



The Teacher's Pet

Strategies To Increase Memory and Recall – Part 4 by Judy Retz

To read Parts 1-3, see archives.

11. Review in all five of the senses. Not always applicable, but sometimes we overlook the tactile learner in Bible class. Our public schools have come to recognize that students learn in very different ways. Some NEED to feel and be actively involved to learn. Pictures are wonderful additions to lessons, but so are real objects—an idol carved of wood, a sheepskin, a gourd to drink from, unleavened bread to taste, and frankincense to smell. Think of ways



things like this would aid your memory as well as your students.

12. Start with something exotic, then familiar, then unusual again. In other words, come up with something to grab their attention. Get your message across, and then give them something at the end to keep their interest so they continue to think about the lesson. Object lessons work well, even if it is a common object. There are some books in the workroom that have some simple object lessons in them, if this sounds interesting to you.

13. Real situation practices; go to the place where the learning occurs. Studying about hospitality...have your students make cookies and invite some elderly folk to share them with you. Talking about controlling temper, being a good sport, etc...go to the park for a sport where you don't keep score! Learning about telling others about Jesus...take the class to the park and hand out flyers for an upcoming meeting or radio program cards. You get the idea.



14. Increase accountability; have a review check-up at regular intervals. While we do have "review" lessons sprinkled into the curriculum, the teachers for both Sunday and Wednesday sessions need to be reviewing all the time. Whether you do a general review each week (again, another plug for using the "Our Spiritual Heritage" program) or a very specific review of just last time's lesson, keep in mind the way to learn something is repeat, repeat, repeat.



15. Create or re-do a song; re-write the lyrics of an old favorite, make a rap. We have a book in the workroom (Piggyback Songs) if you need help getting started with this one. Older kids could have fun doing this on their own or in pairs. Another good “homework” assignment.

To submit articles and ideas for future editions of the Teachers Pet,
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