



# Adventurer Basic Staff Training

## Understanding the Adventurer-Age Children

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Patience is the key!

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[www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLyK-aYLiQc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLyK-aYLiQc)



# What does the Bible say?

Proverbs 22:6 (NCV) Eph. 4:6

Train children to live the right way, and when they are old, they will not stray from it.

Matthew 18:6 - Luke 17:2

"If anyone causes one of these little ones--those who believe in me--to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.



# History of the Adventurer Club

-Was created in order to strengthen the parent/child relationship and further the child's development in spiritual, physical, mental and social areas

-General Conference endorsed ideas of Busy Bee, Sun-beam, builder, and Helping Hand in 1939

-In 1972 the Washington Conference sponsored a club for children called "Beavers", the North Eastern Conference joined into the children's club concept by 1975



# History of the Adventurer Club

-1989-a committee met to update the adventurer curriculum, develop awards and write guidelines for the adventurer club organization

-in 1990, the adventurer program piloting process began in the North American Division



# Adventurer Club

## Leadership

- To learn concepts and strategies to experience successful Leadership

## Objective

- To understand Adventurers at various age levels.

# How They Behave

- They LOVE strenuous activities!
- They LOVE to create new things!
- They have active imaginations/growing ability to memorize!
- They have variable attention spans
- They LOVE hearing stories!
- They are readily disciplined
- They CRAVE new experiences that satisfy
- They are CURIOUS about everything

# Understanding WHY they behave that way

- I am imaginative
- Average attention span is 1-2 minutes
- Large assignments discourage them
- Their energy is not limitless, therefore their initial excitement may cause exhaustion/ crankiness
- They like work that can turn into play
- Muscular coordination is still developing, they need practice with smaller muscles-(ex: putting things together/drawing)

# Understanding WHY they behave that way

- Memorization comes easily
- Boys usually like outdoor activities/wild animal stories
- Girls typically like stories about children/family experiences/stories that involve repetition and conversation
- Children must feel like they have freedom of choice
- They must be able to move around after remaining still for too long
- They become irritated and discouraged by failure



# How do WE handle them?

- Provide plenty of opportunity for physical activity!
- Be PATIENT!
- Get them involved in arranging chairs/passing out materials
- Include activity within regular adventurerer program
- Make stories VIVID with details that stimulate their minds (ask them to close eyes and picture themselves in the story)
- Don't make requirements impossible, they will lose interest/don't ask them to provide details

Supply "jobs" to different adventurerers

Keep the Story Moving!

Make 3 changes during club time

Let them choose an activity

Reward GOOD behavior

Never strike/belittle a child, always give private counseling



# HOW to teach them

*Show them how to use their energy for God by helping and respecting each other!*

*Tell them to invite others to adventurer club and Sabbath school!*

*Lead by example, try your best to display positivity and cheerfulness at all times*



*Tell Stories, use visual aids, and ask questions!*

*Bring Bible and story characters to life! Relate truth to their life by making it personal!*



*Share your own faith and journey with them! Teach Gods plan of salvation to help Adventurers feel confident in God's love.*

*Teach children God is pleased by obedience and their trust in him.*



*Above all, help them to learn to love God, as their Personal Savior*



*Let them know How much God truly loves them through the sacrifice he made for us all on the cross!*



*Teach them the importance of love and respect towards one another!*

# Age Level Characteristics

Age Levels	Physical	Motor Skills	Social
<b>Little Lambs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learn through play</li><li>• Have short attention spans</li><li>• Obey rules, but do not understand right and wrong</li><li>• Can follow two unrelated simple directions</li><li>• Understand danger and may develop fears</li><li>• Experience mood swings, but tantrums generally don't last long</li><li>• Know six to eight colors</li><li>• Understand concepts such as size and shapes</li><li>• Like to do things for themselves but are reassured when an adult is nearby for help</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Run - climb - skip - catch a bounced ball - walk a straight line - hop on one foot - kick a ball - Throw overhand</li><li>• Learning to write and draw</li><li>• Dress themselves but may need some help - Can hold a pencil, draw a circle and a face</li><li>• Can use safety scissors to cut a line</li><li>• Build block structures with 10 blocks</li><li>• Can complete simple 4 to 12 piece puzzles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Share when asked</li><li>• Imaginary playmates</li><li>• Explore the body</li><li>• Begin to play with others in groups</li><li>• May be bossy</li><li>• Change the rules to games</li><li>• Sometimes lie to protect friends or themselves</li><li>• Can be aggressive but want friends</li></ul>

