

DAY 4 HACKS FOR PRETEENS

i wonder...

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HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR PRETEENS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every DAY, but preteens tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your preteens more engaged.

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

Since this version of "[This is Living Now](#)" includes the rap, get two or three of your preteens to learn it and jump in to lead that part! "[Together](#)" and "[In Your Light](#)" are additional songs you could use about how we live out our faith together.

ACTIVITY | Upgrade an Invention

For preteens, challenge them to "activate features" of what they already have to help them spend time with God.

- For example, do they have a device with reminders or alarms? Have them set an alarm or reminder for a specific time that repeats every day to remind them to read their Bible.
- They could take a picture of a Bible verse or even of a physical Bible and make that their lock screen to remind them to read their Bible before they use the device.
- It could also be non-tech. They could put a sticky note on one side of the door to their room or of their desk or mirror. When they see it, they will remember to read their Bible and can move the note to the other side of the door or desk. Before they go to bed, they can reset it for the next day.

These are just a few examples. Encourage preteens to brainstorm and think of some that specifically work for them.

POLL | Spending Time

Many preteens are or will soon be aware of this fact and many have a tool on their devices that shows them a “receipt” for exactly how they spend their time, like [Apple’s Screen Time](#). Have preteens make their own screen-time page, but focused on spending time with God. Have them make a key that shows what each color is for (same as the choices listed here). Then have them make a simple chart showing how much time they will spend on each from when they wake up to when they go to bed.

BIBLE STORY | Living For God

Preteens need guidance but want to do things on their own. Help them with both for the habit of reading their Bibles with a few suggested reading plans—or even just introducing them to what reading plans are through “[What is a Reading Plan?](#)” then pick a reading plan to go through together:

- [Live a Life of Worship](#) (6 days)
- [Focus](#) (6 days)
- [Shiny Influence](#) (6 days)
- [Bible experience for Preteens](#)

SNACK | STEM Appétit!

Sometime before this activity, show your group of preteens [this video](#) from 2018 of a Rube Goldberg machine created to pour cereal with a new spin! Then, challenge them to come up with a Rube Goldberg machine to mix treats. It probably won’t be as elaborate as the one in the video, but it will be more complex than the ones kids will make that day. Allow them to really have fun with this and show the other kids what can be done working together with creativity.