



# CURRICULUM

LARGE GROUP / SMALL GROUPS • INTRODUCTION

## Who is the curriculum for?

252 Basics curriculum plans are designed for kids in kindergarten–5th grade. They are for churches and schools looking for relevant, fun, and easy-to-use materials that are also appealing to different kinds of learners. They are biblically and educationally sound and adaptable to any location (church or school building, theater, house, outdoors, etc.) at any time, day or evening.

## What does it look like?

252 Basics provides a full year's worth of curriculum plans, each lesson written for about 1 hour, easily expandable to 1 1/2 hours.

Every lesson has three components, each targeted to a particular type of learning and relational environment:



### **PLUG IN :** Focus the Energy (Small groups, 10-15 minutes)

*Plug In is designed to introduce children to the day's topic in a setting that gives them individualized attention from their Small Group Leader and plenty of interaction with a small group of peers.*



### **POWER UP :** Engage the Heart (Large group, 20-25 minutes)

*Power Up is designed to engage children in worship in a large group setting. Music, prayer, and an innovative approach to the Bible story are always a part of this interactive time.*



### **CATCH ON :** Make the Connection (Small groups, 25-30 minutes)

*Catch On is designed to help kids understand how the day's topic applies to them. They'll discuss real-life experiences, interact with a close-knit group of peers, and participate in a variety of activities that appeal to different learning styles. Life-application and memory-verse activities, as well as prayer, are always a part of this hands-on time.*

And, each lesson is available in three versions:

#### Kindergarten–3rd grade

This version is designed specifically for younger elementary with one large group and two age-graded small group plans (K–1st and 2nd–3rd grade).

#### 4th–5th grade

This version is designed specifically for older elementary with one large group and one small group plan.

#### Kindergarten–5th grade

This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both large and small group time.

252 Basics is built around 3 BASIC TRUTHS, which are amplified through 36 monthly themes and 150 Bible stories.



## Are there additional resources?

Yes! These come with your annual license to 252 Basics:

### Large Group Visuals (for use in POWER UP)

Large group visual aids (like posters, placards, maps, Bible story illustrations, photos, stage/focal wall schematics, CG slides, etc.) available in PDF or jpg (when needed for onscreen presentation or high-res printing) formats.

### Activity Pages (for use in PLUG IN or CATCH ON)

Small group teaching helps (like game cards, Bible story cards, word searches, cartoons, postcards, origami diagrams, etc.) available in PDF format.

### Fridge Door Cards (for parents)

A weekly update for parents that gives them the virtue, memory verse, Bible story, bottom line (key concept for the week), and a question for kids (and parents) to talk about on the way home or during a meal. Offered in NIV and NIV. Available in PDF and emailable formats.

### GodTime Cards (for kids)

Four weekly devotions to focus kids' attention as they spend time reading the Bible and talking to God at home. Designed for older kids to do on their own; for younger kids to do with a parent. Available in PDF and emailable formats.

## What leaders do we need?

You will need the following people:

- Small Group Leaders (one for each small group of up to 10 kids)
- Classroom Facilitators (one for every room of small groups)
- Large Group Host
- Large Group Storyteller(s)
- Large Group Worship Leader

This curriculum is designed to help leaders develop 5 TEACHING HABITS in order to communicate truth in a relevant way.

Consider older youth as well as adults to fill these roles. Some leaders may want to play more than one role too.

*For the K-5 version, you will need a Leader for each small group and at least one Leader for large group—preferably a Leader and an Assistant.*

## How do we group our kids?

Divide kids into groups by school grade, with no more than 10 children in any small group. This will help build and retain a close group of peers, especially if you keep kids in the same small group, with the same Small Group Leader, from week to week. (You might even consider keeping the same kids and Small Group Leader together for two to four years.) If you are using classroom space, you will probably want no more than four or five small groups in a room, depending on room size.

Bring all kids together for large group by grade: kindergarten-3rd grade in one environment, 4th-5th grade in another environment. *For fewer kids:* Bring all kids to one environment. *For lots of kids (200 or more):* Create multiple environments (one for kindergarten-1st; one for 2nd-3rd grade; one for 4th-5th grade).

