

Growing
**SPIRITUAL
CHAMPIONS**
2023

**RESOURCE
PACKAGE**

For Children's Ministries Leaders



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INTRODUCTION

Though another year has passed, our purpose remains the same: to grow spiritual champions for Christ. We greatly admire and deeply appreciate the work that you as Children's Ministries Leaders do to help make this vision a reality. That is why we have compiled this list of children's programs and services available to you in 2023. It is our hope that you will continue to lead the children entrusted to you further and further down the path of righteousness, for His Name's sake.

“Jesus was ever a lover of children. He accepted their childish sympathy and their open, unaffected love. The grateful praise from their pure lips was music in His ears, and refreshed His spirit when oppressed by contact with crafty and hypocritical men. Wherever the Saviour went, the benignity of His countenance, and His gentle, kindly manner won the love and confidence of children.” (The Desire of Ages, 1898.)

As we work cooperatively to lead young people to Jesus, let us hold them in the highest regard—just as He does. Let us share with them the matchless love of Jesus, and the joys that His presence brings, and “never give them cause to feel that heaven will not be a pleasant place to them.” (The Desire of Ages, 1898). It is in childhood that the heart and mind should be turned toward God, so let us continue to labor in this sacred area of soul-winning.

“God wants every child of tender age to be His child, to be adopted into His family. Young though they may be, the youth may be members of the household of faith and have a most precious experience. They may have hearts that are tender and ready to receive impressions that will be lasting. They may have their hearts drawn out in confidence and love for Jesus, and live for the Saviour. Christ will make them little missionaries.” (Child Guidance, 1954).

ONLINE RESOURCES

www.childmin.org

Powered by the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist church, www.childmin.org is the hub for all things Children's Ministry related.

A NEW VBS KIT

from the

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH



AVAILABLE AT
ADVENTSOURCE.ORG



KIT INCLUDES:

- Director's manual
- Station leader guides
- Music CD/DVD
- Opening and Closing Program DVD
- Multimedia USB
- Posters
- Sample Find of the Day coin
- Promotional materials



March 18 2023

GLOBAL CHILDREN'S DAY

“Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him.”
Psalm 127:3

Celebrated annually on the third Sabbath of March, Global Children's Day gives children and youth across the globe the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution within their local community. Ministry Leaders may choose to partner with community-based organizations, while others opt to develop their own outreach initiatives.

Regardless of the project, serving the community should be the ultimate goal. In this way, children are exposed to and gain confidence through alternate forms of evangelism, all while meeting the needs of those around them.

10 SERVICE PROJECT IDEAS

Plant trees or flowers in your neighbourhood.

Host a canned food drive for those in need.

Pick up litter at a park.

Collect food, warm clothing, toys, or personal care items and deliver to shelters.

Host a crayon and marker drive for kids at a local hospital.

Write letters of gratitude and encouragement to service men, women, and families.

Collect and donate items on an animal organization or animal shelter's wish list.

Visit a retirement home.

Donate gently used baby and toddler toys to a nearby community centre.

Go through the books you've grown out of and donate them to a local public library.



May
27
2023

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CHILDREN AT RISK

“But Jesus said, “Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children.”

Matthew 19:14

Scheduled annually for the last Sabbath of May, this special day of prayer is set aside for the thousands of at-risk children around the world. Unfortunately, many of them live in less than favorable circumstances, facing abuse and neglect in several forms. On this day, we pray for them.

Children’s Ministry Leaders should encourage children and youth to intercede for all those in need of God’s protection and provision, especially children, so that they may come to understand both the value and power of prayer.



August
26
2023

Stop

ENDITNOW

"Then He took the children in His arms and placed His hands on their heads and blessed them."

Mark 10:16

Adventists Say No to Violence.

enditnow is a global initiative advocating for the end of violence around the world. It aims to raise awareness, seeking practical ways for Seventh-day Adventists to help put an end to this widespread issue.

