

APRIL 2019 CHILDREN’S CURRICULUM OVERVIEWS

Curriculum	Publisher (Denomination)	Foundation Statement	Content & Articulation	Teacher Support	Format	Ages	Cost / Usability
252 Basics (Orange)	The re-Think Group (Independent) http://thinkorange.com/252basics https://www.group.com/category/about-us/statement-of-faith.do	To discover and develop a relationship with Jesus Christ (modeled on Basic Truths by Jesus in Luke 2:52); God reveals Himself to us through the Bible and is 100% accurate, reliable, and authoritative.	252 Basics is built around 3 basic truths, which are amplified through 36 monthly themes and 150 Bible stories. (1 virtue each month)	Multitude of “job descriptions” for a team of leaders; conferences held throughout the U.S.	Web based & streamlined video; Combination small group & large group lessons, including worship	K-5 th Grade Homeschoolers	Annual license \$495-2,465.00 based on children’s program attendance Spanish available
An Illustrated Compassion (see also An Illustrated Earth and An Illustrated Invitation)	Illustrated Children’s Ministry (Independent) https://store.illustratedchildrensministry.com/collections/curriculum	Bible stories based on themes used with hand-drawn illustrations by artist and pastor Adam Walker Cleaveland	12-week no-prep curriculum using biblical stories that focus on the theme of compassion, earth care, and joining God at work in the world.	5-page lesson plan, resource pages, coloring pages	Gather, Story, Imagine, Color, Compassion in Action, Music	Children	From \$30.00 on, depending on church membership UNDATED
Beulah Land	Gretchen Wolff-Pritchard (Episcopal) http://the-sunday-paper.com/id14.html	Felt Bible storytelling materials for developing a visual vocabulary of faith	OT Heroes, NT, Acts & Adventures, Salvation Story, and Miracles & Parables stories (Montessori / open-ended approach)	Felt materials includes background on worship & spirituality with children	Uses felt figures (need assembly) for storytelling; CD of story script along with art & craft activities	Ages 3-10	\$80 Curriculum \$175 Starter Set (needed for all) \$150- 300 for other sets <i>print</i> REUSABLE
Bible-in-Life	David C. Cook (Independent) https://shop.davidccook.org/collections/bible-in-life	Evangelical guidance to present basic Bible truths without being distracted by doctrines over which Bible-believing Christians may disagree. Having a personal relationship with Christ; a desire to witness, minister and serve	Bible story based (with small denominational supplemental ‘wraps’) 100% New Testament core lessons (NIV/KJV)	Teacher preparation for each lesson – questions (with answers) provided; “easy-to-teach & easy-to-prepare”	Print or digital versions available. Relies on student booklets / visually oriented	Toddler/2 – Adult	Per quarter: \$10.99 Teacher \$22.99 Aids \$5.99 Craft book \$5.99 Take home book <i>print & digital</i> DATED

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<i>Bible Story Basics</i> NEW Fall 2019	Abingdon Press (UMC) www.biblestorybasics.com/	With a focus on Bible stories and biblical literacy, helps kids realize that the Bible is more than a history book and that it's relevant to their lives today.	3-year Bible story based: 25% OT, 38% Gospel, 37% NT; children will memorize key verses, internalizing God's Word while having fun with music, games, puzzles, prayer, and more.	Traditional 6-page lesson plans with teacher background and devotional; step-by-step instructions.	Print, traditional classroom model	Pre-reader: 3-7 year Reader 8-12 years	Quarterly: \$14.99 Leader \$8.99 Reader \$49.99 Annual CD Class Pack \$19.99 CD of take-home papers DATED
<i>Building Faith Brick by Brick I and II</i> NEW	Emily Slichter Given (Episcopal) www.churchpublishing.org/buildingfaithbrickbybrick	A culturally relevant, hands-on way to explore faith stories with a broad range of ages using Lego bricks	Book I: methodology as well as 30 OT and 24 NT stories with lesson plans. Book II: Parables	Lessons plans for each story with the book	Flexible for church, home, school, small groups, VBS	Elementary-age	\$29.95 each UNDATED
<i>Buzz</i>	Group Publishing (Independent) www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/childrens-ministry/sunday-school/buzz.do https://www.group.com/category/about-us/statement-of-faith.do	As easy as playing a game. Children decide which direction the lesson goes, keeping them engaged and learning more. Kids are introduced to new stories and people in the Bible.	2-year Bible story based focused on individuals in the Bible. Buzz lessons each focus on one specific Bible Point each week, and use a variety of activities to reinforce that simple message. (NLT)	All is contained in a box for easy teacher use. No lesson preparation needed.	Traditional classroom setting of 45-60 minutes	5 age levels: Preschool – Grade 6	\$112.99 Buzz Kit per quarter (per classroom) \$2.99 Teacher Devotions \$7.99 Media CD DATED
<i>Catechesis of the Good Shepherd</i>	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Roman Catholic roots) www.cgsusa.org	Using Jesus as a guide, God and the child have a unique relationship with one another; build upon joy, simplicity and contemplation.	It is rooted in the Bible, the liturgy of the church, and the educational principles of Maria Montessori. Materials focus on the life of Christ, parables and liturgical items in true to form child-friendly size.	Level I training is foundational to becoming attuned to the religious life of the child, the Bible, liturgy, the handmade materials, atrium, preparing the catechist "album"	Children gather in an "atrium," a room prepared for them, which contains simple yet beautiful materials that they use and 'fall in love with God by myself'	Level I: 2 – 6 years Level II: 6-9 years Level III: 9-12 years	Training for teachers is \$250-\$500. Home-made materials UNDATED

