

The Children's Program Committee  
of our congregation wants

***YOU***

to consider teaching this year!

We're sure you

***HAVE  
QUESTIONS***

Potential teachers often raise similar  
concerns. We've answered some of  
the most common ones for you here.

If you have other questions,

***JUST ASK!***



**Whooo...**

**me?**



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**Teach RE?**

### **Why do teachers volunteer their time?**

The best way to get an answer to that is to ask one of our teachers! Sharing the excitement of learning and exploring new ideas with children can be a very special experience. We learn as much, or more, from them as they do from us, and their fresh outlook helps us to keep our youthful perspective.

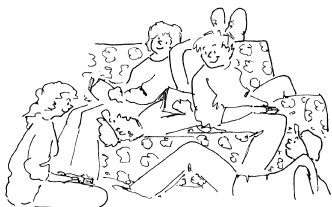
The curriculum materials we provide allow you the opportunity to celebrate religious traditions of other cultures. You will explore and clarify your own religious ideas, and delve into the varied religious heritages that have influenced Unitarian Universalism.

### **I'm still forming my own beliefs. How can I teach religion to children?**

As UU's, most of us spend our entire lives formulating our religious beliefs. It's a part of what we're all about! Since we have no creed, we don't try to "teach" our children religion. Instead, we help them to question, to wonder, to grow their own spirituality. We teach them **how** to think about religion, not **what** to think about it. Our teachers don't need theological certainty, just open minds and open hearts.

### **But I don't know how to teach!**

That's okay - we'll help you! We'll have a comprehensive training workshop before classes begin so you'll feel right at home with our RE program. The Director of Religious Education (DRE) and the Children's Program Committee will provide support, both practical and emotional, at any time.



### **But I can't do it alone!**

Of course you can't, and we don't expect you to. You'll be a part of a teaching team of three or four teachers per class. When it's your turn to teach, another member of your team will be there to assist. The DRE and RE staff will check in with you, offer suggestions when asked, help you line up parent volunteers, and help you find the supplies and resources you need.

### **But I'm not good at arts and crafts (or music, drama or whatever).**

You don't have to be! Our curricula are designed to be easy to use and are so complete that all you need to do is follow the directions. Just add love and stir! Remember, the members of your teaching team will have complementary strengths. Our congregation is a wealth of talent, so the committee and DRE will help you find that guitarist-dancer-scientist who can add the touch of expertise you want.

### **My kids are grown (or I don't have kids). Why should I get involved in RE?**

Social responsibility begins at home, within our own church family. What better way to assure our future, as well as that of our denomination, than to work with children, who are its heartbeat? It is very rewarding to share the joy of celebration and discovery. The children will benefit from your viewpoint - differing perspectives are invaluable to their growth.

### **I enjoy the sermons too much to miss them.**

Good News! We have three sessions of RE: at 9:30, 11:30 5:20 and each Sunday, so you may also participate in worship each week. Our entire church family worships together for the first part of the 11:30 service. Then the children return to RE for their classes.

### **I have a crazy schedule, so I can't teach. Is there another way I can help?**

Yes! Our RE program can use volunteers in countless ways. We need nursery and classroom helpers, teacher substitutes and playground monitors. We can schedule your day in advance or put you on our call list. If it's not convenient that day, you can help another time.

We need resource people in many fields. A "guest appearance" adds a dimension to a child's religious education. Perhaps you have a professional expertise that could be utilized to support our teaching staff.

We also plenty of opportunities for those who would like to plan or supervise parties or activities, intergenerational events or service projects, or help organize the library and supply closets. Choose what interests you!

Let us put you on our resource list. The more people we can involve, with their various skills and interests, the richer the program we can offer our children.

