



Youth and  
Children's  
Ministries

# **Children's Ministry Resource Guide**

A catalogue of resources available to  
support your ministry with children online

Version1.0

# Introduction

Have you moved your children's activities online and are looking for more ideas? Or are you looking to start a children's ministry group online with an existing group? Or maybe you see the need to meet a new group of young people in a new way? There are quite a few resources for children and knowing where to start and looking for something appropriate can be quite daunting. Therefore, this list has been compiled during a time of social isolation to highlight some great resources which could support your ministry.

However your ministry programme looks at this time, we encourage you to find ways to make connection with the children you serve whether that be through video chat, picking up the phone, or sending a good old fashioned letter of encouragement; think about how as children's ministry leaders we can continue to show love and care at this time; and be a point of consistency in young people's lives.

## **The following categories will be covered in this guide:**

- Taking your Ministry Online
- Safeguarding
- Discipleship Resources for Children's Ministry Online
- Other Discipleship Resources
- Ideas for Taking Your Kids Club Online
- Websites and Apps for Children
- Resources for the Family
- Resources for Children with Additional Needs
- Health and Fitness
- Talking to Children about Covid19
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Ideas for Involving Young People in Online Worship
- Apps, Blogs and Podcast for Leaders

If you have ideas to contribute to support children's ministry online which you have found helpful, email us at [youthchildren@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:youthchildren@salvationarmy.org.uk)

## **Disclaimer:**

Ideas and activities included in this pack will need to be risk assessed for your own group. Some may not be suitable for every group or situation. Remember to get any parental permissions required and to carry out sessions within The Salvation Army's 'Safe and Sound' Guidelines.

## Taking Your Ministry Online

The following links and resources will help you to get to grips with what might be a new technology and platform for you, or provide you with some simple tips to make the most of the situation we find ourselves in. The Salvation Army have created some step by step guides to help you get familiar with Zoom. These include:

The Set Up (where you will find information on how to get your Zoom call ready with settings that make it safe for you and your young people, a tutorial on how to make sure your microphone/speaker is working as well as how to schedule a meeting.

The Rehearsal (which will give you some initial ideas of how to make the most of the functionality on Zoom and space for you and your group to have a practice!)

These guides, including a parental consent form, can be accessed from the COVID 19 Youth and Children's Ministries Drop Box found here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yz93leu4070v4nr/AACQI-1OJqgtHhkLNJJxllka?dl=0>

**Please make sure that if using Zoom you go through the settings to ensure that you are set up in the safest way for your group: use the waiting room, only share login ID and password with group members and enable screen share for host only.**

The Salvation Army safeguarding unit has provided updated guidance for doing work at this time. Ministry as we know it has changed and therefore we need to be mindful of new areas of where we may be vulnerable. The Salvation Army's safeguarding advice can be found on Our Hub (accessed via anyone with a Salvation Army email) or in our Dropbox (link above).

There is further helpful guidance available which includes some safeguarding documents such as

- Corps Programme Online Planning Document
- Online Session Log
- Online Parental Consent Form and Safe User Agreement Documents
- Discipleship Resources for Children's Ministry Online



## Safeguarding

Other platforms can be used for video conferencing. Remember most social media platforms have minimum age requirements of at least 13 and so should not be promoted as tools to engage in ministry with those under the age requirement for that platform.

Vineyard churches have pulled together a guide on social media and has suggested ways in which each of the platforms could be utilised for discipleship. It may be helpful to pass on to those working with older young people.

<https://www.vineyardchurches.org.uk/resources/a-new-era-for-youth-ministry/>



# Discipleship Resources for Children's Ministry Online

## The Salvation Army Youth and Children's Ministry Unit

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yz93leu4070v4nr/AACQI-1OjqqgHhkLNJJxllka?dl=0>

Written specifically for this time and designed to use online, this weekly discipleship material will initially explore themes of hope, faith and love. The sessions are designed to run for maximum 40 mins and targeted for children aged 7-12yrs old. There are also activity sheets to carry on exploring the theme at home - with ideas for children and the family.



Youth and  
Children's  
Ministries

## Urban Saints Energize at Home

<https://www.energize.uk.net>

Energize is a resource of material specifically designed for young people. It offers a really flexible approach so that you can adapt sessions to your needs depending on ages or spiritual maturity within your group. There is a subscription cost involved in Energize. There are resources suitable for ages 3yrs -15+ years old.



## Other Discipleship Resources

### Bedtime Blessing for Kids

<https://www.facebook.com/youthchildrenSA/>

A series of Bedtime Blessings for Kids are available on our page.



