



## Classroom Evaluation

As you observe a class for children being conducted, ask yourself the following questions. An interpretation key is included at the end to help you interpret what you observed. For a better assessment of your program, it is best to use this evaluation in multiple classes.

### Before the lesson:

- Is the teacher present when the students first arrive?
- Is the teacher prepared for class before the first students arrive?
- Do students seem to be excited about coming to class?
- Does the teacher appear to genuinely love and care equally about all of the students?

Examples:

- Is each student greeted warmly by name, smiles, hugs, etc.?
- Does the teacher appear to know something about the lives and interests of students?
- Are visitors introduced to other students?
- Are visitors paired with a student who attends regularly in order to welcome visitors to the class?
- Is an attempt made to learn a little about visitors?

### During the lesson, does the teacher:

- Read the day's story from an easy-to-read or age-appropriate version of the Bible?
- Tell students the main concept they are supposed to learn from today's lesson?
- Explain unusual words so students can understand the meaning of the passage?
- Describe historic cultural and societal differences in ways students can understand?
- Ask questions to assess students' comprehension of the story?
- Ask higher-level questions (see *Asking Better Questions in Bible Classes*) to assess the level of comprehension they have of the godly principles and application of the scriptures being taught?
- Ask students questions to help them think of ways to put the godly principles of the passage into daily practice in their lives?
- Encourage questions from students, even if they appear to be expressing doubts or exhibiting a lack of faith?
- Share his/her own questions and faith journey with the students in order to model life's continuous learning and growth?
- Answer students' questions respectfully or make a plan for follow up if the teacher doesn't know the answer?
- Clarify any misunderstandings students may have?

## **Is the activity:**

- Meaningful?
- Memorable?
- Hands-on or experiential?
- Strongly connected to the Bible lesson?
- Requiring the students to reflect upon and/or practice the godly principles taught in the lesson?
- Appealing to students with different learning styles and interests?
- Something the student will keep or remember doing for several weeks or longer?

## **During the lesson, are students:**

- Encouraged to ask questions even if they appear to be expressing doubts about the material covered or a lack of belief?
- Required to actively engage with the material—to think, reflect, question and/or create based on the passages taught?
- Actively engaged in an activity to experience something or create something? (Filling out worksheets doesn't count.)
- Remembering what they learned in previous classes with minimal prompting?
- Provided with materials that have been adjusted to meet the needs of any students with special needs?

## **Classroom management:**

- Does the teacher make adjustments in behavioral expectations for students with special learning needs without embarrassing the student in the process?
- Does the teacher have age-appropriate expectations for student behavior?
- Does student behavior seem to allow other students to learn without frustration?
- Are students happy and engaged?
- Does the teacher manage classroom behavior in appropriate ways?

## **At the close of the lesson, does the teacher:**

- Encourage prayer inside and outside of class time?
- Encourage Bible reading inside and outside of class?
- Give students challenges to put the principles from the lesson into practice during the week?
- Model servant leadership?
- Show a mutual respect for students?
- List and explain the godly principles he/she wants students to master before they leave his/her class?
- Name two or three specific and measurable goals he/she has for the class and the students?
- Provide tools (like parent letters) to help the parents of students extend learning at home?

## **Interpretation Key**

Programs attempting to give students a strong foundation for their faith should be able to answer “yes” to all of the questions in each of their classes. This, however, would be highly unusual in any educational environment. It is more likely you will find some issues with individual classes and others that seem to affect your entire program.

Teach One Reach One ([teachonereachone.org](http://teachonereachone.org)) has many free resources to help. We can also provide free consultations by telephone or email or come to your site to help you enhance your program. (Site visits are charged expenses only. Grants are available for programs unable to afford expenses.)

If you have any questions or need a resource you can't find on our site, please use the contact tab and let us know how we can help you. We want every child to be prepared to reach his/her God-given potential for worshipping and serving Him.