

A Mini-MennoLens from Mennonite Church USA and Central Plains Mennonite Conference

The chart below is to help you choose curriculum that will form and strengthen Anabaptist-Mennonite faith and values. As you preview material, consider whether it has the characteristics given below. Check the appropriate boxes so that when you are finished, you can how well the material fits overall.

Resource title _____

0=no 1=somewhat 2=yes

	0	1	2
Direct use of and interaction with the Bible is encouraged.			
Bible memory verses are included.			
Jesus Christ, his teaching and life, as well as death and resurrection, is presented as the lens through which we read the entire Bible.			
It is recognized that scripture texts occur in a particular cultural, political and social context which may not be like our own.			
Biblical texts are applied to everyday life and major social issues.			
God is presented as the One who acts to reconcile all people to himself, each other and creation, and invites us to join in the same reconciling work.			
God is presented with a balance of characteristics (e.g. loving and fearsome, extending grace and judgment).			
Jesus is presented as teacher and role model—the One we imitate in a life-long process of Christian formation.			
The Holy Spirit is presented as one who empowers and sustains us in faithful living.			
Sin is presented as personal and corporate. It is defined as a break in relationship with God, each other, with our inner selves, and with creation.			
Salvation is presented in a way that assumes not only a restored relationship with God through Jesus Christ, but also a new way of living both morally and ethically.			
Stories and illustrations recognize the racial/ethnic diversity of God's people. Global and non-Western issues are included.			
Compassion for community and world are instilled; fear, suspicion, and hatred of the other are dispelled.			
The content is consistent with our understanding of believer's baptism that assumes that children are safely in God's care until they are able to make an informed decision (usually in the teen years).			
The students are encouraged to think through the bases of their beliefs, values and attitudes.			
A vertical relationship (me and God) is connected with a horizontal relationship (me and others).			
The material motivates us to act and compels us to extend God's grace to others.			
All elements of the lesson (e.g. Bible story, activities, theme) are developmentally appropriate for the target age group.			
Parents and other adults are drawn into the student's learning experience as mentors and co-learners.			
Worship practices are included (e.g. music, prayer, rituals) and spiritual practices for individual and corporate use are taught.			
Column totals			

Recommend to use? ____ yes ____ no