

Characteristics of Children

Ages 6-8

Developmental	Because he is like this:	We do this:
Physical	<p>He is growing unevenly.</p> <p>His finer muscles are slowly developing.</p> <p>He is restless.</p> <p>He wants to do rather than watch.</p> <p>He tires easily.</p>	<p>Provide varied activities and projects.</p> <p>Provide work experiences on his level.</p> <p>Provide varied activities.</p> <p>Provide active-learning activities.</p> <p>Alternate activity and quiet times.</p>
Mental	<p>He is learning to read.</p> <p>He likes to write.</p> <p>His attention span is increasing.</p> <p>He makes false conclusions.</p> <p>He likes both fact and fancy.</p> <p>He lives in the present.</p> <p>He is curious.</p> <p>He has a good imagination.</p> <p>He has a good memory.</p> <p>He is literal-minded.</p>	<p>Provide reading experiences.</p> <p>Provide writing experiences.</p> <p>Vary the schedule.</p> <p>Challenge him; encourage when wrong.</p> <p>Use both facts and play-acting.</p> <p>Use many child experience situations.</p> <p>Answer questions as they arise.</p> <p>Let him "act out" stories.</p> <p>Provide many varied learning experiences.</p> <p>Avoid symbolism.</p>
Social	<p>He is a sociable person.</p> <p>He likes to talk.</p> <p>He wants to be grown up.</p> <p>He likes non-competitive activities.</p> <p>He is inclined to be selfish.</p> <p>He respects authority.</p>	<p>Provide both large- and small-group projects.</p> <p>Use guided conversation.</p> <p>Value his ideas and suggestions.</p> <p>Provide them.</p> <p>Provide occasions for him to share with others.</p> <p>Live worthy of his respect.</p>
Emotional	<p>He is easily excited.</p> <p>He may resist personal demands.</p> <p>He may withdraw because of shyness.</p> <p>He is impatient.</p> <p>He has many fears.</p>	<p>Speak softly. Have everything ready.</p> <p>Provide choices and expect excellence.</p> <p>Work on his level and encourage him.</p> <p>Use his contributions.</p> <p>Help him feel secure. Be consistent.</p>
Spiritual	<p>He should have prayer experiences.</p> <p>He is ready for some spiritual teaching.</p> <p>He is curious.</p> <p>He wants to be good.</p>	<p>Provide times for him to pray.</p> <p>Provide spiritual experiences on his level.</p> <p>Give simple explanations to questions.</p> <p>Teach him that Christ will help him.</p>

Ages 9-11

Developmental	Because he is like this:	We do this:
Physical	<p>He is active and likes to do things.</p> <p>He is noisy.</p> <p>He likes challenging, competitive projects.</p>	<p>Provide a variety of learning projects.</p> <p>Arrive early. Plan a variety of challenges.</p> <p>Provide them.</p>
Mental	<p>He likes things related to the present.</p> <p>He likes to collect.</p> <p>He is inquisitive.</p> <p>He likes to read and write.</p> <p>He can think and reason.</p> <p>He has a good memory.</p> <p>He does not understand symbolism.</p>	<p>Play "now" activities and projects.</p> <p>Plan projects that require collecting.</p> <p>Help him answer his own questions.</p> <p>Provide activities that require these skills.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for making choices.</p> <p>Provide Bible games and activities.</p> <p>Avoid object lessons.</p>
Social	<p>He can accept responsibility.</p> <p>He likes an authority over him.</p> <p>He likes the "gang."</p> <p>He has varied interests.</p> <p>He is a hero-worshiper.</p>	<p>Let him help. Encourage him.</p> <p>Set limits and freedoms within the limits.</p> <p>Provide large- and small-group projects.</p> <p>Provide variety in his projects.</p> <p>Set an example and challenge him.</p>
Emotional	<p>He has some fears.</p> <p>He may be quick-tempered.</p> <p>He enjoys humor.</p>	<p>Be consistent. Help him feel secure.</p> <p>Provide a choice of projects and keep him busy.</p> <p>Enjoy humorous situations with him.</p>
Spiritual	<p>He is awakening spiritually.</p> <p>He may have some spiritual questions.</p> <p>Emotions play a part in his spirituality.</p> <p>He sets high standards for himself.</p> <p>He needs encouragement in devotions.</p> <p>He is capable of handling the Bible.</p>	<p>Approach him on his level.</p> <p>Answer simply and honestly.</p> <p>Avoid emotional appeals and pressures.</p> <p>Provide worthwhile goals for him.</p> <p>Provide devotional helps.</p> <p>Provide opportunities to use his Bible.</p>