

## **Become a Better Teacher by Knowing Your Students**

### **Children – 10-12 Year Olds**

- Goals for this age
  - Accepting self; learning more about strengths and gifts
  - Making friends; learning to get along with others well
  - Learning techniques to resolve conflict and to handle own emotions
  - Understanding that we are all different – accepting differences
- Proficient Readers – can read very well either silently or out loud
  - Read for self-enjoyment and relaxation
  - Read for information
- Able to use information to write reports/ papers
- Find answers to questions and write them down using paragraphs
- Children this age enjoy this type of play:
  - Complex, thoughtful games such as chess, checkers, and other board games
  - Team games/ competitive sports and athletic events
- Learn importance of and enforce safety measures for games and activities
  - Complex arts and craft work, as well as other complex skills
- Paintings/ sculpture/ beadwork/ leatherwork/ t-shirts/ sewing projects
- Cooking meals/ doing laundry/ cleaning / building small projects
  - These activities mirror adult type activities and help child learn life skills
- Developmental Characteristics
  - Beginning to grasp abstract concepts
  - Reasoning ability
  - Longer attention spans
  - Grasps time and space
  - Craves peer acceptance
  - Needs less adult approval, but it is still vital
  - Enjoys competition
  - Wants adult status
  - Unsteady emotions
  - Worships heroes
  - Developing a sense of morality
- Encourage participation in group chores in classroom
  - Cleaning up area each week
  - Preparing and serving snacks to group
  - Taking turns doing other chores
  - Teaching responsibility for self and others in group situation
- Practice service to others
  - Encourage group projects to help the elderly, sick, infirm, or needy
  - Work with younger children/ mentoring them/ encouraging them
  - Supervise younger children (with some adult oversight)
- Pray together or individually; also lead group in prayer
- Bible drills/ Bible passage memorization/ write down favorite verses

- Encourage treating others kindly, both in and out of class
  - Discuss 1 Corinthians 13 “*Love is patient, love is kind...*”
  - Learn that Jesus commands us to “*love one another.*”
  - Discuss and practice treating others with love
  - Discuss ways of resolving conflict in peaceful and mature ways
- Speaking the truth in love
- Expressing frustration and anger with calm words, seeking a resolution
  - EX: When \_\_\_\_ happens, and you do \_\_\_\_\_, I feel \_\_\_\_\_.
  - “When we are sitting together, and you pinch me, I feel sad and angry.”