# Age Level Characteristics

Age Levels	Physical	Cognitive	Social
<b>Eager Beaver</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can control gross motor skills more easily than fine motor skills</li><li>• Difficulty controlling large body movements</li><li>• Struggle to control volume of speech</li><li>• Can take themselves to the bathroom - occasionally "accidents" happen</li><li>• Can dress themselves with slight assistance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Short attention spans</li><li>• Learn actively</li><li>• Focus on one thing at a time</li><li>• Need specific directions</li><li>• Require consistency</li><li>• Can confuse reality and fiction</li><li>• Want to make their own decisions</li><li>• Are literal</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• May not share well</li><li>• May appear to be "know-it-alls"</li><li>• Competitive and like to win</li><li>• Only see their point of view</li><li>• Easily embarrassed by criticism</li><li>• Tantrums to test authority</li><li>• Loves encouragement and rewards</li></ul>

# Age Level Characteristics

Age Levels	Physical	Emotional	Social
6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small muscle coordination is developing and improving.</li><li>• Girls are ahead of boys</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New intense feelings.</li><li>• Deep need for approval from peers/adults</li><li>• Hard to control behavior</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Struggling with social acceptance</li><li>• Extremely competitive</li><li>• needs spotlight</li></ul>
8-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good muscle coordination.</li><li>• Become impatient with failure</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teasing, nicknames, criticism, &amp; venting anger.</li><li>• Developing right vs. wrong value system</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Status within peers is important</li><li>• Child decreases dependency on adults</li></ul>

# Age Level Characteristics

Age Levels	Intellectual	Spiritual	Physical Dev.
6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intense eagerness to learn</li><li>• Asks lots of questions</li><li>• Limited concept of time</li><li>• Listening skills developing rapidly</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Needs visuals to help understand God's greatness</li><li>• Needs specific examples of Jesus is his/her Friend</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Growth proceeding more slowly</li><li>• High activity level</li><li>• Can stay still only for short period</li></ul>
8-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Realize that there are other valid opinions</li><li>• Becoming reasoning and thinks conceptually</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sense a need for God's help and guidance</li><li>• A desire to become a member of God's family</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Slow-steady growth, muscles developing</li><li>• Attention span increases</li></ul>



# Age Level Characteristics

Age Levels	Behavior	Special Needs	Teaching Tips
6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eager to learn, exuberant, restless, overactive, easily fatigued</li><li>• Learns best thru participation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Encouragement</li><li>• Patience, warmth, praise</li><li>• Wise supervision</li><li>• Help in developing acceptable habits</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Give opportunity to move around</li><li>• Use activities that involve cutting and writing skills</li><li>• Vary activities</li></ul>
8-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Careless (sometimes), noisy, argumentative but also alert, friendly and interested in people</li><li>• Awareness</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Praise and encouragement</li><li>• Training in skills, but without pressure - Supervision</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand skill level</li><li>• Use pictures for illustrations</li><li>• Reading and writing will vary</li></ul>

# DISCIPLINE

Providing discipline for the Adventurer child is a positive contribution to his happiness and well-being. Discipline is not primarily punishment, but a way of helping the child to learn self-control and caring for others as a disciple of Jesus.

# DISCIPLINE

- *Model the behavior you want*
- *Provide a peaceful, organized room*
- *Be prepared*
- *Set specific expectations*
- *Consistently redirect misbehavior*

Remember....



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# RESOURCES

- Let God guide you. - Remember the gospel commission given in Matthew 28:18-20
- Great Children's Ministry Resource:  
<http://orgcchildren.netadvent.org/characteristics-of-little-lambs>
- Worksheets for Stars, Chips, & Awards:  
[http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Adventist\\_Adventurer\\_Awards](http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Adventist_Adventurer_Awards)
- Use the Adventurer Club Manual  
[www.adventurer-club.org](http://www.adventurer-club.org)