

SPIRIT PLAY



- Present core stories of our faith and your particular church and its theology
- Help children to make meaning through wondering and art
- Create a spiritual community of children
- Support multiple learning styles and challenges

Spirit Play Content: Lessons and Stories

Unitarian Universalist
Focus Shelves
Promise Stories
Sources Stories
Stories of the Mystery
Beginnings and Endings
Sacred Places
Ways to Pray
Liturgical Lessons

SPIRIT PLAY

DEVELOPED THROUGH
GRANTS FROM THE
UNITARIAN SUNDAY
SCHOOL SOCIETY AND
THE FUND FOR
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALISM



“This program tends to engage children where they are and helps them live into their own answers to the abiding questions. The environment, the multisensory approach, the wondering questions, the learning centers, the stories, and the community of children and teachers (and parents) are absolutely appropriate for UU children and RE Programs.”

Rev. Pat Hoertdoerfer,
MRE

SPIRIT PLAY



Unitarian Universalist Religious Education Program

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The Purpose of Religious Education

The co-developers
(Dr. Nita Penfold, Ralph Roberts, and
Beverly Leute Bruce) see this
purpose as helping
children to find the
religious language and
story to live into their
own answers to
existential questions such
as

Who am I?
Where did I come from?
What is my purpose?
What are my gifts?
How do I choose to live
my life?
What happens when I
die?
Why am I lonely and sad
sometimes?

*We want children to
find meaning within
the container of
Unitarian
Universalism.*



Proven educational method
whose values support
Unitarian Universalism

- Encourages independent thinking through wondering questions
- Gives children real choices within the structure of the morning
- Creates community of children in classroom of mixed ages
- Develops an underlying sense of the spiritual and the mystery of life
- Supports congregational polity through choice of lessons
- Volunteers were found to value the program as part of their own spiritual process

Tested in classrooms
Preschool through Grade 8.



Key elements from Montessori: teachers guiding children in a prepared environment.

Key elements from Godly Play: circle with story told using concrete materials followed by wondering and art response; the morning as worship.

Spirit Play Trainings

Full day trainings are available to ensure success in this innovative method of education. The day includes introduction to the method, a model classroom, practice in the storytelling method, and start-up information along with a slide presentation. Each person who completes the training will receive a complete curriculum on CD of over 600 stories developed by teachers.

Trainers Available:

Nita Penfold, Boston, MA

Joy Silver, BC, Canada

Jennifer Innis, Plano, Texas

Emily Manvel Leite, Bloomington Indiana

Debbie Atkins, Jacksonville FL

Online training coming soon!!

See www.spirit-play.com for current trainings, costs, and order form for materials or pay by PayPal.

SPIRIT PLAY

MATERIALS AVAILABLE

Spirit Play Manual

154 pages

\$24.95

License to copy for churches: \$100

Spirit Play Introductory Lessons CD for computer

Basic Spirit Play information and background; 18 Lessons and Stories as Word Doc files,

most with Photographs as Jpeg files

Free: Multicultural Figures

\$45 postpaid

Spirit Play: A Typical Sunday

2 hours

With footage from 4 and 5 year old class

AND 3rd and 4th grade class

at two different programs and

voice-over explanation of method.

VHS on Sale: \$20 postpaid

DVD \$50 postpaid

Introduction to Spirit Play

PowerPoint

presentation CD

for LCD projector or computer screen.

\$15 postpaid.



Holidays and Holydays For Spirit Play

38 of the popular 3rd & 4th grade curriculum adapted for Spirit Play classrooms with card materials included.

Fall Lessons only:

\$50 postpaid

Winter & Spring only:

\$75 postpaid

Entire curriculum:

\$125 postpaid

Promises Stories for Older Children

5th & 6th Grade Promise Stories

7th & 8th Grade Promise Stories

Written by Connie Dunn

Edited by Nita Penfold

14 Stories plus new version of Promises Lesson for older children

Most card materials included.

\$35 postpaid

Neo-Pagan Sabbats for Spirit Play

in the style of

Holidays and Holydays

By Jessica Zebrine Gray

8 Sabbats plus Wheel of Year lesson

with card material included.

\$25 postpaid

Postage added outside US.