



How do we help children learn?

No two children learn in exactly the same way. Good teachers facilitate the learning process by integrating a variety of tactile, auditory and visual teaching principles into their methodology.

Here are 10 creative teaching principles you should use: (Deuteronomy 11:18-19)

1. The Paul and Timothy principle. Learning is strengthened when it's under the guidance of a Christian mentor (cf. Philippians 4:9).
2. The yacking principle. Some children learn best when they have opportunities to verbalize their thoughts and discuss what they're learning.
3. The theme park principle. Simulated or direct experiences enhance the learning process. For example, taking a child to a soup kitchen is more powerful than reading about the poor.
4. The Sherlock Holmes principle. Some children are motivated to learn when the answers aren't obvious. These children like doing research.
5. The Beach Resort principle. On a purely practical level, all children learn best in comfortable settings with limited distractions.
6. The action-attitude principle. Children believe what they do, more than do what they believe. They need hands-on experiences to demonstrate what they're learning.
7. The concrete principle. Organized, rational, logical thinking is the underlying foundation for all teaching and enables a child to learn how to think more abstractly and hypothetically.
8. The show and tell principle. Some children thrive when they can display an object and talk about how it's special or important.
9. The Google principle. The ability to search the internet for facts, answers, and opinions enables a child to take ownership of what he/she is learning.
10. The iTranslate principle. Some children need to put what they're learning into their own words (e.g. Matthew 16:13-20).

Only Jesus can ultimately help a child learn what is right and true. In order for teaching to stick, it must be subject to, and guided by the head Teacher (cf. Matthew 23:10).

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