

LATEST RESOURCES for KIDS MINISTRY

Situation and Disclaimer:

This list and critique of resources was compiled for the Sydney Missionary and Bible College annual Children's Ministry training day held May 2009. The topic was given to me [MAtt] by the principal David Cook. It was NOT that I put myself forward to do this task!

As such, a few disclaimers before you read the material.

1. The material mentioned is in NO WAY comprehensive in regards to what is available. We contacted a number of publishers and made known to them the topic for the day, and asked them to send any material that they had which would be helpful to those in children's ministry. The majority of the resources reviewed below are simply from this process. Without doubt there were numerous publishers that we did not contact that we should have, and some of those we did contact did not get material to us.
2. Some of the material is older than others, and technically does not fit under the heading of 'Latest Resources...'. However, all resources are still in use, and thus, for some, is what is most recent.
3. While critiquing resources I have tried think of what will be useful and looked for in children's ministry. Thus the 8 categories that are used in each critique.
4. It should be mentioned that a LARGE majority of these resources I have NEVER used in ministering to children. At *Quiz Worx* we write all our own material to perform, and are beginning to create resources for others as well. As such, the majority of the critiques are made by someone who has not used the material. I tried my best to get my head in the framework of working with kids when reviewing. However, there will no doubt be times when your experience of some material may be different to mine.
5. Finally, if you happen to be a writer of some of the material published, I hope I have reviewed your work fairly. If not, I'm sorry. And please, no hard feelings.

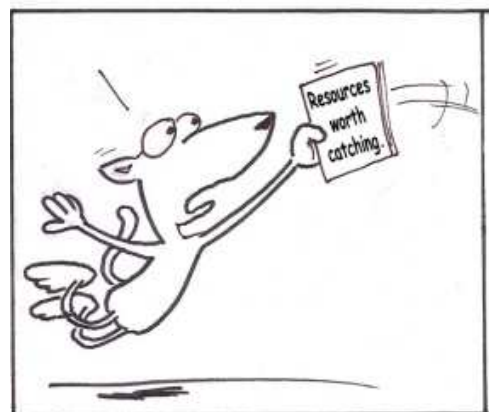
Having said all that, I hope and pray that the following may be of some benefit to you as you strive to serve our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ amongst kids.



MAtt

LATEST RESOURCES for KIDS MINISTRY

By Matt Gorton from Quiz Worx



Leaders' resources, ideas, development

CEP- Bible Events posters [\$29.95]; Bible Time Line posters [\$19.95]

Biblical	JJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJ
Creative	JJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJ	Professional	JJJJ

Both of these resources are quite bright and appealing. They help to show the flow of Bible. Pictures are great- comics- but realistic. Simple headings. Good for a Sunday School class- would help brighten room as well! Probably don't need both - especially if on a tight budget [but if can afford, you could swap them around after a term]. Both are good tools.

Bible Maps- \$29.95

Biblical	JJJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJ
Creative	JJJ	Different learning styles	JJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJJ	Professional	JJJJ

Bright, glossy maps of Bible areas. 12 maps, covering the Old and New Testament worlds. Great to show where things occurred as you discuss them. B&W masters included for photocopying or scanning. Gives details on how to use and where different events took place. A useful tool- particularly to expand kids' knowledge of the real world of the Bible.

Fantastic Crafts [\$19.95]; Fantastic Games [\$16.95]; Great Ideas [\$29.95]

Biblical	JJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJJ
Creative	JJJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJJ	Professional	JJJJ

These books have lots of easy to use and well set out ideas, on craft, games, or various tools for use in kids ministry. If more experienced, then Great Ideas is probably a bit basic. But the Fantastic books could be good for both the novice as well as the more experienced leader. Some crafts and games are linked with biblical themes, some are not. There is a section on how to link craft and/or games with message of lessons. If you write own material, or not happy with the craft and games sections of the material you use, well worth investing in.

