

The Ministry of

Children's Sabbath School Assistant

A Sabbath School Assistant in the children's division has the privilege and challenge of helping with the spiritual, physical, mental and social development of the children of the church.

Responsible to: The Children's Sabbath School Leader

Relates Closely with: The Children's Coordinator and other children's Sabbath School division teams

Ministry Mission: Through the ministry of Sabbath School, to help children know God, to hear God's Word, and to respond appropriately.

Duties of the Children's Sabbath School Assistant:

The Assistant in a children's division of the Sabbath School – Beginner (Cradle Roll), Kindergarten, Primary, Junior or Earliteen has the following responsibilities:

1. *To the Learner:* Contributes to making a warm, accepting environment where children feel loved and feel free to ask questions, regardless of their race, colour, language, gender, age or educational experience.
2. *To the Staff:* Assists the leader in recruiting teachers; stands ready to pass out material or step in to assist children when the leader is up front, leading the programme; takes responsibility for the programme in rotation with the leader.
3. *For Spiritual Development:* Maintains a consistent prayer life and seeks to grow spiritually; knows Jesus as a personal Saviour and is willing to share with others what God has done for him/her. Prays and plans early in the week for the Sabbath School programme that he/she will lead/teach. Attends conference or church-sponsored training seminars.
4. *For Programme Planning and Presentation:* Assists the leader in planning the programme and may be called on to substitute for a class teacher, occasionally. When leading the programme in rotation with the leader, is responsible to maintain the programme style set forth by the leader so that children experience continuity in programming.
5. *For follow-up Ministries:* May be delegated to keep attendance records and/or contact absent members; takes part in periodic visitation of families. Accompanies children on group projects that help fill the needs of shut-ins, the homeless and senior citizens.
6. *For Children's Stewardship:* Counts and reports offering totals; supports the leader in encouraging tithe and mission offerings; helps to organise Sabbath School investment projects.

Time Commitment: Approximately 2-4 hours per week

Length of Commitment: One or two years, depending on the practice of the local church

Qualifications

1. General Volunteer Ministry Qualifications:

The Children's Sabbath School Assistant should have made a strong commitment to:

- Jesus Christ, and to a growing personal relationship with Him
- Christ-centred ministry to children

- The Seventh-day Adventist Church and its beliefs
- A balanced Christian lifestyle
- Teamwork and cooperative ministry under the leadership of the pastor and church board
- Personal growth and learning, continually upgrading methods and skills

2. Special Qualifications for Children's Ministries

- An attitude of servant leadership
- A passion for children and children's ministries
- Leadership experience in a ministry to children