

The Ministry of
Children's Sabbath School Teacher

The special challenge of Sabbath School teachers is to lead children into a personal relationship with the Saviour. No other work is more important. As a teacher, yours is a unique opportunity to build one to one relationships with the children, unfolding Bible truths to their fresh, young minds.

You help your students apply Bible truth to their daily lives. In so doing, with the help of the Holy Spirit, you can experience the wonder of leading a child to Christ.

The ministry of teaching in a children's division brings both responsibility and reward. Those rewards may not be immediate. Sometimes you will wonder if you are getting through. But God promises the harvest, if we plant the seed. The reward of bringing a child to Christ will be well worth the effort.

Responsible to: Sabbath School division leader

Relates Closely with: The children, their parents, and others on the leadership team

Ministry Mission: Through the ministry of Sabbath School to help children know God, to hear God's Word, and to respond appropriately to it

Duties of the Children's Sabbath School Teacher:

The teacher in a children's division of the Sabbath School has the following duties:

1. *To the Children:* Learns to know the children by name, discovering the interests and family circumstances of each. Relates to the children in a loving, accepting manner, regardless of their race, colour, language, gender, age, or educational experience. Encourages children to ask questions and seek answers.
2. *To Personal Development:* Maintains a consistent prayer life and seeks to grow spiritually; know Jesus as a personal Saviour and is willing and able to talk about what God has done for him/her. Studies the children's lesson and the teachers' lesson helps so as to be able to lead the class in a discussion of their lesson. Seeks new ways to involve children in learning.
3. *To the Leader:* Adapts to the leadership style of the Sabbath School Leader. Arranges a teaching schedule with the Leader, allowing for Sabbaths off; calls the leader when emergencies cause a change of plans, so a substitute can be found.
4. *To the Class:* Arrives on time and sits with the class during the programme; leads the class in discussion of the lesson so as to relate Bible truth to everyday situations. Commits to regular attendance so that the class learns to depend on their teacher. Recognises and greets children by name outside of class. Encourages children to grow in grace in the knowledge of God through daily Bible study. At the end of Sabbath School, evaluating whether or not learning took place.
5. *To God:* Models God's grace in relationships within the class, seeking to love and accept each child at all times. Encourages the children to express their love for God in words, prayer and faithfulness in daily situations.

Time Commitment: Approximately 1-2 hours per week

Length of Commitment: One or two years, depending on the practice of the local church

Qualifications:

1. General Volunteer Ministry Qualifications:

A commitment to:

- Jesus Christ, and to a growing personal relationship with Him
- Christ-centred ministry to children
- The Seventh-day Adventist Church and its beliefs
- A balanced Christian lifestyle
- Teamwork and cooperative ministry under the leadership of the pastor and church board
- Personal growth and learning, continually upgrading methods and skills

2. Special Qualifications for Children's Ministries

- An attitude of servant leadership
- A passion for children and children's ministries
- Leadership experience in a ministry to children