

Goal setting and kite-making

Notes for catechists

After you've introduced yourself to the class and gotten to know the children, set time aside to look through the materials you'll be studying for the year. Make a list of the topics and have the children add ideas to the list. Invite those you teach to set some goals and mark their achievements as the year progresses. This kite-making activity will give purpose and meaning to the lessons you teach.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Poster board (colored)

Markers

Colorful **ribbon** for kite tail

PREPARATION

Cut ribbon for kite tails

IN CLASS

- ➊ Each student begins by drawing a kite on poster board and dividing the kite into four quadrants.
- ➋ In the first quadrant have them write their family name and add a crest made of symbols that represent them as an individual.
- ➌ In another quadrant write the name of the parish of which they are members.
- ➍ In the third quadrant place things that make them special or show their talents.
- ➎ Finally, in the fourth quadrant place things they like to do.
- ➏ Ask each student to set goals he or she wants to achieve this year in learning about the faith. Invite them to write their goals on the back of the kite as reminders. These could include special prayers to learn, receiving a sacrament, going to Mass more, or learning the beatitudes and commandments.
- ➐ Let children choose ribbon for the kite tail.
- ➑ When a goal is reached, students can write it on a tailpiece and add it to the ribbon.

At the end of the year, have a kite celebration. Display the colorful kites during a liturgy or prayer service. Then distribute kites you have purchased to everyone and let them soar! Setting goals to learn more about our faith is a good way to become a better Christian.

