Best of the Whole People of God	Akaloo	Live Big	Cornerstones	Firelight	Potter's Workshops	PowerXpress Bible Experience Stations
Website	www.cokesbury.com	www.childrenandworship.org	www.iamrocksolid.com	www.faithaliveresources.org	www.spiritseasons.com	www.wholepeopleofgod.com	www.akaloo.org	www.ilivebig.com	www.cstones.com	www.augsburgfortress.org	www.potters-publishing.com	www.abingdonpress.com
Age level	Pre-school to Grade 6	Written for ages 4 to 8; some congregations use with broader age range	Pre-school to Tweens	Pre-school to Grades 6-8	Pre-Schoolers (see PreSchool/Nursery on reverse), Children, Youth, Adults (see Adult on reverse)	Age 3-18	All ages, preschool to adult	Ages 3-13	Ages 5-12	Ages 2-12	Kindergarten to Grade 6	Ages 6-12
Producer	Cokesbury	The Children and Worship program is based on the book <i>Young Children and Worship</i> by Sonja Stewart and Jerome Berryman, John Knox Press	Abingdon Press	Faith Alive (Christian Reformed Church)	Wood Lake Books	Wood Lake Books	Augsburg Fortress	Abingdon Press	Cornerstones Publishing Inc.	Augsburg	Potter's Publishing	Abingdon Press
Description	Kits of 13 weeks channel children's natural energy and imagination in participatory activities	A worship program based on premise that all children experience God, have sense of mystery and can worship God in an age appropriate way. Children interact with God and Bible stories in personal, multi-sensory form. Follows the church year.	A comprehensive overview of the Bible that follows the church year, helping children to encounter and understand scripture and apply it to their daily lives in a fun and interactive way. Focuses on building a personal experience with God and relationship with Jesus.	A 2-year cycle curriculum (except for Grades 6-8, which is a 3-year cycle) based on Old Testament (year 1) and New Testament (year 2)	<i>Seasons of the Spirit</i> follows the Revised Common Lectionary. Uses a variety of learning styles and media and extends the learning experience into congregational life and worship, the home setting, and daily life.	Easy-to-use online curriculum that is priced according to size of congregation	A web-based lifelong faith formation for the whole congregation. Akaloo is intentional discipleship open to God's surprises.	Focuses on "living" your belief in God. Uses bible-based lessons that are DVD enhanced. It is a contemporary approach that engages kids in the Bible.	A curriculum for rotation model of church school purchased and downloaded from Internet	Designed for variety of teaching models: classroom-style, multi-age, rotation style. Suitable for weekly church school, mid-week program, one-week program. Extensive use of multiple learning styles	Uses the workshop rotation model to teach children as multi-dimensional learners with God-given multiple intelligences. Goal of teaching the Bible so that it brings about radical transformation of children's minds and hearts and leads them to a maturity in Christian faith as well as integrate their faith with their lives.	Designed for use with rotational model of Sunday school
Unique features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each kit comes with puppets, images and fun objects that help the story come alive (similar to Vacation Bible School material) Good for churches with large number of children in a narrow age range 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training is essential for the program and is provided regularly across Canada Children participate in four main parts of Reformed worship pattern Montessori based learning Music includes signing for the deaf Promotes a quiet, worshipful atmosphere Storytelling uses flannel and wooden figures, desert box 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 year cycle for Preschool-Older Elementary, two 1-year surveys of the entire Bible for Tweens Website, games Follows church year/seasons QuickTeach activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biblical and reformed; orderly, structured approach to Bible Closely graded and kid-friendly for the larger Sunday school Uses variety of learning styles User-friendly teacher guides Extra units for Christmas, Easter, summer Emphasizes memorizing key verses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent use of visual arts Data on CD includes text and music lyrics which can be projected in worship and printed on bulletins Congregational Life offers ways to use verses to explore and learn Bible story Strong integration of learning, worship, service Seasons web site provides Spirit Sightings, weekly connections between current events and lectionary, discussion questions, ideas for intercessory prayer Logical sequel for <i>Whole People of