

Back-to-school time! With a brand-new school-year looming before you no doubt you have lots of goals that you would like to see accomplished. Remember, you have 36 weeks to get everything done ... so don't burn yourself out early on by trying to do too much at the beginning of the year. It's better to start off slow and then add in extra activities and assignments as you get into a routine.

Celebrate the first day of school by printing out a sign for each child with his or her name, age, and grade, along with "First Day of School" and the year. Take a picture of each one holding his or her sign as a keepsake.



Teaching Moments and Hands-On Activities

- Some great back-to-school printables are available at: www.activityvillage.co.uk/back_to_school.htm.
- You can listen to the music for the hymns listed in lessons 2 and 3 of *Leading Little Ones to God* at www.cyberhymnal.org. ("My God, How Wonderful Thou Art" and "The Spacious Heavens Declare")
- For printable activities and coloring sheets to go along with this week's Bible readings see Lessons 174 and 180 at http://children.calvarychapel.com/site/curriculum_n.htm.
- Don't forget to take advantage of your public library throughout the year. For the next few weeks we will be learning about people around the world. Your library probably has audio tapes or CDs for learning foreign languages. Check out one or two for your children to hear how different languages sound.
- Make an Indian drink following the recipe on page 11 of your *Peoples of the World* book.
- Visit www.wycliffe.org/Resources/Kids/FreeCurriculum.aspx for free activity pages and lesson plans from Wycliffe Bible Translators to tie in with *From Akebu to Zapotec* throughout the year.
- Choose some activities at www.enchantedlearning.com/themes and www.activityvillage.co.uk/farm_animals.htm to go along with *Charlotte's Web*. There are themes about Farms and Farm Animals, Pigs, and Spiders. You might also want to explore some of the themes about various countries and languages.
- For more "pig" and *Charlotte's Web* theme ideas see: www.fastq.com/~jbpratt/education/theme/animals/pigcharweb.html