“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!”

Missions Adventure Preparation School

A Mission Minded Idea for Christian Schools, Churches, Camps or VBS

By Ann Dunagan
The “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Vision:

If your church has a children’s Vacation Bible School, perhaps you could prepare a program with a mission-oriented theme. The following ideas have been tested and tried, and have influenced many children to have an increased heart for world missions. Many children who have graduated from our “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” program have ministered throughout the world – many on short-term outreaches, others as MKs (Missionary Kids ministering alongside their parents) and some even as full-time career missionaries. Organizing a “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” program takes energy and effort, but just keep in mind the multiplied blessings and eternal impact that can happen if even one or two children “catch” God’s heart for the world!

A Testimony:

Years ago, a little girl named Heather graduated from “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” and later moved to a remote island in the Philippines with her family. She wrote me a letter sharing how she and her brother were leading children’s outreaches in isolated villages. “You were right!” she exclaimed in her beautiful note. “Kids can be missionaries too!”

Today, Heather is an outstanding woman of God. She recently returned from a year-long mission outreach in China where she ministered Jesus’ love to many orphans. At this moment, she’s ministering in South Africa with aYWAM group from Australia!
The following “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” format is arranged to fit a typical five-day VBS morning schedule with approximately four-and-a half hours allotted per day (usually 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.). The schedule could easily be adapted to fit a weekly Sunday school time, a series of afternoons at a Christian elementary school or a series of meetings at a weekly homeschool co-op.

This schedule has worked for me, but it’s merely a suggestion. Be flexible enough to simply let these ideas spark your imagination. There are unlimited ways to incorporate a heart for missions into your teaching – at home, at school or at church.
### “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” -- Approximate Daily Schedule:

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How to Get Ready:

1. Get alone with God!

   Pray and seek the Lord for His direction and guidance.

2. Get your leader’s blessing!

   Talk with your pastor or school principal, explain the vision and concept, and secure his or her blessing. Agree on a date and budget.

3. Get speakers!

   - Recruit special mission speakers for each day. These speakers can be current or former missionaries, children’s ministers from your church or another church, or a person from another country. Your speaker could be an adult, a young person or even an older child with a passion for missions. Ask each speaker share for about 30 minutes on their target area, tell personal stories or share why they believe world missions is important. Encourage your speakers, if they desire, to dress in an international costume and to bring missionary souvenirs.
4. Get help!

Be enthusiastic as you share your vision and recruit help; “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” will also impact your leaders and volunteers).

**Helpers and leaders will be needed for:**

- M.A.P.S. for KIDS Director
- Advertising and Promotion Team
- Intercession Team
- International Decoration Crew (Set-up and Take-Down)
- Media Team
- Flight Attendant Team
- M.A.P.S. for KIDS Custom Officials (Registration & Check-in)
- International Café Team (Providing Food and Serving)
- M.A.P.S. for KIDS! -- Music & Worship Team
- Missionary Monologue Drama Team
- Ministry Training Workshop Leaders & Assistants
- Mission Adventure Expedition Leaders (Games)
4. Get the word out!

- Depending on your attendance limit, begin to advertise. Include an announcement in your church bulletin and inform other churches in your community. Put up flyers at a local Christian bookstore and around your church’s neighborhood.
- Place a Public Service Announcement (a free PSA) in your local newspaper and on a local Christian radio station.
- Contact local Christian schools and Christian homeschool groups in the area.

5. Get ready!

- Decorate your church with posters, maps and international flags! (I have often contacted local flag stores and have been granted permission to “borrow” large international flags for this event. Offer to “promote” their store with a public note of appreciation during your family program; in return, you will have a quick and costless way to decorate your building! Another source for inexpensive international-themed decorations is www.orientaltrading.com.)
- Set up your “M.A.P.S. for KIDS - International Embassy” in the church entrance lobby to serve as your registration table. Include a line for “Missionary Passport Applications” and a “Passport Photo Shop.”
- Set up an “International Customs Office” in a hall or at the entrance to your main teaching room. At tables, passports will be checked, stickers awarded for attendance and Bible memorization and international stamps or stickers given.
• Set up an “Airplane Cabin” with rows of chairs, an overhead (or PowerPoint) for maps and Bible verses and a set up a TV or screen for daily international videos. Just for fun, add paper sacks (for motion-sickness) and painting masks (for “oxygen”) on each seat.

• You will also need a “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Auditorium (usually a church’s main sanctuary), at least three “Ministry Workshop” rooms, an “International Café” area for snacks and an outside area (or gym) for “Mission Adventures.”

5. Get set!

• Make sure everything is ready before the children begin to enter. It is helpful to pre-register the children at your church. (This will save time as all the children are arriving on the first day.)

• Most importantly, take time to prepare your heart and to pray for the children – even recruiting others to intercede with you. Remember that lasting impressions and life-changes will not be made by fancy decorations but by the presence of God.

4. Go for it!

Most of all, keep it simple, make it fun, and follow God’s leading. You are simply working with the Lord to help impart His heart for the nations!
“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Mission Passports:

A fun and educational project is to “issue” each child a “Missionary Passport”
– complete with current photos and information. If you desire, include a copy of each
child’s immunization record, and refer to the importance of receiving inoculations against
foreign diseases when traveling internationally. (Reproducible *M.A.P.S. for KIDS*
passport and “visa” pages are located in the mission craft description for Day One.)

“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Airplane Travel:

During “Airplane Travel” time, children pretend to “travel” to your target area. Have
someone as your official “flight attendant” to explain typical airline safety rules:

*Welcome aboard “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” International Airlines!*

*We thank you for flying with us today. Right now, please take a moment to
review the safety features of this aircraft. Fasten your hands securely on your lap
and remain seated until this aircraft has come to a full and complete stop. In the
event of an emergency, oxygen bags will be released from compartments above
your head. Please place the cup over your nose and mouth and begin breathing
normally. Although the oxygen is flowing, please note that the bags will not
inflate. If you are traveling with infants or young children, please put your own*
oxygen mask in place before assisting others. In the event of a water landing, your seat cushion can be used as a flotation device. Floor lights will illuminate to direct you to the nearest emergency exit.

_May God bless you as you seek His perfect will for your life. Thank you again for choosing “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” International Airlines._

_Now sit back, and enjoy your flight._

This is a good time to review necessary rules and important information. Point out the day’s geographic area on a map and introduce the day’s Bible verse. Conclude the time with a 5-10 minute travel or mission video. Your “flight attendants” can serve small cups of juice and a small snack such as peanuts or pretzels (using a serving table with wheels, such as a television/media cart).

During _M.A.P.S. for KIDS!_ the children will pretend to “travel” to a different area of the world each day. This can be re-emphasized through international music and decorations, a short international travel video, and each day’s accompanying theme.

- Welcome children and review “Airplane Safety” Guidelines
- Sow a MAP of today’s destination
- Introduce the Daily Bible Verse
- Show a slide-show or a mini-travel video of the location
- Serve airplane snacks during movie.
After departing the “Airplane” the children will line up at a table before entering the main session teaching area. At this “Custom’s Office” the children will get their passports stamped with an appropriate international stamp or sticker. The customs officials can welcome the children with an appropriate foreign greeting.

“M.A.P.S. for KIDS” International Flight Itinerary:

Day 1: Reaching Tribal People – AFRICA
Day 2: Reaching Buddhist People – ASIA
Day 3: Reaching the Lost – EUROPE
Day 4: Reaching Hindus – INDIA
Day 5: Reaching the World – LATIN AMERICA
“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Main Teaching Session:

Each day, the main session will focus on a specific area of the world and an important mission theme with a short missionary monologue skit and object lesson. This time is primarily led by the day’s special speaker.

- Welcome and Foreign Language Highlight
- Fun Singing and Worship
- Mission-Minded Object Lesson
- Missionary Monologue Skit
- Special Mission-Minded Speaker
**Ministry Training Workshops:**

During “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” every child will participate in two different ministry training workshops (choosing from six workshop classes all together). The purpose of this time is to encourage children to be actively involved in ministry and to learn practical ministry skills that could be helpful for both local and international evangelism.

**Missionary Adventures & Crafts:**

Again, these “Mission Adventure” ideas (*Airport-to-Village Obstacle Course, Mission Camp Set-Up, Hand-Washing Race, Water Carrying Relay* and *Piñata Fiesta*) and the mission crafts are only suggestions. Use your creativity (and what is easily accessible to you) to invent mission-minded games or craft activities of your own. The purpose for this time is to make each day fun and enjoyable for the children and to encourage children to see potential challenges as exciting adventures.