God</i> users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follows lectionary Very affordable Reproducible activity sheets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title is taken from Greek word meaning "to follow" Web-based resource with supplementary reading books Each unit starts with intergenerational event Life group ideas for homes Focuses on questions people ask Resources for 9 age levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good use of contemporary technology Provides "faith friends" to model Uses mentors one age group above to model living out faith Helps to teach good values Combines pictures, music and video Travel segment that journeys the learners to a service/missions location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learners focus on one story or theme for 4-8 weeks Teacher/leader remains in one workshop for duration of theme Creative and wide variety of activities (e.g. Mary and Martha's Bed and Breakfast, Bible Improv) Website offers a six-year curriculum plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible format: Bible stories taught for several weeks in several ways Leader Guide includes teaching strategies, creative ideas, deeper learning activities, etc. Active learning centres Deeper learning materials help teacher to use art, science, music, drama, computers in teaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on rotational model Spiritual Journals Curriculum comes on a CD with multiple print resources for the six workshops contained in each rotation unit. CD includes resources needed to prepare for the unit, including purchases to be made or items to be created in advance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length of units vary; may be used up to 8 weeks After gathering time, children (with shepherds or guides) rotate through different centre each week. Centre options include art, computer, creative cooking, games, music, science, storytelling, video Same story told for 8 weeks in 8 different ways — as a play, interactive story, action story, etc.
Terms/ Sessions per term	Each kit has 13 sessions (kits may be used in any order)	Stories from the basic book <i>Young Children and Worship</i> and supplementary stories for older children and established programs (<i>Following Jesus</i> and <i>I Wonder: More Stories for Children and Worship</i>) may be scheduled in any order	4 terms per year, 3 sessions per term by month	Curriculum is divided into 4-week units, not 13-week quarters but material may be ordered by quarter (3 units) or by unit.	Material may be ordered by quarter, or for 9-month or 12-month periods; 13 sessions per quarter	Weekly lessons for September to June; summer sessions June to August	Units vary from 5 to 9 weeks	4 terms per year, 3 sessions per term by month	Offers over 60 themes; themes can vary from 4-8 weeks, depending on your circumstances	Each unit has 5 Bible stories, 4 weeks each (20 weeks in total)	Yearly theme including Old and New Testament stories, 7 Rotational Units per theme	Unit-based; 8 stories per unit
Dating	Undated.	Undated	Dated by session number and date	Undated	Specifically dated lessons; follows the lectionary	Dated weekly	Undated	Weekly Dated Sessions, 1-year cycle	Undated	Undated.	Undated	Undated. Use in any order, although some are seasonal
Grading	Pre-school, Grades 1-3, Grades 4-6	No grading, geared in general towards young children	Preschool, Early Elementary, Middle Elementary, Older Elementary, Tweens in Transition	Pre-school, Kindergarten-Grade 1, Grades 2-3, Grades 4-5, Grades 6-8	Birth-2, ages 3-5, 6-8, 9-11, 12-14, 15-18, adult. Multiage resource for ages 5-12. Congregational Life provides material for worship and individual reflection	Nursery, beginner, primary, junior, youth	Age 3, pre K-K, Grades 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, junior high, senior high, adult	Ages 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, Tween	Has suggestions for younger and older children	Group graded with 5 levels: ages 2-3, Pre-K/Kindergarten, Grades 1-2, Grades 3-4, Grades 5-6	Primary (Kindergarten to Grade 3), Intermediate (Grades 4-6)	Has suggestions for younger children, older children and all ages
