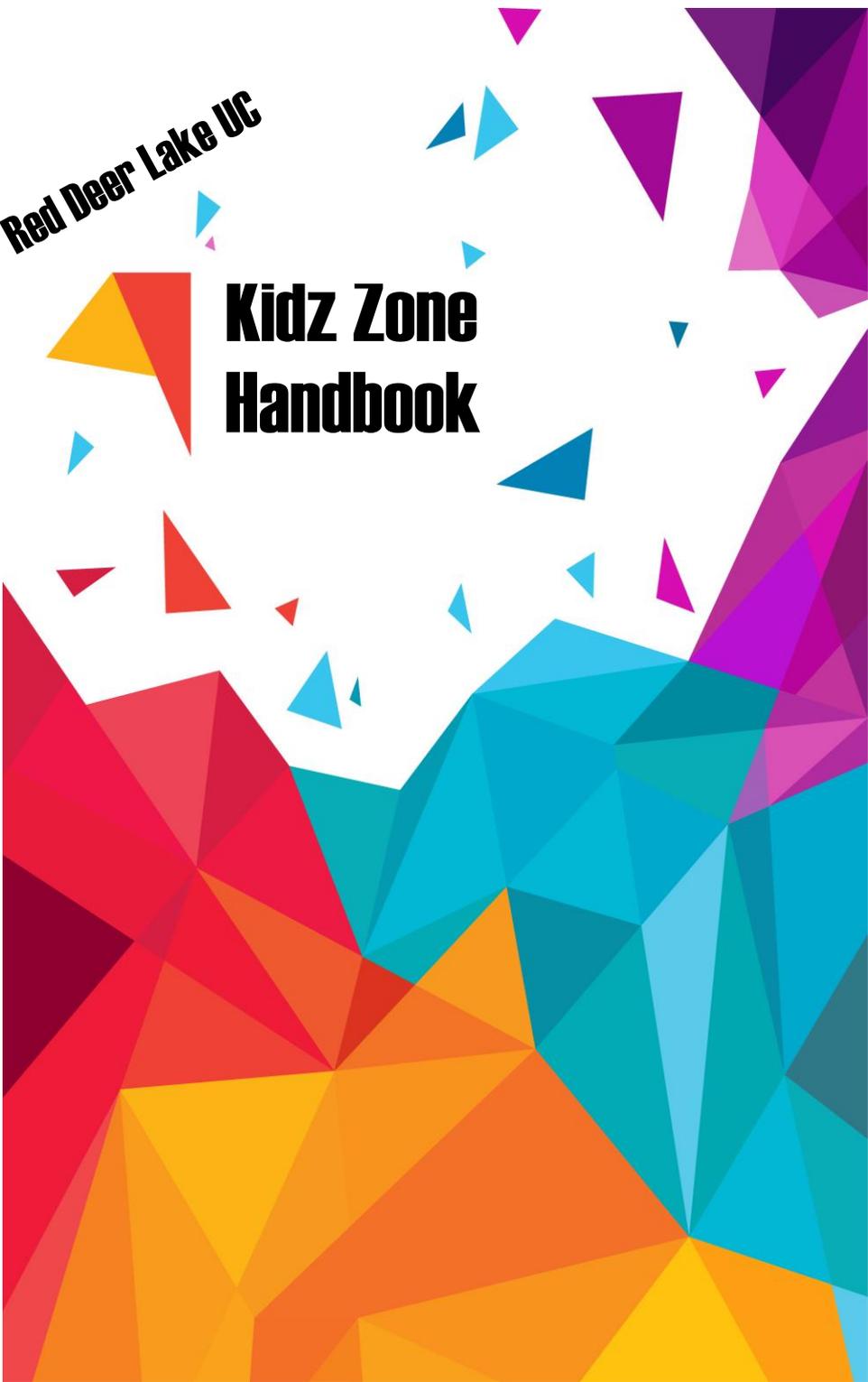


Red Deer Lake UC

Kidz Zone Handbook



Kidz Zone Order of Service

Godly Play Lesson

Thresholds (Checking In)

The Threshold is the place for entering and leaving. It provides the way into a different space.

Assistant

- Sits on a small chair at eye level of the arriving child, welcomes the child by name and has the parent sign them in on the Attendance Sheet.
- Prepare the children to enter the space by ensuring that any toys or other distractions they may have with them, are dropped in a basket where they can be picked up when leaving.
- Releases the child into the room to be greeted by the Teacher who is seated at the focal point of the circle.
- Some children may not want to enter the space without the parent. Invite the parent in and ask them to a seat just outside of the circle near their child.

Teacher

- Welcomes the children and invite them to sit in the circle.
- Engages the child/children in talk of how their week has been and what is going on in their lives until you are ready to start the lesson.

The Circle

- Start the lesson at 10:30am with an Opening Prayer.
- The teacher may want to light the Christ candle to signify the presence of Christ in the room with them.

- Introduces the lesson by telling the children whether it is a parable, sacred story or liturgical action describing the significance of what the language is for that day.
- Follow the Godly Play script for the lesson. Slowly present the materials inviting the children to share what they think each of the materials may mean.
- Once the lesson has been presented, ask “the wonder” questions outlined in the script, guiding the wondering, while trying to get as many of the children as possible to participate.
- Do not tell the children how to think or feel about the lesson as this may take away their chance to have their own feelings and make their own meaning.
- The lesson presentation should last about 30 minutes.

Responses (Arts & Crafts)

- When the lesson is complete, invites the children into the arts & craft area where they have the opportunity to show what they have learned or what they are feeling in a creative manner.
- Create an art form or craft for that day that relates to the lesson.
- The children can participate in that or the child may want to read a book or do some other craft totally on their own and this is to be encouraged as well.
- The Assistant provides support for the Teacher helping the children as they work on their art providing encouragement to them.
- At 11:30am, children are told it is time to clean-up and get ready to reform the circle to prepare them to leave.
- If they have completed a craft that they want to take home with them they should bring it with them back to the circle. If their craft was uncompleted and they still want to work on it, they can place it in the shelf for unfinished work and work on it the next time they attend.

Offering Ritual

- Talk about what the kids are thankful for and ways they can express their thankfulness. This may be through:
 - A common bank where they can contribute change and decide as a group how they want to use the collection.
 - They can bring a food bank item or may want to say a prayer of thankfulness.

There is no obligation to contribute individually and no pressure is extended to the child to participate.

- The exercise is intended to teach the kids about giving to those less fortunate than them.

Blessing

- Closes with a blessing, which may include the theme of the Godly Play lesson, sending the kids off positive thoughts on how they can make difference in the upcoming week.

Leaving (Check-Out)

- At 11:45am the Assistant checks to see which parents have arrived and invites the first one to sign out their child and calls the child's name.
- Remember to check if the child had a dropped off items before they leave with the parent.
- At noon, if some children still have not been picked up, the Assistant takes them to the nursery upstairs while the Teacher goes to find the parent of the child so they can be safely checked out.