

2015 Curriculum Overview for Children's Formation

Curriculum	Publisher (Denomination)	Foundation Statement	Content & Articulation	Teacher Support	Format	Ages	Cost / Usability
252 Basics (Orange)	The re-Think Group (Independent) http://whatisorange.org/252basics/	To discover and develop a relationship with Jesus Christ (modeled on Basic Truths by Jesus in Luke 2:52); the Gospel narrative of redemption	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 \$604-2,415.00 based on children’s program attendance
Beulah Land	Gretchen Wolff-Pritchard (independent) www.beulahenterprises.org	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 back-ground 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- 225 for other sets <i>print</i> REUSABLE
Bible-in-Life	David C. Cook (independent) www.davidcook.com/curriculum/davidcook/	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: \$7.99 Teacher \$18.99 Aids \$4.49 Craft book \$4.49 Take home \$4.99 Student book <i>print & digital</i> DATED
Building Faith Brick by Brick	Emily Slieter 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	Offers the methodology as well as 30 OT and 24 NT stories with lesson plans.	Lessons plans for each story with the book	Flexible for church, home, school, small groups, VBS	Elementary-age	\$29.95 UNDATED
Buzz	Group Publishing (Independent) http://group.com/sunday-school/buzz	Buzz is as easy as playing a game. Children decide which direction the lesson goes, keeping them engaged and learning more. Digs deep into parts of the Bible most curriculums ignore. 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	5 age levels: school – Grade 6	\$109.99 Buzz Kit per quarter (per classroom) \$2.99 Teacher Devotions \$7.99 Media CD DATED

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<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
<i>Celebrate the Good News: Children's Chapel</i>	Morehouse Education Resources (Episcopal) www.churchpublishing.org	Children's liturgy is children's play. Children do not want to be "consumers" of liturgy but co-creators, supported by enthusiastic adults	Lectionary based following the Gospel each week in which gathering, proclamation, response and pray	Leader's Guide step-by-step plan for worship that also includes ideas for exploring the lesson creatively or through "centers"	Chapel space designed for children, classroom or any space used for worship (20-40 minute sessions)	5-12 years	\$23.00 per quarter (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer) DATED
<i>Children Worship and Wonder</i> (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.worshipworks.com
<i>Connect</i>	Sparkhouse / AugsburgFortress (ELCA) http://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: \$9.99 Leader \$4.49 Learner \$19.99 DVD ----- \$19.99 / \$24.99 NRSV Bible

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CrossTrainer Bible Boot Camp	Abingdon (United Methodist) www.cokesbury.com	A core set of class that intentionally guides and equips children to become real followers of Jesus. Witness your children's progress as they are transformed to be more and more like Christ.	7 6-week units focus on an important aspect of a child's faith journey: Young Believers, The Power of Prayer, Bible Boot Camp, Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts, God Provides, Kids on Mission, iWitness	Each unit contains a DVD with videos and graphics; CD-ROM with printable copy of Leader's Guide and lyrics to songs.	Weekly lessons can accommodate small groups of children or large class sizes through rotational activity stations	Ages 8-11	\$159.99 Kit
D6 Curriculum	Randall House (Free Will Baptist) www.cokesbury.com	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.	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	All ages	\$32.99 Teaching Essentials \$7.49 Teacher \$4.99 Bible Storybook \$4.29 Take & Talk Sheets \$4.29 Take Home
Deep Blue	Cokesbury (United Methodist) www.deepbluekids.com	Deep Blue incorporates Bible stories, science activities, arts and crafts, animated video storytelling, and active games into a lived-faith experience that will help children discover what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ today!	Quarterly Bible story based (3 units each month with a bible verse focus; 4-5 sessions each unit/month) 25% OT, 75% 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	Nursery – Older Children (10 years) Large/Small Group One Room	Quarterly \$10.00 Leader \$6.59 Stories \$4.99 Kid's Stuff \$28.99 Class Stuff \$39.99 DVD Online app for children DATED
DiscipleLand – Core Bible: Elementary	Through the Bible Publishers (Independent) www.discipleland.com	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