Themes	Kit themes: At Jesus' Feet, By the Waters, In a Foreign Land, In Jerusalem, In God's House, In the City of David, In the Garden, In the Land of the Messiah, In the Peaceful Kingdom, In the Wilderness, Inside Mud and Stone, On the Road	Includes the main stories of Old and New Testaments	Various themes relating to the church year	Year 1 (Old Testament), Year 2 (New Testament) for preschool-Grade 5; special 2-week units are also available for both Christmas and Easter	Three year cycle follows lectionary years A, B, C. Themes arise from lectionary readings	Three year cycle follows lectionary years A, B, C. Themes arise from lectionary readings. The year at a glance is available at www.wholepeopleofgod.com	Bible, God, Disciple, Church, World	Various themes progressing through the Bible related to the church year	Wide variety of themes (see website www.cstones.com)	Unit titles are Kingdom Stories (Parables), Wonder Stories (Miracles), Living the Church Year. (Can be done in any order)	New Beginnings: Covenant and Renewal, Faith - Living by God's Promises, Great Moments of Faith, Faithful Believers, Living by the Light	Easter, Creation, Dance for joy - Peter and John, Jesus at the temple, Jesus calms the storm, Noah's ark, Pentecost, Jesus is baptized, Life in Bible times - Mary and Martha, Dig into the Bible, The gift of Jesus, Journey to the cross
Primary Bible translation	Contemporary English Version	Bible stories are paraphrases	New Revised Standard Version	NIV or NRSV	Recommends a variety of translations	Unknown	Unknown	New Revised Standard Version	None suggested	Contemporary English Version	New International Version and Contemporary English Version	The Bible in Today's English Version
Learner resources	Reproducible handouts	Worship centre and story materials must be prepared prior to teaching; must provide basic art supplies	Bible Storybook or Story Pack per child, Fun Pak (take-home crafts) per child Annual Music CD	Preschool (take-home cards), K-Gr. 1 (take-home papers), Gr. 2-5 (comic books and take-home papers), Gr. 6-8 (take-home papers, devotional book)	Included in age level packs	Downloadable <i>At Home</i> pamphlets	Colourful, permanent, attractive, reading books	Web-based resources for the child and youth such as "What are we doing this Sunday?" and "At-home activities". Each child/youth receives a Quarterly Kid's Book/Student Guide that is age appropriate.	No printed resource	Poster pack, home pages CD-ROM		Some pages may be copied for children. Permission to reproduce for local church use. Need to purchase CDs for a computer centre
Music	Music and sound-effect CD in back of teacher's guide	Songs of worship and praise are suggested. Supplemental resources: song books, audio CDs, music-signing video <i>Lift Up Your Hands</i>	Lively music gets younger children singing; contemporary Christian music engages older children and tweens	Music and motions in leader's guide. Yearly CDs.	Extensive use of music; each age/grade level has CD. Music notation included in resource pack. Music features songs from around the world	CD ordered separately	Music and videos available for church and home	One new song per month Tween level - 3 Christian music videos per quarter	Can be a workshop	Offers music CD for each learner, some hymn suggestions are from Lutheran resources	Music CDs, 70 songs created specially for specific rotation units CD	Print music, CD audio
Leader resources	Easy-to-use leaders guide with simple Bible background and lots of activity choice	Worship leaders, storytellers and greeters participate in training prior to teaching; usually training is done over two weekends — one before starting program, another after program has begun	Leader's Guide includes: Step-by-step session guides, QuickTeach activities for time-challenged sessions, reproducible activities, adaptable session plans and multiple activity choices	User friendly teacher's guide; Coordinator's Handbook has 2 training workshops	Congregational life resource for worship leaders and Christian Education director or team. Includes an audio CD, musical scores, activities.	Weekly biblical background; weekly worship suggestions and resources, tip of the week	Online learner centre, online tools to build own lesson, blogs and online forums	Includes detailed, step-by-step lesson plans plus 4-5 pages of reproducible sheets for each lesson	Story and activities suggested	96-page reproducible guide for each of the five age levels	Included on CD	Unit provides brief Bible background, shepherd tips, instructions for activities
Class kits	Each unit kit contains items like these: puppets, images, maps, frisbees, crowns	None provided	Resource Pak includes: songbook, attendance charts, large posters, activities and games, cards and maps	Pull out resources in teacher's book	Reproducible pages within leader resource	Coloured teaching pictures ordered separately	Only online resources except reading books	Annual DCD Kit contains: 12 DVDs, one for each month; 1 reproducible Fall Leader's guide, 1 Fall Kid's Book, 1 Music CD	The room and its décor itself are resources	Each unit has 6 full-colour Bible posters	None	None provided