Matthias Media- Their God is So Big- \$24.40

Biblical	JJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJ
Creative	JJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJJ	Modern	JJJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJJ	Professional	JJJJ

Written by Stephanie Carmichael, this is aimed at those who teach 2-7 year olds. It is aimed at both those who have been teaching this age group for a long time as well as those just starting off. The book starts by thinking through what a good Sunday School teacher is like from a Biblical perspective. It then moves on to thinking about how to create a lesson for this age group; starting with the Bible, through to craft, rhymes, games etc... Well and truly worth having and reading by anyone working with this age group, or for those training others to work with this age group.

Max7- www.max7.org- free

Biblical	JJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJJ
Creative	JJJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJJ	Modern	JJJJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJ	Professional	JJJJJ

Max7 is a web-based community that is focused on sharing high quality Biblical resources via **free** uploads and downloads. Aim: to help young people meet Jesus, learn about him from the Bible, and discover what it means to walk with him daily as their Lord and Saviour. There is curriculum material, training material, and simple resource material. It is a worldwide community, and so some material is written for a situation very different from ours. Whether you ever use it for curriculum or entire lessons, it is well and truly worth checking out to use some VERY creative and visual tools [including 3-D animations]. Logosdor, an Australian creative ministry, is a major player in its development and upkeep, and as such, if you use [for free], it would be good to donate towards them.

SU- The A-Z of Ministry with Children- \$25

Biblical	JJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJJ
Creative	JJJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJJ	Professional	JJJJ

An updated version of the classic Owen Shelley book of the same name. It has good, simple and practical ideas. Some of them are a little dated, but there are some great ideas drawn from many years of experience. Should be on all of our shelves!

SMBC- Children's Talks- A Practical Guide- \$25

Biblical	JJJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJJ
Creative	JJJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJJ	Professional	JJJJ

If you don't have this book- BUY it! It goes through the how and why of doing kids talks, using all kinds of different mediums. Sandy then gives you 21 of her children's talks that you can just take and use. You may never use all of them, but you will use some. You can familiarise yourself with the variety of

different styles included in the book, then, use these when writing your own children's talks. A resource that every church should have!

TEAR- Incite 4 Kids- free- www.tear.org.au

Biblical	JJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJJ
Creative	JJJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJJJ
Easy to Use	JJJ	Professional	JJJJ

This is a free magazine put out [twice a year I think] by Christian aid and relief organisation TEAR. Aimed at 7-12 year olds. The magazine is one of a number of resources that TEAR have created which seek to increase children's awareness of issues facing the world's poor. There are stories, simulation games, craft ideas. Would be a great addition to any children's program which aims to broaden kids' perspective on what God is doing throughout the world, and how they, as kids, can be involved in this.

Scripture/SRE

Bible Soc- Alive and Active- Free.

Biblical	JJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJJ
Creative	JJJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJJJ
Easy to Use	JJJ	Professional	JJJJ

The Bible Society, in conjunction with Logosdor, have produced this series of 4 lessons to introduce the Bible to kids, and enthuse them to use it as the way to get to know God. It has a DVD to watch, lesson plans, memory verse etc... It is the most creative SRE resource I have seen. It is aimed at years 3-4, though my year 5 classes have enjoyed it too. The lessons are too long for a 30 min class- so can't just use as is, and I feel more actual use of the Bible would be good. Getting a DVD player into the room and setting it up [if there's not already one in there] may be a bit hard for some. Contact Bible Society.

CEP- Beginning with God- \$31.95, \$4.20

Biblical	JJJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJ
Creative	JJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJ	Professional	JJJJ

This is Kindergarten specific material. It is aimed at introducing children who are just starting out on their school career to God, through the story of the Bible. The worksheets are easy and colourful, the lessons are simple, and they work hard at using different learning styles. Easy to use as is.

BIG Questions- for year 6- Leaders- \$30 semester 1, \$40 semester 2. Kids- \$4.

