



## GUIDED CONVERSATION

Guided conversation is a two-way dialogue style of teaching.

The three goals are the following:

1. Develop a relationship. This is as simple as asking a question about the child's interest when you meet him.
2. Find out what she knows about a given topic so you can address her learning needs.
3. Guide the child's learning through activities and Q&A.

This style requires you to think ahead of time about specific things to say in a casual way.

The techniques are the following:

### ACCEPT FEELINGS

Acknowledge how a child is feeling about club or what he's learning (e.g., "You seemed to enjoy ...," "You appear bored ..." and "Are you sad?"). This will help children feel like you know them and are interested in them.

### ACCEPT IDEAS

You don't have to agree or disagree, just value contributions.

### PRAISE/ENCOURAGE

Praise willingness to contribute, follow directions, etc.

### ASK OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

Encourage constructive and productive conversation.

### GIVE GOOD DIRECTIONS

Make directions simple, brief and clear. Very often when children are not doing an activity well or appropriately, it's because they don't understand the directions.

### LECTURE/INFORMATION

Relate unknown information to known (what they already know about the Bible or something in their own lives). Ask lots of questions to get them to do the talking.

For more information consider getting Gospel Light's *How to Teach Kids Using Guided Conversation*.



Get all your Great ShakeUp resources at [www.awana.org/shakeup](http://www.awana.org/shakeup).

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