

Planning and Implementing Lessons

Taking your lesson from the page to the classroom.

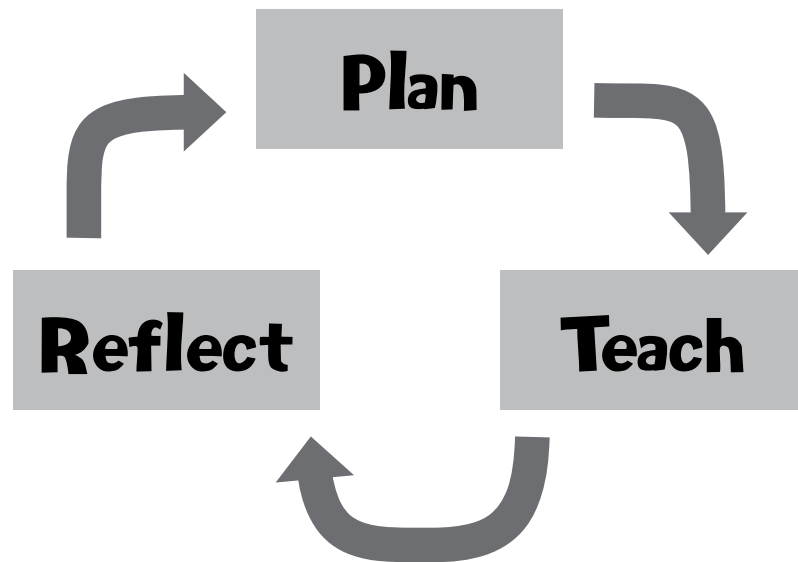
Plan

Pray for the spiritual development of each child. Invite others to pray as well.

Read the unit overview, lesson notes, outcomes and Bible passage. Consider how the lesson fits with the unit as a whole and any guidelines relevant to your class.

Choose which activities you will include in your lesson - choose one or more from each section - Question, Explore, Discover. Consider a variety of learning experiences and backup options.

Prepare for your lesson. Consider: how to introduce activities, instructions, resources needed, transitions between activities, modifications for students with additional needs and how your class might respond to each activity.



Teach

Set Up

Arrive early to organise any equipment you will need for your lesson. Welcome your class.

Implement Your Activities

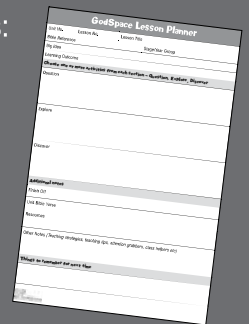
Be enthusiastic and engaging. Relax and be yourself. Your class should be able to sense your interest in the lesson and in them.

Wrap Up

Allocate time to pack away, leave the classroom tidy and share the Finish Off statement to conclude your lesson.

GodSpace Lesson Planner

available in the free resources:
godspace.org.au/resources/



Reflect

Question

What worked? What didn't? Was the learning outcome met? Did you have enough time? What were the children most engaged in?

Explore

Try a reflective practice page or check out the resources in the manual or online. Keep a look out for opportunities to attend training sessions that will give you new skills.

Discover

What did you learn? What do you need to consider for next time? How can you adjust your teaching to be more effective next time? Reflect on your own or with a colleague. Begin the cycle again.

Take the time to complete the **Teacher Reflection** page at the end of each unit.

Teaching in Public Schools

Keep parents informed!

Download the GodSpace Info Card for parents and a Letter to Families template on the website.



Making sure your message is heard.

- **Always keep in mind the appropriate policies of the Department of Education in your state.**
- **Don't assume that you teach in a vacuum.**
Your students will already have their own ideas and beliefs even if they have never had Bible teaching before. Effective teachers encourage students to express what they think. GodSpace will help you do that. Show respect for the children's beliefs and opinions and those of their parents, even when they vary from yours. Remember: what we teach needs to be sensitive, relevant and age appropriate.
- **Guide class discussions well.**
It is great to encourage students to share thoughts, ideas and questions through discussion - but helpful discussions require good leadership. Be aware of controversial issues and redirect the discussion to the lesson content.
- **Imagine the school principal and the students' parents in the classroom with you.**
It shouldn't change what you say, but may change the way you say it. Don't state things as fact if they are really beliefs. 'Own' beliefs by prefacing them with 'I believe', or 'ground' them with phrases like 'The Bible says...' or 'Christians believe...'
- **Keep on investing in your students.**
Sharing faith with children outside the church is a challenging task, but it's so worth it! Be assured that you don't do it alone. Your GodSpace materials are prayerfully compiled by experienced teachers who love Jesus and love children and they are cheering for your success. May the students you teach discover God's love and God's purpose for living.



Teachers - Faithful and Unique

Each teacher has different teaching styles and experience. Your love of children, your knowledge of the Bible and your life experience means you have something valuable to offer the school.

Go with a Servant Heart

If you are teaching in a school you are also partnering with the school for the good of the children.

- Read the school newsletter, website or download the school app to keep in touch.
- Be a good representative of your church, the believers in your community, the wider Church and God.
- Take every opportunity to make yourself known and if possible, volunteer for other roles like reading, breakfast club or sports organisation.

Teaching Videos and Resources

There are a number of **videos and resources** available on the GodSpace website to help you improve your teaching practice.

See: <https://godspace.org.au/training-videos/>

