



THE ENCOURAGER

Help for Sunday School Teachers— Dedicated to those who take the Word of Life to Children Everywhere

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WALL TO WALL LEARNING

Putting quality stuff on the wall is an absolute MUST for every Sunday School Teacher! The kids will forget most of what you say by next week, but what they look at week after week on the wall will stay with them for years.

You don't need to be creative or spend gobs of time on materials. The photo below (A) shows a mix of posters, bible pictures, and verses. Just by adding a picture and verse each week you can reap enormous benefits:



From Koula & Jill's Wall



- The wall will help you give impromptu reviews of previous lessons.
- You can use it to re-emphasize the important principles over and over.
- With verses on the wall, you can review them often for better memorization.
- You can create impromptu quizzes by asking questions about the wall.
- You can better reinforce "big picture" connectedness as you progress through your topic.
- Kids from other classes will come to look at and learn from your wall - and if you are in the room when they come, you will have a chance to interact and build relationships with more kids. (Chances are, they will be younger kids who just can't wait to get into your class because your wall shows what an interesting teacher you are!)

The posters and bible pictures shown above (B) are available from New Tribes Mission at this link: http://www.ntmbooks.com/firm_foundations Items shown are from the "Firm Foundations Poster Set", "Maps & Charts", and "Bible Pictures - Large, Laminated". They also have a VERY EXCELLENT curriculum called "Children's Firm Foundations (Set)". The curriculum comes with word-for-word lessons, review sheets, and activities (a poster set may also be included with the curriculum). It covers Creation through Life of Christ, and is very gospel focused.

This is an example of a wall that was built over an 8-week period. For the Girl's Summer Sunday School session, we invited one lady from the assembly to tell their testimony at the start of each class. This was followed by a lesson on the topic "So Great Salvation". We added each lady's testimony and their photo to the wall along with the principles that we were teaching. (By the way - a lot of adult "kids" spent time reading this wall!)

At the end of the summer, each girl got a binder with the testimonies and handouts from each week. Putting class materials into binders and sending them home at the end of the topic is another good way to make long term impressions - papers sent home individually each week tend to get lost, but a binder with a nice cover and a collection of materials will stay around and get looked at from time to time.

Walls not only teach principles, but they also reinforce relationships. Every time you have an in-class project or an extra curricular activity, take photos and put them on the walls! When a child comes in feeling uncared about some Sunday, they will look at the wall and be reminded that they have friends and good times here at Sunday School. You want the relationships that they are building with you and with each other to last for a lifetime, and photos on the wall is a good way to make those memories linger!

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