

## Things you might try . . .

1. Prayer - pray for your class yourself, but ask others to also. Every Sunday you might consider putting the names of the children in one Sunday School class, and their teacher, in the bulletin. Put a different class in each week and ask the congregation to pray for them.
2. Does your church have a newsletter? Try to include news from the Sunday School, or reduce a child's art work to a manageable size and print it, or use a prayer, poem or story written by a child.
3. Plan to have an open house at the close of Sunday School and publicise it well in advance. Invite parents and other relatives to visit the Sunday School and have the children show their art work and other projects.
4. Ask if the children might help to serve coffee after a service. Perhaps they might bake cookies or some other treat to serve as well.
5. Have a Sunday School bulletin board in the church hall. Feature a class a week and display pictures of each child and a sentence or two about them. Include the teacher as well.

**If it's too close to Sunday School closing to do these things now, think about implementing them in the fall.**

### Kites

Plan a kite flying family event on Pentecost weekend (which also happens this year to be the Victoria Day weekend) Ask families to bring their own kites, or have a kite making session a week or so before. Choose a place which is open with no power lines nearby. If you can find a high spot so much the better. Cancel your event if the weather forecast is for rain or thunder and lightening. At the end of the afternoon, serve kite shaped cookies with piped icing decorations and licorice string tails.

### Web Site

This site is not specifically Christian, but has good crafts and games ideas for children.

[www.theideabox.com](http://www.theideabox.com)

### A Prayer Walk

Now the weather is better, consider taking your class outside. Going into the graveyard, or a nearby field or park would all work for this. Begin by teaching the children a signal which means they are all to stop what they are doing and gather around you. (The use of a

whistle might be a good idea outside.) Tell the children to walk quietly around on their own (no talking) and to look for signs of God and listen for thoughts from God. Afterwards, gather the children together and ask them to share what they saw and heard. For example, they may have seen butterflies, ladybugs, birds, new shoots or flowers as signs of God. You might gather the thoughts and insights together in a simple thanksgiving prayer.

### Suncatchers

Collect the plastic containers supermarket bakery items often come in. For very young children, have simple Christian symbols cut out of the plastic, e.g. a cross or a fish. Have them use a brush to coat the symbol with coloured glue, such as Elmer's galactic glue, and allow to dry. Use a hole punch to make a hole for a ribbon or string to hang it by. Older children might use a black marker to outline their own symbol on the plastic. Then use markers to colour the shape, and cut it out.

### Building Blocks

As I write this, there is only one workshop remaining in this year's series of three Building Blocks workshops, each series held in Fredericton, Saint John and Moncton. With the final Moncton workshop still to come, 16 participants have so far received certificates and pins for attending all three, and about fifty others have participated in one or two of the series.

Next year many of this year's topics will be re-offered, but in a half day format. In the remaining half of the day there will be new workshops. In this way I hope that people who are only able to attend for a half day will be able to find something of use to them.

**If your parish would be interested in hosting any of next year's workshops, please call or e-mail me. Decisions on places and dates will be made before the end of June.**

### A Book to Use in Teaching

"Daily Life at the Time of Jesus," by Miriam Feinberg Vamosh, Concordia Publishing House, ISBN 0-570-05292-0, \$26.50, is a beautiful reference book for a Sunday School to have. There is lots of information and many, many full colour - often full page - illustrations.

### For Fun

What is the moon worth?

A dollar, because it has four quarters.