

# Interactive Scripture Learning

The Kids' EE teaching methods and approach always keep the students in mind. Fourth through sixth graders respond best to interactive and relational teaching, therefore, they will best learn and internalize the Word of God if they learn Scriptures interactively.

## **Scripture Learning is More than Memorization.**

It is intended to impact the heart as well as the intellect of the kids. Teachers and team leaders should avoid the temptation to try to just entertain children. The fun activities associated with the verse recitation are secondary events—the main event is “hiding the Word of God” in kids' hearts. **Children want loving, personal interaction with adults.** When adults express interest and enjoyment of active Scripture learning, kids are likely to want to imitate them. **The end result is that the Word of God is powerfully implanted in the children's hearts.**

## **Six Important Principles to Interactive Scripture Learning**

- Establish that the verses being taught are from the Bible. **Read directly from your Bible**, while standing (Luke 4:16), when introducing verses to children.
- To learn a verse, daily and weekly repetition is necessary.
- Use every learning style in the repetitions.
- **Emphasize the meaning** of verses and key words as you repeat and practice.
- Kids need to be and feel successful in learning the verses.
- Give options, when helpful, to get kids started.

Would you like to say the verse?

Read the verse?

Have me say it to you? Have everyone say it?

“Phone a friend?”

Interactive Scripture Learning significantly impacts children's lives. It helps bring God's Word to life in tangible and understandable ways.

# "Baker's Dozen" Scripture Learning Activities

Kids' EE brings Scripture learning "to life" by playing fun activities in a group setting. **Kids enjoy challenges, friendly competition, and ACTION while they learn.** True Scripture learning is more than memorization or recitation. The "living and abiding Word of God" is "active and alive" and impacts kids in spiritual, life-changing ways. **Kids' EE helps kids internally assimilate God's Word so it powerfully influences their thoughts, words, and actions.**

## **These Scripture Learning Activities apply to all Units.**

- **BIG Beach Ball Bounce**—Teacher tosses a colorful, huge beach ball to a student as she says the 1st word of a Bible verse. Student catches ball, recites the 2nd word in the verse, then tosses ball to another student who catches ball and says 3rd word in verse. Ball is tossed around classroom until entire verse and reference are recited. Repeat, this time go faster. Repeat, each student reciting a phrase of the verse.
- **Ping Pong One**—Students form two lines facing each other. 1st person in line one says first word of a verse; 1st person in line two says second word; 2nd person in line one says third word; 2nd person in line two says fourth word; and back and forth until verse is completed.
- **Ping Pong Two**—Participants pair up and recite a particular Scripture verse, each saying one word, back and forth, until verse is completed.
- **"Crazy" Stand Ups**—Teacher states a Bible reference then asks all blue-eyed girls to stand and recite it. Teacher gives another verse reference and asks all black-haired kids to stand and say verse. Pick unusual things (boys with hair parted on left, dog owners, Gummy Bear lovers).

- **Moving, Music Hands**—Recite verse while doing fun, hand motions (e.g., two students slap hands together in rhythmic pattern, snap fingers in time with reciting verse or improvise a “band” tapping out words with pencils).
- **Volume Amp Ups**—Say verse LOUD, soft, high pitched, low pitched.
- **Verse Vanish**—Write verse on board; recite it once; erase one word of verse. Recite verse again; erase another word; continue reciting and erasing words until entire verse is gone and class recites it from memory.
- **People “Un-Scramble”**—Select two students for team leaders. Print words of a verse with reference on 8 X 11 sheets of paper until entire Bible verse is written out. Make two sets of the same verse for team competition. The total number of sheets of paper (one word or several words printed on them) must equal the number of kids in the class. Give each team leader the sheet with the first word of the Bible verse on it. Randomly hand remaining sheets of paper to rest of the students. Have team leaders stand on opposite sides of the classroom. Have rest of students gather into a large group in center of classroom. Blow whistle. Team leader runs to group to find person holding the sheet of paper with the next word (or words) on it. Team leader brings student back to his side of room. Team leader remains in place and second student runs to group to find the person holding the sheet with the next word(s) of verse. Repeat until a line of students is formed holding up the complete Bible verse.
- **“Un-Scrambled” People Compete**—Game continues after the competing teams have lined up with their entire verse. Allow two minutes for group to creatively think of way to recite their verse as a team. Examples: Each student assumes a funny pose as he says his one word. Group makes up a cheer to say the verse. Each student places a sheet of paper on a different part of his/her body as verse is recited. Each kid makes a funny face as he says the word on his sheet of paper. Winning team gets an extra treat during snack time.
- **Puzzle Pandemonium**—Lay out nine 8 X 11 white sheets of cardstock paper. Form a BIG square or string out in a LONG line. Write Bible verse across the sheets of paper in

large, printed letters. Cut the sheets into puzzle pieces (25 or more pieces). Mix up. Students must put puzzle together. Make several sets and form teams to compete in a puzzle race.

- **Hoof It**—Line dance or form a moving chain of people and weave around tables and chairs reciting verse to background music.
- **Balloon Pop**—Write words of a Bible verse on a bunch of balloons. Pass out balloons and have students put themselves in correct order. Class reads verse. Appoint someone to “pop” one balloon. Class reads verse again. Continue “popping” and reading until all balloons are gone.
- **Bible Sword Drills**—Kids use their Bibles and compete as they look up verses. This drill is especially effective for visual and kinesthetic learners.

**Attention!**

(Everyone stands up.)

**Draw Swords!**

(Everyone holds up their Bible.)

**God’s Word says . . .**

(Leader says reference 2-3 times, but NO ONE opens Bible, yet!)

**Charge!**

(Students open Bibles to find verse. Sit down after finding verse.  
Leader tosses candy to winners.)

Kids’ EE Interactive Scripture Learning Activities should “fit” age and maturation level of kids. **Play games kids think are fun and interesting.** Ask them to think up wholesome, appropriate activities and teach the class. Adult leaders need to be willing to be instructed by kids in a fun way.