**International Café:**

The purpose for the *International Café* is to give children a light snack and to encourage your young “missionaries” to sample a variety of ethnic foods. For fun, you could even plan a daily missionary food-eating contest to reward the fastest or most daring mission-mouth (boys usually enjoy this, and you may be surprised by some of your daring girls!).
Ministry Training Workshops
Children’s Guidelines for Ministry:

1. God deserves ALL the glory!
   (Don’t take any glory for yourself. If someone compliments you, just say, “Thank you,” then give the praise to God.)

2. God deserves ALL the attention!
   (Don’t distract others.)

3. We’re here to build others up!
   (Don’t criticize others or put others down.)

4. We want to make God look good!
   (Do your best – for God’s Kingdom!)

Each workshop prepares one presentation piece (such as a song, a short drama or a puppet show) for the final “Family Mission Presentation” to be held for parents and friends at the end of the week.
“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Ministry Workshops:

Each day, the main session will focus on a specific area of the world and an important mission theme with a short missionary monologue skit and object lesson. **This time is primarily led by the day’s special speaker.**

- Teaching with Object Lessons
- Reaching the Lost with the “EvangeCube”
- Human Video (Acting out a song)
- Puppetry I
- Puppetry II
- Worship & Music Ministry

Included in this guide are simple instructions to train children in these various ministry areas; but please don’t limit yourself to my ideas. Perhaps a willing helper in your church has a special talent or gift in another area (such as clown or mime ministry, learning to make balloon-animals, dance or ballet, flag choreography, face painting, preaching with an interpreter or learning a simple song in a foreign language.) Utilize and multiply whatever talents your church has been given!
What you need: the objects listed on the following pages.

What to do in the workshop: Open in prayer. Encourage children that they can boldly share the Gospel. Demonstrate these object lessons to the children and then have them take turns sharing short sections of these lessons. (For example, one child could share how “GOLD reminds us that God wants us to go to heaven!”)

What to present: Have the children work together to present one or two of these object lessons. Make sure each child speaks clearly and with enthusiasm.

**Workshop Introduction:**

Jesus often taught by displaying a simple object as He shared an important truth about God’s kingdom. He used familiar objects that were readily available (such as a coin, a lily or a seed) or easily imagined (such as a woman using yeast in bread dough). The teachings of Christ were always profound; yet simple enough for even children to understand. The following ideas are some of my favorite objects lessons to use on mission trips in developing countries.
The Gospel Colors:

Using these five colors, explain the Gospel message:

GOLD (God loves you and wants to spend eternity with you in heaven).
BLACK (All of us have sinned and fall short of God’s glory).
RED (Only the blood of Jesus can take away our sins).
WHITE (We need God to purify our hearts through salvation in Jesus Christ).
GREEN (God wants us to grow as a Christian) and
BLUE (We need to be water baptized as believers in Jesus).

You could use large pieces of material or felt (which are easily folded and included in a suitcase), colored balloons or even selected children from the audience wearing clothes with these colors.
Dirty and Clean Hands:

Wet your hands then rub them in dirt (representing sin). Hold up your dirty hands while you share how all have sinned. Try to wipe your hands on your clothes (representing trying to get rid of our sin by ourselves), but note how the “problem” only gets worse. Finally, use water (or white shaving cream) and a red washcloth, and clean your hands. Explain how it is only through the blood of Jesus Christ and His forgiveness of our sins that our lives can be made clean.

Bible Cover Filled with Garbage:

Use a zippered Bible cover which has a cross or an obvious Bible symbol on it. Outwardly, this looks very good; but as you slowly open the cover, people will see that it is filled with only garbage. Explain that the garbage represents sin. With a red washcloth, clean out the Bible cover and insert a Bible. Explain how God does not look at merely outward appearances or “religious” motions, but He looks at the heart. Share about the importance of receiving Jesus Christ.

Soap and Wash Bucket:

Show a dirty cloth, representing our sinful lives. The soap and wash bucket represent our salvation through Jesus Christ. Jesus can take our sinful lives and make them clean and pure. (These objects are easy to find anywhere!)
**Black Balloon:**

As you blow up a black balloon, share about how sin usually starts very small; but it soon grows and becomes worse and worse. Hold up a small pin and explain how the power of Jesus Christ can totally destroy the terrible sin in our lives – no matter how large or small. It may seem like a “little thing” to pray and surrender your life to Jesus Christ, but it can make all the difference in the world for all of eternity. (Use the pin and pop the balloon.)

**Super-Large Green Balloon:**

Point to nearby trees and green plants and talk about how the color green reminds you of things that grow. Blow up your green balloon as you teach about how to grow as a Christian (through loving God and others, praying to God, reading the Bible, going to church, worshiping, sharing the Gospel, etc.). When it is huge, teach about how we need to continue to grow in the Lord . . . until someday . . . although we don’t know exactly when . . . our lives on earth will be over and we will go to heaven. (When you say “heaven” simply let go of the balloon . . . and watch it “fly” away as it deflates!)
“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Workshop #2: Teaching Children to Use the *EvangeCube*:

- **What you need:** A BIG *EvangeCube* for classroom demonstration, an *EvangeCube* teacher’s workbook, the *EvangeCube* demonstration DVD and a small *EvangeCube* for each child.

- **What to do for the workshop:** Demonstrate the *EvangeCube*, watch the DVD and have children practice presenting different sections.

- **What to present:** Have one child use the BIG *EvangeCube* to share the Gospel. Have all the other children follow along at the same time with their small cubes.

**Introduction to this Workshop:**

One of the most outstanding tools for personal evangelism is called the “*EvangeCube*.” This simple cube is sometimes referred to as “The *JESUS film* of one-on-one evangelism” and if you have not yet seen this wonderful tool please take a look at their on-line demonstration at [www.evangelcube.com](http://www.evangelcube.com). The *EvangeCube* is easy to use, it is very simple to teach to children, and it is amazingly effective both here at home and overseas.

The *EvangeCube* is a simple cube which turns and opens to display various Gospel pictures (including sinful mankind separated from a Holy God, Jesus dying on the cross, Jesus buried in the tomb, Jesus risen from the dead, the Cross as the only way to God, the choice between heaven and hell and five ways to grow as a Christian). This ministry has prepared excellent teacher training tools, including a short DVD and
workbooks, which explain how to effectively use this tool and how to train others to use it also (including other adults, youth, children and national believers).

The *EvangeCube* comes in various sizes, from a tiny plastic cube that can hook to a child’s backpack, to medium-sized cubes to a BIG cube for classroom demonstration.

In just a short period time, news of the *EvangeCube* – and through this tool the powerful message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ – is spreading around the world. Teachers, missionaries, churches and children are using this little cube to effectively share God’s plan of salvation. On the following page is an explanation of how to use this wonderful little tool. Your mission minded child will be excited about it!
How to Lead Someone to Jesus Christ Using the EvangeCube

(Use the arrows on the cube to help you see how to open the pictures!)

Show ‘Man in Sin’ separated from ‘God’

1

- This light (point to the right side) represents God.
- God is perfect and without sin.
- God loves us!
- God doesn’t want us to perish, but to have everlasting life.
- But our sins must be removed in order to have eternal life with God.
- This figure (point to the left side) represents every person - like you and me.
- The darkness represents our sin.
- Sin is anything that God tells us not to do.
- The Bible says “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Rom. 3:23)
- Our sins separate us from God.

Open to ‘Christ on the Cross’

2

- God loved us so much that He sent His only Son Jesus Christ to earth as a man.
- God allowed Jesus to die on a cross to pay for our sins with His blood. He took our sins in His body on the cross so that we could come to God. (1 Peter 2:24, 3:18).
- The Bible also says that “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son Jesus, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have ever-lasting life.” (John 3:16)
- The Bible says, “God demonstrates His own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8).
Open to the ‘Tomb’
- Men buried Jesus in a tomb.
- They rolled a huge stone in front of it.
- Soldiers guarded the tomb.

Open to ‘Risen Christ’
- God sent an angel to roll away the big stone and scare away the soldiers.
- God raised Jesus from the dead!
- Soon afterward, God took Jesus back to heaven.
- Jesus has paid the price for our sin, and Jesus has conquered death.