This initiative, which extends to more than 200 countries and territories, was launched in October 2009 in partnership between the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)-a prominent humanitarian organization-and the Department of Women's Ministries of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, two entities that are representative of the Adventist Church.



enditnow
Adventists Say No to Violence

enditnow is the most important stand the Seventh-day Adventist Church has ever taken regarding violence against men, women and children. Through this campaign, more than 15 million Adventist church members-men, women, and children-are expected to create a global movement that will be mobilized within their own communities, where each person will actively work to create awareness and share solutions on ways to end this global problem.

**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS AFFIRM THE
DIGNITY AND WORTH OF EACH HUMAN
BEING AND DECRY ALL FORMS OF PHYSICAL,
SEXUAL, AND EMOTIONAL ABUSE.**

enditnow builds on the Seventh-day Adventist Church's long tradition of responding to the needs of all human beings, namely to stand up in favor of human rights, tolerance, the well-being of children, freedom of expression and conscience, and the protection and integrity of families. It is a call to action for all Adventists and supporters to stand up and put into practice those principles we hold true.

enditnow seeks to extend God's vision of love and compassion for all His children.

Domestic violence has been documented as a major issue within the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Incidences of abuse follow trends documented in non-Adventist populations. This is why enditnow seeks to increase personal awareness, responsibility, and involvement to effectively help end violence in every family and community.



October
7
2023

CHILDREN'S SABBATH

"I will teach all your children, and they will enjoy great peace."
Isaiah 54:13

Children's Sabbath is a day dedicated solely to fostering the spiritual gifts of our young leaders. It highlights the contributions of children and youth, while giving them the freedom to participate in their local church service through teaching, singing, reciting the scripture verse, and even delivering the message.

On this day, children are celebrated. Not only is it one of the greatest ways to encourage the youth, but it is also the perfect opportunity to connect with the community at large. Invite friends and family to your service, so that they are able to see the future of the church in action.



October
28
2023

CREATION SABBATH

“Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are His dear children.”
Ephesians 5:1

Designated the fourth Sabbath in October, Creation Sabbath is a special time of celebration! A chance to rejoice, praise, and rest with God as we enjoy the creation He made.

The purpose of this annual celebration is for “acknowledging God as our Creator and the implications that this biblical teaching has for us - to create a worldwide sense of unity in promoting this belief in a positive light.”



November
18
2023



WORLD ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN'S DAY

"Beware that you don't look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels are always in the presence of My heavenly Father."

Matthew 18:10

Why are there so many orphans in the world? What can we do about it?
God has called the church to span the gap between His heart for orphans and vulnerable children and the huge problem that exists today.

Held on the third Sabbath of November, this special day focuses on helping defenceless youth and those without families, teaching children that out of the overflow of God's amazing involvement in our lives, we must choose to get involved in the lives of orphans and vulnerable children.



**CONDUCTED
AT THE LOCAL
CHURCH LEVEL**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity."
1 Timothy 4:12

Written by a team of Seventh-day Adventist children's ministries leaders and pastors, VBS lessons feature a Seventh-day Adventist point of view that will connect with kids from your church and community.

VBS lessons are based on the Bible and focused on the life of Jesus, allowing children to learn about His many miracles and the plan of salvation.



WALKING AND WORKING WITH JESUS

"And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children..."

Deuteronomy 6:6

In times past, the word, “missionary,” indicated that you left home and went to a distant land to share the gospel or engage in service projects. Today, when 60% of the world is online, you can be a missionary without even leaving your bedroom.