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Children Worship and Wonder (Young Children and Worship)	Independent (associated with Reformed Church traditions, including PCUSA & Disciples of Christ) www.childrenandworship.org	Presents a joyful way for children to worship God. It invites children and adults to experience the wonder and mystery of God through a unique storytelling format and multi-sensory materials.	Montessori based OT & NT	Story scripts in two books: "Young Children and Worship" and "Following Jesus" by Sonja Stewart (with Jerome Berryman in 1st book)	Experiential responses to storytelling (see Godly Play)	3-7 years; worship center	\$30.00 per book (English & Spanish) Materials found at: www.worshipwoodworks.com UNDATED
Connect	Sparkhouse / 1517 Media (ELCA) www.wearesparkhouse.org/kids/connect/	Engage preteens in God's big story through videos, Bible exploration, and hands-on projects to connect stories with biblical themes	2-year Bible story based; 10 units exploring connections between several stories each week (6 lessons per unit) (Year 1 OT, Year 2 NT)	Instructions and questions support leaders, lessons includes prep page with background on the Bible, theology, preteens	Traditional classroom; DVD, bible, and learner pack dependent with typical classroom supplies	Grades 5 & 6	Per unit: \$10.99 Leader \$4.99 Learner \$24.99 DVD ----- \$19.99 / \$24.99 NRSV Bible
Cross Explorations	Concordia (Missouri Synod) https://www.cph.org/c-2407-cross-explorations.aspx?RENme=Education&plk=152	Over 3 years, children learn about God's plan of salvation as it unfolds in the OT, in the life of Jesus, and in the growth of the Early Church, as recorded in the Gospels and Acts.	Bible story based with 13 stories per quarter with a focus on biblical literacy (ESV & Lutheran Service Book)	Teacher Guide basic easy-to-follow format: Start, Read, Look, Find	1-hour format: Engage: sets up the lesson; Explore: in-depth Bible study; Express: activities	Large group/small group with adult level covering the same scripture. Gr. 1-3, 4-6	Quarterly: \$15.99 Teacher \$5.80 Student \$14.99 Worship \$12.49 Craft book \$17.49 Music CD \$138.99 Total Kit UNDATED
D6 2GEN Curriculum	Randall House (Free Will Baptist) http://d6family.com/d6curriculum/ www.randallhouse.com/doctrinal-statement	D6 Curriculum (based on Deuteronomy 6:4-9) aligns small group environments at church to where the entire family is studying the same theme at the same time, connecting church and home.	Bible story based in which all ages study the same scripture together each week in quarterly units 41% OT, 38% NT, 21% Gospel (KJV, ESV, NKJV)	Leader's Guides Downloadable resources and pages dedicated for teachers, children, parents	Classroom setting; power points, coloring sheets, more; memory sheets (Digital and print)	All ages (each has its own title: Adventure Kids, Discovery Kids, Explorer, etc.)	\$61.99 Teaching Essentials \$7.99 Teacher \$5.29 Bible Storybook \$4.59 Take & Talk Sheets \$4.59 Take Home
Dare to Dream	Abingdon (UMC) Mike Slaughter www.cokesbury.com/curriculum/8232/dare-to-dream/	Discern God's dream for you/us and learn to live it out prayerfully and enthusiastically.	Participants develop a life mission statement that supports the commitment to a God-directed lifestyle.	Children's Leader Guide includes the session plans	4-6 week study	Ages 5-7 and 8-11	\$11.49 Leader Guide \$31.99 DVD

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Deep Blue Connects: Loving God, Loving Neighbor <i>Plus a variety of “takes” on the program for home, one room Sunday school rotation, etc.</i>	Cokesbury (UMC) www.deepbluekids.com	Deep Blue Connects: goes beyond the Sunday school classroom and takes your kids into the community; hear and see Bible stories that teach us how to be true to our faith while sharing God’s love with people who might be different from us.	Quarterly Bible story based (3 units each month with a bible verse focus; 4-5 sessions each unit/month); Rotation format also available 38% OT, 62% NT	Leader’s Guide with full session plans; Training available online for subscribers Online subscription available also	Classroom setting; use of animated videos and many components; Deep Blue Adventure app for children; Downloadable.	Nursery – Older Children (10 years) Large/Small Group One Room	Quarterly \$19.99 Leader \$8.49 Bible Story Sheets \$6.99 Activity Sheets \$31.49 Class Kit \$13.99 At Home DATED
DIG IN	Group Publishing (Independent) https://www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/childrens-ministry/sunday-school/dig-in.do	DIG IN curriculum provides creative, multisensory teaching that immerses your kids in deep Bible learning, helping them to know Jesus personally & grow in relationship with him.	4-yr Quarterly Bible-based: Year 1: <i>Digging Into the Life of Jesus</i> ; Year 2: <i>Digging Into the Bible in One Year</i> ; Year 3: <i>The Heart of God</i> ; Year 4: <i>Epic Teaching of the Bible</i>	Teachers “pick a format, select the activities you like best, & experience how having a ‘just right’ lesson makes teaching fun and effective.	Classroom setting; 45 minutes of “blocks” of content that the teacher constructs from a menu of options; DVDs	Preschool – Grade 5	Cost per quarter based on class size: \$109-384 (Access of one quarter at a time online) UNDATED
DiscipleLand – Core Bible: Elementary	Through the Bible Publishers (Independent) www.discipleland.com www.discipleland.com/Our-Beliefs	DiscipleLand is built on the Children’s Discipleship System – an intentional, relational, and transformational process to help make lifelong disciples who know God intimately, love God passionately, and serve God selflessly.	6 levels (24 quarters) of sequential Bible story curriculum: Bible lesson, world missions story, bible memorization, application stories/scripts, response activities	Teacher Guide, website for teachers & parents http://disciplezone.com	Classroom setting; 45-90 minutes of weekly lesson material	6-14 years (six levels by grade) Curriculum also has corresponding modules for other ages	Quarterly by grade: \$11.95 Teacher \$4.95 Student \$23.95 Pictures \$10.95 Bible cards UNDATED
Dwell	Faith Alive (Christian Reformed) https://dwell.faithalivereources.org	An ongoing journey in God’s story, with each year building on the previous one, children are introduced to beautiful simplicity, growing complexity, and deeper mystery.	2-year Bible story based (36 sessions) (50% OT, 50% NT) Preschool – Play K-1 st – Imagine 2 nd -3 rd – Wonder 4 th -5 th – Marvel 6 th -8 th - Dive	Leader’s Guides; support site for teachers includes videos, articles, and downloads;	Classroom setting; music; print materials include take home papers and story cards for households	Preschool – Grade 8	Per unit: \$9.00 Leader’s Guides (also available as download) \$6.50 Children’s \$14.00 Story Card UNDATED