Open to ‘Cross Bridge’
- Jesus is the only way we can come to God.
- Jesus said in the Bible, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father [God] except through Me.” (John 14:6)
- Through Jesus, we can be forgiven of all our sins and be with God forever.
- But just knowing about these things is not enough! We must choose to put our faith in Jesus - to trust in Him to save us from sin.
- If you do not take the step of trusting in Jesus, then your sins are not removed! (Hebrews 4:2)
Open to 'Heaven & Hell'

- The Bible says that whoever believes in Jesus has **eternal life** and is not judged. But whoever does not believe in Jesus has been judged already and the **wrath of God** remains upon him! *(John 3:16, 17, 36)*.
- The penalty for sin is death, but eternal life through Jesus is a free gift from God.
- **What choice will you make?**
- Trust in Jesus Christ to be forgiven and have eternal life? *(point to 'heaven')*
- Or reject Jesus Christ and suffer eternal punishment in hell? *(point to 'hell')*

ASK THE QUESTION:
**Would you like to trust Jesus right now and be saved?**
*(if YES, continue)*

*(if yes)* The Bible says, "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved." *(Romans 10:9)* I can lead us in a prayer to God. Remember, it's not saying the words that saves you; God is looking at your heart for true faith in Jesus. Ready? *(if yes)* Let's pray:

"God, thank You for loving me. / I confess that I have sinned against You. / I believe that Your Son Jesus / died on a cross / to pay for my sins, and that You raised Jesus from the dead. / I now put my faith only in Jesus / to forgive me / and save me from my sins. / I confess that Jesus is Lord! / Thank you for your gift of eternal life. / I pray in Jesus' name, / Amen."
Steps for Followers of Christ!

7 When the EvangeCube® is in the starting position, on the back side is this image. Use it to help the new believer grow in Christ!

LOVE God and all people.
"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and foremost commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matt. 22:36-40)

STUDY the Bible (God's Word) daily.
Start with the gospel of John; read 1 chapter each day. "Like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation..." (1 Peter 2:2)
"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word" Jesus in (John 14:23)

PRAY to God constantly.
In prayer you can thank and worship God, ask for His help, confess your sins, and pray for others. "Be anxious for nothing, but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God." (Phil. 4:6-7)

MEET regularly with other Christians.
God commands that Christians meet regularly for worship, prayer, Bible study, and helping each other. "...not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another..." (Heb. 10:25)

TELL others the good news about Jesus.
God wants us to tell other people How to Have Eternal Life with God by trusting in Jesus to save them from sin. You can use this paper when you talk to others about Jesus! "And He (Jesus) said to them, 'Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to all creation.' " (Mark 16:15)
1. We sin anytime we choose o____ way over G____ way.
2. Sin s_________ us from God.
3. There is nothing we can do to f____ our sin.
4. God’s gift to us is e________ l____ through Jesus Christ.
5. We must have faith (believe) in J______
   in order to be saved.

USING THE EVANGECUBE®

1. Represents ____________________.
   Man is separated from God by sin.
2. Represents ______________.
Romans 3:23: “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

3. Represents ______________.
On the cross He paid the debt for our sin.

4. Represents the __________.
Jesus was buried in a tomb, which was sealed up for three days.
5. Represents the __________.
   Jesus rose from the dead on the third day.

6. Represents the __________.
   Jesus' death and resurrection created the bridge back to God.

7. Represents __________.
   Anyone who accepts this free gift is granted salvation and eternal life, but those who reject Him will receive God's judgment.
8. Represents ___________ lives.
A believer in Christ should read the Bible, pray, fellowship with other believers, and tell others about Christ.

**ANSWERS FOR CHILDREN’S WORKSHEET 1**

*Sharing the Good News*
1. our, God's
2. separates
3. fix
4. eternal life
5. Jesus

*Using the EvangeCube®*
1. God
2. man
3. Jesus
4. tomb
5. resurrection
6. bridge
7. salvation
8. changed

These homework sheets are designed to be copied on the front and back of a sheet of paper, folded in half, and handed out to the class.
“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Workshop #3: Teaching Children Drama & “Human Videos”

- What you need: tape or CD player, a song with a powerful message (such as “Asleep in the Light” by Keith Green or “The Champion” by Carman), appropriate costumes and props.

- What to do in the workshop: Open in prayer. Share with the children about using Drama Ministry to explain a message. Have children practice dramatizing different emotions, such as happiness, fear, excitement, confusion, etc. Listen to a song and create motions to explain the meaning. Practice over and over.

- What to present: Share the song with the dramatic motions.

Introduction to this Workshop:

A simple dramatic presentation can be an effective way to share the Gospel. It is especially effective to draw a crowd and it is a great way for children and youth to effectively “act out” a Bible message when they are unable to speak the local language. It’s also a great tool for group mission trips.

- **Mime:** Dress in simple black clothes with white gloves and faces painted with white make-up. Without using any words, act out simple lessons.

- **Skits:** Use costumes or props to teach simple stories, such as getting rid of sin.

- **Clowns:** Dress in clown costumes, give out candy or balloons and draw a crowd.

- **Human Video:** Act out or create motions for a song with a powerful message.
What you need: One puppet per child, a puppet stage, a cassette or CD and DVD player, a microphone, puppetry DVD ("Basic Techniques, Puppetry Training DVD" by Puppet Productions is an excellent tool for teaching beginning puppet skills) and a music tape or CD (easy songs that work well as puppet-songs are "The Laughing Song" from Puppet Productions, and/or "He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands" from Wee Sing Bible Songs).

What to do in the workshop: Open in prayer and discuss the importance of having a heart for ministry. Distribute the puppets and teach the first three steps. Watch the Basic Techniques Puppetry Training DVD and follow directions. Practice two simple puppet songs, (first without the puppet stage, then with the puppet stage.)

What to present: Have the children simply present these two puppet songs.

Introduction to this Workshop:

Puppets can be a great tool to help reach the lost. Learning puppetry skills can be fun and knowing them can provide a way for a child to actively participate in ministry outreaches.
**Beginning Puppetry:**

- **Step 1 - Mouth Movement:**
  Learn to synchronize the puppet’s mouth with your voice (or the puppets “voice” on a song or puppet recording). The puppet’s mouth should open exactly with each syllable, instead merely opening and closing in a random “snapping” motion. The mouth should open wider on accented syllables, while opening only slightly on unaccented syllable. When moving the puppet’s mouth, only move the “bottom jaw” of the puppet (operated by your thumb). The top of the puppet’s head (operated by your other four fingers) should remain still. In other words, do not “flip the lid” of the puppet.

- **Step 2 – Keep Puppet’s Eye-Contact:**
  Keep your puppet’s head down so the audience can see its eyes. Don’t have your puppet “speak to the ceiling” or down to the floor. Keep the puppet’s head looking around “naturally” without continually “bobbing” up-and-down.

- **Step 3 – Show the Entire Puppet, but not the Puppeteer!**
  Make sure the puppet’s entire body can be seen, not only its head. If the puppet has arms, keep these in front of the stage. If you are a puppeteer, don’t let your audience see your arm or your body; and don’t let anyone see an “empty” puppet when it is not in use.
“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Workshop #5: Teaching Children Intermediate Puppetry

- **What you need:** As many puppets as possible, a puppet stage, a CD and DVD player, a microphone, puppetry training instructions ("Advanced Techniques Puppet Training DVD", by Puppet Productions is an excellent tool for teaching intermediate puppet skills), a music tape or CD ("This Little Light of Mine" from Psalty’s Heart to Change the World CD goes well with this puppet skit.)

- **What to do in the workshop:** Open in prayer and discuss the importance of having a heart for ministry. Distribute the puppets and teach the first six steps. Watch the "Advanced Techniques Puppet Training DVD” and follow instructions. Practice the following puppet skit and a puppet song (first without – then with the puppet stage.)

- **What to present:** Present the following puppet skit and one puppet song.

**Introduction to this Workshop:**

Review how puppets can be a great tool to help reach the lost. More advanced puppetry skills are also fun to learn and knowing them can provide a way for a child to actively participate in ministry outreaches. This class will learn effective entrances and exits, using the entire stage and the puppets arms, giving the puppets a distinct character and using puppets when you can’t speak the language.
Intermediate Puppetry:

Step 4 – Use Effective Entrances & Exits:
Instead of just “popping up” out of nowhere, have a puppet enter the stage as if it is walking up steps or up a ramp. Other methods of entry could be an “elevator” entrance – complete with a bell sound (as long as you are in an area where children know what an elevator is) or a “trap door” exit (with a puppet’s funny “falling” yell).

• Step 5 – Use the Entire Stage:
Instead of keeping the puppet in one place, have it move across the stage. Have the puppet move forwards or backwards and side to side.

