

FAQs

'Encountering God with your Senses' - Teaching Material

Is there enough in each session to keep the children busy and hold their attention?

We have found there is more than enough. If you have a very busy group of children you may want to add more activities, but keep space for them to have time with God. This part can take much longer than you would anticipate. By the time the children are settled then afterwards you have handed out journals and pens. Then had heart to heart time, it can all take up to at least 20mins.

How long does each session take?

This is really up to you. You can expand it very easily with worship and testimonies at the end. Or you can shorten – but please leave room for children to meet with God.

What ages is it suitable for?

We suggest the best age is 5-11 year olds but we have seen children as young as 3 engage with the program and as old as 13.

If I change the program format around does it matter?

No, but... as you can see the teaching, games, craft all lead to an encounter time so take that into consideration. Also, make sure you leave time for children to journal and heart to heart time as this is key. Also put this part in the session where children are at their best not exhausted, hungry or frantic!

Can it work with children who are not used to church or filled with the Holy Spirit?

Yes. All children can listen and engage with this teaching. You may feel you need to add a salvation chat in at the beginning if appropriate and also a chance for children to be filled with the Holy Spirit. As you would for any teaching.

How do the children stay still to encounter God?!

Make sure children have their own space, if possible with no one in reaching distance. Encourage them to be quiet and not fiddle and set an expectation that they are going to meet with Father God. If they are having trouble with this as a group to begin with go for 1 minute and then really encourage all children.

If children are struggling take it back a step. So for instance with encountering Gods love ask them to draw who they love and what they like to do with that person. Then ask them how that makes them feel. Then have time encountering Gods love.

Can it work as holiday program?

Yes. Tandy and I have done this a few times and works very well as each morning you can do a different sense and expand it in all sorts of ways with crafts, worship and games

I don't feel equipped to teach this material

As a children's worker you are providing an environment for the children to meet with Father God. I found this the most exciting and releasing teaching I have done, as Father God does all the work!

It would be great if you could use the teaching on yourself and encounter God within your personal prayer times. But come to it all with an open expectant heart and you will be fine. Just keep your eyes on Father God.

We encourage you to take a step and Father God will do the rest.

How else can we use the drama?

The drama can be used as a story or a puppet show or any other amazingly imaginative way. If you have a willing volunteer even one of the children could do it with you! It is a good tool to work with the teaching and the children love it.

Can you unpack heart to heart time?

Heart to heart time happens after the children have journaled and is a chance for the children to share what Father God has shown them to others. You need an adult with each group, each group being up to about 6-8 children. It is also a chance for the adult to help the child understand what God has shown them and encourage the children to pray for further clarification. Please encourage all children whatever they share. However little it is, it is precious and to be cherished.