Youth and Children's Ministries



### Bible Chat Mats

<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/supporting-children/youth-children/resources/bible-chat-mat/>

Bible Chat Mat allows people of all ages to read the Bible and have conversation together

### Cross Roads Kids Club

<https://crossroadskidsclub.net>

Kids' Club is a fun learning environment designed just for kids.



### Diddy Disciples

<https://www.diddydisciples.org>

Worship and storytelling resources for babies, toddlers and young children.

### Godly Play

<https://www.godlyplay.uk>

Ideas and tips about doing online 'live' Godly Play sessions, recordings of some Godly Play stories for sharing as you wish and downloadable images from a few Godly Play stories to use at home.





## Kids Alive Online

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive>

Kids Alive! - the UK's only weekly Christian comic - is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more...and is now available to read online!

KA! JAM (Kids Alive! Jesus And Me) is an exciting club for children aged 7+ who want to learn more about Jesus. Join KA!

JAM and you'll become part of the coolest gang around. You can do puzzles, make friends and learn lots of great stuff about being a Christian. Not only that, but it's free to join!

## Music at Home

<https://sameboatmusic.com/pages/sameboatmusicathome>

Music has an extraordinary power to bring us together, lift us when we feel low, energise us when we feel tired, and is something we all have in common. To help with the rhythms and routines of daily life, we are releasing seven songs, one for each day, all with challenges and activities.



## Prayer Partners

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/pp-documents.pdf>

Prayer Partners is designed to encourage, equip, and empower children to pray. Prayer Partners aims to pair a child and an adult together, and for that adult to be a support to the child in prayer. The pair may pray together on occasions, and/or the adult may pray for the child separately throughout the week. If you don't already have Prayer Partners, now is a great time to initiate them and keep connected with young people.



## Prayer Spaces at Home

<https://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/prayer-spaces-at-home>

These prayer activities have been created for families to use at home.



## Scripture Union

<https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/inspire>

Brand new daily content to help you INspire young people with God's Word.

<https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/make-and-pray>

Make & Pray is our brand new series of Bible-themed make-at-home craft activities with related prayer ideas. Ideal to share with children and families in your communities who are looking for things to do!

# Ideas for Taking Your Kids Club Online

## Games

We have produced a guide of over 50 games for children and youth to play online.

It is available in our Dropbox folder.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yz93leu4070v4nr/ACQI-1OljqqHhkLNJJxllka?dl=0>



## Go Explore



### Virtual Tour

Instead of an actual visit, why not go for a virtual tour as a group and play some games along the way. When you've tried a few in the UK, see where you can visit in other parts of the world.

- Aquarium and Zoo Tours
- Museum and Art Gallery Tours
- Space Tour
- Theme Parks
- World Tour - Try Google Earth or Google Maps Street View

## Scouting Ideas



### Scouts

The Great Indoors

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors/>

# Challenges

## Art

- Do a Youtube tutorial, find a daily challenge, launch it with your group and share your results.

## Bake-Off

- Send your group members a list of ingredients to get in advance and then bake together.

## Build Together



### Lego: Let's Build

<https://www.lego.com/en-gb/letsbuildtogether>

<https://thatbricklife.com/lego-challenge-30-days-of-play-calendar/>

## Go Digital

Work together to create a lockdown playlist on Youtube or Spotify with everyone sharing their favourite tunes



## Learn Something New

- Learn to code, try <https://hourofcode.com/uk>
- Some phrases in another language new to you all
- Do young people have a skill they could teach or would like to learn

## Photography

- Do a Youtube tutorial, find a daily challenge, launch it with your group and share your results.

## Sporty

- Complete a workout video together
- Take a dance tutorial as a group
- World Record - Find some silly world records online and challenge the members of your group to break them

## Watch



### Netflix Party

A new way to watch Netflix with your friends online. Netflix Party synchronises video playback and adds group chat to your favorite Netflix shows. This is a subscription service.

### Stabal

<https://stabal.com>

Intimate live sessions with your favorite Christian artists



### Theatre Trip

Normally visiting the theatre together might have been too expensive, now some producers are sharing a play a week.

## Other

- Create a group bucket list of 10 things to do together when lockdown is over. Invite people from different generations to your call and chat about your experience together.
- Get crafty and make gifts. Create a group Pinterest account and get everyone to add ideas. Choose a project and get making. Maybe your group could make gifts to sell and raise money for The Salvation Army at a later date.
- How else could you raise money for The Salvation Army?  
<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/virtual-fundraising>

## Websites and Apps for Children

All explanations are from the organisation's websites. As with all websites and apps, please remember to check content regularly with children. Some of these resources have a cost.



