Moke About You & Me

Please use these "More About You & Me" prompts to better understand the needs of your student and to build a deeper relationship. Each week, plan to spend the first few minutes of your time together on these. The "More About You & Me" prompts below are categorized into one of four areas: Physical Needs (PN), Social Skills (SS), Mental Ability (MA) & Devotion (D). Ask open-ended questions to truly engage with your child to see if they have any barriers or are lacking resources. Please be willing to make it a 2-way conversation by sharing about yourself as well! Have fun, be a good listener, and build a lasting relationship! Put a check mark next to each week as you complete those prompts, not necessarily in that order.

What is your favorite meal of the day (breakfast, lunch, or dinner)? What food could you eat every day and never get tired of? Do you have a favorite vegetable/fruit/dessert? What is your favorite meal your mom or dad makes for you? How often do you have it? Do you help cook? (PN) Activity: Create or use a short traditional mealtime prayer to thank God for the food he has provided, even if it is not your favorite. Write it down, memorize it, say it aloud or to yourself, and mean it before each meal. Bible Connection: manna – (Exodus 16: 1-31) The Israelites entered the desert and grumbles about hunger. Then the Lord said to Moses, "I will cause food to fall like rain from the sky." Next steps: I wonder how God might ask you to help someone who is hungry. An extra item in your bag lunch to share with a student? A granola bar to a person on a street corner? Delivering canned goods at a Food Bank? Providing food items for your church's mission in a poor or devastated country? If you are hungry and need food, ask God, and then give Him some time. He may provide in unexpected ways. Week 2: Do you have a best friend? What do you like most about your best friend? Have you and your friend ever had a disagreement? How did you resolve it? (SS) Bible Connection: David's best friend Jonathan - 1 Samuel 20: 1-42 Jonathan, son of King Saul, and David have been best friends since Goliath. They create a secret signal to save David from death. Activity: Create a "recipe" to "cook up" friendship with someone. Use the Fruits of the Spirit as ingredients to add a "a slice or cup of fun," "a big dollop of forgiveness," etc. to the sandwich or the mix before "baking." Next steps: Consider a disagreement you and your friend had; then create two different written or drawn story boards: one showing an angry, hurtful resolution; the other showing a loving, healthy resolution. Which is harder to do? Why? Which one turns out better?

Week 3: What makes you mad/sad/happy? How do you react when you are mad/sad/happy? Tell me a time when you were really happy/really sad/really mad. (MA)

<u>Activity</u>: What emoji describes your feelings today? Why? How do you think God feels about you? Jesus wants you to be joyful and rejoice in Him. Find the music "Rejoice" by Sinach on YouTube. Play it loud – sing out – dance to it – REJOICE!

<u>Bible Connection</u>: **Anger:** (**Ephesians 4:26**); angry for the right reasons - **Matthew 21:12-13** angry for the wrong reasons - **James 1: 19-20**

Sadness: Jesus cries at the death of Lazarus (John 11:35), and (Luke 19:41)

Joy: "guiet in love...rejoice over you (**John 15:11**)

Next steps: If we are "quick to listen and slow to speak," we will have a better chance to ask and hear how Jesus wants us to react to others. God loves us no matter what we do and forgives us when we mess up. And we mess up just like everyone else, so shouldn't we learn to forgive. Forgiveness frees us from our own bad feelings. So why is it so difficult to forgive? The next time you feel yourself getting angry at someone, stop – pray – put yourself in that person's shoes – let the anger go – forgive – be thankful and free to be happy. It's your choice.

Week 4: Do you attend church? With whom do you attend church? What is your favorite part about church? (D) Activity: Put your two hands together, fingers interwoven facing downward, and say – "Here is the church."

Keeping your hands facing downward, lift and touch your two baby fingers together – "Here is the steeple." Now spread your two thumbs apart, and say – "Open the doors…"

Keeping your fingers interwoven, turn your hands over and wiggle your fingers – "and out come the people." Bible Connection: Young Jesus in the temple (**Luke 2: 41-52**)

Next steps: Find a friend and invite them to go to church with you. If you do not attend a church, ask a friend if you can go to church with his/her family.

Week 5: Do you have a favorite place to go to feel safe? What do you like most about where you live? What do you like least about your where you live? (PN)

Activity: Imagine a "Mind Movie" to picture a comfy place where you feel loved and secure: Close our eyes and imagine that place; then imagine looking around – who or what do you see? Listen – what do you hear in that place? Inhale – what might you smell? Reach out your hand and toes – what do you feel on your skin (warmth, a breeze, a soft blanket, etc.) Is this a real place in your life? Where can you go to feel safe?

