

Curriculum Standards

Performance Indicators

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Sample Activities

For Children of Ages Ten and Eleven

or

those in Grade Five

Word Bank
Benediction
Covenant
Incarnation
Liturgical year
Papacy
Pentecost
Revelation
Worship
Bible
Exposition
Inspiration
Magnificat
Paschal Mystery
Prophet
Sacramental
Community
Gospel
Lector
Manna
Passover
Psalms
Vatican



Prayers to be introduced...

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Act of Faith | Psalms |
| Act of Hope | Hail Holy Queen |
| Act of Love | Stations of the Cross |
| Gloria | |
| Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) | |
| Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament
(Divine Praises) | |



Prayers to "learn by heart."

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|----------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Sign of the Cross | Our Father | Glory Be |
| Apostles Creed | Grace before and after meals | |
| Hail Mary | Morning and Evening Prayer | |
| Liturgical responses | Act of Contrition | |

Prayers to Practice

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------|
| Morning Offering | Regina Coeli | Angelus | Rosary |
| Prayer to the Holy Spirit | spontaneous prayer | Nicene Creed | |

Give Sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom.

Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship.

Parents should be encouraged to help children learn the required prayers at home.

Foster participation in the prayer and worship of the parish community.

Creed



Standard #1 Faith

Present an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

Performance Indicators

- ~Demonstrate that the purpose of a Christian's life is to know, love and serve God.
- ~Explain the meaning of grace.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Ask the children to discuss with their families how they can know, love and serve God at home.



Have the children write a story about someone they know who is created in God's image and shows God's love by "doing good."



Discuss the meaning of grace. How does grace help children?



Adopt a service project that can be done as a group, that will serve a special group of people who need help.



Arrange a visit with volunteers in various parish ministries. Ask them to share with the children how the volunteer ministry is an expression of how they know, love and serve God.

Other activities I found useful...

Creed



Standard #2 Scripture

Read, understand, interpret and apply Scripture to life.

Performance Indicators

- ~Discuss how God is present in the Bible, the inspired Word of God.
- ~Recognize the life of Jesus as both divine and human, as told in the Gospels.
- ~Name the four Gospel writers: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- ~Recall that the promise of love and partnership God made with Moses and the Hebrew people is a covenant.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Read selected Bible passages that show God's goodness and create symbols to represent each act of goodness.



Help the children contrast the plight of the Hebrew people with other people in world history. What can we learn from this reflection?



Have the children practice and proclaim Scripture readings during liturgy. What does the inspired Word of God call us to do?



Provide props to act out every day situations using Christian principles from Scripture.



Identify the symbol for each evangelist and explain why it is an appropriate symbol for the evangelist.



Encourage children to work in cooperative learning groups to locate Gospel passages relating to the life of Jesus. List where he acts like God and where he acts like a human person.

Other activities I found useful...

Creed



Standard #3 Doctrine & Dogma

Illustrate a basic understanding of doctrine and dogma in light of the Creed.

Performance Indicators

- ~Recall that God came into our world to save us.
- ~Recognize Jesus as a visible sign of God's love.
- ~Demonstrate courage received through the Holy Spirit.
- ~Witness the presence of the risen Christ in the Church.
- ~Identify God as with us everywhere, especially through other people and the Church.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Read a Gospel together to learn ways Jesus interacted with other people, (e.g., Mary, the Apostles, the lepers, etc.) How is Jesus being a visible sign of God's love?



Encourage the children with the help of their parents, to write a report about a saint's life. What did the Holy Spirit inspire each saint to do?



Help the children write a public service announcement proclaiming that God loves us and saves us through Jesus.



Invite in an RCIA catechumen or a candidate for full initiation to speak with the children. Ask the guest to share about the process and what he or she is learning about God.



Have the children research Scripture to find passages that show an individual receiving courage from the Holy Spirit.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #4 Trinity
Recognize the Trinity as God.

Performance Indicators

- ~Develop the belief in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- ~Illustrate how the mystery of the Trinity is the core of our faith.
- ~Identify how God created all things and cares for us as a loving parent.
- ~State that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is true God and true man.
- ~Dramatize how the Holy Spirit came to the disciples at Pentecost.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Encourage the children to spend some time talking with their parents to discover when their parents felt especially close to God. Share.



Ask the children to interview a parent about his or her belief in the Trinity. Share in Class.



Together research and identify Scriptural passages that relate to Pentecost. Dramatize what Peter did after he received the Holy Spirit.