• Step 6 – Utilize the Puppet’s Arms:
If your puppet has arms, they should not hang motionless. Instead, attach simple rods or wrist bands to enable the puppeteer to move the arms. (These can be easily made with metal clothes hangers.) A puppet’s arms can be used to help express emotion, to point, or to do simple motions such as wiping eyes, covering mouth, or folding hands in prayer.

Other puppets utilize human arms (such as a big “Cookie Monster” puppet.) This type of puppet can demonstrate motion songs, carry objects or props or brush its hair. If a puppet has two human arms, you will need two puppeteers: a taller person behind to operate the head and a shorter person in front to operate both arms. For this kind of puppet it is often easier to have a primary puppeteer operate the puppet’s head and the puppet’s primary arm, while a second puppeteer operates the puppet’s other arm.
• **Step 7 – Give your Puppet a Distinct Character:**

Each puppet should have its own personality. This can be anything from an American cowboy puppet with a rough, gravelly drawl to a stuffy professor teacher with very meticulous movement; a silly puppet with funny speech to a high-pitched feminine Southern-Belle type. Whichever personality is chosen, it is important to remain consistent. Do not use more than one personality per puppet during the same program.

• **Step 8 – Using Puppets in a Different Language:**

It is a fun and interesting challenge to use puppets in another country, especially when the audience speaks a different language than the puppeteer. In many places, people have never seen a puppet and do not have access to television so puppets can be a very effective tool to draw a crowd.

• **Step 9 – Learn a Simple Puppet Skit:**
How to Use Puppets When You Can’t Speak the Language:

1. Learn a few key foreign phrases that the puppet can say (such as “Hello, Goodbye, Yes, No, Hallelujah, Praise the Lord” and “Jesus loves you”).

2. Have the puppet simply make animal sounds. You can “interpret” what the puppet is saying then an interpreter can translate for the people.

3. Have the interpreter translate what the puppet is saying.

4. Teach your interpreter to use puppets and have an interpreter puppet. Children (and adults) usually think this is very funny.

5. Teach a local worker to use puppets and let them talk to the children in their own language. (When you leave the area, you could even give this worker a puppet or two to continue reaching local children for Jesus.)

6. Purchase an international children’s tape or up-beat contemporary Christian CD in the foreign language, and have the puppet mouth the words. Make absolutely sure that the words are appropriate and practice synchronizing the movements.

7. Purchase a pre-recorded puppet skit in the foreign language and practice having the puppets “mouth” the words. (Puppet Productions has many pre-recorded puppet skits available in Spanish.)

8. Use a ventriloquist-style puppet as a drawing-card, making animal sounds or saying “hello” while walking up and down a street. Have a local person walk with you as you invite children to come to a nearby meeting.

9. Just have fun...sing in English...and draw a curious crowd!
“Let Your Light Shine!”

– A Mission Minded Puppet Skit

Two Puppets Needed: “Ralph” (with small flashlight) & “Bernie”

Note: This puppet skit is designed to share with an audience of Christian children, to promote the importance of world missions.

RALPH: (Enters with the flashlight singing This Little Light of Mine. At the verse
“Hide it under a bushel – No!” Ralph is singing very loudly as he waves
the flashlight around.)

BERNIE: Excuuuse me...Uh...Yoo-Hoo! What do you think you’re doing?

RALPH: Who me?

BERNIE: Yes YOU, Ralph. What are you doing?

RALPH: Can’t you see, Bernie? I’m letting my little light shine! I learned this
really cool song at church, and now I’m shining my light all over. See my
neat flashlight? It really works goooood.

BERNIE: Ralph! That’s not what the song is talking about.

RALPH: What are you saying? It’s not?

BERNIE: Of course not! “Letting your light shine” means that we’re not afraid to
tell other people about Jesus.

RALPH: Are you serious?

BERNIE: Yes, I’m serious. The Bible says Jesus is the light of the world, but He
also told us to be “lights” for Him by telling other people about His love.
RALPH: Wow! You mean I don’t even need this flashlight?

BERNIE: No, silly! You just need boldness to share about Jesus. You could use your Bible or a story, but the important thing is that you do what God ways and be a witness for Him.

RALPH: That sounds easy enough!

BERNIE: With Jesus, it is easy. And one more thing Ralph . . .

RALPH: Yeah?

BERNIE: Do you see how bright it is up here? You hardly need a flashlight here because there’s already so much light. But if you look down there,

(Have both puppets look behind the puppet stage) . . . it’s dark!

RALPH: (Shining his light down below the puppet stage) Wow! Look how good this flashlight shows up down there!

BERNIE: You see Ralph, we need to spread the Gospel of Jesus here at home, but did you know that there are many places where people have never heard about Jesus. There are million and MILLIONS of unreached people around the world and someone’s gotta GO to them!

RALPH: Isn’t that called being a “missionary”?

BERNIE: That’s right, and we can ALL be missionaries. When we help fulfill the mission of Jesus, we’re really letting our light shine!

RALPH: That sounds exciting, Bernie!

BERNIE: It really is, and every one of us needs to find God’s purpose and plan for our lives and do our part in sharing His light around the world.

Do you get it?
RALPH: You bet! I’m going to let my light shine for Jesus – especially to those who don’t know and who haven’t heard about Him.

BERNIE: Good job, Ralph!

RALPH: (Singing as he begins to walk “down-stairs” behind the puppet stage.)

Ohhh, this little light of mine, I’m a’gonna let it shine...

Ohhhh NOOOOO!

(Make sound effects of Ralph falling down the stairs.)

BERNIE: Ralph! Ralph! Are you all right?

RALPH: (Responding weakly) Yah, but I really should have used the flashlight.
What you need: tape or CD player, microphone, one or two accompaniment tapes or CD’s with a mission theme. Possible ideas: “Carry the Light” by Twila Paris or “Heart to Change the World” from Psalty’s Heart to Change the World CD. Have the words of the songs written out and available for practice.

What to do in the workshop: Open in prayer and discuss the importance of having a heart for ministry (not merely musical “performance”). Sing scales. Listen to the tape. Practice the songs. You will also want to practice with microphones and decide where everyone will stand. If desired, add simple hand motions or choreography to the music.

What to present: Sing the songs with a heart of worship.

Introduction to this Workshop:

Emphasize the “Four ministry Rules with children” and the importance of the “heart of Worship.” It’s good to begin in prayer, and perhaps sing a simple worship song (that you will not be presenting, but merely to take a moment to focus on Jesus.

If you or your children are musical, take time to prepare songs for ministry. You may want to purchase some musical accompaniment tapes or CDs, or practice with your own instruments. If possible, learn a song or a simple chorus in the language of the people you desire to reach or be prepared to learn a native song from a long-term
missionary or national. Perhaps add simple choreography or motions to help make your presentation more effective.

Even if you sing in English, or present an instrumental piece with no words, music can be a powerful tool to draw people to hear the Gospel. As you practice, prepare your heart to “minister” (not merely to “perform”). Pray for God’s Holy Spirit to soften hearts and to impact the people you will be ministering to.

**Regarding a child’s music lessons:** If your child enjoys music or has natural musical ability it’s good to encourage the development of this talent. Good music lessons, faithful practice and active participation in church worship are important. Even though it takes years of time, energy and expense to establish musical excellence, this is an investment in future ministry. Developing musical talent in a godly child is like preparing a powerful spiritual weapon to win battles for the kingdom of God.
Full Daily Schedule & Explanations
Day 1: Reaching Tribal People (AFRICA) — “Let Your Light Shine!”

- **Customs Office/Registration: 45 minutes**
  
  Registration at the “M.A.P.S. International Embassy Office”

  Passport Photos

  Craft Project: M.A.P.S. Passport Assembly Room

- **“Travel” to Africa: 20 minutes**

  M.A.P.S. International Airlines - Welcome (5-10 minutes)

  Africa Map Introduction and Airplane “Safety” Instructions

  Introduce Bible Verse: Matt. 5:16 “Let your light so shine...”

  In-flight movie - Africa video (5-10 minutes)

  Attendants serve juice and snack

  African Customs Office: (5 minutes)

  (Table set up at the doorway to main teaching room)

  Stamp passports with “Africa” stamps or stickers.

  Enter to African music
Main Session - Africa: 55 minutes

Main Welcome & Opening Prayer (5 minutes)

African greeting – (“Hello” in Swahili is “Ka-ree-boo”)

Children’s Worship Time (10 minutes)

Bible Verse & Object Lesson (Let Your Light Shine)

Missionary Monologue Skit - David Livingstone (5 minutes)

Main Session Children’s Speaker - 30 minutes

Ministry Training Workshops & International Café: 90 minutes

Workshop I (40 minutes)

Children choose one of three classes (for the whole week).