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<i>Episcopal Children's Curriculum</i>	Virginia Theological Seminary www.vts.edu/page/center-for-the-ministry-of-teaching/publications/episcopal-childrens-curriculum	To assist in living out the covenant made in Holy Baptism through our faith and practice as it is continually reexamined through Holy Scripture and the preserved tradition of the Church.	3 year thematic, Bible story based of 4 units each: OT, NT, Sacraments, the Church; Shell Year – Baptism, Chalice Year – Eucharist, Cross Year – Worship	Comprehensive lesson plan with teacher background, prayers, story, activities.	Classroom setting; totally online and downloadable: lessons plans, student papers, booklets, cards;	Pre/Kindergarten Primary (Grades 1-3) Intermediate (Grades 4-6)	FREE UNDATED
<i>Faith for Life Bible Study</i>	GenOn Ministries (Ecumenical) www.genonministries.org/collections/new-faith-for-life-bible-study	Part of LOGOS Intergenerational Ministry: generations learning and growing in faith modeled after Acts 2:42	9 Faith for Life courses: God Loves Me, Friends & Family, Jesus, OT, Worship, etc.	Downloadable materials	Classroom; emailed plans upon purchase	Kindergarten through 8 th grade	\$150.00 per age level \$762.00 (K-5) Set \$1,143.00 (K-8) Set UNDATED
<i>FaithWeaver NOW</i>	Group Publishing (independent) www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/childrens-ministry/sunday-school/faithweaver-now.do	Weave together a family's journey in faith by teaching the same Bible truth to all age levels. Families apply those truths in their daily lives, growing in their faith.	3 year quarterly Bible story based (Summer/Fall OT & Winter/Spring NT) All ages study same stories. With editable digital version.	Teacher Guides include background and dialogue script for speaking to class	Classroom setting. 30-60-minute time frame. Bible memory, drama, arts & crafts, stories – implies families study together at home.	Infant – Adult / Parents	Quarterly: \$51/29 Class Pak \$20.69 Teacher \$4.19 Student \$10.29 CD DATED
<i>Feasting on the Word: Teaching the Revised Common Lectionary</i>	Westminster/John Knox Press & Congregational Ministries Publishing (PCUSA) www.feastingontheword.net/Curriculum/ that goes to https://www.thethoughtfulchristian.com/TabCenter/37/Feasting.aspx	By intentional connection of worship and faith formation, leaders and learners will find their Christian faith enhanced when the Scriptures read and proclaimed in worship reinforce and expand what is explored during their educational time.	Lectionary based incorporates the Feasting on the Word commentary style to explore one of the lectionary passages in ways suitable for all participants.	Each age level provides comprehensive, accessible biblical background for teachers from four perspectives.	An ecumenical, downloadable resource for a traditional classroom setting	All ages K-Adult Multi-age	\$100 per age level / per quarter \$65 Color Pack Quarterly DATED
<i>First Look (See 252 Basics above)</i>	The re-Think Group (Orange) (Independent) http://thinkorange.com/firstlook	First Look gives preschoolers a first impression of their heavenly Father and the wonder of His love for each one of them.	Biblically based (100% accurate, reliable, and authoritative)	Large and small group scripts include worship, introductory sketch, bible story and memory verse.	Classroom or home setting; components to share with parents; downloadable	Birth – 5 years	Online based licensing agreement \$590-\$2,275 on Pre/K attendance