Research and share with each other New Testament passages that speak about Jesus as divine and human.



Find examples in Scripture that tell how God was revealed to people. Ask the children to share how they know that God is with them.



Allow time for the children to work together to discuss how the Trinity is present in the world through nature, people and events.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #5 Church

Illustrate a basic understanding of Church.

Performance Indicators

- ~Reflect on the Church - one, holy, Catholic and apostolic - as the People of God, called together by the Holy Spirit.
- ~Explain how the Church is the sacrament of Christ in the world.
- ~Relate that the Church was born on the feast of Pentecost.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Provide the children with information about the Church in action. Draw one instance of the Church in action.



Discuss the Nicene Creed and point out the central truths of our faith which it professes.



Teach a song, or help the children write one of their own that talks about the reign of God. Show how the Church is Christ in the world.



Help the group prepare and actively participate in a Sunday liturgy. Discuss what children can do the following week to live out the message of the liturgy.



Set up the environment in which the group can re-create the Last Supper. Emphasize that what Jesus did, we still do today.



Allow time for the children to express in words, actions or pictures their understanding of the Church as "one," "holy," catholic," and "apostolic."

Other activities I found useful...

Creed



Standard #6 Community

Demonstrate an appreciation for faith community as the primary way we come to know God.

Performance Indicators

- ~Participate in the Church as a celebrating community.
- ~Celebrate the presence and actions of Christ in our lives.
- ~List the major liturgical feasts and seasons of the Church.
- ~Identify that at Mass the community is reconciled, gives thanks and celebrates.
- ~Demonstrate how sacraments are celebrations.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Request that the children bring in family pictures or videos of a specific sacramental celebration to share with others. Discuss how the sacramental event was a real celebration.



Invite families to celebrate liturgy together, participate fully, and discuss ways the Mass is a community celebration.



Invite a speaker to talk about Vatican Council II and its call to reform and renewal. Find out how Vatican II helped us become a celebrating community.



Invite someone who works in a soup kitchen to explain why they do it, and how this is an example of Christ's presence.



Make a liturgical calendar together and illustrate the different feasts and seasons in different colors. Discuss how we celebrate feasts and seasons in the Church.



Bring in newspapers and magazines that contain current news articles about the Pope. Allow children time to read and share what they learn. Ask how the Pope helps the Church grow in community.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #7 Creation

Exercise responsible stewardship for the gift of creation.

Performance Indicator

~Demonstrate the meaning of stewardship in light of Catholic traditions.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicator?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicator?

Some Sample Activities



Provide the materials needed for the children to create a collage/poster or a display that reflects the abundance of God's creation, and ways to care for it.



Invite the children to share the gifts God has given them by organizing a group project to provide services or material goods to a food pantry, homeless shelter, or a family in need.



Discuss and problem—solve an environmental issue and relate it to responsible stewardship.



Encourage the group to make a poster that shows how they are being responsible for God's creation.



Participate as a group in a community recycling effort and have the children write how this makes them good stewards.

Other activities I found useful...

Sacraments



Standard #8 Sacraments

Demonstrate the importance of sacraments, with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist, in the life of Catholics.

Performance Indicators

- ~Recognize the grace of God through the special gifts and symbolic actions of the sacraments.
- ~Participate in the sacraments of Penance/Reconciliation and celebrate Eucharist, recognizing Christ's sacrifice and presence.
- ~Identify the service to God's people through the ordained ministries of Holy Orders.
- ~Discuss the graces that come from celebrating the sacraments of Baptism, Anointing of the Sick, and Matrimony.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Encourage the children and their families to participate in a parish celebration of the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation.



Ask the children to interview adults about their understanding of what covenant means in the sacrament of Matrimony.



Suggest to the group that they ask their parents and other family members to share with them their experiences of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.



Invite a priest or seminarian to lead a discussion about how they serve God's people through their ordained ministry.



Celebrate the Eucharist and then gather stories and/or ways that show the Mass is central to our life.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #9 Discipleship

Examine a variety of Christian vocations as a response to the baptismal call.

Performance Indicators

- ~Illustrate that through Baptism, Jesus calls us to a life of service.
- ~Examine the call to vowed religious life.
- ~Recognize that the role of family and community is to support our Christian way of life.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Plan together and carry out a service project to help someone in need.
 Reflect on one's Baptism and its relationship to concern for others.



After a visit to class from people of various ministries of the parish, ask the children to choose a ministry they admire and list the reasons why they admire it.