Puppetry I, Worship Ministry or the EvangeCube

International Café - Africa snack (10 minutes)

Workshop II (40 minutes)

Children choose one of three classes (for the whole week): Puppetry II,

Object Lessons or Human Video

Outside Mission Adventure: 45 minutes

Customs/Closing - 15 minutes

Passport check-in (don’t let children take their passports home)

Final Announcements and Review

Closing Prayer and Blessing

Dismissal (to up-beat, mission-oriented music)
Day 1  Memory Verse:

*Verily, Verily, I say unto you, ‘Unless a man is Born-again, he can not enter the kingdom of heaven.’”*

*(John 3:3)*
Day 1  Object Lesson:

“Let Your Light Shine”: (5 minutes)

Before class, take the batteries out of a large flashlight and replace them with trash.

Without telling the children what you did, hold up the flashlight and share about how Jesus wants us to be a “light” for Him. As you finish, try to turn on the flashlight and act surprised that the flashlight doesn’t work. Check the batteries and begin pulling out trash.

Purpose: We can’t be “lights” for Jesus if our lives are filled with sin. (This would be an appropriate time to give children an opportunity to receive Jesus Christ and to surrender their lives to Him.)
Day 1    Missionary Monologue Skit:

David Livingstone

Costume:  Khaki clothes, a safari-style helmet, a dark mustache, a few props (such as a rope over the shoulder, a machete, and a well-worn journal) and an old-English accent.

LIVINGSTONE:

(As David Livingstone enters, it seems he is in the middle of an exploration, slashing imaginary jungle leaves with his machete and breathing hard.)

Whew! Getting through this jungle is quite an adventure – with so many valleys and mountains . . . fierce lions and . . . ah yes, those dreadful mosquitoes – but I tell you, “The mission of the church is missions!”

I’m David Livingstone . . . and I have a heart for Africa.

I’m a missionary explorer and I like share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, especially in remote tribal areas.

It’s actually quite remarkable that I could get all the way here, as I was born in a humble home near Glasgow, Scotland. When I was a boy, I had to work in a textile mill from six-o-clock in the morning until eight-o-clock at night, and it was hard! But I was a determined young lad; and do you know what I bought with my very first paycheck? – I bought a Latin grammar book! You see, I wanted to learn . . . all about the world!

Growing up, my family always went to church, and I was converted to Christ during my youth. Then, a preacher named Robert Moffat (who’s now my father-in-law), told me about his adventures in Africa. One time, he said, “On a clear morning, the smoke of a thousand villages could be seen, where the name of Christ had never been
heard . . .” and that challenged me! – So much so, that I’ve spent my whole life traveling across the interior of Africa, covering over 14,000 miles and one-third of the continent! I’ve learned all kinds of things – about animals, plants, places and people – but most of all I’ve been able to share with “heathen” people, who had NEVER heard of Jesus.

At times it’s been hard: I’ve been attacked by a lion, I’ve been sick, and people close to me have died; but I must keep sharing the God’s Good News of salvation because “This generation can only reach this generation.”

And even now, I must GO . . . and like I’ve written in my journal, I will go

“Anywhere, provided it be forward!”
David Livingstone – Missionary to Africa
Day 1 International Café:

Africa Snack:

Peanuts (serve in African-style baskets, have children take a handful)

Bananas

Oranges

Juice
**Day 1  Outside Mission Adventure:**

**Time:** 45 minutes

Airport Relay / Missionary Obstacle Course:

Divide children into two teams. Set up “airplane runways” reaching towards “unreached people.” Plan obstacles like “crossing a river” or “hiking up a mountain” similar to those encountered by adventurous missionaries. (Instead of a baton for the relay race, use a medium-sized empty suitcase.)
Day 1  Mission Craft:

Today, the craft project is making missionary passports.

This will be done as the children are registering.

How to make “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” Passports:

1. Make copies of the passport pages, and have children cut along the dotted lines and glue the pieces to a passport-sized booklet made from a folded half-piece of blue construction paper with blank white pages stapled inside.

2. Use a small school picture or an instant print for the passport photos. (You can group four to six children together for a photograph and then cut pictures apart.)

3. If your children plan to use these passports for more than a day or two, cover them entirely with clear contact paper or wide clear packing tape.

4. Punch a hole in the top left corner, and use a piece of yarn or cording so children can wear their passports around their neck.

5. As children learn about various areas of the world, stamp their passports with a culturally appropriate rubber stamp, international flag or globe-oriented stickers or foreign postage stamps – all available at most teacher supply stores. (A teacher or parent could also use these passports to keep track of class achievements – such as Bible memory, Bible reading progress, or to record a children’s personal prayer time as they “travel” around the world through intercession.)
“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!”
MISSIONS ADVENTURE PREPARATION SCHOOL

SIGNATURE OF BEARER

Our Great Commission:

“Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

JESUS CHRIST
(Mark 16:15)
VISA to AFRICA -- “Let Your Light Shine!”
Today’s Bible Verse – John 3:3

VISA to ASIA -- “Be a Fisher of Men!”

VISA to EUROPE – “We’re Blessed!”
Today’s Bible Verse – Matthew 28:19
Note: A “VISA” is a stamp or sticker inside a passport, to grant specific permission to enter a particular country. These cut-outs can be copied off and glued into each child’s passport as he or she goes through that day’s “International Customs Office.” In the open area on the left of this “VISA” you could add an international sticker or an official signature (perhaps to verify when a child has memorized that day’s Bible memory verse).
Day 2: Reaching Buddhists (ASIA) – “Be a Fisher of Men!”

- **Customs Office/Registration: 30 minutes**
  
  “M.A.P.S. International Embassy Office” (check in and passports pick-up)

  Passport Photos and Passport Assembly Room (for new children)

- **“Travel” to Asia: 15 minutes**
  
  M.A.P.S. International Airlines - Welcome (5-10 minutes)

  Asia Map Introduction and Airplane “Safety” Instructions


  In-flight movie - Asia video (5-10 minutes)

  Attendants serve juice and snack

  Asia Customs Office: (5 minutes)

  (Table set up at the doorway to main teaching room)

  Stamp passports with “Asia” stamps or stickers.

  Enter to Asian music

- **Main Session - Asia: 55 minutes**

  Main Welcome & Opening Prayer (5 minutes)

  Asian greeting – (“Hello” in Japanese is “Ko-nee-chee-wa”)

  Children’s Worship Time (10 minutes)
Missionary Hero Monologue Skit: (5 minutes)

Main Session Children’s Speaker – (30 minutes)

- **Ministry Training Workshops & International Café: 90 minutes**
  
  Workshop I (40 minutes)
  
  Children continue in their chosen class:
  
  Puppetry I, Worship Ministry or the EvangeCube

  International Café - Asia snack (10 minutes)

  Workshop II (40 minutes)
  
  Children continue in their chosen class:
  
  Puppetry II, Object Lessons or Human Video

- **Mission Adventure: 45 minutes**

- **Mission Craft: 15 minutes**

- **Customs/Closing - 15 minutes**
  
  Passport check-in (don’t let children take their passports home)

  Final Announcements and Review

  Closing Prayer and Blessing

  Dismissal (to up-beat, mission-oriented music)
Day 2   Memory Verse:

“Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch... ...Do not be afraid. From now on you will be fishers of men.”

(Matthew 5:4 & 11)
**Day 2  Object Lesson:**

“Be a Fisher of Men”: (5 minutes)

Gather as many fishing supplies as you can: nets, fishing clothes, poles, books, hip-waders and a big sign that says “Fisherman’s Club.” Have a “Funny Fisherman” talk about fishing, sing about fishing and try to get others to fish, until the truth comes out; he’s never caught a fish. (See “The Fishless Fisherman” from *The Mission Minded Child Volume I*)

**Purpose:** It’s not enough to just talk about missions, we need to get out there and lead people to Jesus.
Day 2  Missionary Monologue Skit:

Hudson Taylor

Costume: Old-fashioned pajamas, round-rimmed eye-glasses, white hair and a beard.

(As Hudson Taylor enters, he approaches a simple table with a candle, matches, a Bible and an old-fashioned clock. He sits down, lights the candle and then opens the Bible.)

TAYLOR:

“Delight thyself in the Lord, and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.” Yes, that Bible promise is true, as we focus and delight in the Lord – not in the ministry, not on the tremendous needs here in China, and not even my exciting missionary experiences.

