Hi Everyone,

I read this quote by Lauren DeStefano.

“Autumn has always been my favourite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale”.

What a wonderful description. We can’t get around the colours, crispness and feeling that something wonderful is about to happen. Kids also love this season. I found a website which you might find interesting. It has pages which are all about autumn. Crafts, colouring pages, you name it. www.kidskonnect.com

Autumn is also a time when you start using your candles again. The days are shorter and we need light earlier in the evenings. It always reminds me of the Bible text found in Matthew 5:13-16 where it says: “You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world”. Sometimes we forget just how true this is. Maybe you are the only Christian people will meet. The only one who can make a difference to others. We need to dedicate ourselves each day to the challenge that God has given us. As autumn comes upon us let us remember to be light to those around us.

Enjoy the season and shine your light.

Greetings,

Clair
The 13th Sabbath Offering for 4th quarter 2013 will be going to our Division and one of the projects which will be funded is Messy Church.

In 2014 we would love to have at least one church from each of our Unions and possibly Fields who would like to take this on board and see if we can get it up and running as a pilot project for your country.

Please start looking for a church that would be willing to be trained to do this project. Do remember that it takes quite a lot of people to run Messy Church and preferably it should be a middle to large sized church.
There are real superheroes among us

There are superheroes that have capes, glasses and can fly. Then there are superheroes that wear jeans, a t-shirt and walk the streets with wheelbarrows.
It is true. During the children's camp in Sweden the theme was Superheroes. One day a huge semi had gone in the ditch not far from the campsite. They decided to get the semi out of the ditch at 3 p.m. A lot of semis did not get to know this in time, so they were stuck at a sign that said: "Road closed." More and more semis got stuck and the line outside the campsite grew longer and longer. It takes some time to get a semi out of the ditch, so by the time all the pathfinders were down for the night and the campsite was quiet, there still was a humongous line of semis, cars, and campers outside the camp. Some of the leaders decided that these people who had been sitting for six hours needed food and drinks, so they loaded four wheelbarrows full of bread, fruit and drinks. Then they headed down the line and knocked on the semis and cars to offered food. Many people were very thankful and others wondered if they were angels. The leaders just said that they were superheroes from the camp and that if they wanted to pay, they could pay it forward to the next person that they met who was in need.

At about 00:30 they were ready to open up traffic. When some of the semis who were standing in line heard this, they called in and stopped the big semi and cars to start driving until a bunch of leaders with wheelbarrows were off the road. As soon as everyone was on the campground, the traffic started to pass on one side.

In the morning the chef read Isaiah 58:10 ("and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like the noonday.") which was a good thing since she entered a very empty kitchen.

The really nice part is that the rest of the week and the following weeks, when certain semis drove by, they would honk their horns as a thank you. What a blessing to be God’s superhero. You can be a superhero for God, if you let Him fill you with power and if you do His work.

-Karolina Poland, Children's Ministry, Sweden

Here you can find some short films to go with Karolina's worship bags:
http://www.adventist.se/play/4618/daddy-god.aspx,
http://www.adventist.se/play/4629/like-god.aspx,
http://www.adventist.se/play/4620/god=-son.aspx,
http://www.adventist.se/play/4617/3=1-eng.aspx

Calender:

November 18  Children's Sabbath
NEW K.I.D. ON THE BLOCK

'Reflecting Jesus', a 32-lesson interactive Bible study series for teens and their parents, was launched at the TED Kids in Discipleship Refresher Weekend, 28-30 September. At the Division office in St Albans, KID leaders from Croatia, Norway, Hungary, Poland, Netherlands, Scotland and England met to evaluate the KID ministry and be resourced with the latest materials.

Leading out were Mrs Clair Sanches, TED Children’s, Family and Women’s Ministries Director, and her husband Dr John Sanches, the TED Family Ministries’ Consultant. His Sabbath sermon motivated his listeners to be more vocal in helping parents and church leaders recognise the eternal value of ministering to families.

