



Learning Styles of Preschoolers

Choosing activities for your group of preschoolers may be best decided through understanding and identifying the learning styles present in the preschoolers in your care. Although some preschoolers may display dominant styles, they are still flexible in their learning. Incorporating multiple learning styles will allow you as a leader to engage a group of preschoolers who may have differing dominant learning styles. The learning styles include visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and tactile.

Visual Learners

The visual learning style is generally evident among preschoolers who excel at visual activities, such as those who enjoy books, charts, and matching games. Activities to include for preschoolers with this learning style may focus on pictures and objects that they can see. Activities that are visually focused may incorporate art and reading picture books. Use pictures of the missionaries and missions areas, or show objects related to the missions area.

Auditory Learners

The auditory learning style is found in preschoolers who excel at auditory activities in which they hear things to learn. These preschoolers frequently sing, hum, or talk while doing other things. They may ask lots of questions while completing a task. Auditory learners may benefit from activities in which they listen to a story, hear a song, or play a musical instrument. They will also benefit from repetition of Bible thoughts or parts of the mission story throughout a Mission Friends session.

Kinesthetic Learners

The kinesthetic learning style is often observed in preschoolers who excel in physical activities and movement. Kinesthetic learners may have difficulty sitting still while learning and may prefer to jump straight into a task or activity. Planning activities that allow these preschoolers to be involved and move around may benefit their ability to focus and learn. Some activities may include acting out a story, singing a movement song, or playing an active game such as tossing a ball into a basket. Allow preschoolers to dress in clothes from the missions area or play a game from the missions area.

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Tactile Learners

Tactile learners often need something they can touch or move in order to learn. The tactile learning style is also often observed in preschoolers who may find it difficult to sit still while learning and may overlook instructions for an activity. Incorporate activities that use their sense of touch, such as puzzles, finger paint, clay, or nature items. Provide materials of different textures to enhance their learning. Missions learning might include using various textured materials to make an art picture or touching nature items found in the missions area.

Identify learning styles to enhance learning in Mission Friends. Choose activities that are engaging at a developmentally appropriate level for the preschoolers in your group. Provide a balance of activities using a variety of learning styles.

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