MUSIC, MOVEMENT, PRAYER AND SONG

Objective:
To acquaint and train catechists, grades K-5, with simple techniques linking movement, prayer and song for use in their weekly classes.

Program Overview:
"Music, Movement, Prayer and Song," led by contemporary Christian singer and songwriter, Sam Kauffman, a roster artist with NEAG Music and Catholic school teacher, can be used as a one hour, three hour or all day training.

Training Outline:

Part One: Introduction - Hand Action Songs to Welcome
Simple Ice Breaker Songs With Hand Actions
Purpose: Help students feel comfortable
Signal the beginning of class

Part Two: How to Effectively Use Echo Songs and the Psalms
Using "Echo" Songs and Repetitive Verses
Purpose: Enhance listening skills
Get the attention of the students
Reinforce the scripture for Sunday liturgy

Part Three: Clapping, Leadership and Fun
How to Use Three Simple Clapping Techniques
Purpose: Promote cooperation and teamwork
Have fun and add rhythmic interest to songs

Part Four: Sing Language and Song
Three Easy Ways to Use Sign Language In Song
Purpose: Promote communication
Bring awareness of different forms of communication
Use our hands in prayer

Part Five: Using the Whole Body to Pray Twice
Movement and the Alphabet Game
Purpose: Teamwork, fun, and tension breakers

Part Six: Storytelling and Scripture
Purpose: Show that music doesn't have to be sung
Show additional hand action techniques

Part Seven: Simple Discipline Techniques Using Music - optional
Two Easy Ways to Use Music & Hand Signals for Discipline
Purpose: Music can be used as a form of direction

Part Eight: A Blessing and A Circle
Two Simple Blessings Used In a Circle
Purpose: Promote understanding between students
Change the feeling of the space and get out of rows
Begin and/or end class on a positive note

This program is based on two simple facts. First, children love to move and sing and learn through movement. Second, many catechists are not trained music teachers. By exposing volunteer teachers to simple musical techniques, they can enhance music currently used in the classroom and feel comfortable introducing new music.

Through active participation in this training, catechists are invited to experience the multi-faceted ways in which simple musical techniques can enrich their teaching and prayer life in the classroom setting, bring a sense of harmony and order to the students and reach children on a different level while enhancing the curriculum.