Links to worship/service	Every lesson provides several options to relate the Bible story to life	Since worship is main emphasis, program integrates worship, personal reflection, Bible stories	Condensed time of worship for each session including song, prayer, scripture and responding, which links the lesson to the week ahead	Some serving options in the "overtime" section; ideas for group worship	Ideas to create art for church, engage in mission projects	Lots of suggestions for linking education, worship and service	Lots of worship/service ideas	"Praise time" - New song every month Travel time - video journey out of church to do missions projects in the world	None specifically suggested but easy to add	Each session offers service opportunity in congregation or world	The units have links to both worship and service	Not a focus of this material
Enrichment/companion pieces	(See class kits)	Enrichment training and ongoing support available. Program has been successfully adapted for mid-week children's programs and intergenerational worship	(See Class kits)	Large chart of yearly themes	Music CD, Songbook, Art posters, Art book <i>Behold: Arts for the Church Year</i> (included with Congregational Life, Ages 12-14, and adult resources)	CD, teaching pictures	Reading books	Puppet, Decorating Pack and Banner can be ordered as complimentary pieces	None given	Rotation Planner	None	None provided, although several extra pieces recommended
Cautionary notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to have access to photocopier Great for children/leaders who enjoy activity; may not work well for over-stimulated children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A well-run Children and Worship program is beautiful and sensory so some children and leaders are reluctant to return to "regular" worship Important that minister understands program in order to integrate children into corporate worship Setting up worship centre and making story material is time consuming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not allow much openness and creativity for experienced teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 6-8 frequently uses Heidelberg catechism Some adults may find structured approach too rigid From ages 7, considerable focus on "sin" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to get best price, material must be ordered prior to May 1 with a 50% deposit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to have ready access to photocopier Teacher/leaders must have easy access to internet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers/leaders must enjoy online work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires a TV and DVD player in each classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strong planning team is needed Learners and leaders may not develop strong bonds as leadership changes frequently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some use of Lutheran Book of Worship and Lutheran Hymnal Catechism unit has Lutheran slant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The entire curriculum comes on CD; therefore, everything must be printed out and photocopied Requires strong planning on the behalf of coordinators and leaders Learners and leaders may not develop strong bonds as leadership changes frequently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some churches may find 8 centres and 8 weeks too long for one story; units can easily be adapted for shorter time and fewer centres Learners and leaders may not develop strong bonds as leadership changes frequently
Order information	Order from: The Book Room, The Presbyterian Church in Canada	Order from: The Book Room, The Presbyterian Church in Canada Children and Worship Training Co-ordinator — Nina Zwart (519) 451-6713; nina.zwart@sympatico.ca	Order from: The Book Room, The Presbyterian Church in Canada	Website: www.faithaliveresources.org Order from: Faith Alive Christian Resources/CRC Publications, Hours: 8am - 4:30 pm (EST) M-F Phone: 1-800-333-8300 Fax: 1-888-642-8606 E-mail: sales@FaithAliveResources.org	Order directly from: Wood Lake Books, 9025 Jim Bailey Road, Kelowna, British Columbia V4V 1R2. Telephone: 800-663-2775 Samples available from most regional staff.	Order directly from: Website	Order directly from: Website	Order from: The Book Room, The Presbyterian Church in Canada	Order directly from: Website	Order from: The Book Room, The Presbyterian Church in Canada	Order directly from: Website or call 1.888.387.8110	Order from: The Book Room, The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Samples of all these curricula may be borrowed from most regional staff in your area. We strongly recommend that you make use of the interactive websites to see samples of each curriculum.

