

Core Values

Joy

we want the children to celebrate who God is

Safety

we ensure physical and emotional safety

Family

we recognise and empower the children's family

Sharing

we equip children to share God's grace

Application

we plan for a changed life

Engagement

we encourage active learning

Relationships

we are intentional about building relationships

Resources

A Quick Start Guide

(AdventSource)

- Beginner Sabbath School
- Kindergarten Sabbath School
- Primary Sabbath School
- Junior Sabbath School
- Earliteen Sabbath School

Children's Ministries Ideas and Techniques That Work (AdventSource)

Teaching the Faith: An Essential Guide for Building Faith-Shaped Kids (Review and Herald)

www.adventsource.org

www.gracelink.net

www.childmin.com

www.spd.adventistconnect.org/children

www.gcchildmin.org

For resources and information on training, log into the members site at sspm.adventistconnect.org or contact your local conference personal ministries director.



THE MINISTRY OF THE Children's Sabbath School Leader

You have been asked to serve as a Children's Sabbath School leader. This is a wonderful opportunity to help disciple children – connecting them to a life-long loving relationship to Jesus. The GraceLink Curriculum is used. This has been designed for faith development – Bible-based and focussed on the key understandings and practice of Grace, Worship, Community and Service. This guide has been designed to help you get started in this ministry.

sspm.adventistconnect.org
www.spd.adventistconnect.org/children

Accountable To

Children's Ministries Coordinator and
Children's Committee

Specific Responsibilities

- set goals for Sabbath School
- organise and lead Sabbath School programs and themes
- coordinate room decorations, purchase and store resources (GraceLink teachers guides and children's Bible study guides)
- delegate teacher's responsibilities and ensure 'total hour' teaching happens.
- equip and support teachers by meeting regularly for planning
- organise yearly Sabbath School training
- regularly encourage and thank teachers
- organise volunteers from youth and older members
- set the budget*
- integrate all church activities by planning a yearly calendar of family-friendly events and parent outreach*
- maintain and update children's files (contact details, attendance, birthdays)
- ensure volunteers are screened and have completed child-safety forms
- ensure the room environment is safe

Ministry Coordination

- **Nurturing ministry:** Greet and welcome children and parents; send get-well and birthday cards; visit sick children; build strong community; organise weekly snacks and regular potlucks; ensure children have quality discussion time in groups of approx. five.
- **Serving ministry:** Empower children to serve the church, home and community – use ideas from GraceLink Teachers Guide.
- **Outreach:** Encourage children to invite friends to Sabbath School.
- **Family ministry:** Organise visitation so that each child receives a home visit at least once a year; equip and support parents to use Gracelink at home.
- **Worship ministry:** Choose songs, musicians; provide a place where children can have a quiet time with God; ensure children, Sabbath School teachers and volunteers pray for each other and the Sabbath School.
- **Mentoring:** Children to accept Jesus as Saviour, and put names forward for Commitment Ceremony; teachers in spiritual growth; parents as they build faith at home

Sabbath School leaders must be committed to:

- Jesus Christ and a growing relationship with Him
- Christ-centred ministry to children
- The Seventh-day Adventist Church and its beliefs
- A balanced Christian lifestyle
- Teamwork
- Cooperative ministry under the leadership of the children's ministries coordinator, church pastor and church board
- Personal growth in spiritual formation of children and teaching skills



Children's Sabbath School Leader