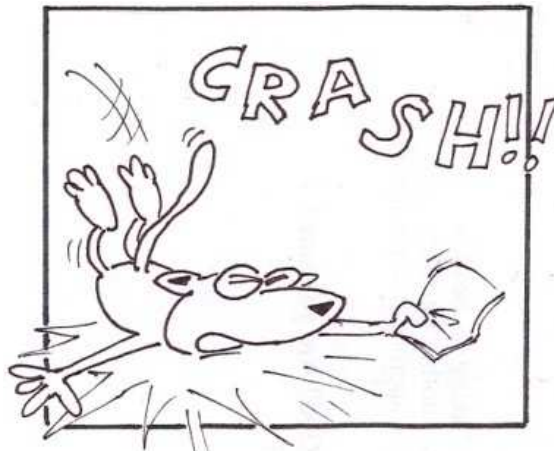
Biblical	JJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJ
Creative	JJJ	Different learning styles	JJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJJ	Professional	JJJ

This is written specifically for year 6 students at school. It aims to allow kids to ask questions, and teaches them to find answers in God's Word. Semester one looks at God and Jesus, with semester 2 looking at what it means to be a Christian, church, and issues facing kids lives. Relies fairly heavily on kids wanting to discuss. The work booklets are GREAT- very engaging and professional layout for this age group. Lessons may be a bit long for one lesson, so may use over a two year period [years 5 and 6?]. Not the most innovative tool- still lots of talking and simply asking questions. But a good resource for this age.

Connect- Infants, Lower Prim, Upper Prim- Leaders- \$28, kids, \$2.10

Biblical	JJJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJ
Creative	JJJ	Different learning styles	JJ
Age Appropriate	JJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJJ	Professional	JJJ

This material has been around for a while now- so many will be familiar with it. It is a strong, Biblically based Curriculum, which tries to be simple to use within SRE classes. Sometimes it tries to bite off too much, and some lessons/series seem strange choices [eg. series on Kings]. Sometimes a little dull, but strives to be creative. Fairly easy to use as is.



Sunday School/Kids Church

Bethlehem Baptist- Children Desiring God- www.childrenedesiringgod.org

Teachers Kit [one per class]- from \$120 [US]. Leaders booklet [one per leader]- \$40-\$45. Kids workbooks [per kid]- \$3-\$3.50

Biblical	JJJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJ
Creative	JJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJ	Professional	JJJJJ

This is a resource from the U.S. It's philosophy/theological under-pinning is that God is to be the centre of each lesson, rather than the child and their needs. Only God is the one who really meets all our needs anyway, and He alone is to be glorified. Material ranges from Pre-school through till year 9 at school. Material seems fairly engaging, and works hard to be age appropriate. Some great illustrations. Worth checking out.

CEP- Kids@Church

Teachers Pack- \$29.95 [contains teachers manual, black-line masters, set of visual aid posters, one copy of kids' component]; Teachers manual- \$19.95; Child's Component- \$2.75

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

This is new material from CEP aimed specifically at Sunday School classes. Broken up into different age groups- 3-5's, 5-7's and 8-11's. There is a 3 year curriculum, though you could just use them to fit in with your curriculum. They look at books of the Bible and/or themes from the Bible. They are creative, Biblical, and age appropriate. I think the kids would enjoy, learn, and want to come back.

Kidswise- www.kidswise.com.au. Prices range from \$45-\$300.

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★	Different learning styles	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★★

This site, by Sandy Galea and the Rooty Hill MBM church, has Kids talks, as well as Sunday School material, and training material. It sets out clearly how lessons can be run, how they link with the kids talks, and use a good variety of ways of teaching the same simple lesson. Some of the time your church may not have enough people to run with lessons as they are. But easily adapted.

Logosdor- Oasis- \$145

Biblical	★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★★

Oasis is aimed at 7-11 year olds. It is fun, fast paced, and far and away the most creative Sunday school resource reviewed here. Each series is broken into four parts: mission/outreach, discipling, then ministry, then a celebration week. The aim is that in the first weeks kids invite their non-churched friends, which is followed by three weeks of growth teaching, followed by preparing for creative ministry to each other and the church as a whole. Some of the ideas in the 'ministry' section are GREAT! On the whole the series follow themes rather than books of the Bible. They aim to teach for transformation, rather than heaping lots of information on kids. I think this is a fine aim, however felt that there was not enough meat in the teaching sections- especially for kids who have grown up in the church. If I were running this material at my church, I would add meatier teaching to the lessons, but use the majority of what they recommend- as very engaging, and I think kids would really enjoy it.