Youth

* **Single Digit Youth Groups: Working with fewer than 10 teens & Single Digit Youth Groups 2: More Activities, Plus Mission Ideas** (Marcey Balcomb); Abingdon Press (2004); Age group: Jr. & Sr. High
This resource provides a faith-based rationale for youth ministry with small groups, along with helpful tools to enable it to happen. Also includes chapters on cooperative youth ministry, safety issues, activity ideas and various forms and worksheets.

* **e|Merge** (www.ileadyouth.com); Abingdon Press; Age group: Jr. & Sr. High
e|Merge is a dynamic blending of media, fun, spirituality, and relationships where teens emerge as disciples. A DVD-based youth group resource that provides an opportunity for teens to learn about themselves and grow in relationship with one another, with other members of the congregation, and with Jesus Christ. Large Group/Small Group format. Three themes for 13 weeks of programming. Both younger and older youth begin together as a large group then break apart into 2 (or more) small groups according to age.

* **Bible Lessons for Youth**; Cokesbury; Age group: Grades 7-12
Teach youth the entire Bible in six years! A comprehensive Bible-to-life curriculum in an easy, step-by-step sequence. Bible Lessons for youth applies the Bible to real-life issues that teens face. Activities stimulate teens to conduct self examination, think about serious issues, make value judgments and apply biblical principles to real-world situations. Every lesson in each six-year curriculum block is charted and calendar dated. Lessons are adaptable to junior high and senior high teens.

* **Amazing Bible Race** (www.amazingbibleace.com); Abingdon Press; Age Group: Sr. High
Take your youth on a journey through the Bible, with a thrilling scavenger hunt adventure that brings to life the biblical characters, stories, events, and messages that we have come to love and live by. Join with youth all across the country and around the world – to experience the fun of competition, the balance of team cooperation, and the prize that rewards the participants for the rest of their lives.

* **Claim the Life** (www.claimthelife.com); Abingdon Press (2007)
Claim the Life is a six-year, comprehensive spiritual formation plan for youth Sunday school. The annual themes are Journey, Word, and Faith for younger youth; Promise, Story, and Call for older youth. Each year is divided into two 16-week semesters. Focuses on helping youth building relationships with one another, learning and living their faith.

* **Veracity Video Vignettes** (<http://www.claimthelife.com/veracityvideo>); Abingdon Press; Age group: Sr. High
A twelve-volume series of DVD clips that help the truth of Scripture meet real life. These discussion starters can be used to teach teens important lessons about the Christian faith. Each DVD volume features five short films.

* **Nooma** (www.nooma.com); Zondervan; Age group: Sr. High
Short films focussing on real life issues that youth care and want to talk about: "We can get anything we want, from anywhere in the world, whenever we want it. That's how it is and that's how we want it to be. Still, our lives aren't any different than other generations before us. Our time is. We want spiritual direction, but it has to be real for us and available when we need it. We want a new format for getting Christian perspectives. NOOMA is the new format."

* **Thinking Theologically**; Abingdon Press (2004/2005); Age group: Sr. High
Don't tell youth what to think – teach them how to think, by helping them grapple with personal choices and serious real life issues. Discussions include: What does theology have to do with money, pop culture, body image, disparity between rich & poor and more?



Note: All resources marked with an * can be ordered from The Book Room, The Presbyterian Church in Canada

To order from The Bookrom:
Call: 1-800-619-7301
Email: bookroom@presbyterian.ca



Vine Recommendations

Based on our review and use of various resources, **The Vine** recommends, in particular, resources by the following publishers: Abingdon Press, Augsburg Fortress, Cokesbury, Faith Alive Christian Resources & Wood Lake Books.

The Vine has selected the following curricula to recommend for specific age groups or ministry areas. However, we suggest that congregations explore further all the resources available from our recommended publishers, in order to determine what might be appropriate for your congregational context.

