

Review Process for Book Adoption

When choosing books for young children, there are a lot of factors to take into account. Children's books are available by the millions and most of them are quite inexpensive. Before purchasing, consider the author, the actual information being conveyed, and the storyline and the pictures/graphics.

Author Review	Accept	Reject
Personal and professional history promotes Christ and Christianity? (1 Tim. 3)		
Religious views and practices are harmonious with the Bible? (1 Tim. 4)		
Other media produced by author are consistent with the one under review?		

Text Review (not story-line; but actual text, wording & information conveyed)	Accept	Reject
Does the book teach real and meaningful content? (Phil. 4: 8; NAEYC)		
Will the book provide solid, valuable knowledge? (CG, 193; 2 Peter 1:5-7)		
Is the main character(s) in the story unfavorable at first? (Tsai, et al, 2007; Mares & Acosta, 2008) Since children tend to be attracted to the exciting and initial introduction of a character, a yes answer here would indicate that this book should be rejected.		
Will the text help to develop a child's faith and trust in God? (2 Peter 1:5-7)		
Will the text help the child learn and establish Christian virtues? (2 Peter 1:5-7)		
Does the text promote the concept of temperance/self-control? (2 Peter 1:5-7)		
Does the text promote the concept of patience or forbearance? (2 Peter 1:5-7)		
Will the story help the child learn and establish godliness? (2 Peter 1:5-7)		
Does the story teach kindness, empathy, selflessness or service? (2 Peter 1:5-7)		
Does the story promote pure charity/love? (1 Cor. 13; 2 Peter 1:5-7)		
Does the text share accurate Biblical stories/concepts?		
Will the text lead the mind to the real, natural and enduring? (CG, 188)		
Is the text consistent with Philippians 4:8?		
Will the story draw the child toward Christ?		

Story Line & Graphic/Picture Review	Accept	Reject
The storyline focuses on "how to ___" rather than "how not to ___". For example: Look for books that teach children how to behave rather than how not to behave. If you focus on the right there's no need to introduce or focus on the wrong (Mares & Acosta, 2008).		
The graphics/pictures promote the real, natural and the enduring? (CG, 188)		
The graphics/pictures promote a love of self and showmanship?		
The graphics/pictures promote pantheism, homosexuality, multiple gods, or use New-Age symbols, emblems, etc.?		

Not sure about a book? Send [YCM](#) the title, author and ISBN number. We'll evaluate it for you and let you know.

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Bible referenced all from the [King James Version](#)

Mares, M.L., & E. Acosta. 2008. Be Kind to Three-legged Dogs: Children's Literal Interpretations of TV's Moral Lessons. *Media Psychology* 11 (3): 377-99. <http://commarts.wisc.edu/mares/three-legged-dogs.pdf>

NAEYC, National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Tsai, J., and others. (2007). "Learning What Feelings to Desire: Socialization of Ideal Affect Through Children's Storybooks." *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, Vol. 33, No. 1, 17-30.

White, E. G. (1954/2002). [Child Guidance](#). Hagerstown, MD: Review and Herald Publishing Association.