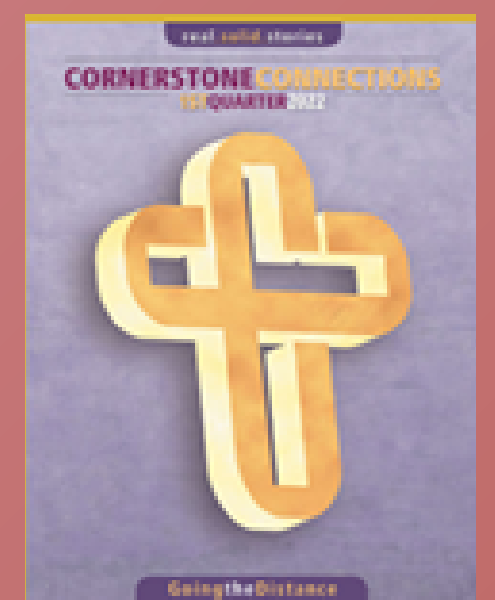
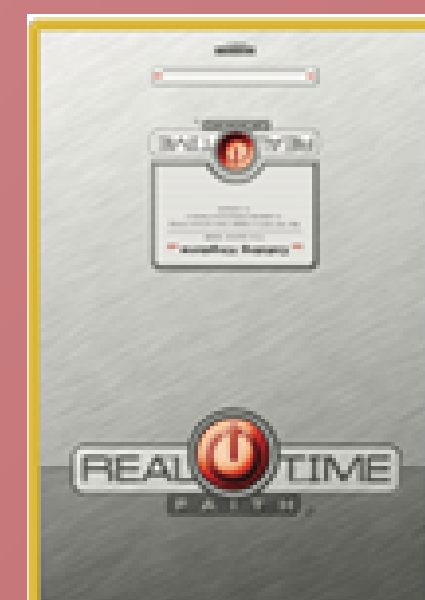
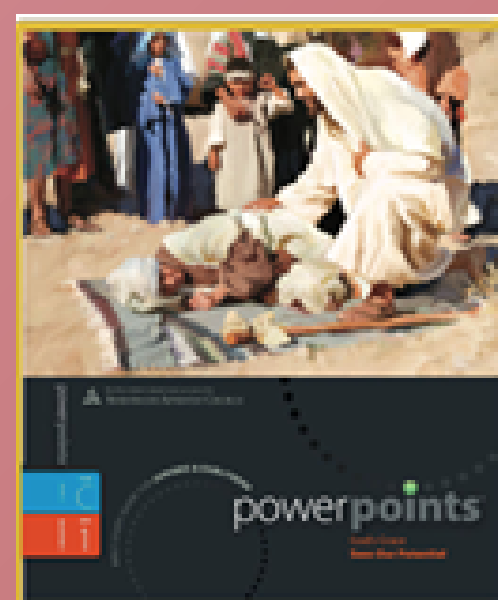
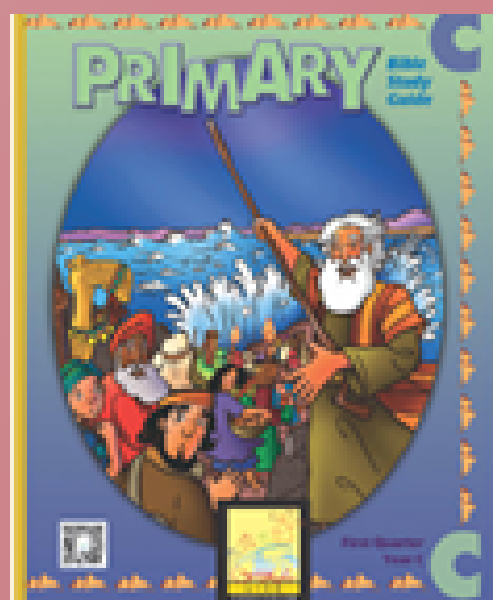
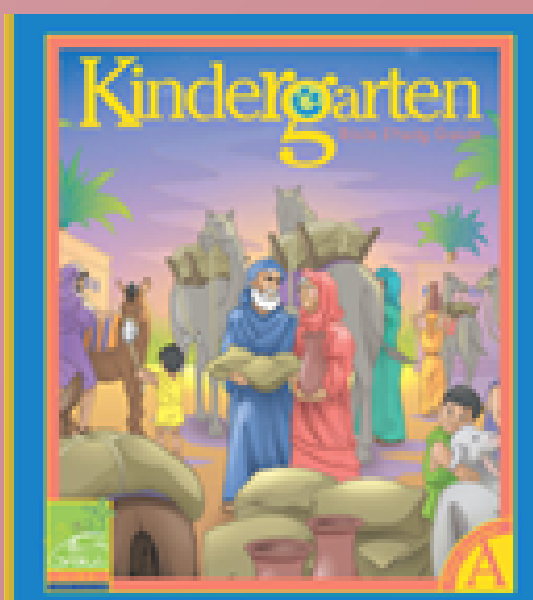
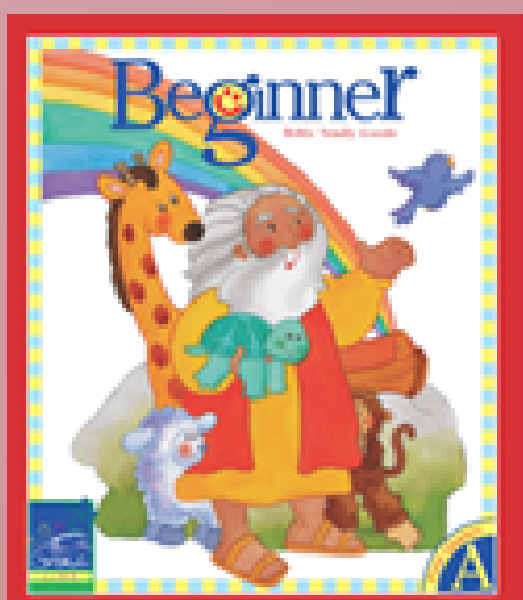
This evangelism training initiative, sponsored by the Ontario Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, empowered children and youth (ages 6-17) to become digital evangelists, digital missionaries and digital disciplemakers. Children will engage in WWWJ activities throughout 2023 and beyond.



