



Irresistible Church Training

For Disability Ministry

Presented by



Accessible VBS

Tips for including all children

For Lead Teachers

- Interview parents and gather helpful information about each child using this [simple survey](#). Obtain parent permission to share this info with volunteers.
- Offer a low-sensory tour of the space prior to VBS.
- Use [picture schedules](#).
- Designate a quiet area/[sensory bag](#) to prevent overstimulation.
- Provide a one-on-one buddy (peer or adult) as appropriate and needed.

Bible Story/Verse Memorization

- Adapting curriculum ([tips here](#)) is simpler than you might think! Ensuring that everyone has access to Scripture is crucial at a Vacation Bible School.
- Incorporating motion (and even sign language) helps all students engage. www.handspeak.com has a searchable sign-language dictionary.

Snacks

- Simplify snack options and consider nut-free, gluten free, and dairy free options.
- Avoid bright food coloring and overly sugary options.
- Give parents the option of providing alternative snacks.

Crafts

- Consider offering multiple crafting options of varying complexity.
- Simplify steps or have premade parts available with difficult steps completed.
- Avoid strong smelling craft supplies such as markers or stickers.
- Offer help only when needed! Children of all abilities love to do things themselves.

Games

- Replace competitive games with cooperative ones.
- Provide game instructions beforehand so parents and children can practice.
- Knowing who is coming will help you prepare roles so all children can join in.
- Provide one-on-one game buddies, as needed.

Music and Worship

- Avoid overstimulation or seizures by limiting flashing lights.
- Prepare hand motions for worship songs so more students can participate.
- Offer instruments, streamers, or flags to encourage participation.
- Have ear plugs or noise reducing headphones available.
- Offer the option to worship in the back, outside, or in an adjacent room if needed.