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<i>Dwell</i>	Faith Alive (Reformed) http://dwellcurriculum.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: \$7.99 Leader's Guides (also available as download) \$5.99 Children's \$12.99 Story Card
<i>Episcopal Children's Curriculum</i>	Virginia Theological Seminary www.vts.edu/cmt/publis-hed/ecc	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 inc. lessons, student papers, booklets, cards	Pre/Kindergarten Primary (Grades 1-3) Intermediate (Grades 4-6)	FREE UNDATED
<i>Faith Practices</i>	United Church Press (United Church of Christ) www.ucc.org/faith-practices	Comprehensive resource for congregational and daily life that focuses on cultivating practices of faith.	12 faith practices with 3 types of activities for each: Exploring / Engaging, Discerning / Deciding, Sending / Serving. Each practice has over 50 activities to choose from.	Each component provides ample background and descriptions of activities.	Web-based resource with print support; users are given a secure website with full access	All Ages Components for Rotation Model, Worship, Daily Life, Multiage, Intergenerational, and Seekers	One-time fee of \$300 for access to all materials from secure website link UNDATED, REUSABLE
<i>FaithWeaver NOW</i>	Group Publishing (independent) www.group.com/sunday-school/faithweaver-now	Weave together a family's journey in faith by teaching the same Bible truth across all age levels. That way, families can apply those truths together in their daily lives, growing in their faith individually and as a family unit.	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 verses, drama, arts & crafts, stories – implies families study together at home.	Infant – Adult / Parents	Quarterly: \$49.99 Class Pak \$11.99 Teacher \$5.99 Student \$9.99 CD DATED

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<i>Feasting on the Word</i>	Westminster/John Knox Press & Congregational Ministries Publishing (PCUSA) www.feastingontheword.net/Curriculum/	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	\$720/\$900 Total Church Plan \$150/\$1185 per age level Downloadable / or Print & ship \$65 Color Pack DATED
<i>First Look</i>	The re-Think Group (Orange) (Independent) http://whatisorange.org/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 \$575-\$2,225 on Pre/K attendance
<i>Godly Journey</i> (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
<i>Godly Play</i> www.godlyplayfoundation.org	Morehouse Education Resources (Episcopal) www.churchpublishing.org/godlyplay and 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	8 Volumes of stories. Training helpful for successful implementation. DVDs available for training purposes.	Multi-sensory materials – child directed choices; chapel, church school, hospital or home use	Ages 3-11	\$29.95 per book \$3.25 Parent pages Pre-made wooden materials range from \$15-500+ REUSABLE
<i>Grapple</i>	Group Publishing (Independent) www.group.com/sunday-school/grapple	Answers tough preteen questions – and helps kids discover the power of a growing faith in Jesus	12 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	Quarterly: \$69.99 (8 quarters available)

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<i>Growing in Grace & Gratitude</i>	Congregational Ministries Publishing (Presbyterian USA) www.growinggracegratitude.org	Rooted in Bible stories that reveal God's grace. Celebrate the meaning of this grace in our lives as we encounter a living God.	3-year Bible story based. (4 quarters) (50% OT, 60% NT)	Biblical & theological background in each session plan; Sessions foster hospitality for all children, inc 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	Narrowly graded for ages 3-10 as well as multi-age	9 month subscription: \$130 Leader print \$120 Leader download \$10 Resources \$20 Music CD English/Spanish
<i>Hands On Bible Curriculum</i>	Group (Independent) www.group.com/sunday-school/hands-on-bible-curriculum	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. Jesus used everyday things to teach important truths—and now you can too!	2 year Bible story based of 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 based on a specific Bible verse.	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	\$77.99 Learning Lab (per class) \$29.99 Teacher Guide \$9.99 Media CD \$34.99 Puppet UNDATED
<i>HeartShaper</i>	Standard (Independent) www.heartshaper.com	Introduces children to God, His Son, His Word, and His Church through active participation in Bible stories and Bible study, multi-sensory learning, Bible skill-building activities, and focused 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. Downloadable teacher guides available.	Traditional classroom setting: Bible Memory activities, seasonal ideas, service projects	Toddlers/Twos – Preteen (6 th Grade)	Per quarter: \$8.49 Teacher \$17.49 Resources \$17.49 Pictures \$44.99 Kit \$4.49 Activities \$19.49 Take Home paper Guides also in downloadable form DATED
<i>Holy Moly</i>	Sparkhouse (Augsburg Fortress) (ELCA) http://wearesparkhouse.org/kids/holy-moly	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: \$6.99 Bible Storybook \$4.99 Learner \$20-25 Bible \$9.99 Leader \$29.99 DVD UNDATED