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Frolic	Sparkhouse / 1517 Media (ELCA) www.wearesparkhouse.org/kids/frolic/	A playful introduction to basic faith concepts in a way that's fun and age appropriate for young children.	2-year Scope & Sequence of 52 lessons each to match the storybooks	Leader Guides correspond to board & picture books, enrichment posters, music CDs, and nursery cards, Bible	Nursery, Preschool, Family setting options	Birth – 3 years	\$19.99 Leader Guide \$16.99 Storytelling Posters \$29.99 Book Bundles
Godly Journey (aka <i>Road to Rome</i>)	LeaderResources (Episcopal) http://leaderresources.org/godly-journey	Road to Rome invites participants into the life of the early church and introduces them to Christians who helped spread Christianity.	35 sessions (45-60 minutes each). Uses “The Message” Bible by Eugene Peterson	Lessons plans offer detail background for each session’s experience.	Drama, snacks, Jewish and early Christian worship, build a diorama, playing games and much more.	5th & 6th Grade or intergenerational possibilities	Downloadable \$129.95 UNDATED
Godly Play www.godlyplayfoundation.org www.godlyplayresources.org	Church Publishing (Episcopal) www.churchpublishing.org/complex/godlyplayprint/ www.churchpublishing.org/godlyplaydigital	To teach children the art of using religious language (parable, sacred story, silence & liturgical action) through wonder in a way that is playful and meaningful.	Montessori approach of presenting scripture – OT & NT, seasonal & liturgical stories. Vol. 2, 3, 4 revision with updated and new stories released in 2017.	8 Volumes of stories. Training helpful for successful implementation. Many available to view on YouTube www.youtube.com/user/GodlyPlayEndn	Multi-sensory materials – child directed choices; chapel, church school, hospital or home use. Parent pages available for download.	Ages 3-11	\$32.95 per book Parent pages and individual lessons available as downloads. Materials range from \$15-500+ UNDATED
Gospel Light	David C. Cook (Independent) www.gospellight.com Statement of Faith: https://www.gospellight.com/statement-faith/	Guides children to a deeper understanding of Jesus through mentoring relationships with teachers and parents with a strong emphasis on discipleship and evangelism.	4-year scope & sequence to take children through the Bible 5 times by 6 th grade. 25% OT, 75% Gospel/NT	Every teacher guide includes clear steps on how to lead a child to Christ. 2-hour lesson plan. Question w/ answers given.	Storytelling, games, Talk Time, “cool art activities,” and more. Free family pages.	Age graded: Nursery to Preteen	\$149.99 Classroom Kit \$16.99 Teacher \$6.99 Student Free Take-Homes \$27.99 Visual Resources DATED
Grapple	Group Publishing (Independent) www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/childrens-ministry/sunday-school/grapple.do	Answers tough preteen questions – and helps kids discover the power of a growing faith in Jesus	8 attention-grabbing lessons and Bible studies with access to create your group’s own online community (90% NT)	Basic booklet with lesson plans and DVD of video clips; on-line support	DVD and on-line with class discussion	4th-6th grade (preteen) and Junior High modules	\$69.99 (per quarter) \$447.94 (all 8 volumes) UNDATED

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<i>Growing in Christ</i>	Concordia (Missouri Synod) https://www.cph.org/c-212-growing-in-christ.aspx?REName=Education&plk=152	This same-age classroom model helps students learn and grow in faith alongside their peers as they explore the Bible, draw connections to the Small Catechism, and learn the traditions of the Lutheran Church.	13 Bible story-based sessions per quarter; tied to Bible words, faith words, a hymn, Luther's Small Catechism, and Liturgy; atonement theology (25% OT, 75% NT)	Teacher Guide with complete lesson plans, dialogue, Bible story, patterns, etc. cph.org/sundayschool offers online support	5-page lesson plan with on-line support and updates. Posters, etc. with Teacher Tools	Early Childhood Lower Elementary Upper Elementary Middle School High School Adult	\$13.49-18.49 Teacher Guide \$18.49 Teacher Tools \$7.80 Student
<i>Growing in Grace & Gratitude</i>	(Presbyterian Church USA) www.growinggracegratitude.org http://crecegraciagratitude.org	Rooted in the foundation of Presbyterian identity where God's grace and our gratitude are the heartbeat of our faith, life, worship; extends an invitation to discipleship to learn and practice hospitality, generosity, love; reaches beyond Sunday, encouraging children to live their lives as an expression of God's grace.	3-year Bible story based. (4 quarters) (50% OT, 60% NT)	Biblical & theological background in each session plan; Sessions foster hospitality for all children, including those with special needs	Print / download versions; home component <i>Grace Sightings</i> online and a <i>Growing in Grace & Gratitude</i> e-book for home English and Spanish versions	Narrowly graded for ages 3-10 as well as multi-age	9-month subscription: \$175 Leader print \$125 Leader download English/Spanish
<i>Hands On Bible Curriculum</i>	Group (Independent) www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/childrens-ministry/sunday-school/hands-on-bible-curriculum.do	Use unique games, snacks and crafts to help kids learn about God, because kids retain more by interacting with a lesson instead of just hearing it.	2-year Bible story based; 4 seasonal units per year. Each age level studies a different story each week. (60% OT and 40% NT) Each lesson contains one Bible Point.	Use objects to teach the bible. Voted "easiest to teach" in a national poll of children's ministry leaders. With step-by-step teacher guides.	Classroom setting; 30-60 minutes each, use of "gizmos" to teach bible truths	Infants through Grades 5&6	\$117.29 Learning Lab (per class) plus ancillary materials UNDATED
<i>Hearts Alive!</i>	New Growth Press (Independent) https://biblestudymedia.com/hearts-alive/ Belief statement: https://newgrowthpress.com/what-we-believe/	Provides liturgical congregations a 3-year course of study to give children a strong overview of the story of salvation and how it ties to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.	3-year lectionary-based (RCL); Gospel-centered, emphasizing the story of salvation through Jesus Christ in every lesson (inc. OT stories). (NIRV)	Leader Guide with dialogue/answers for teacher provided. Bible story resource not included.	Traditional Sunday School: Bible Memory verses, snack, crafts, games, Bible story. Tale Home paper	4-11 years (PreK-K, lower, and upper elementary)	Per quarter: \$67.99 per age level \$101.99 Children's Church DATED

