

# Apprenticeship Training

4PK – G45

Purpose: To have an interactive experience that includes a practical hands-on orientation.  
Leaders will learn how to connect with kids so they can apply Biblical lessons in their everyday lives.

## Preparing for your lesson:

*God himself has prepared us for this, and as a guarantee he has given us his Holy Spirit. 2 Corinthians 5:5*

- Read and study lesson materials early in the week. (look for them via email on Mon/Tues)
- Highlight and underline. Pay attention to the notes on the side. (Small group materials will be located in bins)
- Read Leader's Prep and **think** and **pray** about how this lesson applies to your life.
- Invite God to give you the wisdom of how the application in your life might be helpful for your kids.
- Be ready to share in kid language one of your own stories. Modeling is one of the key essentials of a Small Group Leader.

**Attend Team Time:** (Vision/Information/Prayer) remember to arrive **40 minutes BEFORE** service time.

*Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2*

Check-in with staff in lobby, pick up badge and quick snack in Crawler room off Kidz lobby. Go directly to your room.

- Familiarize yourself with the supplies in your bin.
- Receive information about the lesson, explanation of Small Group activity and details of Large Group.
- Gives time for adults to connect with one another **BEFORE** Activity Stations during Hang Time.
- Share stories from the prior week as it relates to your small group (ah'ha's, answer questions, celebrations, prayer requests, learn from one another i.e. "How do you handle a kid who...?") Gather ideas from other people in the group.
- Vision: KidzCrossing updates (copies of Team Time notes are available in each room)
- Please notify us if you are running late, via emergency number. It helps us as we plan group numbers for each room.

## Understand what to do during the hour:

*And anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf is welcoming me. Matthew 18:5*

**Activity Stations:** kids are welcomed to KidzCrossing as a fun and safe place.

- Be excited to meet each child and help kids reconnect with one another. Identify new kids with gold stars on their name tag. Be child-targeted not adult-targeted.
- Intentional shepherding begins here. Connect with kids in your small group. Spend extra time with children who struggle with separation with parents. Help new kids feel comfortable by telling them what will happen next, ie "we're going to go in that room to hear some music and an awesome bible lesson". Introduce them to their small group leader for the day.
- Pick an area to hang out – look for any of your kids or kids that seem alone and connect with them and introduce them to same age kids.
- Relate to kids by:
  - Asking questions about what they did today.
  - Talk about relevant topics or celebrations.
  - Using activities, play a game with them or do a craft.

## **Kid Connection:** kids personally connect with each other and leader

- Personally connect with your own group and take attendance (write first names and numbers only)
- Remember that Kid Connection question sets up the lesson of the day and prepares the kids for what they are going to hear in large group and gives them a compelling why. The answers gives you, the leader, insights into each child.
- Arrange group for optimal use of space. Be sensitive to sound levels.
- Have clear line of sight so that you can see every child. Position your helper, if available, across from you.
- The bin is your property. Children do not need to touch it unless you make a request.
- Answer the Kid Connection question first to initiate the discussion and model what you are asking. Listen to their answers and note what you learn.
- Introduce the lesson in order to transition and prepare them for large group.
- Feel free to make notes on your attendance sheet. They will be returned to you when attendance is verified.

## **Large Group:** kids hear God's truths and see how it applies to their lives.

- Model what to do during worship, teaching and drama. Do actions or hand motions when asked during the lesson, i.e., singing, saying the key concept.
- Be present at all times. (please turn off cell phones)
- Watch your group and make sure they are sitting behind the boundary line. Make sure all group members are within frontal eyesight.
- Invite kids to participate in music and throughout Large Group teach.
- Listen for content to bring back to small group for discussion.
- Watch behaviors of your group: who is engaged, interested, asking and answering questions, singing their hearts out. Encourage use of bathroom during activity stations or after large group. Your Large Group Teacher needs your assistance when crowd control so please don't hesitate to quickly respond to inappropriate behavior.

Important Reminder: (insert safe touch policy)

## **Small Group:** kids learn how to APPLY the lesson to their real lives.

- Gather your group in a circle facing you leaving sufficient distance between groups. Kids love to lay on their stomachs which allows your group to get closer during discussions.
- Focus kids attention by reviewing the large group questions, in order to check for understanding.
- Remember the purpose of the activity is to have kids think critically about what they are learning. The discussion is the most important aspect of small group, so allow for flexibility during activity.
- Review 3-strike rules, if necessary. (this is how we lovingly put healthy boundaries around our kids)
- Lead discussion questions and listen for comprehension and ability to apply the lesson to their own lives.
- Challenge their ideas in a safe and kind way. (what does the Bible say about how we are to treat each other...)
- Listen to what they say and note specific answers that help you get to know each child individually.
- Wrap up with reviewing the Bible verse cards.
- Close with prayer requests and pray for each child by name. Bless them and include the application from the lesson for this week.
- Dismissal – connect with parents by greeting as many parents as possible. Share specific positive observations about each child.
- Talk with Team Leader/KidzCrossing staff about behavioral issues or concerns.
- Clean-up – prepare bins for next service
- Stop by the Postcard station and write notes to kids needing encouragement. (address with first and last names only)
- Share any concerns about lesson with KidzCrossing staff.
- Return nametag to Crawler room.

Volunteer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level: \_\_\_\_\_ Service hour: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates for completion of KidzCrossing Volunteer process:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Application completed/submitted
- \_\_\_\_\_ Orientation attended
- \_\_\_\_\_ Interview completed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin observing/serving in room with Mentor
- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete training / serving on regular schedule
- \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency contact info added to cell phone contacts

## Notes / Questions: