

4 & 5 Year Olds

Age Group Characteristics

Emotional

- Intense emotional outbursts that quickly fade
- Fear becomes very real
- Often reflect the emotions of those around them

Mental

- Curious and eager to learn
- Language skills are expanded to conveying their thoughts and ideas
- Limited concept of time and space
- Very literal minded - often confused by symbolism and figures of speech
- Attention span is still very short, but is enhanced when they are actively involved

Social

- Still self centered
- Desire the attention and approval of others
- Beginning to develop friends
- Tend to form small groups and exclude others

Physical

- Rapid growth
- Rambunctious and constantly on the go
- Becoming more coordinated and skilled in motor activities

Spiritual

- Simple trust in God
- Ready to accept all that they are told about God and the Lord Jesus
- Beginning to recognize right and wrong



Teaching 4 & 5 Year Olds

- Give them ample, accurate knowledge about God.
- Avoid symbolic phrases that will be difficult for them to understand.
- Help them relate their intense emotional feelings to God.
- Plan activities that help them relate truths about God to their everyday life.
- Plan activities that involve them in an active manner.
- Listening activities should be short and animated due to their short attention span.