

Guide for Leading Missions Groups for Kids

Missions Discipleship for
Girls and Boys in grades 1-6



This manual was produced by
Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union®.

WELCOME TO CHILDREN'S MISSIONS DISCIPLESHIP

Thank you for listening to God's call on your life to disciple children in missions. Leading children is more than teaching facts or skills. As a leader you serve as a Christian role model. You are discipling girls and boys to be committed to Christ and his mission. By personally following the Great Commission, your example can make a lasting difference in children's lives.

Through Bible study, prayer, mission study and serving, missions discipleship helps children see God at work in the world and understand their role in bringing others to Christ.

You may choose your group name. Many leaders use the name "Children in Action"® or "CA". Other group names are "Kids on Mission" or "Mission Kids." You may even want your kids to choose their own group name! As a missions leader you will lead girls and boys to be active in Bible study, praying, learning, giving, and serving. This guide will explain different styles for leading children's missions and help you choose which style best suits your group.

May God bless you on this exciting journey as you help boys and girls become all God designed them to be!

Essentials

Bible study
learning about missions
praying for missions,
giving to missions,
and serving in missions

Features

Regular Meetings
Mission Projects
GA Journey®,
Missions Expedition®,
RA Trek®,
Campcraft®
(Achievement Plans*)

SHAPING YOUR MISSIONS GROUP

Ages- Mission groups can divide into subgroups by grade levels or combine grades 1-6, depending on the number of children in your church and the number of leaders. You should have 2 leaders for each group of 1-15.

Meetings- Mission groups can meet weekly, monthly or bi-monthly. Meetings are typically an hour in length, but time can be adjusted depending on the needs and goals of the group or church. Groups can meet during established church program hours or at alternate times. Groups can also meet in homes.

Volunteers- Encourage parents and other adults in your church to volunteer with your group. This is especially helpful during mission projects and badge work. **The sponsoring church should conduct a background check on all leaders and volunteers.**

Communication- Keep parents and your church up to date on the activities of your group through newsletters, bulletin boards, and social media.

Structure- Leaders choose which style works best for their particular group. (See Group Styles on p. 4)



Group Styles

There is no correct style for leading a children's missions group. Choose the style that works best for you, your kids, their parents, and your church.

Curriculum Style

Leaders use Mission Journey: Kids®* as a weekly guide for leading children's missions. Projects and badges are emphasized in the fourth week's plans.

Project Style

Leaders and children meet to pray for missions and develop and implement mission projects for their community. Some meetings will be at mission project sites.

Fusion Style

Week 1: Mission Story

Week 2: Bible Study

Week 3: Mission Project

Week 4: Mission Activities

Customized Style

Leaders create a customized style for their group, remembering to include learning, praying, giving, and serving.

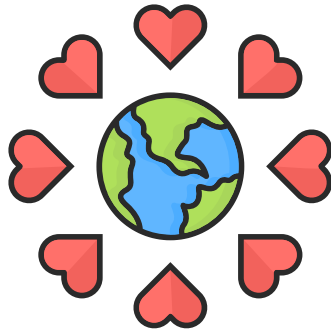
*Mission Journey: Kids can be ordered from wmu.com.

A sample meeting for Project and Fusion Styles can be found on p.5

Project Style Sample Plan

1. Kids say Motto, Pledge, and Scripture Verses.(See p. 6 for sample Pledge, Motto, and Scripture Verse.)
2. Pray for missionaries and mission projects.
3. Monthly Memory Verse game.
4. Leader explains the mission project for the month or kids determine the project.
5. Kids and leaders work on a project (blessing bags, baking, cards, Christmas shoeboxes, etc.) or visit a mission site.

Individual Achievement Plans could also be incorporated into the Project Style.



Fusion Style Sample Plan

1. Kids say Motto, Pledge, and Scripture Verse. (See p.6)
- 2 Pray for missionaries and mission projects.
3. Short game or activity to introduce the lesson.
4. Leader chooses from the following: Bible story, mission story, mission project, mission activities, Individual Achievement Plan*
5. Game or activity to support the lesson.

*Bible stories relate to missions. Mission stories can be found in Missions Mosaic (wmu.com) or imb.org. Mission projects are developed based on community needs. Mission activities might include cultural games, recipes, prayer journals, skits, displays, etc. Individual Achievement Plans can be ordered from wmu.com.

CA Identity Elements

Kids love to belong! Children in Action not only gives kids a sense of belonging, but of acceptance and of purpose. Club-like identity elements help kids feel a part of the group. CAs typically say these elements at the beginning of the meeting. Badges awarded for things like scripture memory and mission projects enhance the experience.

CA Motto:

"Send me!"

CA Pledge

As a member of Children in Action*, I will pray for missions, give to missions, learn about missions, and do missions through the power of Christ.

(*You could use your own group name here.)

CA Scripture Verse

I can do everything by the power of Christ.
He gives me strength. Philippians 4:13



How to a Lead a Children's Missions Group

Pray for God's leadership in the following steps.