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<i>HeartShaper</i>	Standard (David C. Cook) (Independent) www.heartshaper.com https://www.group.com/category/about-us/statement-of-faith.do	Introduces children to God, His Son, His Word, & His Church through active participation in Bible stories/study, multi-sensory learning, Bible skill-building, life application.	2-year Bible story based OT: Summer/Fall NT: Winter/Spring (NIV/KJV)	Teacher and family resources on web with activity options and learning styles. Answers are giving to teachers for questions.	Traditional classroom setting: Bible Memory activities, seasonal ideas, service projects Downloadable teacher guides.	Toddlers/Twos – Preteen (6 th Grade)	Per quarter: \$8.99 Teacher \$20.99 Resources \$20.99 Pictures \$45.99 Kit \$22.99 Take Home DATED
<i>Holy Moly</i>	Sparkhouse (1517 Media) (ELCA) https://wearesparkhouse.org/kids/holymoly/	Holy Moly captures the imagination of kids by bringing the Bible to life. Kids walk away from class excitedly retelling the stories they just learned and eagerly awaiting what's next.	2-year Bible story based of 5 units each with animated Bible story DVDs, rhyming Bible storybooks, and interactive leaflets. Single lessons available à la carte as download	Leader Leaflet Webinars	Classroom setting; begins with animated video, discussion, use of Storybooks or Connect Bible, and create a paper-type craft.	K-4th grade	Per unit: \$7.99 Bible Storybook \$5.99 Learner \$20-25 Bible \$10.99 Leader \$12.95 Digital lesson download \$34.99 DVD UNDATED
<i>In the Spirit of the Circle</i>	Forward Movement (Episcopal) www.forwardmovement.org	Building on the rich storytelling traditions of Native American and Indigenous peoples, this unique resource connects some of the most deeply treasured and difficult narratives of our First Nations peoples with stories of the Old and New Testaments. <i>In the Spirit of the Circle</i> bridges cultural divides and breaks down stereotypes, inviting each of us to walk the "Red Road" - to experience Indigenous ways of traditional spirituality and culture - with Jesus and with each other.			Classroom	Children Youth Adult	\$12.00 Workbook \$35.00 Posters UNDATED
<i>A Joyful Path: Inner Wisdom Series</i>	The Center for Progressive Christianity https://progressivechristianity.org/childrens-curriculum/ https://progressivechristianity.org/about-us/	Giving children the foundation they need to walk the path of Jesus in today's world, with stories and affirmations to help children clarify their own beliefs while staying open to other traditions.	2-year curriculum (38 lessons each / 8 units per year) Year 1: Behavior over belief Year 2: 8 Tenets of Progressive Christianity Year 3: to come soon	Teacher's Handbook Online Support Forum	Classroom setting or home setting; 2 or 3 options for exploring the theme – art, music, simple craft, story, color affirmation pictures	Ages 6-10	\$9.00-18.00 per unit \$125 per year on CD UNDATED
<i>Kid Connection</i>	Faith Alive (Christian Reformed) https://kc.faithaliveresoources.org	Designed to meet the unique needs of small Sunday Schools and midweek programs from the Reformed tradition perspective.	4-year Bible story based: 4 lessons per unit, 3 units per quarter. Year 1&3 OT/Year 2&4 NT	Leader's Guide; program CD with printable handouts and music; on-line training and newsletter	Large group/small group format; classroom setting; family/student quarterly magazine	K-6th grade broken into K-3 and 4-6	Per Quarter: \$10.00 Magazine \$18.00 Leader \$58.00 CD DATED