Bible Connection: God is my place of safety and protection. (Psalm 91: 1-16)

<u>Next steps</u>: There is someone who loves you unconditionally, no matter what. That someone is Jesus. If you have faith and ask Him into your life, He will always be with you to guide you and comfort you. (Psalm 91:14-15)

"The Lord says, 'If you love me and truly know who I am, I will rescue you and keep you safe. ¹⁵When you are in trouble, call out to me. I will answer and be there to protect and honor you. "

If you have not asked God into your life, now would be a good time. Ask a trusted adult to lead you in prayer. Talk to someone in your church about baptism.

Week 6:

Would your friends say you are a rule breaker or a rule follower? Have you ever felt bullied at school or at home? Have you ever felt the urge to bully someone? What would you most likely do if you saw your friend bully someone? (SS)

Activity: Poll 10 people – Ask them if they think you are a rule breaker or not? What do they think? Do you agree with them? Do you see yourself as a rule breaker or a rule follower? When are you one or the other? Bible Connection: Joseph's brothers sell him into slavery (**Genesis 37**)

Do not say harmful things. (Ephesians 29-31)

Next steps: How does Jesus call us to respond to bullying? If you witness someone being bullied, remember that reporting bullying acts is not tattling. It is to protect someone...not to get them in trouble. Bullying is never okay. In bullying behavior, there are three groups involved: Have you ever been in one of those roles? These acts can be physical (hurting, spitting, breaking someone's things, etc.); <a href="https://web.arch.com/physical.com/phy

Week 7:

How are you doing in school? What is your favorite subject? Least favorite subject? (MA)

Bible Connection: (1 Corinthians 12) We are not good at everything; we are better at some things than others.

God made us wonderfully different. Just like every part of the body is important and needs every other part to function well, so do people. We are all the body of Christ.

Activity: What are your God-given gifts? Choose a "Body Part Card" and explain. For example, some may pick "brain" because they have imagination and come up with good ideas. Others may pick "hands" because they like serving others and getting things done. Choosing the "ear" might mean a good listener, or "heart" might mean caring compassion for all living things. You can also discuss gifts on which you depend on others because it is not your strong point. It's great to be able to share gifts. [Tutors, can use body part cards: i.e., eyes, ears, hands, feet, brain, heart, etc. found on the Whiz Kids Resource Page, or write/draw each on a separate piece of paper.]

Next steps: What do you treasure? That is where your heart is. If you want something bad enough, then you should be willing to work harder for it. You are capable of any accomplishment with God's help. Find a way to share your gifts with others. Ask for help from someone who has a gift with which you are struggling. See what you can accomplish with God's help.

Week 8:

What do you know about God/Jesus? Do you read the Bible? Do you believe Jesus died for your sins? (D) Activity: What do you think God or Jesus looks like? [TUTORS: Images to use can be found on the Whiz Kids Resource page] Describe the character of Jesus. Explain what you think Jesus would do in a given situation. He often spoke in parables. Do you know what a parable is? Read His parable about "planting seeds and soil" (Matthew 13: 3-8) and discuss what you think Jesus meant. Are you a sower of seeds? What kind of soil are you currently?

Bible Connection: The story of "The Drawbridge Keeper" by Dennis E. Hensley

<u>Next steps</u>: Journal your new insights into knowing Jesus better as you read or listen to the 4 Gospels. Download the **You Version Bible App.**

<u>Week 9:</u>

When was the last time you did something kind for someone else without expecting any reward? Explain. Have you seen someone else do something kind for someone lately? Who? What?

<u>Activity</u>: Read the book, <u>How Full Is Your Bucket?</u> By Tom Rath & Mary Reckmeyer, or have it read to you on YouTube. <u>Bible Connection</u>: The Good Samaritan (**Luke 10: 25-37**)

<u>Next steps:</u> Who do you know that needs to be shown some kindness? What can you do to be kind to that person? What is keeping you from doing that? Secretly leave a trinket for someone who is sad with a note saying, "God loves you."

Week 10:

Do you have any brothers or sisters/pets? (SS) Who is a special person in your life? (SS)

Activity: Draw a family tree of as many family members as you can. Include loved pets. Who on the tree do you think you take after? In what ways?

[NOTE TO TUTORS: Find a family tree template online on the Whiz Kids Resource Page.]

Bible Connection: Martha and Mary (Luke 10: 38-42)

The brothers of Jesus did not even believe in Him at first. (John 7:5)

<u>Next steps:</u> It is time to let that "someone special" know how thankful you are for them being in your life. Write them a letter, make them a card, or tell them what makes them special to you. What is it you like about that person? What has he or she done for you that makes your life better?