I’m Hudson Taylor . . . and I love to pray. Right now, it is two o’clock in the morning; and from this time until about four o’clock is my usual time to pray and study the Bible. During this early-morning time, I’ll be undisturbed to wait upon God.

For many years, I’ve ministered throughout China, because I believe “The Great Commission is not an option to consider, but a command to obey.” Sometimes, my family and I have traveled with just a simple cart and wheelbarrow, sometimes we stay in the poorest of inns – but missions is so rewarding. Usually, I eat, dress and talk like the Chinese people; I’ve translated the Bible into the Ningpo dialect; and through our China Inland Mission, God has established over 200 mission stations, over 800 missionaries and over 100,000 witnessing Christians.

And this is what I’ve always wanted to do.

Even when I was just five years old, I was known to say, “When I am a man, I mean to be a missionary and go to China.” Back in England, my father was a minister
who had always wanted to be a missionary to China; but when he couldn’t go, he prayed that I, his son, would be able go in his place. Growing up, I was weak and frail, but as a young man, I wanted to come here so badly, I once said, “I feel I can not go on living unless I do something for China” . . . and now, here I am.

But after all these years as a missionary in China, I’ve learned that my most important work is not translating the Bible, recruiting missionaries, or even converting Buddhists to Jesus Christ. Instead, my primary mission and calling . . . is simply to pray.

I’ve found that maintaining a prayerful Bible study can be the hardest part of missionary work and I’ve often said, “Satan will always find you something to do, when you ought to be occupied about that, if it is only arranging a window blind.” But when I spend time with the Lord, by His grace, He fills me with His power and joy.

So now, I will focus on this most-important work. I will “delight myself in my Lord,” and yes, “He will give me the desires of His heart.”
Hudson Taylor – Missionary to China
Day 2  International Café:

Asia Snack:

Fried rice (served with chopsticks),

Egg rolls

Hot tea
Day 2       Outside Mission Adventure:

Time:  45 minutes

Mission Camp Set-Up:

Divide children into at least two teams and have a race to set up a mission camp. Each team must set up a medium sized tent and arrange chairs and Bibles for a village “church.” (This takes longer than you would think, but it makes a fun memory.)
Day 2  Mission Craft:

Assemble and decorate “World Prayer Journals”

Have children simply glue a copy of the journal pages into small notebooks and decorate.

Other “Asian” craft ideas: paint Oriental fans or do origami folding.
WORLD MISSIONS

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE WORLD!
Each day of the week, you can pray for a major area of the world:

Sunday: North America
Monday: Latin America
Tuesday: Europe
Wednesday: The Middle East
Thursday: Africa
Friday: Asia
Saturday: Australia & Oceania

Pray for:
- Unsaved people to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- Missionaries you know.
- Many unsaved people to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- Persecuted Christians to be strong in their faith.
- People in need (those hungry, sick, poor, at war, or in missions newsletters).
- Unreached people groups who haven't yet heard of Jesus...not even once.
- For more missionaries to go!
SURRENDER

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done."
"On earth as it is in heaven..."

#2 next, I pray for God's perfect will to be done:

In my life (Write down areas in your own life that you need to let God work on.)
In my family (List names of everyone in your family who need special prayer.)
In my relatives (Do you have any relatives that you care for and need more prayer?)
In my church (My church's name.)
In my school (My school's name.)
In my neighborhood (Do you have friends or neighbors who you would like to pray for?)
In my country (My country's name.)
In my world (Godspeed.)

PRAISE

"Our Father Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name..."

#1 I begin my time in prayer with praise to God for Who He is, and what He has done in my life:

Things I can praise God for:

...
FORGIVENESS

"And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us..."

#4 I need to ask God to forgive me for the wrong things that I have done, and for the wrong things that others have done to me.

Dear Lord, please forgive me for... and help me to forgive... for....

PRAYER REQUESTS

"Give us this day our daily bread..."

#3 Then I pray and ask God to meet the needs of my family.

(Pray and ask God to meet the needs of your family.)

Home: __________________________
Food: __________________________
Clothing: ______________________
Transportation: _________________
Other specific things I am praying for:

My family: ______________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Missionary's Name:</th>
<th>Type of Ministry They are doing:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kid's names:</td>
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<td>Country:</td>
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# PRAISE

"For Thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the Glory forever. Amen."

#6 Again, take time to think about how great God is! Praise and thank Him for what He is, what He has done and what He will do.

---

## PROTECTION FROM SIN

"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil..."

#5 In prayer, allow God to show you bad things or places that may tempt you to do wrong. Ask God to help you stay away from them.

### Things I need to stay away from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Places I should stay away from:</th>
<th>Bad Music:</th>
<th>Evil Books, Magazines, or comics:</th>
<th>Bad T.V. shows, movies, or videos:</th>
<th>Evil toys or games:</th>
<th>Friends: (Asks Jesus to help you to have a good influence on all your friends, and to give you boldness to share the Gospel with friends who are not Saved, but don't let bad friends tempt you to do wrong!)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Day 3: Reaching the Lost 
(EUROPE) – “Is it Fair?”

- Customs Office/Registration: 30 minutes
  “M.A.P.S. International Embassy Office” and Passport Photos

- “Travel” to Europe: 15 minutes
  M.A.P.S. International Airlines - Welcome (5-10 minutes)
  Europe Map Introduction and Airplane “Safety” Instructions
  Introduce Bible Verse: Mark 16:15 “…Go ye therefore…”
  In-flight movie - Europe video (5-10 minutes)
  Attendants serve juice and snack
  Europe Customs Office: (5 minutes)
  (Table set up at the doorway to main teaching room)
  Stamp passports with “Europe” stamps or stickers.
  Enter to classical European music

- Main Session - Europe: 55 minutes
  Main Welcome & Opening Prayer (5 minutes)
  European greetings:
    English - “Hello,” German – “Gu-ten-tag,”
  Children’s Worship Time (10 minutes)
  Missionary Hero Monologue Skit: (5 minutes) William & Catherine Booth
  Main Session Children’s Speaker - 30 minutes
- **Ministry Training Workshops & International Café: 90 minutes**

  Workshop I (40 minutes)

  Children continue in their chosen class:

  Puppetry I, Worship Ministry or the *EvangeCube*

  International Café - European snack (10 minutes)

  Workshop II (40 minutes) – Children continue in their chosen class:

  Puppetry II, Object Lessons or Human Video

- **Mission Craft: 15 minutes**

- **Mission Adventure: 45 minutes**

- **Customs/Closing - 15 minutes**

  Passport check-in (Don’t let children take their passports home)

  Final Announcements and Review

  Closing Prayer and Blessing

  Dismissal (to upbeat, mission-oriented music)
“Go therefore and make disciples of all Nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

(Matthew 28:19)
Day 3  
Object Lesson:

“Is it fair?” (5 minutes)

Take a large bag of candy, enough for all in the room, and make a “big deal” about passing it out fairly . . . but give all of it to only a few children on the front row. Next, display an overhead map of the world, take 100 pennies and put 96 pennies on America and only 4 pennies on the rest of the world. Lastly, have a stack of 20 Bibles and call up 20 children. Put 17 Bibles in the hands of 2 children holding little U.S.A. and British flags and leave only 3 Bibles for the remaining 18 children to share. “Is this fair?”

Purpose: God has blessed us to be a blessing!
The Missions Need:
Do you know how the Christian Church spends every dollar?

96.8 cents of each dollar
is spent on the 2 billion people who call themselves Christians.
(Christians spending money on themselves.)

2.9 cents of each dollar
is spent on those who have heard and rejected Christ.

only .3 cents of each dollar
(only one-third of a penny) is spent to reach the 1.6 billion people throughout the world who have NEVER heard or had a chance to respond to Jesus Christ.
The Missions Need:
Do you know how many Bibles have been printed in English?

Do you know how many Bibles and New Testaments have been printed since the invention of the printing press in 1450 A.D.?

6.5 billion.

Do you know how many of these have been printed in English?
85% of them.

Do you know what percentage of the world speaks our language?
less than 1 in 10.
(Only 9% of the world speak English.)

Of all the Bibles and New Testaments printed, do you know how many have been printed in the rest of the world's languages?

Since 1450 AD, only 15% of the total number of Bibles and New Testaments ever printed were printed for the remaining 91% of the world's population!
**Day 3  Missionary Monologue:**

William & Catherine Booth (Founders of the Salvation Army)

Costume: Have someone in a red winter jacket, a winter hat, scarf and gloves and a bell next to a hanging red bucket, to look like the Christmastime Salvation Army bell-ringer.

