

HOW TO KEEP A CLASS HAPPY AND INTERESTING

By Kathy Perrigo

The main key to a happy and interesting class is a happy and interesting atmosphere in the classroom through the teacher and the program she has planned. This can be accomplished by following the "LAWS OF INTEREST" given below:

LAW OF SURPRISE -Keep an element of mystery in the class. The child should feel an air of expectancy for and in each class. Have your flannel board attractively decorated to go with the theme of the day. Change the procedure of the class so children do not know exactly what you are going to do next.

LAW OF NOVELTY -Do things in a different way each time. Sing a familiar chorus in a new way such as, boys one part, girls another, actions, visuals, etc.. Use the quiet and quiz seat for attention holder, a grab bag or surprise box for recognition of various activities, and an alarm clock for a special feature time in class.

LAW OF VARIETY -Be sure class time is varied in its content without violating the central theme. Avoid sameness and monotony which are fatal. Use different types of songs; visual, action, rounds, etc.. To review use game quizzes which you change often. Some favorites of these are: Tic-Tac-Toe, Bible baseball, King and Queen, Musical box, Steal the bacon, etc.. Your personal appearance creates a spirit of happiness and interest from the pupils.

LAW OF THE FAMILIAR -Boys and girls love familiar choruses, stories, etc. especially in the early ages. Do not overwhelm them with all new and changing things. Give sufficient familiar things to make them feel at home. and a part of the V.B.S. SundaySchool, or club. Review games for the lesson and memory work as well as music can be repeated if the next law is used properly.

LAW OF RESTRAINT -One danger to be avoided is the tendency to give too large a place to those elements of the program that are enthusiastically received. Restraint is the thing that whets the appetite. Pass on to the next item or a new way of doing something at the peak of interest even though they clamor for more.

LAW OF PARTICIPATION -It is more interesting for them to do than it is to watch or listen. Let them sing, recite, respond. Ask questions. Controlled activity through their participation will contribute much to interest, attention, order, and good behavior. Use a "Who Box" to give all an equal opportunity.

LAW OF RECOGNITION -It is important that children be given proper attention and interest so they, in turn, will be interested in what you have to present. Here is where you can use the Law Of Novelty by giving novel awards. Points to earn a certificate with various seals on them as they progress is very inexpensive. Points are inexpensive; so make them in large numbers and have a final goal or prize.