

Bible Curriculum Assessment Tool for Children's Curriculum

This tool was developed for congregations and Christian education committees who are considering Shine.

Note that Shine preview kits are available free from the Shine webstore: <https://shinecurriculum.com/product/shine-preview-pack/>.

1 is low and 5 is high

| Faith formation Does the curriculum offer dynamic and deeply meaningful faith formation opportunities? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Comments |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| <p>Does this curriculum help children enter God's story in age-appropriate ways?</p> <p>Does it guide teachers in creating a place where children are known and loved?</p> <p>Does it lead children to live out faith in action and service; to be doers of the Word?</p> <p>Does it create a space where teachers and children learn from each other?</p> <p>Does it allow children to ask questions and explore?</p> | | | | | | |

| God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit Is the curriculum consistent with your congregation's theological understandings? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| <p>Does it demonstrate in method and content that God's mission throughout the biblical story is faithful love, peace, and reconciliation?</p> <p>Does this curriculum understand the biblical story through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus?</p> <p>Is it clear that the life that Jesus showed us is a life of love that actively seeks justice, mercy, humility, and peace in the midst of community?</p> <p>Is the curriculum developed out of an understanding that the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and the wisdom of the gathered faith community guide us in living faithfully as followers of Jesus?</p> | | | | | | |

| Children Does the curriculum embrace a robust theology of childhood? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| <p>Is the curriculum based on an understanding that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children can experience God’s love by experiencing God’s good world; and by knowing that God is with them in both joy and sadness? • Children are gifts from God—they come from God and are loved, known, and blessed by God? • Becoming “as a child” is key to entering the kingdom of God? • Children are vulnerable and have limited power; they need to be valued and protected from abuse? <p>Does this curriculum understand that children are drawn to God’s love and express love through worship and music?</p> <p>Does this curriculum avoid presenting God and the Bible in a way that is harsh, shames, or uses religion as a threat of punishment?</p> | | | | | | |

| Bible Does this curriculum invite children’s love and loyalty to the God of the Bible? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Comments |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| <p>Does the curriculum value the Old Testament as formative and as the Scriptures that nurtured the life of Jesus and the early church?</p> <p>Are the stories age appropriate and authentic to the biblical text?</p> <p>Does this curriculum invite children respond to the biblical story in age-appropriate ways?</p> <p>Are a broad range of Bible stories presented in enough of a chronological order to allow children to build biblical literacy?</p> <p>Is the biblical material presented in a flexible way that allows users to be consistent with their congregation’s theological understandings?</p> <p>Is attention paid to the cultural, political, and social contexts of the Bible?</p> | | | | | | |