“Creating Structures” Activity Sheet

If you don’t have your structures defined, take some time today to create them and share them with teachers, parents, and students.

Activity 1: Volunteer Responsibilities
Create a structure regarding the responsibilities for teachers and volunteers in the classrooms.
- What expectations do you have for the teachers and volunteers?
- When are they created?
- How are they used in the classroom?
- What supplies are needed?
- What else needs to be considered?

Activity 2: Lesson Plan Flow
Since structures assist in the development of the pre-frontal lobes, creating a general lesson plan flow for each classroom will be helpful. It will provide clarity on what comes next and assures that each teacher is following the same general outline. This is especially helpful for those classrooms that have a lot of different teachers rotating in and out. Variations can be added to accommodate the needs of the different age groups, but the general structure of the lesson remains consistent.

Working together, create a lesson plan flow that will be used throughout your YFM program and share with all teachers. The flow can also be posted on the ministry website and be included in your program guide and/or parent booklet.

Pre-session
- Do some of the children or teens arrive early?
- Do you need pre-session activities?
- If so, what is the process for creating them and how do they relate to the coming lesson?

Transitions
- How many transitions occur on a Sunday morning?
- How do you move the children/teens from one activity to another?

Sacred Circle
- How will the Sacred Circle function?
- What elements are included for each classroom?
- What elements can the children/teens lead and what elements do the teachers lead?
- When does the Sacred Circle happen?
Lesson Structure

- What is your lesson structure?
- What components are a part of the structure?
- Are the lessons/materials provided or is there an expectation that the teachers will create the lessons?
- Have you created a year-long curriculum topics plan? If not, what topics do you want the children/teens to explore over the course of the year?

Closing

- How will you close out the day? What is the purpose?
- If the children close in their classrooms, what is the process?
- If the children join the adults at the end of the service, what is the process?

Activity 3: Heart Agreements

Create a structure about how Heart Agreements are created and used in the classrooms.

- Who creates the Heart Agreements?
- When are they created?
- How are they used in the classroom?
- What supplies are needed?
- What else needs to be considered?