Matthias Media- Teaching Little Ones- \$65

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★
Creative	★★★	Different learning styles	★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★	Modern	★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★

This is material written by Stephanie Carmichael, and now distributed thru Matthias Media. It is aimed at the 'before school age' kids within your church. There's a 2-3 year olds, plus a 3-5's, and a 5-8s. Each lesson is simple, and a basic introduction to the Bible. Sometimes it seems there's a bit too much speaking, with just pictures to look at. But a good tool to help think about what you do in your church with the littlies.



Music CDs & DVDs

Colin Buchanan- Large range of CDs and DVDs

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★	Catchy	★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

Colin has numerous CDs and DVDs on the market. They all [at least all the specifically Christian ones] feature strongly Biblical songs. He tackles big themes from the Bible, teaches memory verses, and is simply a lot of fun. Each CD and DVD seems to be more polished and professional [although I personally think 'Super Saviour' is a step backwards in this department]. He, without doubt, has set the standard for Evangelical Australian Christian kids music, and kids music DVDs.

EMU- Get Ready; The King the Snake and the Promise; Meet the King- \$19.95

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★	Catchy	★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★	Modern	★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★

These three CDs from EMU music contain both songs and Sunday school [or kids club] material. They are all deeply biblical. The teaching material is good and solid, though not the most creative. But quite easy to use, and explains the Bible well. The songs vary in quality, from well written songs to some

rather daggy ones. Each CD, however, has at least 3 songs on that can easily be used in a congregational setting [any CD with 2-3 songs that can really be used is probably worth getting].

A Very Very Very Big God- \$16.95; J is for Jesus- \$17.95

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Catchy	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

These CDs are aimed at Pre-school aged kids. Featuring Karen from Playschool, they are quite Play school sounding. Most songs are simple, while teaching great truths. There are over 20 songs on both CDs, and the majority of them could easily be used in a Pre-school class [some you could use for infants kids as well, or for kids songs in church]. If you work with this age group, these CDs would be a great asset.

Ben Pakula: A Very Special Tent- \$19.95

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Catchy	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★★

This CD has blown me away! Deep, profound, and yet simple lyrics. A lot of OT imagery, though all brought through to the kids via Jesus. This is a SOLID Rock/Hard Rock/ Metal album for kids. Older boys [10-13 year olds] who are too cool for normal kids music, and who like their music with an edge, will LOVE this album. Most of the songs are quite wordy, and thus not always the easiest to learn [I doubt any would be learnt in one lesson]. But for kids to take home, or if you are willing to spend a number of weeks playing and learning the songs, they will get stuck in the kids heads. If you work with older kids [especially boys], or have older boys, GET THIS ALBUM. [Note- my 4 year old son loves this album too! We rock to it together!]

Jana Alayra- Believin' On- www.janaalayra.com- \$15.00 [U.S]

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Catchy	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

Catchy, professional, Biblical. I haven't seen this CD here in Australia, so had to purchase it on Net. But has some great songs that can be used in your kids ministry. Some quite Rocking songs through to slower ballad types.

Johnny Burns- How Cool is that; Praise Crazy; Praise Pop Party [DVD]; Unreal Banana Peel- \$19.95

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★
Creative	★★★	Catchy	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★	Modern	★★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★★

Johnny calls his music 'Praise Pop for Kids'. And that is what it is. A lot of the music is catchy, and aimed fairly simply at kid level. His songs range from teachy to out and out 'praise'. Not ground breaking, and some daggy elements. But also some songs that are very hard to get out of your head- he writes some good pop songs! The DVD is not quite Hi-5, but would be enjoyed by kids up to year 3.

Kidspraise.com- free

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★	Catchy	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★

The songs on this website were written by Scooter [2]. They no longer produce CDs, but have placed their songs on this web-site for free download, so that others can continue to use their songs. There are some rather funny songs [I think 'God made Cows' would be a great song to download the sheet music for and play live!]. Some rather catchy songs, and some a little less so. Worth checking out.

