

GAMES IN THE CLASSROOM

Rev. David & Mary Boyd, FireBible Ambassadors, Davidb@lifepublishers.org

The Christian classroom is a place for Bible learning. How does a totally unrelated game add to Christian education? Answer: Games create fun which adds interest, excitement, rewards, enthusiasm, uniqueness, creativity, skill, etc. All of these games will cause a child to return the next week, talk to their friends about class, and invite new friends back with them.

1. GAMES AS CROWD BREAKERS

- a. Open class with a splash.
- b. Mix the class up and allow everyone to relax.
- c. Make friends with the children.
- d. Show them that church can be fun.

2. GAMES AS BOREDOM BLOCKERS

- a. Break up the monotony of a normal class with a game.
- b. Let your kids know that "your class" will never be normal.
- c. Show you care, let them "let down their hair."

3. GAMES AS ENERGY SPENDERS

- a. Don't fight excess energy, spend it.
- b. Wiggles turn to giggles

4. GAMES AS DISCIPLINE INCENTIVES

- a. Games as a prize for a well attentive class.
- b. Game participants are chosen from well attentive children.

5. GAMES AS REVIEW ORGANIZERS

- a. Games participants must answer a review question.
- b. Games themselves use review material.

6. GAMES AS TEACHERS

- a. Games can utilize current material.
- b. Games can teach Bible content.
- c. Games can teach Bible familiarity.

7. GAMES AS TIME TAKERS

- a. Games can fill any allotted time.
- b. Games can be time-flexible.

Creative Ways to Teach Bible Verses

Classroom Table Games:

Sort and Say: Words on 3 by 5 cards & mixed up
Fly Swatter Quizzing: Teacher reads memory verse. When she says a wrong word, quiz in with a fly swatter.
Bible Hot Potato: Pass a potato. Teacher reads memory verse. When she stops, the last person to touch the potato is out.
Magnet trays
Concentration game
Puzzles: Verse or Concentration
Memory verse "Go Fish"

Small Classroom Games:

Hip Hop Verses: Say a word and pass a ball to someone in the circle.
One, two, three, or four game: One fourth of the memory verse is on each card. Pick a card, read it, and try and say the whole verse by picking the cards in order.
Erase a verse game: Erase or scratch out one word of the verse each time the verse is read or said.
Saying it fast: Stop watch. Who can say the verse the fastest.
Beat the clock: Slips of paper. Can you say the verse in this many seconds?
Saying it Crazy: Say the verse with weird glasses on or in a weird voice
Balloon Surprise: Balloons popped on top of heads
Scroll: Write verse on a scroll. Unroll it and then begin to roll it back up.

Large Classroom Games

Scripture pictures
Scrambled eggs: Kids hold a word of the verse. Scramble them up.
Clothesline mix up: Pin cards with words on a close line. Mix up and time to see who can rearrange them the fastest.
Radical Race: Two teams, two sets of cards, run to the far side of the room, grab a word, race back and get in order.
Rat Race: Like above. Must crawl.
Silent team racing: Show the verse. The first 10 on either side to be able to say the verse, wins for their team.
Countdown: Can you say the verse in X amount of seconds?