1. Talk with church leadership about your desire to begin a children's missions group.
2. Decide which group style you will use. (p. 4)
3. Enlist leaders.
4. Decide location, meeting dates, and times.
5. Promote 4-6 weeks before the start date. Talk to parents and kids about this exciting new group.
6. Order resources based on your chosen group style. (see p. 4)
7. Plan specifically for the first weeks of your group. Plan generally for your year. (see p. 8)



Yearly Schedule Ideas

September: Season of Prayer for State Missions and Eliza Broadus Offering®, Children's Missions Day®

October: Fall Festival Involvement

November: Ministries to orphans, widows, and veterans, GA JAM*

December: Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Christmas outreach

January: Ministries to homeless

February: Ministry to Seniors (Valentine's Day cards, visit a nursing home)

March: Week of Prayer and Mission Study for North American Missions

April: Easter outreach

May: Mother's Day Tea, Ballpark outreach

June/July: Kentucky WMU Events for Children-Changers Kids and Explore*

August: Christmas in August, Hunger Awareness Day*

*See kywmu.org

Eliza Broadus Offering® is a registered trademark of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union®.

Children's Missions Day® is a registered trademark of Woman's Missionary Union®.

Missions Expedition and Badges

Badges are a great way to encourage kids in missions. *Missions Expedition*® is an achievement plan for children. The leader plans activities from *Missions Expedition* which has over 100 activities in the following categories:

- Give
- Grow
- Keep
- Care
- Do
- I Pray
- Learn

Kids can earn badges for each category of *Missions Expedition* for each year.



A variety of other badges are also available from wmu.com. *CA Badge Catalog* is a free resource that provides creative ways to award badges.



Missions Expedition® is a registered trademark of Woman's Missionary Union®.

CA Resources

Curriculum:

Missions Journey: Kids Leader is a quarterly magazine of weekly lessons plans. Lessons include missions, culture, Bible study, discipleship, games, and crafts.

Missions Journey: Kids Adventure is a missions magazine for kids.

Missions Journey: Kids Leader Kit contains full-color posters, games, and activities.

Missions Expedition is the achievement resource for Children in Action.

CA Promotion Pack contains identity posters.

CA Digital Pack provide graphics to design your own CA items.

Badges can be awarded for individual achievement.

CA Badge Catalog provides ideas for awarding badges. (Free from wmu.com.)

Resources can be ordered from
wmu.com.

Leader Responsibilities

Leaders have an important role in discipling children in their spiritual development. A children's missions leader has a passion for missions and a love for children.

Leaders:



Pray for each child in their group



Plan and implement missions lessons, projects, and activities



Recognize the developmental, learning, emotional, and spiritual needs of their group



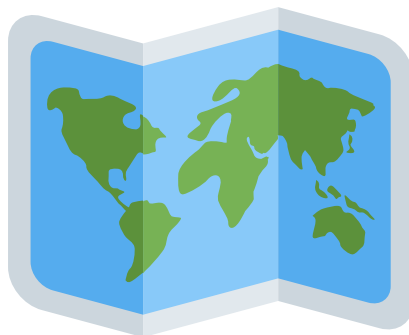
Provide for the safety and security of children



Cooperate with church leadership



Enlist new group members and leaders



Allergy Alert Chart

Today we will:

Taste: _____

Touch: _____

Smell: _____

Please sign below if your child is allergic to any of these items.

Name

Allergic to:

Suggested Scripture Verses to Memorize

CA Scripture Verse: Philippians 4:13

The Great Commission: Matthew 28:19-20

The Roman Road to Salvation: Romans 3:23,
Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 10:9-10

John 3:16

Acts 1:8

Additional Verses



Leading Kids to Serve in Your Community

Before you Go:

1. Pray with your kids that God would reveal needs in your community and how your kids could help.
2. Visit potential sites before you take your kids. Ask about safety precautions and restrictions. Ask mission site directors about specific projects kids could do. Many times, mission directors aren't used to kids coming to serve. You may need to offer suggestions. Ask what donations are needed.
3. Ask church leadership for a permission form for kids. If you need to develop one, include: parent/guardian contact information, health information (allergies, insurance, etc.), permission to ride in church or leaders' vehicle. Each parent/guardian completes and signs the permission form.

On site:

1. Prayerwalk the area you will be serving.
2. Divide kids into teams if possible. Each team works on a project. Take hourly breaks. Play games or have a snack. Switch projects.
3. Debrief your visit. Ask: What did you learn? How can you serve in the future?

After your Visit:

Encourage kids to write about their experience in a journal and/or share with your congregation.

Mission Project Planning

Name of Project _____

Who are we helping? _____

Where will we do the project? _____

When will we do the project? _____

Who will help with the project? _____

What steps do we need to do to complete the project?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

What supplies are needed and who will gather them?

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

How will we let others know about our project? _____
