

**OUR MISSION:**

*To lead as many kids as possible to passionately follow Jesus.*

**WELCOME TO SOUTHVIEW KIDS!**

Through Bible-based teaching, age-appropriate worship, and authentic relationship building, Southview Kids is a place where:

- Children are invited to pursue an authentic & growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Parents are encouraged & equipped to be the primary influences of their child's faith.
- Leaders are mentored and called to serve according to their gifts and passions.
- Families can go for support, in times of need.
- Kids in our community feel welcome in a safe environment that they can call their own!

**CORE PRACTICES:**

Each CORE Practice is exemplified by the child at their appropriate age level:

Our goal at **Southview Kids** is to see children:

1. Verbalize & internalize Remember Verses based on God's WORD
2. Model opportunities to PRAY in the classroom and at home
3. MEET together with leaders & peers to build strong relationships
4. SERVE one another in love by showing respect to leaders, peers & classroom space
5. Use Response Activities, Learning Artifacts & HomeFront Resources as a tool to TELL others about Who God Is

**STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE:**

**A Southview Kids' Leader is...**

1. Grounded in Christian faith
2. Regular in church attendance
3. Encouraging in speech
4. Evident in Christian Character
5. Responsible in leadership
6. Faithful in commitments made
7. Pure in relationships
8. Respectful of authority
9. Teachable in spirit
10. A strong partner to parents

## Club 5/6 Leader – Job Description

### THE WIN

To effectively inspire and equip students to begin to develop a faith of their own by helping them:

- Engage in faith discussions
- Connect in relationships
- Discover their place in The Big God Story

### What a Win looks like:

- Students are engaged in meaningful conversations and participating in small group activities
- Students are having fun
- Students feel safe sharing their prayer requests with the group
- Students leave with a blessing knowing that God loves them and cares for them
- Students want to attend each week because they feel connected to the leader and other students in the group
- Students are reading and bringing their Bibles

### Qualifications:

- Leader must love kids!
- Leader must be moving towards maturity in relationship with God and others, and in their role.
- Leader is committed to Southview Kids Standard of Excellence.
- Leader must have a completed servant profile and police check on file.

### Your Commitment:

- Reply to the service coordinators email that you are good to go for serving on the weekend you are scheduled by the required date.
- Arrive at the time designated by the service coordinator and stay until the service ends.
- Participate in Southview Kid's leadership vision events and training meetings.
- Learn student's names and parents' names.
- Interact with every student in your group.
- Pray for the students in your class.
- Welcome new students and families and encourage them to get connected @ Southview.
- Support the large group teacher by helping student's pay attention.
- Come fully prepared on what the small group activities are, the teaching lesson is and the questions for small group time.
- Use the provided curriculum and supplies to facilitate small group discussions, activities, and projects.
- Student's clean up room before being dismissed.
- Make a committed effort to help bring new volunteers onto our team.
- Be a Leader. Be consistent with your actions and love for them.
- Follow the procedures for check-in & check-out.

### Our Commitment:

- Pray for you each week.
- Provide training so that you are adequately equipped to serve God in your role.
- Provide you with a clear vision for Southview Kid's Ministry and your role within that vision.
- To consistently encourage you with our words and actions.

### The Benefits:

- You will grow spiritually as you participate as an active volunteer.
- You will experience the personal satisfaction of knowing you have done your best to share the love of Christ with a child and their family.
- You will make an eternal impact in the lives of children and families.
- You will be to develop meaningful relationships with other people as you serve together in a life changing ministry.

## **PROCEDURES**

*See Leader Manual*

## **HELPFUL TIPS**

### **Check-In**

- Students should have a name tag on and provide one for the leader's book.

### **Check Out**

- Students are dismissed at the end of service. No parent pick-up.

### **Discipline**

- Separate students that are not behaving.
- Move disruptive kids to front of class.

### **Class Management**

- No cell phones. Use Bibles in class if kids want to look up verses. They can go one hour without the use of their devices
- Look for opportunities to get to know kids relationally.

### **Curriculum**

- The curriculum provided is a guideline for you to use. Please bring your own creativity and discussion to help bring the topic in the curriculum to life for the students.

### **Tech instructions for MAC**

- Instructions to use the MAC are in the Club 5/6 Binder.

### **Prayer Request Book**

- Use this book to write down prayer requests the kids have. This allows leaders the next week to follow up on the request.

### **Bless**

- Always spend time blessing your kids. Use the prayer or blessing in the Bless section of your curriculum. We want kids leaving knowing that God loves them and cares for them.

### **Lead**

- You are the leader in the classroom. Please make sure that what you are doing provides a safe environment for the kids. They should not be standing on tables and doing things that are unsafe.
- Develop a couple of simple rules for your class. Respect the leader (listen) Respect each other (care for those around you) Respect the space (don't leave a mess). Help the kids follow these so that your class is a great place to be.
- Let us know if you are having issues with anything. If we don't know, we can't help.

## PHASE – GRADE 5 & 6

### Grade 5 – Thinks like a Scientist

Scientists understand the world through concrete evidence they can test repeatedly. Elementary-age kids discover how things work through repetition and clear application.

Like a scientist, they learn best when they can observe something in their present environment. The more frequently a new concept can be connected to everyday experience, the better.

#### The phase when:

- Friends are best friends
- Games are for competition

And this confident kid will insist, “I’ve got this.”

#### In this phase friends matter a lot more.

Call it a club. Call it a clique. Call it a team. A tribe mentality begins to form during grade 4 & 5. Some friends will become “best-friends” and some other kids won’t get invited to the party. If you see a grade 5 student doing, saying, or wearing something that confuses you, check out what their peers are doing, saying or wearing. Peer approval (and disapproval) is significantly motivating in this phase.