*(This monologue skit is told by a contemporary Salvation Army bell-ringer. Have this person begin by setting up the bucket, ringing the bell and greeting imaginary shoppers.)*

SALVATION ARMY BELL-RINGER:

“Merry Christmas Sir!” . . . “And how are you ‘Mam?” . . . *(Rubs hands together, as if cold)* . . . *Hmm, it’s kind of cold today*. . . “And Merry Christmas to you too!” . . . “Oh, thank you for your gift!” . . . “May God bless you!” . . .

*(This bell-ringer then turns to greet the audience.)*

Oh, hello there! I’m a volunteer for the Salvation Army. You’ve probably seen folks like us at some of the stores around Christmastime – with our bells and our buckets – raising money to help the poor . . . and do you know why we’re called the “Salvation Army”? It’s because of our Founder, General William Booth, and his wife, Catherine. They lived in England (that’s over in Europe) over a hundred years ago; and they had a passion to see people receive God’s salvation through Jesus Christ.

General Booth had a desire to reach and needy and outcasts with the Gospel of Christ. In 1865, he and his wife, Catherine, began their ministry with an emphasis on street preaching, personal evangelism and help for the poor. On ministry banners hung the powerful phrase, “Blood and Fire!” In Booth’s words, their mission was to “Go
straight for souls, and go for the worst” and through the Salvation Army, millions have come to know Jesus.

Catherine is known as the “Mother of the Salvation Army. She often preached alongside her husband, and she wrote books and mission pamphlets. On top of all that, William and Catherine had eight children who were all mighty workers in the kingdom of God – taking the Gospel to many nations including India, France, Switzerland and the United States.

One time, General Booth had a vision – or a dream – in which he saw a huge ocean filled with drowning people. Some of these people were rescued and put on a rock (which represented people being saved and coming to Jesus). But the people on the rock were all distracted with buying things, and trying to look pretty, and being busy. They didn’t even care about the other people who were drowning. William Booth was really impacted by the vision, so he wrote down what he saw. I’ve read it, and it’s pretty powerful. It’s one of those things that really makes a person think. And it really made me realize how much people need Jesus.

Well, I’d better get back to my job here, and I’ll let you get back to all you have to do. I do wish you a Merry Christmas – and like William Booth always said, “Let’s go for souls, and go for the worst!”
William Booth – Missionary to the Poor (Europe)
Catherine Booth – Missionary to the Poor (Europe)
Day 3  International Café:

Europe Snack:

Meatballs served with

Spaghetti and

Grape juice
Day 3  Outdoor Mission Adventure:

Hand-Washing Relay –

Teams have a pile of clothes, a clothesline, clothespins and two wash buckets: one for soapy water and one for clear water. Each person takes a piece of clothing, scrubs it ten times, rinses it in clean water, wrings it out, then runs to pin it on the clothesline.
Day 3  Mission Craft:

Assemble and decorate cards to invite family and friends to the MAPS Graduation Ceremony and “International Family Missions Presentation.” Have all the important information copied off for children to glue onto their invitations.

Have the children decorate their invitations with various seeds and beans.

Example of information to include in your invitations:

You are invited to a Special International Missions Presentation!

Featuring: _______________________________

With Puppets, Special Music, Drama, and our “M.A.P.S. for Kids Graduation” Ceremony
Fun for the Whole family!

Date: _________________________
Time: _________________________
Location: ______________________

This event will conclude with an International Hors d’oeuvre Exchange

Please bring an International Snack (labeled with country of origin) and have children come in International Dress.
Prizes for best costumes!
Day 4: Reaching Hindus (INDIA) – “The Harvest is Ripe!”

- **Customs Office/Registration**: 30 minutes
  
  “M.A.P.S. International Embassy Office” (Check in and passport pick-up)

- **“Travel” to India**: 15 minutes
  
  M.A.P.S. International Airlines - Welcome (5-10 minutes)
  
  India Map Introduction and Airplane “Safety” Instructions
  
  Introduce Bible Verse: Matthew 9:37 “…harvest truly is plentiful…”
  
  In-flight movie - India video (5-10 minutes)
  
  Attendants serve juice and snack
  
  India Customs Office: (5 minutes)
  
  (Table set up at the doorway to main teaching room)
  
  Stamp passports with “India” stamps or stickers. Enter to Indian music

- **Main Session - India**: 55 minutes
  
  Main Welcome & Opening Prayer (5 minutes)
  
  English: “I have decided to follow Jesus” (3x)
  
  “No turning back” (2x)
  
  Hindi: “Yee-soo kay pee-chay meh hchull-nay luh-guh” (3x)
  
  “Nuh low-doo-gah” (2x)
  
  Children’s Worship Time (10 minutes)
Missionary Hero Monologue Skit: (5 minutes) – Amy Carmichael

Main Session Children’s Speaker - 30 minutes

- **Ministry Training Workshops & International Café: 90 minutes**
  
  Workshop I (40 minutes)
  
  Children continue in their chosen class:
  
  Puppetry I, Worship Ministry or the EvangeCube

  International Café – Snack from India (10 minutes)

  Workshop II (40 minutes) Children continue in their chosen class:
  
  Puppetry II, Object Lessons or Human Video

- **Mission Adventure: 45 minutes**

- **Customs/Closing - 15 minutes**
  
  Passport check-in (don’t let children take their passports home)

  Final Announcements and Review

  Closing Prayer and Blessing

  Dismissal (to upbeat, mission-oriented music)
“Then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.’”

(Matthew 9:37)
**Day 4    Object Lesson:**

“Be a Farmer in God’s Harvest!” Have a “Funny Farmer” come dressed with a straw hat, a plaid shirt, overall, a hoe and a stalk of wheat. Have the farmer talk (with a “twang”) about a time he put others in charge of his farm, right before harvest time. “I told ‘em to plow that-there whole field, yet those varmints just planted flowers all ‘round the house, painted my barn and spent all their time decorating my house all ‘purty.’ When I came home, they sang fancy song ‘bout bringing’ n the harvest, but my fields were covered with weeks!” (Read the “The Whole Estate” in the Classic Mission Parable file on this CD for more details.)

**Purpose:** God wants us to help bring in a harvest of souls!!
Amy Carmichael

Costume: Have a woman wear a long Victorian-style dress with a high color and puffed sleeves with her hair pulled up loosely. If possible, have her speak with an Irish accent.

AMY CARMICHAEL:

(Have her walk in slowly, and with proper posture, towards a globe or a map on a table. Have her point out the country of India as she begins.)

India. Yes, this far-away land is my home.

My name is Amy Carmichael, and for over fifty years, I have been a missionary to the children of India. (Have her point to Northern Ireland on the map.) I was born in Europe, right here in Northern Ireland and my family was quite wealthy. As the eldest of seven children, I had much responsibility – especially after my mother died when I was just eighteen years old. I helped my father a great deal, especially with the children.

As a young 24-year-old woman in 1892, the Lord called me to missions – and specifically to India. It was not easy to travel back then. I went on a boat to Japan and Ceylon, came home for a brief time, then I set sail for this land of India.

This country is a strange place, and so different from the place where I was raised. The streets are crowded with people and the air smells of smoke and burning incense. Most of the Indian people are Hindu – and they worship millions of idols and statues. They are so lost, and so desperately need Jesus. In fact, the need in this land is so great, I have never returned home. So many of the children – especially little girls – were being abused in Hindu temples and God has called me to rescue them. That is what I have done
throughout my life. I have rescued hundreds of children, and I have worked hard to inspire others to come and help me.

I love to write, and often I try to convey the need for missions to the people back home in Europe.

One time, I had a very vivid dream, which I wrote down. In my dream, I heard the tom-tom drums thumping all night as I stood on a grassy field – next to a cliff that dropped down into infinite darkness. Then I saw people walking towards me, and towards the horrible cliff. They were blind, stone blind, as they marched towards the cliff. I tried to warn the people, but no one could hear me. Though I strained, not a sound could come. Then, in my dream, my friends and family called me to come back home. They said they needed me for something important, so I went; but all we did back home was to sit peacefully on the grass and make daisy chains. One day, as I sat there in my dream, I thought I heard a cry of a little girl far away, falling off a cliff; but as I stood to go help her, my friends pulled my down. “You really must stay here with us and help us to finish our daisy-chains” they told me, “It would be so selfish of you, if you made us finish this work alone.”