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<i>A Joyful Path: Inner Wisdom Series</i>	The Center for Progressive Christianity http://progressivechristianity.org/childrens-curriculum/	Giving children the foundation they need to walk the path of Jesus in today's world, with stories and affirmations written to help children clarify their own beliefs while staying open to the wisdom of other traditions.	3 year curriculum (38 lessons each) Year 1: Behavior over belief Year 2: 8 Tenets of Progressive Christianity Year 3: TBA	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 (print or DVD format)	Ages 6-10	\$115-350 per year depending on size of group DVD with lessons Teacher Manual
<i>Kid Connection</i>	Faith Alive (Reformed) www.kidconnectiononline.org	Designed to meet the unique needs of small Sunday Schools and midweek programs from the Reformed tradition perspective.	Large group/small group format – 4 year Bible storybased 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	Traditional classroom setting; family/student quarterly magazine	K-6th grade broken into K-3 and 4-6	Per quarter: \$9.49 Magazine \$16.49 Leader \$54.99 CD \$17.99 Reproducibles DATED
<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>LIVE Children's Curriculum</i>	Group (Independent) http://group.com/sunday-school/live	The digital curriculum that gets kids into the Bible and the Bible into kids.	3 year Bible story based. Pulls pieces of scripture (OT & NT) to learn about God. (NLT)	An "intuitive online system" to help teachers plan their lessons	Classroom setting, mobile ready plans	1st – 6th grade	\$149 Pack per year
<i>Living Inside Out</i>	Group (Independent) http://group.com/sunday-school/living-inside-out	Makes it easy for churches of every size to have high-impact Bible learning.	3 year Bible story based. 75% large group, 25% small group format; 13 lessons quarter (NLT)	DVD, high energy-music, think VBS	30-60 minute sessions	Preschool Lower elementary Upper elementary	\$299 per kit per season DATED
<i>Living the Good News</i>	Morehouse Education Resources (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: \$129.99 per age level (a la carte) \$649.99 full access for all materials / age levels UNDATED

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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	LeaderResources (Independently written UCC) www.leaderresources.org/MSS	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)	Membership based on ASA: \$99-\$399 Downloadable UNDATED
One Room Sunday School	Abingdon Press (United Methodist) www.growproclaimserve.com	Living and Learning God's Word. See <i>Grow, Proclaim, Serve</i> (same materials)	Quarterly Bible story based 33% OT 66% NT (NRSV)	Teacher Book contains specific plans for designing a lesson	Pictures, games, maps, posters, songs, storytelling figures (in print or download)	Age 3 – Middle School in one classroom	Quarterly: \$65.99 per kit \$14.95 Teacher \$39.99 DVD \$.99 mp3 (music) DATED
PowerXPress	Cokesbury (United Methodist) www.powerxpress.com	Rotational learning on one Bible story for in-depth learning through multiple intelligences; grace focused	4 year Rotational Model (NRSV)	Leader's Guide with 8 stations (up to 8 weeks of lessons)	Station per activity (music, art, drama, computer, etc.)	Ages 5-12	\$15.00 per station / activity download
P.R.A.Y. (formerly known as "God and Country")	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)
Rhythms of Grace www.rhythms-of-grace.org	Morehouse Education Resources (Episcopal) www.churchpublishing.org/rhythmsofgrace	An experience of God's grace and unconditional love through joyful play and the sustenance of sacramental nurture. Together, we form a unique expression of the Body of Christ.	Lesson plans on OT & NT stories as well as seasonal themes. Can be used weekly or monthly in a non-traditional education or worship setting	Website with additional resources in addition to the lesson plans and getting started chapters	Each session explores the story at learning centers choosing from a variety of sensory and tactile activities adapted to each theme.	Varies – constructed to accommodate those who have special needs and their families but can be used with all children	\$30.00 Book