Quiz Worx- Living 4 Jesus- \$20

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Catchy	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★

I've tried to be as impartial as I can in reviewing this CD [though it's hard. I like this CD. Do I like it cause it's good, or because I was heavily involved in writing and performing on it? Hopefully the first! Others, who had no input to the CD, like it too! Still, you will have to get it to check it out for yourselves]. This CD is aimed at primary aged children predominantly, and has quite a rock edge. Topics range from wanting to be friends with God, to God's creation, to Eschatology. The songs are quite catchy. Some are quite wordy, and would take a few weeks to learn properly. Others are much more simple, and can be taught in one go. The production value is reasonable, though not quite as good as we would have liked [vocals need to be turned up more]. As mentioned, buy it and check it out for yourselves [all proceeds go towards keeping QW a viable ministry! And surely you can use at least 3 songs from it!]

Vineyard- Great Big God- \$25

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Catchy	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

Some ripper songs that kids will love. Catchy tunes, non daggy [at least some], and Biblical.



Hand-out/ Evangelistic

Bible Society- Because Jesus Loves Me- \$8.95

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

This is a great book to give away to families of newborns, or at first birthday parties! It's simple, eye catching, on glossy card. It also has simple actions that you can do with your child to help them remember what they are learning. Great for 0-3 year olds.

CEP- Becoming God's Friend- \$2.95

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

This tract/booklet is aimed at 8-11 year olds. Not really appropriate for younger than that. Gives clear gospel presentation using clear words, and pictures. Kids should enjoy it, and be able to understand. Not sure how often they would read. A good tool.

Logosdor- Waffle DVD- \$25

Biblical	★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

This Waffle DVD is full of fun, while teaching the gospel story at the same time. It is very professional [at times reminding me of The Muppets, and always brilliant puppetry. It is a DVD that kids would happily watch over and over and over again- and learn biblical truths without even realising it. Also could be used for video nights!

Matthias Media- Gum Tree Gully- Matthias, \$12.50, \$11.25 for 5+

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

This book, written by Kel Richards, is an allegorical story based on the '2 Ways to Live' tract. It is about 6 animals who live in a gully protected by 'The Ranger'. It is fun, easy to read, and has the explanation of the story at the end of each chapter. Good for parents to read with their kids, teachers with their Sunday school class, and as an end of year prize [though slightly pricey].

Who will be King?- \$1.20, \$0.95 for 25 +

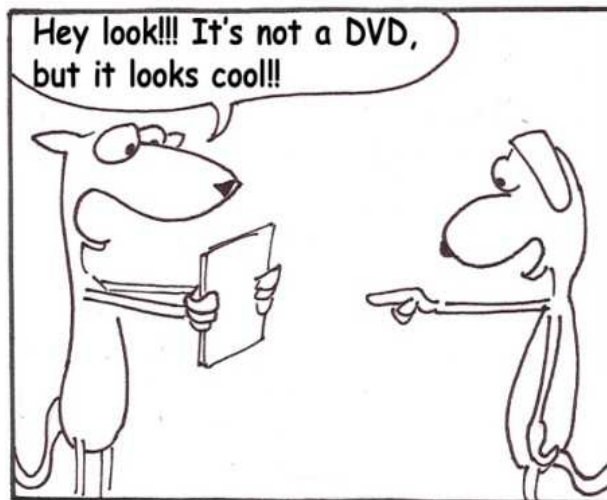
Biblical	JJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJ
Creative	JJ	Different learning styles	JJ
Age Appropriate	JJ	Modern	JJ
Easy to Use	JJJ	Professional	JJJJ

A children's [7-11 year old] version of the well known '2 Ways to live' tract. Words are clear, and pictures easy to understand. However, quite wordy, and not overly visually stimulating. As a simple evangelistic tract, I'm not sure too many kids will read all the way through, never mind re-read constantly. A good tool to give to good readers, and then work through with them.

Quiz Worx- The Amazing Rescue- \$2.50, \$2.00 for 25-99, \$1.75 for 100 +

Biblical	JJJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJ
Creative	JJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJJ	Professional	JJJ

3 different 'Rescue' stories. A jungle adventure, a puppet movie story, and the 'Real Rescue'- the story of God's rescue plan for people. Written as a comic book, it appeals to kids, who should read it any number of times. Initially written as a follow up tool for a kids mission, it translates easily into a non-daggy tract to give away to kids [7-12 year old].



