Lesson Plan Format

1. **Prayer for the Day**: (dealing with lesson subject)

   Glory to God in the Highest. Peace on earth and good will to all. We praise You. We bless You. We worship You. We glorify You and we thank You for the splendor of Your glory. To the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever, Amen

2. **Pre-Lesson**: (any preparation needed to begin lesson)

   a. Print a copy of Iconostasis
   b. Print a copy of the ‘Prayer for the day’.
   c. Print copy of Gospel lesson for the day.
   d. Print picture of the Gospel reading.
   e. Print the first and second stanza and explanation of the Nicene Creed.
   f. Print vocabulary for lesson:
      i. Iconostasis-nave-narthex-altar-Nicene Creed-(make large sign of each word(8” x 11” sheet of paper for each word)
   g. Cut out balloons from construction paper to keep in classroom.
   h. Construction paper-different colors
   i. Icons depicting Christ-St. John-Theotokos and patron saint-(ours is St. Nicholas) (wallet size)
   j. Scissors, glue, ruler.
3. **Objective:** (what do I want the students to know by the end of the lesson?)
   
a. Students will begin to memorize stanzas of the Nicene Creed and understand the meaning of each stanza.

b. Students will review the 3 areas of the Church - Nave, Narthex, Altar

c. Students will learn about the iconostasis and the order of saints on our iconostasis.

4. **Vocabulary:** (list of words needed for the lesson--allow students to list some and complete their list with your words for lesson)

   Iconostasis - nave - narthex - altar - Nicene Creed

5. **Essential Questions for lesson:** (questions that fit the lesson—students may write their own questions on overhead to use with projector-if available)

   a. Students will begin with repeating the prayer of the day.

   b. We will discuss the Nicene Creed and why we repeat it as Orthodox Christians (simply put: The Nicene Creed is what we promise as Orthodox Christians.)

   In the Orthodox Faith, the Nicene Creed stands for the Symbol of Faith. This means the statement of belief and the expression or confession of the faith. It is the traditional summary statement of the chief truths which our Church teaches and which all Orthodox Christians are required to believe.

   a. We will practice the first two stanzas

   b. I will introduce the vocabulary for today’s lesson.

   c. We will look at pictures of the 3 areas of our Church

   d. I will use the overhead projector and my transparency of the Iconostasis and label each saint for the students.

   e. We will discuss each section and each saint.

   f. **Craft Idea for Lesson:**

      Our craft for today will be a ‘foldable’ of an Iconostasis.
1. Using the instructions from our ‘foldable’, we will take an 8” by 11” sheet of construction paper and fold it ‘hot dog’ style (see foldable instructions below).

2. After folding, find the center of the foldable and cut up to the fold to make a flap. (if students would like to draw a line before cutting—use a straight edge or a ruler)

3. Next, cut another line to the center left of the first cut.

4. Next, cut another line to the center right of the first cut.

5. You will have 4 flaps on the front half of your foldable.

6. give students a wallet sized icon of Jesus, the Theotokos, St. John the Baptist and St. Nicholas (the patron saint of our Church)

7. Students will glue the icons in the correct order:
   a. if facing the iconostasis: to the right of center door (entrance into Altar) place icon of Jesus on the right center flap.
   b. to the left of the center door (entrance into Altar) place icon of our Theotokos on the left center flap.
   c. to the right of Jesus, place St. John the Baptist on the flap to the right of Jesus.
   d. to the left of our Theotokos, place the icon of our patron saint, St. Nicholas on the flap to the left of our Theotokos.
   e. Allow to dry as class discusses each icon and their importance in our Church.
f. Once the ‘flaps’ have dried, we will lift one at a time and students will write what each icon signifies.

g. Students will display their Iconostasis around the room.

g. **Troparion for the Lesson:**

> O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Treasury of Blessings and Bountiful Giver of Life, Who are in all places and fill all things, come, take Your abode in us' cleansing us of every sin, and, of Your goodness, O Lord, save our souls.

h. **Ending Prayers for the Lessons:** Departing Prayer:

> Lord, we thank You for being in Your blessed kingdom. Your Holy presence fills us with love, joy and peace. Fill our hearts with the desire of worshiping You together. Amen.

i. **Resources:**

   a. The Icon Book
   
   b. Liturgical Book
   
   c. Gospel Readings
   
   d. Orthodox Study Bible
   
   e. [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)
   
   f. Grade 4-Growing with God (red cover)
Instructions for ‘foldable’:

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Foldables:

1. Using a sheet of colored paper, have students fold the paper lengthwise (hot dog bun) to about 1 inch from the bottom of the paper.

2. Students will then cut the top fold in the middle.

3. Student will, then, cut a line to the right of the middle cut and to the left of the middle cut. This will give them 4 equal flaps.

4. On each flap student may write word with for letters in it, one letter on each flap. Ex:  F O N T. Students may draw a picture relating to the word on each flap-or draw a picture relating to the subject on the card (Baptism) before cutting the paper.

5. Under each of the letter, students will write something that tells about the subject of the card.

6. Students will color and display.

Tip: More flaps may be cut in the top portion of the paper for more detailed information. For ex: students names may be placed on each flap and they can relate each section to something about their own Baptism or the paper can be cut with seven flaps to represent the 7 Sacraments and the students may list them under the flaps. This is a simple craft, but very informative. This can help the students remember the information they studied.