GRACELINK

"Even children are known by the way they act, whether their conduct is pure, and whether it is right."
Proverbs 20:11

GraceLink is a 12-year curriculum comprising 624 lessons, all of which are firmly grounded in Scripture. Most lessons are story-based, some on scriptural references that teach a specific doctrine. Each story has been selected to develop one of the four dynamics of the GraceLink series: grace, worship, community, and service.





LEARNING STYLES

“Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.”

Proverbs 22:6

Educational research has determined that individuals learn best through a particular style or way of learning. Although each person may use all four of the identified styles or ways of learning at one time or another, most of us depend on one major application.

These four learning styles are incorporated into every GraceLink lesson. This makes it possible for every child to grasp the point of the lesson and to understand it in her or his own way.



STYLES of LEARNING

Imaginative. The imaginative learner asks, “Why should I learn this?” The “Readiness Activity” in each lesson appeals to this type of learner.

Analytical. The analytical learner asks, “What do I need to learn?” The “Bible Lesson” section deals with the content of the lesson, the memory verse, and small group Bible study—it offers the facts, the knowledge, that the analytical learner seeks.

Commonsense. The commonsense learner wants to know, “How does this work in my life?” The “Applying the Lesson” section offers the opportunity to explore how the lesson can be applied in practical ways.

Dynamic. The dynamic learner wants to know “What can I do with this? How can I share this idea with others?” Opportunity to explore this option is given in the “Sharing the Lesson” section of each lesson.

AVAILABLE AT
ADVENTSOURCE.ORG

GO FISH

Where Kids Explore their Spiritual Gifts

Jesus said, in Matthew 4:19...“Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.”

“Fishing for men” means that we are so excited about Jesus’ love for us that we want to share His love with everyone around us. We show them Jesus’ love by our actions...by what we do.

Go Fish is a one-day spiritual gifts lab for kids where they will discover one of their spiritual gifts and how to use it in their church and community. As each child goes through the Spiritual Gifts Assessment, they will find that the activities they enjoy doing will help them identify their gift, and they will do it in a way that is fun and that they will enjoy – and that they will remember long afterward!



KIT INCLUDES:

Director's Guide

Opening and Closing Program Script

Spiritual Gifts Assessment

Leader's guides for 6 Fish Hook stations

USB with director's resources

STEWARDSHIP JACK

teaches honesty and generosity to kids ages 3 – 7

AVAILABLE AT
ADVENTSOURCE.ORG

Created for ages 3 to 7, these resources allow parent and child to learn together from the adventures of Stewardship Jack. Children learn to value and follow God's direction, use the talents He has given them, and more.



Children's Church

Thirteen Complete Worship Programs
on Teaching Stewardship Principles



Stewardville Daily Times



Stewardville Daily Times:

Consists of 13 children's church worships that teach stewardship principles to kids of all ages. These creative lessons explore topics such as returning tithes, using talents, managing time, protecting our planet, and more.

