

## Lead on ...

(for children aged eight to twelve – *with italicised noted for adaptation for children younger than this, who do not yet have adequate reading skills*)

This is a series parallel to the ‘Lead on..’ Bible workshops. Often we underestimate our children’s ability to grasp spiritual concepts, if presented simply. The following notes are for the leaders of children’s groups, to guide them through the Lead on .. series, so that our children too may be encouraged and equipped on the ConneXions journey.

The adult ‘Lead on..’ notes are also referred to for more background.

Each session’s material is presented to encourage group interaction – as children have the opportunity to grapple with their own impressions, ideas and questions they will come to discover the Truth for themselves. It is important that an atmosphere of trust, confidentiality, acceptance and respect is nurtured; as we all, regardless of our age, only share our personal stories and our challenges, in an environment where we feel SAFE.

If possible also include something to eat and drink at the beginning or end of the programme. Building relationships and getting to know each child as an individual is one of the most important aspects of discipleship – well captured in the expression, ‘I don’t care how much you know, until I know how much you care.’ Preparation beforehand is essential. In every age group there are ‘visual learners’ (who learn best through having something to engage visually) and kinaesthetic learners (who learn best by doing) – so the group leader is encouraged to include a variety of ideas as suggested.

It is recommended that a modern translation is used, so that the children can easily understand and read the text.

Notes may be printed off / photocopied as needed.

Val Mullally

(For more information on parenting/ working with children see [www.pacerparenting.com](http://www.pacerparenting.com))