



Middle Childhood, Ages 9-11

Characteristics of Age Group

Active and energetic

Enjoy belonging, working in groups

Esp. like activities with own gender

Change interests rapidly, often

Work best in short, sequenced projects

Often require guidance to gain skill and confidence or stay on task

Admire and imitate older boys and girls

Easily motivated, eager to try new things

Implications & Applications

Emphasize active learning experiences

Build inclusive relationships, teamwork

Provide for one-gender activities, but set tone for cross-gender cooperation

Use variety, brief learning experiences

Use simple, short directions
Segment long projects

Use cycles of demonstration, supervision, independent work, monitored skill mastery, creativity

Encourage mentoring with older youth

Offer a wide variety of experiences

Middle Childhood, Ages 9-11

Characteristics of Age Group

Do not like to keep records or see the value of record-keeping

Enjoy symbols, ceremonies, songs

Curious, evident in constant, "Whys"

Enjoy helping, cooperative activities

Show independence by disobedience, back-talk, rebelliousness

Need recognition, praise for good work

Competence builds self-concept

Bothered by comparisons with others

Able to lead one familiar activity

Limited decision-making skills



Implications & Applications

Need assistance and close supervision in completing records

Plan ceremonies, provide rituals

Reflect ("Why do you think?")
Structure discovery, sharing

Offer graduated responsibilities, teams

Stay calm; give choices, responsibility, personalized attention

Recognize in front of peers, parents

Select high-success activities; praise

Focus on individual growth, group gains

Support by preparation, encouragement

Guide step-by-step comparisons, etc.