Adult

* **20/30 – Young Adult**; Abingdon Press
Designed for adult learners in their 20s and 30s. Theme based, includes such biblical themes such as Balance, Faith, Family, Love, and Prayer. Length of Study: 7 sessions, Session time: 60-90 minutes, Bible Experience: Mid-level

* **Adult Bible Studies & Daily Bible Study** by Uniform Series; Cokesbury
Weekly dated resource that explores the meaning of Scripture & encourages deeper faith in God. Length of Study: 13 sessions, Session time: 45 minutes, Bible Experience: Mid-level

* **Genesis to Revelation**; Abingdon Press
A comprehensive 13-session, verse-by-verse Bible study, book-by-book study of the Bible that uses a three-dimensional approach helping learners to answer what the Bible says, what the passage means, and how it relates to their lives. Bible Experience: Mid-level

* **Interpretation Bible Studies**; Westminster Press
In depth books of the Bible based studies that include outstanding biblical scholarship and exciting ways to learn. Includes illustratins, maps, definitions, and more. Length of Study: 10 sessions, Session time: 45-60 minutes, Bible Experience: Advanced

Opening Doors to Discipleship - Course B - Basic Bible; produced by The Presbyterian Church in Canada
An on-line, interactive tour through the Bible. Visit www.openingdoorstodiscipleship.com; The Presbyterian Church in Canada log-in is 42596. Bible Experience: Beginner

Seasons of the Spirit – Adult; Wood Lake Books
Based on the Revised Common Lectionary, this resource allows for deep investigation of the biblical material. Engages various learning styles and provides meaningful ways to draw on the arts. See column on front of chart for additional information. Length of Study: Church year, order by season; Bible Experience: Mid-level to Advanced
Order directly from Wood Lake Books, 1-800-663-2775

* **The Kerygma program**; Kerygma Program
Resources that challenge the mind and deepen faith through a variety of studies that include: A selection of studies that focus on the Bible as a whole, four studies on foundational questions of Christian thought, shorter courses on particular themes or books. Length of studies: Varied, Bible Experience: Advanced

The Thoughtful Christian; Presbyterian Church USA
Web-based resources designed to attract and keep participant's attention. Can be used for Sunday school classes, Bible study groups, or individual reflection. The studies encourage class members to share their thoughts and beliefs while wrestling with questions that inform the way we live out our faith in everyday life. Areas of study include: In the News, Bible and Theology, Popular Culture, Contemporary Issues, Spirituality, and Christian Living. Bible Experience: Mid-level
Order directly from www.thethoughtfulchristian.com

Mid-Week/Outreach

* **The Kids of the Kingdom Club 1 & 2: A mid-week program for children**, Kenneth Stright, The Presbyterian Church in Canada
This program is based on Old and New Testament Bible stories, provides a balance of quiet and active time, encourages a broad base of leadership, is rooted in the local church community and encourages a sense of mission. The program sets up two spaces - an "inner" and "outer" kingdom - with various activity corners in each such as worship, games, food, Bible, craft, and mission. Each session is an hour long and lends itself to an afterschool setting.

* **Faith Weaver Friends**; www.fwfriends.com; Group Publishing Inc.; Age group: Preschool – Grade 6
FaithWeaver Friends focuses on helping children discover they have a real friend in Jesus. It is a dated, quarterly curriculum available Fall through Spring. The Discovery Centres are flexible, allowing leaders to shape them to fit space and time available. Multi-age small groups encourage learning and relationship building.

* **Kid Connection**; www.kidconnectiononline.org; Faith Alive Christian Resources; Age group: Kindergarten–Grade 6
3 year cycle - 9 units available/year = 36 lessons/year
Kid Connection is biblical, great for outreach, and relevant to today's kids. It features a large group/small group format, with thematic four lesson units. Each session begins with worship time and a Bible story presentation. Focuses on connecting: church and home, kids with God, church to community.