### All Star Kids

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFPpq2BKTnrK5-DZjFDWcrA>

Music and bible stories for young people.

### Bedtime Bible Stories with The Skit Guys

<https://skitguys.com/sgtv/show/bedtime-bible-stories-with-the-skit-guys>

Looking for some hope and humour? Bedtime Bible Stories with The Skit Guys is exactly that. Every night, Tommy and Eddie will share a Bible story with you, make you laugh, and point you to the hope we find in Jesus.



### Family Video Gaming Database

<https://www.taminggaming.com/home>

This database is a unique way to find games for children, teenagers and young adults. Every game is presented for parents and carers to understand, to empower informed choice through understanding.

### Friends and Heroes

<https://www.friendsandheroes.com/uk>

Children's animated Bible Stories





## **Guardians of Ancora**

<https://guardiansofancora.com>

Guardians of Ancora is a Bible based platform game by Scripture Union aimed at primary school children, though it's also very playable for teenagers, and is available for iOS and Android devices. It involves running across rooftops and ship masts to encounter stories about Jesus, which helps to illuminate the spire at the centre of Ancora.

## **Intro Outro**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-XShc828CUoD3dM8CfK1xg>

Youth for Christ's new Youtube channel for young people. We want to introduce young people to Jesus and encourage them to live it OUT(ro).



## **Saddleback Kids**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEbM1vIWVubI ANRR54YuS0g>

We are here to help parents connect kids to the content that they learn eachweekend at Saddleback Church.

## **Superbook Kids Bible App**

<https://us-en.superbook.cbn.com/app>

This Free App for kids is a media-rich experience that helps bring the Bible to life with videos and images from the Emmy-nominated SUPERBOOK animation series as well as engaging interactive games.



## The Bible App for Kids

<https://bibleappforkids.com>

Find episodes to stream or download and fun downloadable resources to help your kids fall in love with God.



## The Beginners Bible Youtube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiM9mWNxTWpKY-V9Eb9TfkA>

The Beginner's Bible - Created to help you share the most important lessons from the greatest stories ever told, The Beginner's Bible Series brings the true wonder and joy of the Bible to life.

## The Little Worship Company

<https://littleworshipcompany.com>

The Little Worship Company App includes games, stories, prayers, Bible studies, arts and crafts and worship songs centered around three characters, a family known as 'The Looyahs', for younger Children up to the age of seven.



## Resources for the Family

### The Salvation Army Family Ministries

<https://www.facebook.com/sarmyfm/>

Weekly discipleship material to use in the home.



### Engage Worship

<https://engageworship.org/engage-at-home-daily-family-prayer-and-worship-activities>

Daily prayer and worship activity. Includes a simple prayer or worship activity which families can engage with together, using movement, interaction, craft, prayer and more.

### The Kitchen Table Project

<https://kitchentable.org.uk>

Ideas to inspire a faith that lasts.



parenting  
for faith

### Parenting For Faith

<https://parentingforfaith.org>

We have created resources specifically to help you navigate this season and you can also access the entire Parenting for Faith course to watch on your own, or online with others.

## Resources for Children with Additional Needs



### **Additional Needs Alliance**

<https://additionalneedsalliance.org.uk>

The Additional Needs Alliance – helping churches to include, support, create places of belonging for, and spiritually grow children, young people and young adults with additional needs or disabilities.

### **Premier YCW**

<https://www.youthandchildrens.work/Read/Blog/Helping-children-with-additional-needs-understand-Coronavirus>

Mark Arnold (Urban Saints) has written an article about how to help children/young people with additional needs to understand Coronavirus.



### **Little Puddins**

<https://littlepuddins.ie/coronavirus-social-story/>

A Coronavirus Social Story written to share with those with autism.

## Health and Fitness

### Venture Out

[www.facebook.com/SAArmyMission](https://www.facebook.com/SAArmyMission)

The Salvation Army Sports Mission have produced a brand new sporting resource 'for such a time as this' which can be used by anyone doing physical exercise during the pandemic.



### Family Fit

<https://family.fit>

Family.fit is a mobile phone tool that will help a family at home connect in fun ways and exercise regularly in their house, apartment or local park. With a little creativity, everyone can be fit and healthy, stay connected, and grow in character and faith.

