



Philosophy of Adventurers

Philosophy of the Adventurer Program

The Adventurer program was created to assist parents in their important responsibilities as a child's primary teachers and spiritual mentor. The program aims to strengthen the parent/child relationship and to further the child's development in spiritual, physical, mental, and social areas. Through the Adventurer Program, the church, and home can work together with the parent to develop a mature, happy child.

The church's greatest resource is our children, it is imperative that as a church we meet the challenge to provide a program for our children during their early, formative years. We want positive habits, thoughts, motives, dispositions, and attitudes to be established. Proverbs 22:6 states "Bring up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it." This is more than a cliché—it is a scientific formula.

Ellen White writes in *Christian Education* "Heaven sees in the child, the undeveloped man or woman, with capabilities and powers that, if correctly guided and developed with heavenly wisdom, will become the human agencies through whom the divine influences can cooperate to be labourers together with God".

George Barna – in his book *Transforming children into spiritual champions* (2003) states that his research indicates that by age nine, most children have their spiritual moorings in place. This finding supports what social scientist have known for years that the moral foundation of children are generally determined by the time the individual reaches age nine.

The implication of these findings are clear, if we want to have a significant influence on the moral and spiritual development of a person it is best to do this while that person is young, open-minded and impressionable. The Adventurers program is targeted at children between the ages of 4 – 9 years so it provides a wonderful opportunity to lay a strong spiritual foundation the supports and reinforces what is offered at Sabbath School and at home.

The Uniqueness of the Adventurer Club

The Adventurer Club was created to give children an opportunity to belong to an organised peer group. To join, children are invited to participate in various activities which will improve their social skills. From the time children start school until they reach puberty, their need to be with and be accepted by their peer group is increasingly strong.

The Adventurer Club involves children aged 4 – 9 years and their parents. The programming and planning for Adventurers should be simple and short, but creative. Parental involvement provides opportunities for parents to participate in the learning experience.

Source : www.adventurer-club.org

Official website for Adventurers of the North American Division of the SDA Church – additions and modifications by Michelle Lambert, WA, 2010

One of the Adventurer Club objectives is to provide a meaningful and exciting experience as the children look forward with anticipation to someday being Pathfinders. The Adventurer program lays a strong foundation for the transition to Pathfinders. Having a successful Adventure program increases the chances of your church having a strong and successful Pathfinder program.

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