* **Bible Adventures I & II**; United Church Publishing House; Age group: Ages 5-12
<http://www.united-church.ca/sales/ucph/1551341425>; www.united-church.ca/sales/ucph/9781551341644
These two curricula are each five-sessions long. *Bible Adventures I* helps children to see that people of faith working together can add good news of caring, peace, and justice making to their world. A music CD is included. *Bible Adventures II* helps children understand that walking with Jesus is a daily choice and challenge. The sessions use a hiking theme to connect the Bible through dramas, games, snacks, crafts, and a labyrinth to the children's lives.

* **Highpoint**; www.gph.org; Gospel Publishing House; Age group: Kindergarten – Grade 5
A multi-media curriculum focussing on discipleship for elementary kids. It uses high-energy large & small group time, singing, video, skits (no need to memorize), crafts/activities, verse memorization, service projects, worship, discipleship, fellowship, fun and games.

Mission Possible Kids; www.missionpossiblekids.org; United Methodist Church; Age group: Kindergarten–Grade 6
MISSION POSSIBLE KIDS, a.k.a. MPKids, is a non-profit organization, empowering kids to change the world by helping others. Children participate in mission activities such as collecting goods for food banks, cooking meals for homeless shelters, making gifts for hospitalized children, raising money to end world hunger. MISSION POSSIBLE KIDS offers a year of detailed mission plans which you can use as is, adapt or use as a guide to create your own.

Logos; www.thelogosministry.org; The LOGOS Ministry; Age group: Elementary – High school
Logos is a mid-week ministry that helps children and youth build and deepen their relationships with Christ and with each other. At Logos everyone is a child of God. The four parts of the LOGOS weekly ministry model are: Bible Study, Worship Skills, Recreation Play, and Family time (shared meal).

Bible Carnival; Dorothy Henderson; www.presbyterian.ca/node/1863 (free to download!); Age group: Ages 7 -14
A four session program to help children and tweens learn about the Bible. Participants will use a Bible glow, games, and play to learn the pronunciation of the books of the Bible, recognize and spell the books of the Bible, learn, through song and games, the ordering of the books of the Bible, & begin to learn how to find biblical references.

* **Partners: Living in God's Creation**; Dorothy Henderson & Janette McIntosh; www.presbyterian.ca/node/3215 (free to download!); Age group: Ages 6-16
Children and youth are part of God's wonderful creation. This year's Partners resource is an ecology mission learning/sharing experience. It includes four sessions, resources, a DVD, and a bibliography that help participants think about living conscientiously with regard to the environment. **Please note: Partners resources are produced yearly. Previous year's curricula, on a variety of themes, are available from The Bookroom.

Family

Planning for Family Ministry

* **Passing on the faith: A radical new model for youth and family ministry**, Merton P. Strommen & Richard Hardel, St. Mary Press (2000)
Practical wisdom from practicing congregations.

* **Embracing Parents: How your congregation can strengthen families**, Jolene & Eugene Roehlkepartain, Abingdon Press (2004)
Emphasizes a home/church partnership; encourages churches to strengthen family faith formation.

Youth & Family Institute
Internet resource: www.youthandfamilyinstitute.org
The Youth & Family Institute helps equip families to pass on faith and live well in Jesus Christ. The Institute also offers research-based visions and trains church leaders, lay volunteers and church professionals to equip families to pass on faith.

* **Family Ministry Desk Reference**, Patricia D. Fosarelli, Westminster John Knox Press (2003)
A reference manual for pastors and church groups charged with the care of families facing difficult situations.

* **Wrapped in God's Love: A Milestone Ministry Resource**, Developed by the Canadian Interchurch Stewardship Committee (2004)
This resource helps congregations to celebrate significant transitions of change and growth along life's journey with its congregants. This resource covers the period of time from infancy through 18 years of age.

Resources for Family Use

* **Growing Compassionate Kids**, Jan Johnson, Upper Room Books (2001)
Helps families talk about making a difference in their world; offers suggestions for family volunteering.

