

5–8's Programme

Our teaching for this age group aims to be a simpler form of what is going on in Church. Wherever possible, we encourage children to use the Bibles provided (or their own if they bring them) to follow the story, or to look up other references. This is an exciting time for children of this age to discover and explore what the Bible contains.

In this way, the children are taught to be listeners to God and are prepared for when they participate in the whole Church service.

Programme:

1. WELCOME with song and sharing – a time of praise & thanksgiving

Prayers could be added here, if children's sharing gives rise to this, or a Psalm may be read together.

2. REVISION of last week's story

Recap previous week's story, encouraging children to remember what they can. Recall any memory verse(s) if they have been given. A relevant picture is often useful here, to help jog their memory.

3. SONG – perhaps one sung the week before in relation to that week's story.

4. READING / STORY FOR THE WEEK – encourage all children to use Bibles to follow the reading and help them in finding their way around the Bible. Older children could be 'buddied' up with younger children to guide them in this.

5. DISCUSSION / EXPLANATION / QUESTIONS ABOUT STORY

Help the children to understand the story by discussing, asking questions, explaining it to them. Sometimes a scripture verse(s) from the story, or a cross reference from elsewhere, is helpful for their understanding. If appropriate, include a memory verse(s) for the week. Perhaps this could be written on a slip of paper for children to take home.

6. CLOSING PRAYER AND SONG – relating to this week's story

To help with the continuity of lessons from one week to the next, and because we have different teachers each week, a small note-book is kept as a record and passed on to the next rostered teacher.