

IDEAS – INSIGHTS - INSPIRATION



THE QUESTION BOX

Every teacher has, at one time or another faces some unexpected waiting periods in the classroom. Try using those spare moments productively to engage your students in thought-provoking discussions.

Early in the year, ask students to write questions they would like answered on slips of paper. The topics may vary from asking for an explanation of a biblical passage, to discussing sections from a prayer, to coping with everyday problems in an Orthodox Christian manner. Have the students fold their slips of paper and place them in a special **Question Box**. (You may wish to label the box "I want to know!" or some other catchy title.) Allow students to add questions to the box any time they wish. Then, when extra moments arrive (or even if you wish to devote an entire class period to it) you can select a slip from the box, read the question aloud, and inspire a discussion. (Be sure you "monitor" the box weekly—i.e. check the slips outside of class time to be certain you are prepared:)



PRAYER PROMPTERS

To help children establish prayer patterns, give them a list of "Prayer Prompters." For example:

- ✓ When you sit down to eat, thank God for your food, ask Him to bless it and those who prepared it, and to make you strong to do the right thing.
- ✓ When you hear the bell at school, thank God for your teachers and friends. Ask Him to help you concentrate and learn.
- ✓ When a commercial comes on TV, ask God if you should continue watching that program. Pray for others who may also be watching.
- ✓ When you get into a car, make the sign of the cross and pray for safety. Pray that the Lord will guide you as you travel and as you live
- ✓ When you hear music, praise God for His goodness and mercy. Thank Him for giving His Son Jesus to free us from sin. Ask Him to keep a song in your heart.
- ✓ Getting ready to go anywhere? Keep a Bible verse or favorite prayer taped to the bathroom mirror. Read it whenever you wash your hands. Try to make it a part of your life.
- ✓ When you pass an Orthodox church, make the sign of the Cross and ask God to help you remain strong in the Faith.
- ✓ Before you go to bed, review the events of your day. Ask God to forgive any wrong you have done and to help you to be stronger tomorrow. Thank Him for the blessings of the day. Ask Him to bless all those whom you love.