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<i>Lesson Plans that Work</i>	Episcopal Church (Episcopal) http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/lessons/	Bible lessons are a guide to centering Christian education in the church & home	Lectionary based (RCL), tracks for Gospel or OT (track one) (NRSV); special lessons for Feast days	Simple plans with bible background, questions and activity	Usually one activity per lesson with supplemental suggestions	Younger (non-readers) & Older Elementary (grade school), Adult Intergenerational	FREE Downloadable DATED
<i>Living Discipleship</i>	Forward Movement (Episcopal) www.livingdiscipleship-fm.org	An all-ages curriculum designed to help individuals/communities know more fully the very things that Paul prayed for the Ephesians to find: the God revealed in Christ Jesus.	Structured in three years: one year on <i>Exploring the Bible</i> , one year on <i>Celebrating the Saints</i> , and one year on <i>Practicing our Faith</i> . 26 sessions in total.	Free, downloadable session plan for adults. If used with a children's Bible the stories could be covered, but experiential activities would need to be created.	Classroom setting	All ages – but best for youth/adults	Free downloadable
<i>Living the Good News</i>	Church Publishing (Episcopal) www.livingthegoodnews.com	Brings people together to discover and share God's word through learning, worship & everyday life	Lectionary based 30% Old Testament 70% New Testament Supplements by denomination (NRSV)	Teacher Guide with scriptural background; Clear lesson plan; take-home papers; all downloadable for e-mailing to parents or teachers	Downloadable. Variety of learning styles and activities; music, art, and reflections	Nursery – Adult, including a multi-age component	Full year license: \$139.99 per age level (a la carte) \$649.99 full access for all materials / age levels UNDATED
<i>Living the Word: Teaching God's Story</i>	Spirit & Truth Publishing (Independent) http://spiritandtruthpublishing.com/products/living-the-word/	A series of full-year faith formation materials for all ages in a congregation, teaching the story of God's love in the Bible from Creation through the early church.	4-year lectionary curriculum based on the <u>Narrative Lectionary</u> (NRSV)	Downloadable lesson plan offers background for teachers and lesson plans	Traditional classroom, cross-generational with worship or family centered. 60 minutes.	Pre/K – Grade 2 Grades 3-6 Grades 6-12	Quarterly based on #children Quarterly \$30.00-\$995.00 DATED
<i>Love in a Big World: Building Character and Hope (Faith Edition)</i> NEW	Abingdon Press (UMC) https://faith.loveinabigworld.org	Creates meaningful interactions with caring adults – helping kids develop the kind of positive behavior traits that will empower them in everyday life.	Stories, scripture, and life lessons to teach kids to love God, love people, and change the world. Topics: Stop Bullying!, Social Justice, Relationship Skills	Samples can be downloaded for viewing of their secular materials: https://www.loveinabigworld.org/	To supplement Sunday School; VBS; summer camps	K-2 Grades 3-5 Grades 6-8	\$24.99 Director Per Unit: \$16.99 Leader \$24.99 Activity Pack \$0.99 Music download UNDATED

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Meet the Saints	Forward Movement www.forwardmovement.org	Offers children the opportunity to follow Jesus while learning about 26 of the monks, missionaries, prophets, doctors, evangelists and more who are named saints in The Episcopal Church’s calendar.	Family Storybook of 25 “story sessions” that include discussion questions for each.	Facilitators’ Guide provides a course overview, step-by-step instructions, discussion questions, activity suggestions, and handouts.	A year-long study of the saints (1 hour sessions)	Children	Free Facilitator’s Guide (download) \$10.00 Family Storybook In English and Spanish
Messy Church	Bible Reading Fellowship (Church of England) www.messychurch.org.uk	Messy Church is a way of being church for families involving fun; value are about being Christ-centered, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality, and celebration	Part of the Fresh Expressions (Emergent Church) movement in the UK it is thematic following a number of book ideas and web based activities	Books offer ideas for creating your own “event.” View website blogs.	None traditional Sunday School – usually involves paint, a food activity and a meal! Often held on Saturdays.	Children and families	Messy Church books with 15+ units in each \$15.00 not including supplies
Mustard Seed Series	Curriculum Development Associates by Anita Keire (UCC) https://mustardseedseries.com/curriculum/	Opens the minds & spirits of students & teachers to the richness, variety and purpose of God’s word and action among us.	Chronologically centered on the Bible; 340 texts covered in 10 years	Complete lesson plans with no training needed; supplemental books by author	Student books, teacher directed with answers given	K – Grade 9 (Confirmation)	Per grade level: \$9.50 Student \$24.00 Teacher Downloadable UNDATED
One Room Sunday School	Abingdon Press (United Methodist) https://www.deepbluekids.com/curriculum/age_groups/#one-room-sunday	Loving God, Loving Neighbor. See <i>Deep Blue Connects</i> (same materials)	Quarterly Bible story based: see <i>Deep Blue Connects</i> 38% OT 62% NT (NRSV)	Comes in a kit or digital kit. Kit contains Leader Guide, Class Pack, Reproducible Book, and CD-ROM.	Pictures, games, maps, posters, songs, storytelling figures (in print or download)	Age 3 – Middle School in one classroom	Quarterly: \$83.99per kit \$15.99 Teacher DATED
Rhythms of Grace	Church Publishing (Episcopal) www.churchpublishing.org/rhythmsofgrace www.rhythms-of-grace.org	An experience of God's grace and unconditional love through joyful play and the sustenance of sacramental nurture.	Lesson plans on OT & NT stories & seasonal themes. For weekly or monthly; non-traditional education or worship setting	See website for more resources in addition to the lesson plans and getting started chapters	Learning centers choosing from a variety of sensory and tactile activities adapted to each theme.	Constructed to accommodate those who have special needs and their families but can be used with all ages.	\$32.95 Book