#### If you want to get their attention, make it a competition.

With a “lifetime” of experience under-their-belt and “no-fear” attitude, a kid in this phase is virtually unstoppable. They are ready to prove themselves, ready for the world to take notice, and they lack the self-consciousness that might otherwise hold them back or slow them down. They can’t wait to show you just how smart and fast and strong they really are.

#### This is the top of the elementary school food chain.

Everybody’s morals are roughly aligned and their life experience is still limited enough that everything makes sense. Maybe that’s why this phase usually demonstrates a clarity of mind that comes with knowing the ropes and feeling knowledgeable about what makes the world tick. Lean into that confidence and build it. Let them know you see their potential and you believe in it. There’s no such thing as an overly confident middle schooler.

### Grade 6 – Thinks like an Engineer

Engineers solve problems by connecting concepts so they work together. Middle schoolers personalize abstract concepts by connecting ideas.

Like their physical bodies, there is a “growth spurt” in the brain of a middle schooler. The brain overproduces neurons and synapses similar to the growing brain of a toddler. This period of rapid growth accounts for a middle schooler’s ability to think more abstractly, to understand multiple perspectives, and to think critically about themselves and others. It also means that instructions need to be simple and clear if you hope to be heard. Like an engineer, they learn best when they personalize an idea by connecting pieces of information. That’s why puzzles, patterns, and codes can be helpful for learning in this phase.

**The Phase when:**

- There's never enough groceries
- Too many hormones

And a dramatic kid that needs someone to prove, "Who cares."

**No phase has less consistency than grade 6.**

Some grade 6 students still sleep with stuffed animals and some want to sleep with their new cell phone. Most grade 6 students are alternately one and then the other on any given day – or any given hour. They may appear sloppy and unkempt one moment and preppy and overdressed the next. That's what makes every day a new day to discover who this growing person really is.

**In these 52 weeks, a kid may grow three inches and gain ten pounds.**

But the place you're most likely to notice the growth is in the grocery bill. Parents need to keep the pantry stocked. If you are leading grade 6 students, bring French fries. Ultimate mic drop. Win.

**During this year, there will be tears (both yours and theirs).**

Doors will slam. Drama will happen. Hormones will soar. Friends will break up. Abnormal has become the norm. but amid all the ups and downs, in these changing tides of emotions, now is the time to lean in even more closely. When they push, prove you can't be pushed away. When they change, prove you will love them consistently. When they break your trust, prove you are someone who can be trusted. I may seem challenging, but keep up the chase so in this phase there's never any reason to wonder, "Who cares?"

**HOW GRADE 5 KIDS RELATE TO GOD:**

**God's Story Inspires My Story**

Kids who think like scientists love stories – especially those that inspire them to win at every day life. They relate to God who heals the sick, conquers evil, explains mysteries, performs miracles, overcomes death, and teaches them how to win at life.

When you **ENGAGE** their interests you help a kid trust God's character and experience God's family.

Three ideas to help Grade 5 kids mature in their relationship with God.

1. **Tell one story.** This is the age for story. Kids know the difference between history and fiction – and they obsess about what is true. They still have enough wonder to be carried away with the plot, but they are ready to discover what the story means practically and personally. Just like a scientist studies one idea at a time, kids master individual concepts at this phase. Give kids one story and connect it with one concrete idea.
2. **Use real illustrations.** Scientists like concrete evidence. They rely on what they can observe. In the same way, a kid understands what is familiar to their world. Avoid abstract metaphors. When you ask a concrete-thinking child, "Do you want Jesus to come live in your heart?", expect questions like "Where does He sleep in there?" Use visual illustrations to help kids relate to God, and look for ways to connect your illustrations to what they experience everyday.
3. **Make it fun.** No one knows how to party like a scientist. Okay, maybe this is where the analogy breaks down. But kids do love to have fun. Fun may look different for different kids. Engage

their interests by adding variety to your program. Play games with movement. Use maps and puzzles. Give them opportunities to read and write. Go outside when you can – or bring the outside to into your space. Sing and dance together. You only have a limited amount of time together, so make it fun enough to remember.

## HOW GRADE 6 STUDENTS RELATE TO GOD:

### God's Story Redeems My Story

Tweens who think like engineers need to know that God can rebuild a story – even when things haven't gone according to plan. They relate to a God who overcomes impossible odds to rebuild what is broken, bring stability, restore peace, resolve doubt, give hope, and redeem everyone.

When you **AFFIRM** their personal journey you help a middle schooler own their own faith and value a faith community.

### Three ideas to help Grade 6 students mature in their relationship with God.

1. **Connect the dots.** An engineer may have to connect physics and design in order to solve a problem. In the same way, this is the phase when a kid begins connecting the information they learned in childhood to see how it works together. That means this is the very best phase to connect the overarching narrative of Scripture. There is incredible potential to re-engage their sense of wonder about the Bible when their eyes are open to the masterful way the story connects not only from Genesis to Revelation, but with their own life as well.
2. **Expect a crisis.** When engineers try to solve complex problems in creative ways, a few crisis moments are inevitable. Some middle school crises may seem less complex – like when they're selected to go onstage for "Duct Tape Round-Up." They may also begin to discover they believe a lot of things that don't easily fit together. They may ask how an all-powerful God allows bad things to happen. You won't know all the answers, so don't act like you do. Just affirm what you do know. Help them anchor their faith to what is constant.
3. **Be consistent.** Speaking of constant, you may never have a phase where predictability matters more. Practice making regular promises and following through in simple ways to prove you can be trusted. It may seem like they are testing you. They are. Absolutely nothing you say will matter for a middle schooler unless you say it with the credibility you earn simply by showing up in their world to prove you care.