During the weekend programme everyone’s learning styles were catered for by using quieter Biblical reflective activities, discussions, the Sabbath sermon, seminars and even a lively debate that centred on the effectiveness, or not, of the KID ministry.

Pastor Leslie Ackie, now the SEC Family Ministries Director, was the first BUC KID trained Pastor to experience the effectiveness of running KID in the local church. At the end of the weekend, he decided to find out the facts about the impact of KID in the other churches of his conference. He commented, “We have heard anecdotal evidence but have not done an in-depth survey.”

Judith Martin, a longstanding KID trainer and coach, shared her observation on how KID even musically positively impacted the Glasgow church as now the children also take part in that aspect of the service. It is not surprising that Glasgow’s church plant, Paisley, also decided to run KID.

Michelle Sancho, of the Reading church, spent an inspiring twenty minutes talking about the way families in her KID group bonded more closely with one another. Even after a couple of years it is still positively spiritually impacting the parents and children. A majority of the children involved have desired to be baptised. It was for such as this church that the KID Teen lessons were created as families want to continue Bible studies with their teens after completing the original KID lessons.

Thanks were expressed to Mrs Valerie Fidelia, for her presentation on how to use the Teen lessons, and for the editorial work she did on Karen Holford’s excellent rewriting of Dr Gavin Anthony’s Teen lessons. She also explained how they were written in such a way that those who have not done the original KID 7-13 year olds lesson can go straight into the teen set.
The weekend ended with each Union putting together ideas for guiding the future of their KID ministry. While listening to the Union representatives sharing their plans, Heather Haworth - BUC Director - was pleased that the local church ‘KID taster’ idea she shared was going to be useful to others too.

Zofia, from the Polish Union, who this year organised the training of 30 churches to implement KID, expressed a sentiment felt by the rest of the attendees: "This weekend has been inspirational and also practical. My team and I are leaving better equipped to help parents and children have a closer walk with God."

Heather Haworth
BUC Family/Children's Ministries Director

Recently Clair visited Macedonia, Serbia and Iceland and met some lovely children there. Remember a while back that the children in the Netherlands had gathered about 900 pencil cases to send to Sudan. Well a large number were sent to Sudan but she still had some left at home. To keep spreading the joy she brings them along with her when she travels. This project just keeps spreading the joy. Pencils have been given to children in Macedonia, Serbia and Iceland. Thank you children of Holland.

Links:
http://www.kidsministryideas.com/
This is the website for the SDA children's ministry resource magazine. It has lots of excellent ideas, so teachers who don't subscribe to the magazine can still benefit. Also some leadership training resources and online certification.
A New York University study released in 2011 followed college students nationwide and found that a full 45 percent of them weren’t learning the critical-thinking skills they needed to objectively consider information and make judgments about it in their first two years of college. During their last two years of college, 36 percent of students still hadn’t improved their ability to think critically.

Without critical-thinking skills it’s difficult for young people to manage the flood of information that constantly washes over them. The average American consumes more than 34 gigabytes of media information in their free time every day, according to a 2009 study by the University of California, San Diego. That’s enough video, music, and words to fit on about seven DVDs.

So how are your kids processing all the information that enters their minds daily? It’s vital for them to think critically about it—filtering it through a biblical perspective to determine what’s true and what’s not. Proverbs 14:15 says: “The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps.” If you teach your kids critical-thinking skills, you can help them make the wise decisions that God wants them to make.

Here are seven ways you can help your kids to learn how to think critically:

Read the rest of the article Here: http://www.adventistreview.org/issue.php?issue=2012-1517&page=26
The Funny Side of Parenting

Jonathan walked into his dad's study while his dad was working on the computer.

"Dad," said Jonathan, "Remember when you told me you'd give me twenty pounds if I passed my math test?"

Dad nodded.

"Well, the good news is that I just saved you twenty pounds."