Has there been a time you have been asked/tempted to do something you Week 11: knew was wrong? How did that make you feel? (MA) Bible Connection: 3 temptations of Jesus (Matthew 4: 1-11) Activity: Everyone has decisions to make every day. Each choice may change your future and develop your character. What do you think this picture by Mary Engelbreit means. [NOTE TO TUTORS: Find this picture online on the Whiz Kids Resource Page.] Next steps: Proverbs 3:6 says "Seek God's will in all you do, and He will show you the path to take." Think of ways to train yourself to stop hasty actions and decision-making. Count to 10. Take time to ask God what you should do. You will feel His answer deep inside. You may not like His answer but try it. You will be pleasantly surprised at how much better everything turns out. Week 12: Do you talk to God? Do you pray? What are some of the things you pray/ask God for? Do you think God ever answered a prayer? Do you have a favorite Bible story? Why is that your favorite? (D) Bible Connection: Jesus teaches The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11) Activity: You can just talk plainly with Jesus at any time, and He will hear you. If you want a guide for praying, try this: P.R.A.Y. P = praise Him. R =repent for anything you feel bad about doing, saying, or thinking. A = ask for what you want or need. Y = yield to God, who knows best. Next steps: Start a prayer journal. Write what you want to ask or say to God. Every month or two, read over all your prayers and see how God has answered them. Did He answer "Yes," "No," "Maybe," or "Later?" Do you and your family have a special day where you come together and eat? Do you have Family Dinners? Week 13: When? Why? (PN) Bible Connection: Jesus washes feet at His last Passover Supper (Matthew 26: 17-30, and Luke 22:7-23) Activity: Who would you want sitting around your table at a special occasion? Draw a rectangle and write the names of people you want there. Place each person where they would sit and write that person's favorite food on the table in front of each. [A table drawing is available online on the WK Resource Page.] Next steps: Ask your parents if you can create personal invitations to a special dinner. Include where it will be held (someone's home; a park) and when (date and time). Also, you can ask someone to bring a favorite dish for which they are "famous." Create decorative table place mats/name cards for the table that day. If a family member cannot attend, let them know how much you appreciate and love them, and that their name card will be at the table to Do you think God loves you or is He disappointed in you? What makes you feel that way? (D) Week 14: Bible Connection: The good shepherd leaves the 99 and go after the one lost sheep (Matthew 18: 12-14) Activity: Jesus often explained things using parables. His parables were stories used to illustrate a truth. A common description of a parable is that it is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. For example, "The Prodigal Son" in Luke 15: 11-32 is one of Jesus' parables about God's love. Watch "God's Story: Two Sons and a Father" on YouTube. How does this story help you better understand the truth of how God loves you tremendously? Next steps: Look up these verses in a Bible and write one verse on each piece of paper. Put all 12 pieces of paper in an envelope or box. Draw one out each day and read it. Know that God loves you unconditionally and forever. 1John 3:1 --- 1 John 4:10 --- 1 John 4:16 --- 1 John 4:19 --- Romans 5:5 --- Romans 8:38 --- 2 Thessalonians 3:5 ---Psalm 36:7 --- Psalm 136:2 --- Galatians 2:20 --- Zephaniah 3:17 --- Ephesians 2:4 [TUTORS: These passages can be found online on the Whiz Kids Resource Page to share.] Week 15: Do you have a favorite book? What is it about? (MA) Bible Connection: After the student shares, the tutor tells one of their favorite Bible stories. Activity: Tutor and student share an interesting story from your life - a favorite gift; a vacation story; a winning play in sports; a funny thing did that still makes you laugh; an accident that resulted in a trip to the doctor; etc. Briefly write or draw a storyboard for the beginning, middle and end events. Share it with each other. Next steps: From a children's version book of favorite kids' Bible stories, have students read one a week. Periodically help the student do a "retell" and discuss what was learned about God. [Tutors, these books can be found in dollar stores and discount book sellers, or possibly make copies from the church's library.] Week 16: Is God real? How do you know? If Jesus came and sat next to you, what would you want to tell/ask Him? (D) Bible Connection: (Hebrews 11:29 - 12:3) God was, is, and always will be faithful and trustworthy. Activity: Play "What's in the bag?" after accessing and watching "What Is Faith" video at https://ministry-tochildren.com/faith-sermon/. Next steps: Ask adults their stories of how God showed up in their life; how do they know God is faithful and worthy of our trust? AND/OR...Go someplace quiet and close your eyes. Get relaxed. Invite Jesus to come and sit with

you. Visualize Him sitting with you. Tell Him or ask Him anything. Then listen for a few minutes in silence and see if

you hear from Him.

Week 17:

Do you know what it means to *Just Say No*? Have you ever heard about *Just Say No*? Do you know someone who uses drugs? How do you feel about that person? (PN)

<u>Bible Connection</u>: The snake tempts Eve with forbidden fruit (**Genesis 3:1-19**) Watch "God's Story / The Fall" (https://vimeo.com/44 267906) together.