* **Christian Family Toolbox: 52 Benedictine Activities for the Home**, David Robinson, The Crossroad Publishing Company (2001)
Offers spiritual activities for families: health, life together, hospitality, growth, etc.

* **Families on mission: Ideas for teaching your preschooler to love, share, and care**, Angie Quantrell, Women's Missionary Union (2005)
Provides ways to help children create a relationship with God; most activities are 10 minutes long.

* **God with us today**, June Galle Krehbiel, Faith & Life Resources (2006)
100 engaging devotions which include scripture, prayer, questions, fun activities.

* **Family Faith Walks: On the Go Faith Activities**, Kelly J. Haack, Concordia Publishing House (2002)
Practical month by month family activities and events.

* **Learning God's Stories Together: Intergenerational Program for Church & Home**, Dorothy Henderson, Woodlake Books, 2007
20 Bible studies and activities for families to do together.

One-Room Sunday School

* **New Invitation One-Room Sunday School**; Abingdon Press
• Age 3 to Grade 8
• Ideal for smaller Sunday schools, encourages older children to help younger; makes good use of multiple ways of learning; provides activities for non-readers, beginning readers and advanced readers.
• Kit contains 4 pieces: a Teacher Book; a Resource Pak - 32 pages of teaching pictures, games, maps, posters, storytelling figures, songs and more; a Reproducible Activities Book - includes sheets with a Bible story, activities for all age levels and a page to send home; a CD which includes music, stories, and teacher helps.
• Each quarter per year is divided into 2 or 3 units ranging from 3 to 9 weeks.
• Weekly dated lessons, uses NRSV Bible translation
• Each session has worship component, activities that are tied to the wider community, and pays good attention to the church year
• It should be noted that access to a photocopier is needed

Seasons of the Spirit – Multiage; Wood Lake Books
This curriculum follows the Revised Common Lectionary and offers activities suited to children ages 5-12. It has been remarked that the curriculum tends to be geared more towards the middle of this age range. This resource caters to different learning styles, encourages sharing across ages and fosters a sense of community. Participants explore the Bible through discovery, discussion, service and the arts. See column on front of chart of additional information.
Order directly from Wood Lake Books, 1-800-663-2775

Toddlers/Nursery

* **God Loves Me** Storybooks and lessons; Patricia L. Nederveld; CRC Publications
Beautifully illustrated storybooks that serve as building blocks to help children learn that God loves them. Children ages 2-3 can respond to the stories through follow-up play activities that help the children grasp the meaning further. Available individually or as a full set, which includes 52 storybooks.

Seasons of the Spirit – Growing Faith (Birth to Age 2); Wood Lake Books
Kit contains 5 board books, 5 posters, a music CD and songbook, and a Leader's Guide, packaged in a handy tote bag. Purchase once to use year after year.
Order directly from Wood Lake Books, 1-800-663-2775

* **Splash! Pack: Birth to Three Faith Formation**; Augsburg Fortress
This resource is filled with support for families to fulfill the promises made at their child's baptism. The packs are educational, fun, and full of ideas for bringing faith into the everyday life of parents and children. Contains 12 monthly newsletters called "Parent Pages" and a music CD. Each issue is filled with ideas and inspiration for families to worship, pray, eat and play together. Three different packs: 1-12 months with "Sleep Time Tunes"; 13-24 months with "Totally Toddler Tunes"; 25-36 months with "Singable Sunday Tunes".

* **Toddlers and Twos**; Abingdon Press
A Bible story curriculum for birth to age 2. It emphasizes teaching the overall story of the Bible, helping very young children encounter the Bible story and begin their faith journey as disciples of Christ. The activities in each session are carefully tailored to the abilities and interests of the children. The sessions provide opportunities for children to learn in a variety of ways including visual, musical, artistic, linguistic, kinesthetic (movement), individual, and group experiences. The leader's guide also includes a music CD and pages are reproducible.