Ask the group to discuss with their families the various ways in which they help one another live a Catholic way of life; Discuss what makes them Catholic.



Invite a religious sister or brother to class to learn about vowed religious life. Have some questions ready for him or her.



Write a letter to a missionary and ask him or her to write back and tell about their work.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #10 Human Dignity

Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of the human person and community.

Performance Indicators

~Identify that God created persons of different races and cultures and all have dignity because they are one in God.

~Exhibit an appreciation for racial and ethnic differences.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Listen to liturgical music from different cultures. Try to get music that reflects the different ethnic backgrounds represented in the group. How do cultures contribute to the Church?



Research various cultural and social differences. Discuss what the challenges are to affirm the dignity of all persons.



Ask the children to discuss with their parents why all people need to be treated with dignity.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #11 Human Interaction / Sexuality

Apply Catholic principles to interpersonal relations.

Performance Indicators

- ~Examine choices in light of the Christian message.
- ~Demonstrate Christian love, respect and appreciation for others.
- ~Indicate that we are capable of intimacy with and trust of others.
- ~Verify that life is precious, especially the human life of oneself and others.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Ask each child to write a short story about a faithful follower of Jesus that demonstrates love of neighbor and self.



Choose a TV show for children to watch with their families. Ask them to determine if the characters in the show are acting according to God's values of justice and respect for the dignity of the person.



Listen to a popular song together that indicates appropriate intimacy with and trust of others.



Ask the children to discuss with their parents how each see human life and sexuality as precious.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #12 Social Justice

Know, critique and apply social justice principles to personal and societal situations.

Performance Indicators

~Recognize that Jesus reaches out to the poor, lonely and suffering and heals others through us.

~Examine ways of working for a more just and fair world.

~Realize God's healing and nourishment through the sacraments.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Explore various charitable activities together and connect them to the healing touch of Jesus.



Read and reflect together on the Gospel stories of Jesus caring for the poor and outcast.



Have the group discuss how the Church has worked to create a more just world.



Discuss ways people show respect and justice toward each other.



Allow children to gather in small groups and role play a story from Scripture that demonstrates how the evils of envy and greed are overcome.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #13 Community Service

Engage in service to the community (e.g. family, parish, local, national and global) in response to the Gospel call.

Performance Indicator

~Explain that the Church teaches us to reach out to those who suffer, especially the poor and needy.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicator?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicator?

Some Sample Activities



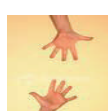
Help the group plan and carry out a service project for the people in their neighborhood or parish.



Make a banner together identifying the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.



Identify together Scripture and Church documents (i.e. Catechism of the Catholic Church) which show that we are called to give service to those in need.



Provide materials during Lent for the children to research world figures and organizations, as well as local ones, that serve the poor in third world countries. Share how we might participate in their work.

Other activities I found useful...



Standard #14 Moral Conscience

Develop a moral conscience informed by Church teachings.

Performance Indicators

- ~Indicate that the Holy Spirit and the Church helps us to choose what is right.
- ~Demonstrate the steps in making responsible moral decisions.
- ~Illustrate how our conscience helps us know what is right and to do what we believe is right.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Help the children role play the difference between acting on an informed conscience and acting on a whim.



Have the children list specific consequences of sin that they have experienced and discuss the harm created by sin and ways to do what is right.



Discuss that the Ten Commandments help us to choose what is right and ask the children to rewrite them in their own words.



Have the children write and sign a pledge to become responsible for their own actions especially at home.

Other activities I found useful...

Prayer



Standard #15 Catholic Tradition of Prayer

Know and participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

Performance Indicators

- ~Recognize sacramental ritual prayers and construct spontaneous prayers.
- ~Pray daily as a way to talk to God and listen to God's will.
- ~Identify psalms as prayers that Jesus like to pray.
- ~Memorize the liturgical responses used at Mass.
- ~Recite the Rosary and know how to pray the Stations of the Cross.

Assessment : How will you know that the children learned or are able to perform the indicators?

Where in your catechetical materials did you find the performance indicators?

Some Sample Activities



Ask the children to read psalms and imagine which ones might have been favorites of Jesus. Discuss this form of prayer.



Invite a priest, deacon, sister or liturgy coordinator to speak about the role of prayer in their lives.



Encourage the children to keep a daily prayer journal.



Provide an opportunity for the group to act out the central part of the Mass. Practice the Mass responses.



Invite the children to plan and participate in a prayer service using spontaneous and meditative prayers.

Other activities I found useful...