Adaptations for Special Learning Needs

FROM OUR SUNDAY VISITOR

Our Sunday Visitor special needs adaptations are:

- Free for our customers
- Specific to every session
- Do not require the purchase of additional kits

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The Way God Teaches: Meeting Special Needs
ID#X1756, $2.95
This simple, practical booklet, teaches catechists and teachers how to teach special needs children using the Divine Pedagogy – the way God teaches us!

Allelu! Growing and Celebrating with Jesus Magnetic Figures
ID#X1072, $20.95
Make Scripture stories come to life with sturdy magnetic figures that replicate the story, and allow for kids’ imagination to run wild!

Strengthened in Faith Confirmation
DVD Set ID#X1562, $75.00  Manual ID#X1563, $12.95
Inspire and engage parishioners preparing for Confirmation with this comprehensive study program from the National Catholic Office for the Deaf and Our Sunday Visitor. The 12 video lessons in this 3-DVD set bring the Sacrament of Confirmation to life, as Mary, St. Peter, and the saints walk the Confirmands through the Sacrament and show them how to put their faith into action. Designed for the deaf or hard of hearing, and appropriate for teens or adults. This program can also be used for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. This course can also help hearing individuals who benefit from a more visual style of learning. In Sign Language. Spoken and captioned in English.

My Mass Kit
ID#A4794, $89.95
What better way for kids to understand the Mass than to child-size it for reverent play. This kit includes twelve soft sculpture replicas of items used by the priest during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass: Crucifix, Chalice, Thurible, Finger Bowl, 2 Cruets, 2 Candles, Paten (cotton/polyester blend), Corporal & Purificator (cotton cloth) and play Hosts (foam). A colorful 24-page spiral booklet serves as an additional teaching tool.

Our Sunday Visitor
(800) 348-2440, Ext. 2173
osvcurriculum.com
As catechists, we should always send the message that all are welcome in the community of God’s people.

Special learning needs are issues that become most visible in a learning environment and potentially pose obstacles to participating in activities or mastering the material. They may include attention issues such as ADHD, learning disabilities or other cognitive differences, emotional or behavioral problems, and physical disabilities.

Persons with disabilities should be integrated into ordinary catechetical programs as much as possible... They should not be segregated for specialized catechesis unless their disability makes it impossible for them to participate in the basic catechetical program. – U.S. Bishops (ndc, 49)

How can we best include learners with special needs? This can feel like a challenging task to many catechists and teachers, especially if they do not yet have experience with the particular needs the child brings.

Our Sunday Visitor provides a range of catechetical products to help you meet the needs of all learners – including those with special needs. Our program for preschool and kindergarten, Alive in Christ for grades 1-8 and Encounter with Christ for Sacramental Preparation are designed to meet the diverse needs of learners today.

Let us show you how Allelu, Alive in Christ, and Encounter with Christ can adapt to and accommodate all of the children you serve.

Allelu is an innovative curriculum designed especially for developmental appropriateness. Preschool and kindergarten age children don’t learn best by writing in workbooks – they learn by doing! Because Allelu is a hands-on activity-based program, each lesson naturally accommodates for various learning styles and needs. For example, differences in motor skills might necessitate adapting an activity includes elements, such as cutting with scissors, that would use fine motor skills. In the Allelu program, adaptations for special needs are noted in the activity directions of the Catechist’s/T eacher’s Guide.

Bible stories are presented in a visual format using magnetic figures that correspond with each lesson. Because music is a great way to learn and master new information, especially for children with special needs, the Allelu program has a song for each lesson that captures the main idea for the lesson, and catechists may make copies of the CD for every child in their group.

Alive in Christ also includes adaptations for various learning needs. You will find these noted in your Catechist’s or Teacher’s Guide in boxes titled, "Reaching all Learners." In addition, optional activities are provided, so you may select those activities that will best accommodate the children in your group. Every catechist using Alive in Christ has access to the Alive in Christ website, which provides additional activities for multisensory learning. The Alive in Christ website offers adaptations for various learning needs for each lesson. Learning needs addressed include intellectual and developmental disability, attention challenges, dyslexia and other reading disabilities, language challenges, and dysgraphia and other writing disabilities.

Encounter with Christ is OSV’s completely new and groundbreaking sacrament preparation program for First Reconciliation and First Communion. Its visually engaging text and dynamic learning instruction addresses multiple senses and learning styles. For each activity presented in a chapter you will find on the Encounter with Christ website an online adaptation that is directed to a variety of special needs.

In addition, the Our Family Prayer Collection CD by John Burland presents the traditional prayers used in Alive in Christ and Encounter with Christ. They are offered in three formats: sung, spoken and spoken to music. This resource can help children quickly learn our Catholic prayers and is an essential resource for children who find memorization a particular challenge.