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<i>P.R.A.Y.</i> <i>(formerly known as "God and Country")</i>	Programs of Religious Activities with Youth www.praypub.org	A religious awards program for Protestant young people recognized by Boy Scouts USA, Girl Scouts USA, Camp Fire and American Heritage Girls	Bible story-based curriculum with emphasis on service to others; adult mentor component	Usually accomplished on an individual level – resources for adult / parent / or mentor	Midweek program option; independent between adult/parent and child (English & Spanish)	God and Me (grades 1-3) God and Family (grades 4-5) God and Church (grades 6-8) God and Life (grades 9-12)	\$4.50 Student Workbook \$4.50 Mentor Workbook \$4.50 Teacher Manual (per level)
<i>Seasons of the Spirit (Encore)</i>	Wood Lake Publishing (Ecumenical) www.seasonsonline.ca	Empower all ages to be transformed in Christ as they explore the Bible, worship, service and ministry	Lectionary & ecumenical using the Revised Common Lectionary (NRSV)	Complete lesson plans and extensive website support and chat-rooms	Multi-media, drama, music, stories, art, outreach & mission	All ages: Preschool – Adult	Per age: \$180.20 4 quarters (web) Per quarter: \$77 (web) \$86 (print) DATED
<i>Seedlings</i>	Seedlings, Inc. (Independent - Episcopal) www.seedlingsinc.com	...for small churches... flexible...Biblically based...in the Episcopal tradition	4-year cycle Bible story based (36-40 lessons) An intro to all the major Bible stories	2-page lesson plan includes goals, background, and resource ideas	Clean art, messy art, Bible search, drama, music, stories	Broadly graded for preschool-Grade 6	\$55.00 per year \$10.00 per unit UNDATED
<i>Shine: Living in God's Light</i>	Brethren Press & MennoMedia (Mennonite) https://shinecurriculum.com	Calls children to experience the transforming power of God's love, including compassionate peacemaking and service	3-year quarterly Bible story / theme based; Fall – OT, Winter – Gospel from the lectionary, Spring – Jesus and "shalom modules", Summer	6-page lesson plan includes prepare, dig deeper, gather, experience, explore, bless	Storytelling, wonder questions, leaflet projects, drama, prayer, service project ideas	Ages 3 – Grade 8, including multiage	\$13.99 Teacher \$9.99 Student \$24.99 Resources \$19.99 Music CD \$24.99 <i>Shine On Bible</i> UNDATED
<i>Spirit & Truth: Teaching Kids the Heart of Worship</i>	Spirit & Truth Publishing (Independent with ELCA approach) http://spiritandtruthpublishing.com/products/spirit-and-truth/	Guides students through the meaning and importance of worship, the liturgy, and the church year with engaging stories, funny skits, and challenging activities.	1-year curriculum of 4 Units: The Liturgy (18 lessons), The Church Year (11 lessons), Advent Unit (3 lessons) and Christmas program. (The Message)	Downloadable lesson plan that includes a take home paper. Activities, discussion questions (with answers)	Black & white picture book (download) for PrK/2 nd , Skit for Gr. 3-6, music, and activities. 60 minutes	PreK-Grade 2 Grade 3-6	\$30.00-1,211.00 ACA Pay and download materials in pdf format UNDATED
<i>Spark</i>	Sparkhouse (1517 Media) (ELCA) https://wearesparkhouse.org/kids/spark/	Spark empowers kids' creativity & imagination as they explore Scripture through exciting activities that reinforce the lessons.	Bible based in 3 formats: Lectionary: 3 year cycle of RCL (NT); Classroom: 80 lessons over 2 years (OT/NT); Rotation: 8 workshop options (48 stories)	Leader's Guide (downloadable or print); on-line lesson prep videos	Multiple options: downloadable, print, subscription depending on articulation chosen	Age 2 – Grade 6	\$42.99 per Rotation Quarterly: \$9.99 Leader \$5.99 Learner \$13.99 DVD \$9.49 Spark Family quarterly

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<i>Splash!</i>	Augsburg-Fortress (ELCA) www.augsburgfortress.org/store/category/286237/Splash-	Congregations stay connected to young children and their families.	The monthly Parent Pages offer ideas for faith-filled play, worship, meals, and prayer together.	Monthly mailing newsletter for parents	Each Splash! Pack contains twelve issues of Parent Pages and a music CD	3 age ranges: 1-12 months, 13-24 months, 25-36 months	Each pack is \$15.99 per year UNDATED
<i>Submerge: Deep Blue for Tweens</i>	Cokesbury (United Methodist) https://www.deepbluekids.com/submerge	For 5th & 6th graders aging out of <i>Deep Blue Kids</i> , but not ready to join youth group, this is the <i>Deep Blue</i> curriculum for tweens.	Quarterly Bible story based (3 units each month with a bible verse focus; 4-5 sessions each unit/month); Rotation format also available 38% OT, 62% NT	Complete session guide that will help lead and inspire: Flexible and step-by-step lesson plans that include reproducibles, dramas, activities, and more.	Print, color magazine and a Sketch & Jot journal for students to draw and reflect in	11+ years (Tween)	Quarterly: \$14.49 Leader’s \$7.99 Magazine \$6.99 Sketch & Jot Journal UNDATED
<i>The Sunday Paper and The Sunday Paper Junior</i>	The Sunday Paper (Independent/Episcopal – written by Gretchen Wolff-Pritchard) www.the-sunday-paper.com	Informal, whimsical, and faithful to Scripture. Helps children to acquire a vocabulary of Scriptural images, relate Gospel to the OT, the Church, & their own lives."	Lectionary based; Paper: Gospel focused with OT & Psalm Junior: Gospel Line drawings with activity page and commentary Episcopal & RCL	None	Church (worship bulletin), home, nursery, or classroom	Junior: Preschool – Grade 4 Paper: Intermediate – Grade 8	Annually: \$76.00 each (e-mail) or \$105 (hard copy) \$96.00/\$132.00 both DATED
<i>These Are Our Bodies: Talking Faith & Sexuality at Church & Home</i>	Church Publishing www.theseareourbodies.org	A comprehensive faith & sexuality program based on the universal needs of young people & their parents; honors & lifts up parents as primary sexuality educators in the context of faith.	6-10 week program for three children’s age levels alongside parent sessions	Leader Guide with full session plans, background material	Activities include Bible study, movement, games, music, art	Preschool Primary Intermediate (Middle School, High School, & Youth Adult levels also available)	\$28.95 Leader Guide \$9.95 Parent (1 per age level) \$5.95 Participant (1 for two oldest age levels) UNDATED
<i>Weaving God’s Promises</i>	Church Publishing (Episcopal) www.WeavingGodsPromises.org	An Episcopal Bible-based program rooted in the liturgical year with emphasis on worship, education and service as the threefold components of Christian living.	3-year Bible story based of 36-47 lessons per year 25% OT 44% NT 29% Liturgical	Complete, downloadable lesson plan with extensive teacher background and activities	Prayer, story, multiple activities according to age level, connections to Episcopal traditions and seasons, “Threads” take home paper	Ages 3-11 and suitable for multiple ages gathered together	Based on AWA: \$129 - \$499 Annual license Downloadable UNDATED

