



Infants and Toddlers Bible Class

Welcome Time

(15 minutes)

On the mat in the soft corner

As children arrive they are guided to the mat for free play. This is a time of fellowship and community allows children to become familiar with the room and helpers so that they will feel safe and welcome. Some of the activities include:

- Bubbles/toys/picture books
- Songs which welcome each child by name.
- Mirrors and Peep Tube
- Toy vehicles or steering wheels to mimic driving to Bible class.

Normal Class Routine

(45 minutes)

Welcome Time

(15 minutes)

*On the mat
in the soft corner*

Bible Lesson

(20 minutes)

At the table

- Bible Time
(5 minutes)
- A simple thought or lesson from God's Word
(10 minutes)
- Craft (optional)
- Prayer and Snack
(5 minutes)

Closing

(10 minutes)

*On the mat
in the soft corner*





Welcome Time Songs and Rhymes

These songs can be sung during the Welcome Time as the children arrive and wait for class to begin. (in the Soft Corner)

Note: Infants and toddlers enjoy the rhythm and melody of song but they are not critics of the teacher's abilities! It's fine if you sing the same tune every time, make up your own tune or even just say the words in a poetic or fun way. Just have fun with it and put the children's needs above your own shyness.

Tena Koe

Tena koe, hello to one
Tena korua, hello to two
Tena koutou, hello to all
Haere mai everyone
Haere mai everyone

Action: Recite as you greet each child.

The Wheels on the Car

The wheels on the car go round and round.
Round and round, round and round.
The wheels on the car go round and round.
On the way to Bible class.

**Adapt this to your situation (bus, car, train, etc) and sing the various verses of the children's song: "The Wheels on the Bus". (The horn on the car goes beep-beep-beep. The babies on the bus say wah-wah-wah. The children in the car go up and down.)*

Tune: Traditional. Same tune as "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush"

Action: Children can hold paper plates to mimic holding a steering wheel and driving a car.

I Love You

Simply say "I love you *Tommy" and squeeze the child's hand once as you say each of the three words.

**Substitute each child's name*

God Blesses You

You're a *kind little girl and God blesses you.
God blesses you. God blesses you.
You're a kind little girl and God blesses you.
May you bless others too.

**Substitute various fruits of the Spirit and address each individual child in class (loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, good, faithful, gentle)*

Tune: Buffalo Gal Won't You Come Out Tonight

Where is *Suzy?

Where is Suzy? Where is Suzy?
Did she come? Did she come?
Did she come to Bible Class?
Did she come to Bible Class?
Here she is. Here she is.

**Substitute any child's name.*

Action: Sing this song while child is looking in a mirror. Or while the teacher is looking through a tube at the child. (A Peep Tube is made by rolling up a large piece of paper, like poster-board. Children like looking at the teacher's face through the tube.)





This is the Way

This is the way we *drive to class
Drive to class. Drive to class.
This is the way we drive to class.
Early Sunday morning.

**Variations: Instead of saying "drive to class" you could insert various actions a child might do to prepare to come to Bible Class or church.*

Examples of phrases and actions to mimic: Wa-ke up, Wash our face, Eat our breakfast, Brush our teeth, Get on the bus, walk to class, etc.

Tune: Here We God Round the Mulberry Bush

Action: Mimic the various actions listed. Adapt this to your situation. Children can hold paper plates to mimic holding a steering wheel and driving a car.

You Are Special

You are special, little girl.
Soft straight hair or little curls.
God has made you just this way.
And He loves you every day.

You are special little boy.
Noisy and restless or shy and coy.
God has made you just this way.
And He loves you every day.

Action: This song or rhyme can be sung or recited while child is looking in the mirror.

God is Listening

God is listening. God is listening,
When we pray. When we pray.
Fold our hands so nicely.
Close our eyes so quietly.
Now we'll pray. Now we'll pray.

Tune: Are You Sleeping?

Actions: Use this any time you pray. It works great as the prayer before snack time.

Happy Hands Go Clap-Clap-Clap

Happy hands go clap-clap-clap (clap hands).
Fold and lay them in your lap (lay hands in lap).
Happy hands go clap-clap-clap (clap hands).
Our hands are happy hands (continue clapping).

Tune: Five Little Ducks Went Out to Play

Actions: As listed. This is a nice song to gather everyone in just before moving to table time. It could also be a nice way to settle things down during the closing session.

If You're Happy and You Know It

If you're happy and you know it, *clap your hands.
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.
If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it.
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.

**Substitute: blink your eyes, pull your ear, beep your nose, smack your lips, etc.*

Tune and actions: Traditional





Finger Play- Open Shut Them (poem)

Open, shut them; open , shut them;
Give a little clap;
Open, shut them; open, shut them;
Lay them in your lap.

Creep them, creep them slowly upward
To the rosy cheek;
Open wide the shining eyes,
Through the fingers peek.

Open, shut them; open, shut them;
To your shoulders fly;
Let them be like little birds,
Flying in the sky.

Slowly falling, falling, falling,
Almost to the ground;
Quickly raise them high again,
And turn them round and round.

Open, shut them; open, shut them;
Give a little clap;
Open, shut them; open, shut them;
Lay them in your lap.

Actions: Open and shut your fingers as you sing. Then follow the movements of the words with your hands. This is a nice song to gather everyone in just before moving to table time. It could also be a nice way to settle things down during the closing session.



Items to Use for Welcome Time



Bubbles are a nice distraction for all infants and toddlers. Nice for the timid child.



Various noise makers for the children to enjoy playing with during welcome time.



Puzzle. To play with while talking about coming to Bible class.



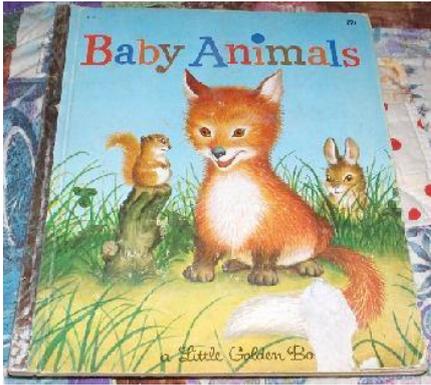
Disposable plastic plates. The children can use them as toy steering wheels and "drive" to Bible class.



Mirrors (large and small).



Peep tube. Made by rolling up a poster board and securing with tape. Teacher peers through one end and looks through to the child's face at the other end.



Books. To read as everyone arrives.



Music. Worship music or nature sounds can help set the tone for the class.



Soft toys and pillows of various textures to provide a gentle area in the room to welcome the children.