



Wow!

▼ Training Session

**“I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven”
(Matthew 18:3b).**

- Why do you think we need to change and become like little children?
- How does your life reflect this Bible verse?

When was the last time you said, “Wow!” What are some “wow” moments in your life?

Surprise moments come in big moments—and small ones, too. The “wow” in your lesson comes from changing your students’ perspectives. It comes from reminding them of Biblical truths in new and unexpected ways, just as Jesus did.

Think about how Jesus taught. He compared things that seemed unrelated, like mustard seeds and faith. He used surprise endings in his parables and sayings—no one expected the Prodigal Son to be welcomed home or the meek to inherit the earth. He also used common points of reference such as farming to illustrate how faith grows in “good soil.” “Wow” moments don’t have to be big, just a diversion from the expected.

Look at one of your lessons. Where’s the wonder? What would a child find fascinating? How can you use something you know to teach God’s Word in a way a child wouldn’t know? Do you have a hobby that can help teach God’s Word?

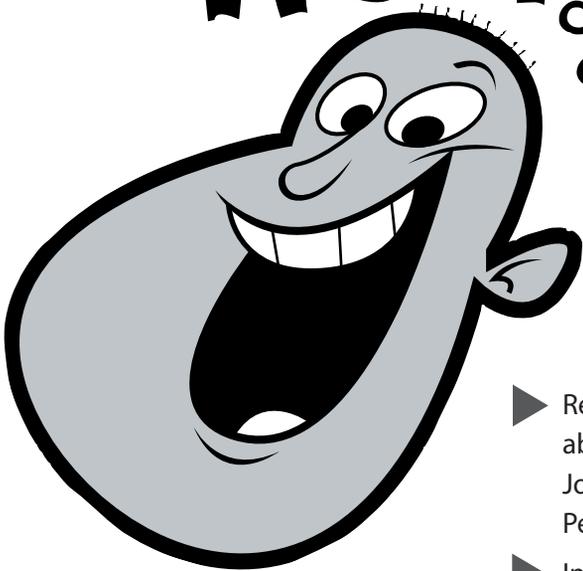
What references can you use to relate to your kids—running a race as Paul mentioned in Hebrews 12:1 or perhaps playing sports and doing homework?

If you’ve found experiences or objects that can add a twist, twist away! For example, if you love kaleidoscopes, give students a chance to look at one while they explore the account of Creation.

Jesus calls us to become like children—wondering like children. If we can wonder like a child, we’ll be able to reach and teach children. Here are some practical ways to become childlike and add “wow” to your lesson:

- ▶ Go to a toy store and find the most unusual items available for your age group, then speculate what Bible story or truth the object could illustrate.
- ▶ Read the most popular children’s stories and watch kids’ movies. Think about how they can help you tell Bible stories. Perhaps you could discuss Joseph’s “Series of Unfortunate Events,” try Joseph’s brothers on “The People’s Court,” or act out the Cinderella tale to compare Jacob and Esau.
- ▶ Invite some people the kids admire to share a Bible story or share their faith.
- ▶ Give a real party during Pentecost or have your class act out the good Samaritan in a real-life mission project, making “wows” by doing the unexpected.

WOW!!!





Take this training deeper as you think over these questions:

- What “wow” activities can you list now that you might be able to use in future lessons?
- Who can serve as a resource to help you come up with “wow” ideas?

▼ Journal

God, give me the ability to see wonder as I . . .

Father, help me “wow” children so that they learn . . .

What a privilege to share the wonder of God’s creation with children! You are a blessing and will be blessed for your efforts to show children the “wow” in God’s world.

▼ Application

What makes you say, “Wow”? Imagine you’re one of your students. What activities would excite you? How can you apply your excitement to your class?

Become a student, taking a class or studying something you know little about so that you can relate to what it feels like to learn something new. Write down the ways your teacher brings “wow” experiences to the classroom. Evaluate your new knowledge from this class and from the teaching methods used to see how it can inspire new “wows” in your class, too.