As I woke up, I realized that God was speaking to me about the need to reach the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And for all these years, I have stayed here in India to help as many people as possible, especially children. I continually pray, “Give me love that leads the way . . . the passion that will burn like fire.”

Oh may God give us all more of His love for the lost.
Day 4  Mission Craft:

Assemble Five-Color Gospel Bracelets (Each bracelet will use five or six colored beads – gold, black, red, white, green and if desired, blue – and one 18” leather strip. As these are assembled, children will learn how to share the Gospel.)

GOLD: Represents heaven and God’s abundant life (John 10:10)
BLACK: Represents sin and darkness (Romans 3:23)
RED: Represents the blood of Jesus on the cross (Romans 6:23)
WHITE: Represents salvation and God’s forgiveness (I John 1:9)
GREEN: Represents growing as a Christian (I Peter 2:2)

(can also add BLUE for baptism – Matthew 28:19-20)
Day 4    International Café:

India Snack:

“Japoti” (these are similar to fried tortillas) and/or

Rice with

Chicken pieces and

Curry sauce
Day 4  Outdoor Mission Adventure:

Water-Carrying Relay: Have two (or more) teams race with plastic buckets or jugs half-filled with water. Try to balance water jugs of heads or race to transfer water from the “well” to the “mission camp” or the “village.” Use two children’s wading pools.
Day 5: Reaching the World
(LATIN AMERICA) – “The Great Commission”

- **Customs Office/Registration:** 30 minutes
  
  “M.A.P.S. International Embassy Office” (Check in and passport pick-up)

- **“Travel” to Latin America:** 15 minutes
  
  M.A.P.S. International Airlines - Welcome (5-10 minutes)
  
  Latin America Map Introduction and Airplane “Safety” Instructions
  
  Introduce Bible Verse: Mark 16:15 “Go into all the world and preach…”
  
  In-flight movie – Latin America video (5-10 minutes)
  
  Attendants serve juice and snack
  
  Latin America Customs Office: (5 minutes)
  
  (Table set up at the doorway to main teaching room)
  
  Stamp passports with “Latin American” stamps or stickers.
  
  Enter to Mexican or Latin American music

- **Main Session – Latin America:** 55 minutes
  
  Main Welcome & Opening Prayer (5 minutes)
  
  “Hello” in Spanish is “Hola”! (See also Spanish Songs)
  
  Children’s Worship Time (10 minutes)
  
  Missionary Hero Monologue Skit: (5 minutes) – Cameron Townsend
  
  Main Session Children’s Speaker - 30 minutes
• Ministry Training Workshops - 45 minutes
  
  Workshop I – Final Instructions (20 minutes)
  
  Puppetry I, Worship Ministry or the EvangeCube
  
  Break – Switch classes (5 minutes)
  
  Workshop II – Final Instructions (20 minutes)
  
  Puppetry II, Object Lessons or Human Video

• Outside Mission Adventure and International Café (45 minutes)

• “Family Missions Presentation” Practice - 60 minutes
  
  Have all the children gather in the main sanctuary as each “Ministry Workshop” class takes a brief turn presenting the ministry skill or song they have learned.

• Final Customs (15 minutes)
  
  Review details for the scheduled presentation. Instruct all children to come to the program in an international costume (unless they need to come as a clown or in a special costume for their ministry presentation).
  
  Children can take home passports if you desire.
Day 5  Memory Verse:

“Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

“The Great Commission”  
(Mark 16:15)
Day 5    Object Lesson:

“It’s time to GO!”

Have someone in a police officer costume come and lead several young children in a short game of “Red-Light – Green-Light.” (When he says “Green Light” the children can quickly walk forward towards the officer. . . but just until the officer says “Red Light!”)

The first child to reach the officer wins.

Have the officer then display a poster of a traffic light and share how Jesus has already given us as Christians the signal to GO into all the world to preach the Gospel. Wouldn’t it be strange if a driver came up to a green light, stopped to look around, and wouldn’t move until a police officer came to give them a “definite call” to go? No! Unless a traffic officer is there to tell you otherwise, you GO! Purpose: To share the Great Commission.
Day 5  Missionary Monologue:

William Cameron Townsend

Costume: Have a man in a suit and tie, slicked-back hair and round glasses.

CAM TOWNSEND:

(Have him walk in with a stack of Bibles and several notepads.)

Hi! I’m Cam Townsend, and I really love God’s Word, The Holy Bible.

I grew up in a poor family in California, and when I was just a teenager, I heard about the need for world missions, so right around the turn of the century – in 1917 – I joined the “Student Volunteer Movement” and headed to Latin America as a young missionary.

My first assignment was selling Spanish Bibles in remote areas in Guatemala, but I soon realized that many of the Cekchiquel people had no understanding of Spanish. I became so burdened for the hundreds of thousands of people who had no Bible translation of their own. (Could you imagine if the only Bible you had to read was written in a foreign language like Russian or Japanese?) Well, as I was trying to distribute these Spanish Bibles, one of these Cekchiquel nationals asked me, “Why, if your God is so smart, hasn’t He learned our language?”

Wow. I took that as a challenge.

For over fifty years, I devoted my life to Bible translation work – personally translating the Bible, helping others to learn foreign languages, and motivating Christians to realize the importance of Bible translation. I founded a ministry called “Wycliffe Bible Translators” – which was named in honor of another missionary, named John Wycliffe, who translated the Bible long ago into English, and was killed because of his work.
“The greatest missionary is the Bible in the Mother tongue . . . it never needs a furlough and is never considered a foreigner.”

Everyone should be able to have the Word of God in his own language, and that’s why we need more Bible translators. Even today, there are still many people who have never heard of Jesus and whole “people groups” who do not yet have a Bible in their own language. We need to take that as a challenge. What are we going to do about it?

Please pray that God will continue to call people to work on translating the Bible into other languages. It’s a lot of work, and Bible translation work takes a long, long time; but it’s so necessary.

And when you see your own Bible, realize what a blessing it is to be able to have God’s Word in our own language. It’s a blessing! The Holy Bible is God’s word to us, and we need to read it and study it. And we need to always remember to pray for people throughout the world . . . who are still waiting for God’s Good News in their language.

Well, I’d better get back to my translation work. Thanks so much for letting me share . . . and who knows . . . maybe one of YOU will help translate the Bible someday into a new language.
**Day 5**  
**Outdoor Adventure and International Café:**

Piñata Fiesta – serve typical Latin American foods such as tacos, nachos or enchiladas along with juice. Have children take turns being blindfolded and attempt to break open the piñata (filled with candy and prizes) with a pole.

(Note: Due to the presentation practice there is no craft on this day.)
Family Missions Presentation
“M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” - Family Missions Presentation and “Graduation”

Keep it simple, keep it short (approximately one hour long) and have fun!

- Prelude (As people enter, have international or mission music playing)
- Welcome (With an opening prayer by a pastor or missionary)
- Opening Processional (Children enter by marching towards the front carrying international flags. Have children sing with a mission-oriented worship CD.)
- Welcome Song (My favorite song for this opening number is “Hello, Bonjour, Buenos Dias,” from WE SING Around the World)
- Workshop Presentations:
  Puppetry I, Object Lessons and Music Ministry
- Mission Video or PowerPoint Slides (about 5 minutes)
- Workshop Presentations:
  Puppetry II, the EvangeCube and Human Video
- Altar Call
- Presentation of Awards
  (Have all children come forward to the platform together.)
  Award prizes for best international costumes
  Present “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!” graduation certificates
- Closing Prayer
  (Include a prayer of blessing and anointing for the children)
- Dismissal
  (Followed by a time of fellowship and “International Hors d’oeuvres”)

Recommended Resources for “M.A.P.S. for KIDS!”

- **Decorations:**
  Oriental Trading Company, [www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com)

- **Music Ministry:**
  *Wee Sing Around the World (“Hello to all the Children of the World”), By Pamela Conn Beall, (Prentice Hall Press, 2002).*
  *Heart to Change the World (Kid’s Praise VI), [www.psalt.com](http://www.psalt.com)*

- **Drama Ministry:**
  *Asleep in the Light, By Keith Green, [www.lastdaysministries.org](http://www.lastdaysministries.org)*
  *The Champion, By Carman, [www.carman.org](http://www.carman.org)*

- **Puppet Ministry:**
  Puppet Productions (Puppetry Training DVD’s, The Laughing Song, Let’s Go to the Church, and Spanish puppet skits) [www.puppetproductions.com](http://www.puppetproductions.com)