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<i>RIO deep and wide</i>	David C. Cook (Independent) www.davidccook.com/curriculum/rio/	Rio is about helping kids, leaders, and parents form relationships with God and each other, speaking from a overflowing life rather than a simple script.	Follows the same God-centered unit themes for each quarter. 2-year program. 48% OT 40% Gospel 12% NT (NIV)	Online forum, newsletter, etc. for leaders in addition to traditional lesson plan.	Leader Guide, Activity Pages, Break Out Cards, Big Bible Panorama, Family Cards, Posters, DVD or online	Early elementary, Elementary and Preteen levels	\$300 per age level per year \$660 all age levels per year \$997 all age levels both years
<i>Rooted</i>	Group Publishing (Independent) www.group.com	Use key Bible stories to help people enter into a relationship with Christ and then <i>live</i> in Christ. He sent Jesus to make it possible for us to be in relationship with Him.	1 year Bible story based 13 customizable lessons for basic discipleship, new believers, outreach follow-up, missions, home churches and church plants 25% OT 75% NT (NLT)	Downloadable and customizable (30-45 minute sessions); designed to be facilitated by 1 leader	Lesson plans with coloring sheets; Also in Spanish and Chinese; downloadable	1 st – 6 th grade Youth & Adults	Quarterly: \$24.99 Leader \$5.99 Coloring Creations Ancillaries tied into Hands-On Bible Curriculum
<i>Seasons of the Spirit (Encore)</i>	Wood Lake Publishing (Ecumenical) http://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	\$144.50 per level all year (web) Per quarter: \$66 (web) \$70 (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) gives an introduction 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) http://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	\$11.99 Teacher \$7.99 Student \$18.99 Poster \$19.99 Music CD \$24.99 <i>Shine On</i> Bible
<i>Spark</i>	Sparkhouse / Augsburg-Fortress (ELCA) http://wearesparkhouse.org/kids/spark	Spark empowers kids' creativity & imagination as they explore Scripture through exciting activities that reinforce the lessons.	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	\$39.99 per Rotation Quarterly: \$7.99 Leader \$5.49 Learner \$14.99 Pack \$12.99 DVD

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<i>Splash!</i>	Augsburg-Fortress (ELCA) www.augsburgfortress.org/education/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</i>	Cokesbury (United Methodist) www.deepbluekids.com	A one-year Bible survey that follows the Christian Year for students (11+) that will prepare them to make the transition to your group, emphasizing nurturing faithful relationships	One year quarterly of 4 sessions per unit that sequentially goes through the major Bible stories	Complete session guide that will help lead and inspire inc: Flexible and step-by-step lesson plans that include reproducible dramas, activities, and more.	Print, color magazine and a journal for students to draw and reflect in	11+ years (Tween)	Quarterly: \$10.99 Leader's \$6.29 Magazine \$12.99 Diver's Log
<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>Walk With Me</i>	Faith Alive Resources (Reformed) www.WalkWithMeOnline.org	We aim to be faithful to Scripture and to make the Reformed faith come alive in our everyday experiences as children of God.	Two-year Bible story based for K-5 OT: 1st year NT: 2nd year Three-year for grades 6-8 (Also in Braille)	Complete lesson plan for 45 minutes with website assistance	Memory activities, worship, activity, song	Closely graded for K/4 – Grade 8	Per quarter: \$26.49 Teacher \$117.99 Resource Box \$9.99 Student UNDATED
<i>Weaving God's Promises</i>	Morehouse Education Resources (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