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<i>Wee Wonder</i>	Brethren Press & MennoMedia (Mennonite) https://shinecurriculum.com/weewonder/	Curriculum for two-year-olds that introduces young children to God through song, action rhymes, Bible stories and responsive play.	12 modules with 52 undated sessions, each with a single theme about sharing God's love	Leader's Guide with teaching pictures, story figures, and music CD	Traditional classroom or nursery setting; Bible activity cards to take home	2-year-olds	\$119.99 boxed set UNDATED / REUSABLE
<i>Whirl</i>	Sparkhouse (1517 Media) (ELCA) https://wearesparkhouse.org/kids/whirl	A 3-year Lectionary-centered Sunday school or 2-year bible story program that connects kids with the bible, church life, and worship.	Lectionary based 40 lessons (3 quarters) 60% Gospel 30% OT 10% NT Classroom model covers 80 key stories from Old to New Testament	Director's Guide Leader's Guides Webinars	Traditional classroom, DVD with cartoon characters introduces the theme of the day	Pre-K – Grade 6	Per quarter: \$24.99 Leader \$6.99 Learner \$24.99 DVD \$19.99 / \$24.99 Story Bibles
<i>The Best of Whole People of God Online</i>	Wood Lake Publishing (Independent) www.wholepeopleofgod.com	A simple, easy-to-use curriculum for your entire Christian Education family.	Lectionary based	Downloadable (with option for print for additional cost) plans and Weekly Tip Newsletter	Materials for classrooms, worship, home	All ages	\$148-1,486 Annual license (Sept-August) on church size or home use
<i>Workshop Rotation Model (WoRM)</i>	Various publishers www.rotation.org See NOTES below for additional links	Concentrates on major stories of the Bible repeatedly with centers following multiple intelligences	Workshop units / cycles run for 4-7 weeks	Teachers repeat the same lesson every week of a cycle – on a topic / skill they enjoy	Experiential: art, music, storytelling, drama, computers, movies, etc.	Closely graded or broadly graded, depending on space and number of children	Per unit / cycle: \$15.00 – 150.00 UNDATED

CODES:

- Coloring coding: Lavender – Infants/Toddlers; Yellow – Children; Blue – Tweens; Orange – All ages (many including adult)
- ASA = Average Sunday Attendance / AWA = Average Worship Attendance / ACA = Average Children's Attendance

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NOTES:

- **Workshop Rotation Model** programs:
 - Cokesbury's *Deep Blue Rotation Stations* – www.deepbluekids.com/rotation (UMC)
 - LeaderResources' *WorkshopCycles* – www.leaderresources.org/workshopcycles (Episcopal)
 - Potter's Workshop – www.potters-publishing.com (Independent)
 - Sparkhouse's (1517 Media) *Spark* or *Whirl* – www.wearesparkwarehouse.org (ELCA)
- **Bible Translations:**
 - NRSV – New Revised Standard Version
 - CEB – Common English Bible
 - CEV – Contemporary English Version
 - TEV – Today's English Version
 - GNB – Good News Bible
 - NKJV / KJV – New King James Version / King James Version
 - NLT – New Living Translation (paraphrased)
 - NIV – New International Version
 - ESV – English Standard Version
- **Prices** may change after date this listing was compiled
- The chart shown here does not comprise a complete listing of all curricula published across the denominational spectrum, but those that have come to the attention of its compiler and fit the criteria of having a lesson plan for a teacher.

QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN CHOOSING CURRICULUM:

- How does the program support your church's mission statement?
- What type of curriculum is best for my church and/or children? (Lectionary, workshop rotation, story-based, Montessori, etc.)
- How are sacraments taught / covered? Is this in keeping with my denomination's tradition?
- How is Jesus portrayed? God? The Holy Spirit? Is this in keeping with my denomination's tradition?
- Not sure what a publisher's theological perspective is? (Especially for independent publishers, check out any links on the bottom of their website to learn more).
- How are children incorporated into the life of the congregation: through worship, service projects, faith-in-action, fellowship?

Seeking more?

- There are many, many more Sunday School curricula from the American Baptist tradition and the International Sunday School Lesson (ISSL) Uniform Series. This website gives an overview, with links, to many of them while also including a few that are listed on the above chart: <https://betterbibleteachers.com/2017/06/mega-list-of-64-sunday-school-curriculum-providers-and-what-you-can-expect-from-each-one-of-them/>
- For reviews of Vacation Bible School programs, please visit: <https://www.buildfaith.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2019-VBS.pdf>
- For updated overviews of curricula for children, youth, and adults and more in-depth reviews, see www.rowsofsharon.com.
- For more information or questions regarding this chart contact Sharon Ely Pearson spearson@cpg.org.