Holy Trinity Department of Religious Education
Teaching Tips
Elements of a Good Lesson Plan

- Always connect what is being taught to Scripture, Worship, and the historical writings of the Church Fathers.
- Compile Notebooks and Journals where students can retain important handouts/reference material and record prayers from Worship services. Also encourage students to think and write about their faith. Write Poems. Use Prompts.
  "What was your cross that you carried today?"
  "Consider your sins from today and write how they happened"
- Use audio visual resources to teach about the Orthodox Faith, Sacraments, and Worship. Use DVDs, interactive websites, maps, posters, coloring pages, objects of worship, etc.
- Organize Group Work/Projects where students can discuss and research topics and produce something that can be retained as a learning tool or presented to the class/parish.
- Use Prayers, Hymns and Icons as teaching tools – these are other ways to experience God’s revelation. Read and discuss hymn lyrics. Look at and discuss orthodox images; analyze icons; teach students how to pray with icons.
- Memorize Scripture Verses
- Recount Miracle Stories
- Discuss the lives of Saints
- Provide opportunities for students to more fully experience worship services (e.g. attend services as a class). Invite clergy into the classroom.
- Assign Homework to extend classroom learning and encourage family connections
- Provide a Summation of the weekly lesson to emphasize the points you wish the student to “take away” from the lesson and as a review document.

Internet Resources
www.orthodox-christianity.org/ (complete list of online resources)
http://orthodoxeducation.blogspot.com/
www.goarch.org
oca.org
myocn.net
http://www.antiochian.org
orthodoxyyouth.org