



## What are considerations in selecting curriculum?

We live in a wonderful time when so many great ideas and resources are available to us quite readily. Being clear on what we want in curriculum is the first step in selecting or creating curriculum.

### Some key considerations would be:

- Easy for teachers to use.
- Related to Unity practices and includes Truth principles.
- Appropriate for the abilities of the intended age.
- Fun for teachers and the children or teens.
- Appropriate to budget (consider amount of resources and supplies required).
- Applies lesson concepts to real life.

### You may also want to consider these questions:

- Is Bible desired and included and appropriate for the age?
- Are lessons compatible with what our ministry teaches or does it need adapting?
- Do lessons encourage youth to participate in age-appropriate activities?
- Are options offered so teachers can customize the lesson?
- Do lessons suggest ways that parents/families can be involved during the week?

Lessons published by Unity Worldwide Ministries are created by a select group of those who are working with each particular age group, including youth and family ministry directors, teachers, regional education consultants and Unity Worldwide Ministries home office staff. They provide the themes, stories, activities, knowledge and enthusiasm for each project.

### Unity Worldwide Ministries-published lessons:

- Are grounded in Unity principles and concepts.
- Provide lively creative experiences that directly relate to the discussion and help deepen the learning.
- Include teacher insight into the lesson content.
- Provide choices within the lessons.
- Include prayers and words to say to ease new teachers into effective teaching.
- Guide teachers and leaders in effective questioning strategies.
- Address multiple learning styles of the children and teens so all can participate.
- Provide teacher insight into lesson organization.

To help you with your curriculum considerations, we have a Curriculum Selection Strategy worksheet on the next page.

# A Strategy for Selecting the Right Curriculum for Your Children or Teens



1. Bring together those who will be teaching from the curriculum.
2. Pray together for Divine Guidance.
3. Use the Criteria Selection Chart below and determine together which items are your priorities for the lessons. Add criteria if necessary.
4. Agree on a rating scale for the categories. For example, 1 = least useful, 2 = useful, 3 = very useful and 4 = excellent.
5. Each person critiques the curriculum on their own chart, jotting notes about strong points and any questions they have. Also add a rating for each category.
6. As a group compare ratings. You may find that some categories are much more important than others. Thus, the best curriculum choice may be the one with the highest scores in the most important categories.
7. The Criteria Chart can be useful for one individual or with several people involved in making the decisions about curriculum.

<b>Curriculum Selection Criteria</b>	<b>Indicate importance to our church</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>
1. Covers Bible content appropriate for our age level			
2. Is compatible with what our church teaches			
3. Lesson plan is easy to follow and well detailed			
4. All lessons encourage students to participate in age appropriate activities			
5. Students can effectively participate in these lessons in physical space available			
6. New and experienced teachers will be successful using these lessons			
7. Options are offered within lessons so teachers can customize them			
8. Lessons suggest ways for parent/s to be involved during coming week			
9. Materials are attractive, inviting and user-friendly			
10. Materials fit into budget and provide good value			