### The 2.6 Challenge

<https://www.twopointsixchallenge.co.uk>

Join the country and do the 2.6 Challenge to help save the UK's charities. The 2.6 Challenge can be any activity you like – from running 2.6 miles to holding an online workout with 26 of your friends.



### Sport England

<https://www.sportengland.org/stayinworkout>

Tips, advice and guidance on how to keep or get active in and around your home.

## Talking to Children about Covid 19

On the following organisation's websites, there is lots of content about both talking to children about Covid 19 and supporting children's mental health and well-being at this time.

You will be aware young people will be experiencing a range of feelings and emotions about a number of issues affecting them. You may have members of your group who are experiencing devastating grief and loss and need support. The NSPCC have identified the main concerns that children and young people have been talking to Childline about: worries about the impact of Coronavirus on themselves, family and friends; mental health and well-being concerns; loneliness and isolation; lack of support; family relationships breaking down; completing school work; bullying; worries about the future; and abuse.

(<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/2195/what-children-are-saying-to-childline-about-coronavirus.pdf>)

### Newsround

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>



### NSPCC

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

Whether you're working from home with your kids for the first time or supporting children with anxiety due to coronavirus, we've got tips and advice for you.

### UNICEF

<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/how-talk-your-child-about-coronavirus-covid-19>

As COVID-19 has spread, so has misinformation – fueling discrimination and stigma. UNICEF is working with health experts to promote facts over fear, and bringing trustworthy guidance to parents, caregivers and educators.



## Mental Health and Wellbeing



### Childline

<https://www.childline.org.uk>

We're here for you on the phone or online. Or try getting support from other young people on our message boards. If you're feeling overwhelmed or anxious, we've got calming activities to help.

### The Children's Society

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>

Feeling anxious or overwhelmed is completely understandable at a time like this, especially if you are struggling with mental health or are concerned about someone with a physical illness. Our mental and emotional health resource vault is full of advice on issues that may be worrying young people.



### Young Minds

<https://youngminds.org.uk>

Coronavirus advice and mental health support

## Ideas for Involving Young People in Online Worship



At this time it is vital that young people are connected to the wider congregation. Here are some ideas for enabling young people to participate in worship and build community with the wider body of the church.

Please ensure you follow The Salvation Army Safe and Sound Guidelines and risk assess any activities you are asking young people to do. Get permissions before recording and sharing images/videos of young people.

- Involve young people in the planning
- Think about creative ways to share each week's Bible passage:
  - Children to make a Stop Motion Animation
  - Family drama, puppet show
  - Create artwork, storyboards mini movies
- Lead a prayer time
- Lead a testimony time - set up and record a call between different generations in the congregation and have them share their experience and how God is helping them through
- Create music videos
- Set a challenge for your congregation to record themselves taking part in each week
- Let them help prepare video and image content
- Share responses of things done in children's ministry groups
- Lead a song - Could you create a video of you doing the action for people to do at home?

## Apps, Blogs and Podcast for Leaders



### The All-Terrain Podcast

This podcast is produced by The Salvation Army Youth and Children's Ministries Unit. It is presented by Matt White and each episode features a different guest taking us on a hypothetical hike where they make four choices, and answer four questions relating to the various terrains of life.

### Children's Ministry

<https://childrensministry.com/>

Ideas, activities and more for children's and family ministry.



### Youthscape Podcast

A weekly podcast from Youthscape, hosted by Rachel Gardner and Martin Saunders. Expect interviews, thought provoking discussion, perspectives on faith, church and youth culture and a serious amount of fun.

### Lectio 365

Lectio 365 is a daily devotional APP that helps you pray the bible every day. Written by leaders from the 24-7 Prayer movement, and produced in partnership with CWR, this resource helps you engage with Scripture to inspire prayer and shape your life.



### Youth For Christ

<https://yfc.co.uk/youthworkonline/>

On this page are links to some useful videos that will explain how to engage with your youth group online.



## Youth and Children's Ministries

**The Salvation Army, Youth & Children's Ministries, 101 Newington Causeway,  
London. SE1 6BN Phone: 020 7367 4548 Email:  
youthchildren@salvationarmy.org.uk  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com /youthchildrenSA](http://www.facebook.com/youthchildrenSA)  
Twitter: [www.twitter.com/youthchildrenSA](http://www.twitter.com/youthchildrenSA)**

**The Salvation Army is a Christian Church and registered charity in England and  
Wales (214779), Scotland (SC009359) and the Republic of Ireland (CHY6399).**