

So . . . you're a new children's leader . . .

Congratulations! Working with the children in your church in an exciting endeavor. There are some basic things for you to consider.

Grouping

As you prepare for the upcoming year, it is important to decide how to divide your children into classes. If your numbers are small you may want to keep them all together in one group. **Children in Action (CiA)** is a coed mission group that allows boys and girls, grades 1-6, to learn about missions together.

If your group is larger, you may want to divide them into younger and older **CiA**. Another option would be to divide the boys and the girls. Studies show that learning is enhanced when girls and boys are separated. Behavior tends to improve, as well! **Girls in Action (GA)** is a mission group for girls in grades 1-6. **Royal Ambassadors (RA)** is a mission group for boys in grades 1-6. Both provide children with numerous challenges and missions learning experiences. If your group is very large, you will want to divide by boys and girls and also by ages.

Planning

When the time comes to begin planning and preparing for the upcoming year, enlist volunteers to assist you in planning and leading activities. Plan an enlistment activity and/or promotional materials that will spark interest in the church and community. Begin gathering and collecting materials for crafts and other mission projects.

For more information, ideas and teaching tips, go to www.wmucia.com or www.gapassport.com or www.royalambassadors.org

Resources

WMU How-To: Children in Action

This guide provides numerous tips and ideas for new leaders. It also contains resource information, children's learning styles information, promotional ideas, and tips on how to get started.

Missions Matchfile for Children in Action

This resource is published quarterly and contains fun learning experiences to be used in **CiA** meetings. There are also craft ideas, games, and many other activities to assist you as you plan for meetings.

Children in Action: Special Assignments

This book contains optional activities for the children. It can be used as a

teaching supplement or as an achievement plan for children who want to earn an award for the year. Awards are ordered separately.

WMU How-To: Girls in Action

This guide provides important information for **GA** leaders. It contains ideas, resources, planning tips, and age-level characteristics for physical, social, emotional, and spiritual development.

Aware

This magazine for **GA** leaders is complete with lessons that are divided up for younger girls, older girls, and a blended group. There is also an *Aware Resource Kit* that contains games, puzzles, and other activities that go along with the weekly lesson plans. The *Aware Picture Set* contains pictures related to the unit mission study.

Discovery

Monthly magazine used in **GA** meetings for girls in grades 1-4.

GA World

Monthly magazine used in **GA** meetings for girls in grades 5-6.

WorldVentures

This is an individual achievement plan for girls. A separate book for each grade level, from 1 to 6, has age-appropriate learning activities.

These **CiA** and **GA** resources can be ordered from www.wmystore.org

Wings _____

A holistic approach to Christian education which combines Bible study and missions. A template is provided which enables teachers to design their own lessons.

CBF Doing Missions in a World Without Borders Children's Curriculum

www.cbfonline.org

This is a quarterly publication that offers mission studies, ideas for incorporating various learning styles into your lesson.