"He (God) will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you can endure." (1 Corinthians 10:13)

Activity: Get an adult to help you do this experiment: You will need: a large glass bottle with a neck; a balloon partly filled with water; a coffee filter; a match; and a straw. Light the coffee filter and drop it into the bottle. Immediately place the balloon on top of the bottles opening and wait about 30 seconds. The balloon will be sucked into the bottle, just like you might be sucked into temptation. Now try the same experiment, but this time place a straw into the bottle before placing the balloon on top. The straw prevents the balloon from being sucked in, just like God will provide you a way out of temptation.



Saying NO to temptation can be a tough tug-of-war. Role play some situations in which you turn to God to help you find the confidence, courage, strength, and words to say NO.

[TUTORS: "8 Ways to Say No to Drugs" can be found on the Whiz Kids Resource Page.]

<u>Next steps:</u> The next time you are tempted by something you know you should not do, try these steps to help you bravely stand up against it: 1) take your bad thoughts captive and throw them away (2 Corinthians 10:5 – "...we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ..."; 2) run away from bad things...just leave; 3) focus on the good things that God wants for you; 4) tell somebody what tempts you – others knowing will help you be strong.

Week 18:

What do you like to do on the weekends? By yourself or with someone else? (SS)

<u>Bible Connection</u>: Jesus went away to be alone when a crowd got too big and demanding. At other times he asked close friends to be with him for fun and companionship. **Sabbath** is the one day a week God made for us to refresh and enjoy His goodness before next week's work. Even God rested on the seventh day. (**Genesis 2:3 & Exodus 31: 17**)

Activity: Both tutor and student make 2 columns on a piece of paper. In one column write things you like to do with others. In the other column, make a list of when you prefer to be alone. Compare lists and see if you are more different or alike.

Next steps: Consider Sunday to be your Sabbath. Make a plan for what you need to do before Sunday so you can simply worship God and enjoy the day with things you like to do; not homework, cleaning your room, or washing the dog. Plan fun activities with family and/or friends, family outings, or even nap time.

Week 19:

Have you been in trouble with your mom, dad, family member, teacher? What was it for? Were you punished for it? What did you learn from it? Would you do it again? (MA)

<u>Bible Connection</u>: Read about the amazing things that happen to Jonah when he disobeys God and thinks he can hide from Him. There is a storm at sea that almost sinks a ship and a giant fish involved! (**Jonah 1: 1-17**)

<u>Activity</u>: What if your friend was told to take homemade soup to an ailing, elderly neighbor, but your friend wanted to hide out in the park and play instead. How could you talk him or her out of it? Could you use a story from your own life to make a point about choosing to obey or not? Role play together.

<u>Next steps:</u> The next time you get into trouble, try using a "self-reflection" form to think about your actions. You may need to calm down first. Then think or talk about what you discovered about your action. You will be more respected for your ability to self-correct. Don't do it just to get out of trouble. In fact, you may get a natural consequence. Accept it as God's way of growing you into a better person. [NOTE: *The Self-Reflection form can be found of the Whiz Kids Resource Page*.]

Week 20:

Do you believe in God's miracles? Have you ever witnessed one? How was it a miracle? (D)

Bible Connection: Read these stories experienced first-hand about miracles that Jesus performed:

(Mark 4: 35-41) (Mark 6: 30-34) (John 11: 38-44)

<u>Activity</u>: Pretend you are a toddler and go for a walk. Looking through a toddler's eyes, marvel and smile at all of God's miracles and creations that you normally take for granted: a colorful butterfly; a plane overhead that can actually fly; sun and wind that warms and cools you. These are only a couple of God's miracles. Look for more.

<u>Next steps:</u> Google search key words "miracle healings" or "miracles cited by people" to read about real, present-day miracles from God. God consistently performs miracles but both 2000 years ago and now, people soon forget and continue to doubt. If you want God to perform a miracle in your life, take these steps:

- 1. Simply seek God and forget magical formulas.
- 2. What may be blocking miracles from happening in your life. Pray about it, and then relax, trusting that God has the situation covered and will answer your prayers with what's best.
- 3. View miracles as expressions of how much God loves you.
- 4. Ask God to guide you to His truth. You may not readily understand it, but trust in His perfect plan.
- 5. Ask God to help your unbelief.
- 6. Obey God's command to forgive so your prayers will not be hindered.
- 7. Praise God more through worship.
- 8. When God gives you clear signs to follow, take the steps He shows you. Go before you know exactly what He has in mind for you.
- 9. Do not give up until God answers your prayer. His perfect timing often takes longer than you would like. You just need to keep at it and wait patiently until the right time, trusting God.