2015 Curriculum Overview for Children's Formation

Curriculum	Publisher (Denomination)	Foundation Statement	Content & Articulation	Teacher Support	Format	Ages	Cost / Usability
<i>We Believe</i>	Congregational Ministries Publishing (Presbyterian) www.pcusa.org/webelieve	Created specifically for Presbyterians, focuses on Reformed heritage. In different ways, each age level includes content from Reformed creeds, confessions, catechisms and statements of faith.	Bible story based quarterly with 13 lessons per quarter Workshop Rotation and Confirmation tracks also available	Leader Guides with specific plans; online training, downloads and newsletter	Traditional classroom or Workshop model; variety of activities, posters, downloads, home pages (English/Spanish)	All ages: toddlers - adults	\$42.95 Teacher online components extra DATED \$14.95 per workshop for Rotation model
<i>Whirl</i>	Sparkhouse / Augsburg Fortress (ELCA) http://wearesparkhouse.org/kids/whirl	A 3-year Lectionary-centered Sunday school program that connects kids with the bible, church life, and worship.	Lectionary based 40 lessons (3 quarters) 60% Gospel 30% OT 10% NT Also summer quarter	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: \$9.99 Leader Pack \$6.49 Learner \$19.99 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 plans and Weekly Tip Newsletter	Materials for classrooms, worship, home	All ages	\$137.75-1,375 Annual license (Sept-August) on church size or home use
<i>Witness</i>	Augsburg Fortress (ELCA) www.augsburgfortress.org/learning/sundayschool/witness	To give students a solid foundation of Biblical knowledge with the practical ways to share their faith in daily life: to know the Word, grow in faith, show service	Two-year undated quarterly using scripture metaphorically Old Testament 33% New Testament 67%	Material prep and detailed printed dialogue for teachers to have with students	Variety of activities are simple with a hands-on approach	Closely graded – ages 2-8th grade	Semester: \$8.99 Teacher \$33.99 Starter Kit \$7.99 Learner UNDATED
<i>Workshop Rotation Model (WoRM)</i>	Various publishers www.rotation.org See NOTES below for additional links	Concentrates on major stories of the Bible or themes over and over following workshop/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
<i>Worship for Life</i>	Logos Productions (Ecumenical) www.logosproductions.com	To provide resources that engage all ages in understanding the parts of a worship service and in integrating their renewed appreciation of worship into church life.	A resource collection of multidimensional materials: 14 books (13 units – 19 lessons each), each focusing on a different aspect of worship & its elements	Leader's Guide; lesson plan follows a consistent format	In print or CD format; on-line component and website resources	Designed for K-5 but adaptable for all ages	13 units & Leader's Guide w/music CD \$199

2015 Curriculum Overview for Children's Formation

CODES:

- Coloring coding: Yellow – Children; Blue – Tweens; Orange – All ages – many including adult
- ASA = Average Sunday Attendance – AWA = Average Worship Attendance

NOTES:

- **Workshop Rotation Model** programs:
 - Cokesbury's *Power XPress* – www.cokesbury.com (United Methodist)
 - LeaderResources' *WorkshopCycles* – www.leaderresources.org/workshopcycles (Episcopal)
 - Logos Productions' *Come Join the Circle* – www.logosproductions.com/content/come-join-circle (ecumenical)
 - Potter's Workshop – www.potters-publishing.com (independent)
 - Augsburg's *Spark* – 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
- **Prices** may change after date this listing was compiled

For updated overviews of curricula for children, youth & adults and more in-depth reviews, see "In Service" (an initiative of Church Publishing Incorporated) at www.churchpublishing.org/inservice For more information or questions regarding this chart contact Sharon Ely Pearson spearson@cp.org

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?
- How are children incorporated into the life of the congregation: through worship, service projects, outreach, fellowship?