Christian Growth

Good News Company- eXplore the Bible- \$8 per issue

Biblical	JJJJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJ
Creative	JJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJJ
Easy to Use	JJJJ	Professional	JJJJ

This is a Bible reading tool aimed at kids [7-10 year old]. It is colourful, simple to use, systematic, and easy to understand. It will encourage the kids to be reading the Bible themselves, and help explain the Bible to them. Encourage parents to purchase for their kids.

Matthias Media- Short Steps for Long Gains [Family Edition]- \$4.80 [or \$4.00 for 5+]

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★
Creative	★★	Different learning styles	★★
Age Appropriate	★★★	Modern	★★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★

This takes 26 Biblical concepts/doctrines, gives an overarching bible verse, and then questions with other Bible passages to look up answers. Aimed at 7-14 year olds. Could be used in a family devotion, spend a few days on each topic, learning key verses, discussing questions, etc... Possibly could be given to kids as personal Quiet Time material. Not flashy or creative layout, but not meant to be.

Triune- Window on the World- \$57

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

God's plan is for the world to know Him through Jesus. Yet so often we spend our time focused on ourselves and our own little patch of ground. This then is reflected in what we teach and show the kids we teach and raise. This GREAT book is a children's version of 'Operation World'. It has glossy pictures, and information on a large number of countries and people groups from around the world. There are also stories of different individuals, and prayer points for the kids to pray. This would be a great resource to have within SS classes, or to recommend to parents for use in their family devotions. It's not cheap, but it is worth it!

Kids Clubs**CEP- Kids Plus- Leaders pack \$40. Children's Components- \$17.50 [for 20 kids]**

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★
Easy to Use	★★★	Professional	★★★

The pack I have is 'Hoist the Sails' [there are many others]. There are games set out, craft ideas, drama, and group times [the Bible input part]. These seemed fairly easy to use, and should get the kids in and excited. You need enough leaders to run the group times well- or else you would need to adapt one of the group times for the whole group.

CSI- Jerusalem- <http://users.on.net/~olmos/CSIJerusalem> - Free

Biblical	★★★★	Value for \$\$	★★★★
Creative	★★★★	Different learning styles	★★★★
Age Appropriate	★★★★	Modern	★★★★
Easy to Use	★★★★	Professional	★★★★

This 5 day kids mission material is free, creative, and strongly Biblical. It is also varied and creative, with each aspect helping to get across the point. Time is spent in the Bible, and kids doing their own investigating [they are trainee detectives trying to find out the answer to who is Jesus and what was his mission?] It also gives craft ideas and instructions, games, dramas, note pad, running sheet. And did I mention it is free?

Presbyterian Youth- Kids Club Material- \$30

Biblical	JJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJ
Creative	JJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJ	Professional	JJ

This has been put out as a resource for after school clubs. Written by Southern Cross Presbyterian, Lismore. It's training supplement is really worthwhile and includes thoughts on running kids clubs and linking with families etc... Not mind blowing, but good. The lessons set out games, skits, talks, group times etc... Most of these are really well done and creative- and look like a lot of fun. Biggest drawback- the talks [which should be a highlight] are simply points/outlines. This is fine if you have experience in writing own talks, but gives very little guidance for those who don't have experience. Would be concerned that everything else would look and sound heaps of fun, but talks could end up dull. Apart from that, a great resource.

SU- Clues2Use- Landlubbers on the Jesus Quest- pack \$41. www.ichristian.com.au- links SU, children's ministry, evangelism

Biblical	JJJ	Value for \$\$	JJJJ
Creative	JJJJ	Different learning styles	JJJJ
Age Appropriate	JJJJ	Modern	JJJ
Easy to Use	JJJ	Professional	JJJ

This pack is based on Luke's gospel, and uses the Children's version of the Jesus film. It has a great introduction, with some great ideas for the leaders. Each lesson has a lot of different activities to choose from to make the day run smoothly and creatively. Again, main concern would be teaching could be dull compared to rest of activity- as talks not fully set out. But here you use the video to do a reasonable amount of the teaching. The Captain's story could be a bit dull also- depending on how you did it. But yet another tool that can be used to great effect.

