

ASSEMBLY: September 10, 2017 (First/Opening Day)

As students arrive, have your teachers welcome them by asking them to write their name on a “Kite Ribbon” and attach to your Sunday School’s kite string. Have Kite on display at the front of the room while you conduct Assembly.

Superintendent should invite all children to gather at the front of the room to begin Assembly. *(Feel free to edit this script however you wish for your audience.)*

OPENING PRAYER: “Lord’s Prayer” (sing or recite in English or Armenian)

SAY: Paree Loos! Last year, our Sunday school theme focused on “Climbing Every Mountain.” We learned to face any obstacle (or “mountain”) that we encountered by turning to God. Mountains could’ve been anything from drugs and alcohol to bullying or hatred. A mountain could have even been the *journey* to become closer to God. Whatever the mountain, we learned that by turning to God and using the Christian values taught in our Sunday school, we could overcome any obstacle.

This year, we shift from climbing mountains to “**Soaring to New ‘Hye’ghts!**” An important component to any Armenian Sunday school is to have a strong Armenian identity and understanding of what it means to be “Hye,” (Armenian). Through scripture and stewardship, we will discover exciting ways to celebrate our Armenian culture, religion, and faith so they are not lost in future generations. Are you ready? **Let’s SOAR!**

CHART: Invite students to brainstorm and share their responses to:

- **Armenian Church Sunday school IS . . .** *(examples: a place to learn about God, culture, faith; important, fun, loving, valuable, welcoming, etc.)*
- **Armenian Church Sunday school IS NOT . . .** *(examples: a “chore,” boring, etc.)*

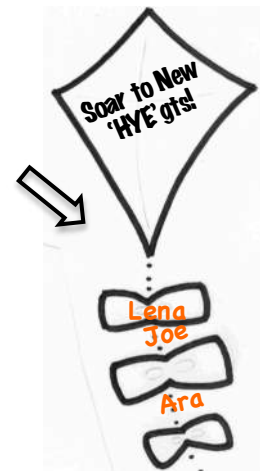
SAY: Armenians are everywhere. They can cooperate, support one another, and change the world! The Bible teaches us in Matthew 18:20, “*For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*” Look around the room . . . when 2 or more *Armenians* come together something very special happens - they immediately share the same faith, traditions, values, and history. It is an *honor* and a *privilege* to be at church with these friends each Sunday to learn about God, so don’t miss a day of Sunday school - you’re missed when you do! Each of you is an important part of our church family and only together can we soar to the greatest ‘hye’ghts imaginable!

(Hold up your Sunday school kite and use as a prop while you share the following. Consider drawing the diagram on the next page to also use as a visual.)

SAY: Each of you is like this kite, ready to fly to great heights! We want you to soar and do amazing things in your lives. But a kite always has a string attached, which guides its flight. The kite’s string almost “anchors” and “supports” it as the kite flies higher and higher. YOU are like this kite, Sunday school and church is like this kite string: no matter how high you fly, always remain attached and anchored to your Christian faith and values. Who do you think serves as the wind to allow you to fly? Who will guide you through ups and downs, highs and lows, and who will pick you up should you fall? *(pause for responses)* **The Holy Spirit!** So get ready to “Soar to great ‘HYE’ghts with me by celebrating what it means to be Armenian and part of Sunday School! *(Read poem to the right.)*

SAY: I am so happy you are here. Have a wonderful day in Sunday school! *(Sing/recite the “Lord’s Prayer, English or Armenian.”)*

*Dismiss children to their classrooms with their teachers or take them into church to safely light a candle before going to class. **Note: Children must be supervised by an adult at all times when lighting candles.***



‘Soaring Like a Kite’ Poem

One little kite, red, orange, and blue,
Along came another then there were two.

Two little kites flying “Hye” above me,
Along came another, then there were three.

Three little kites, just watch how they soar,
Along came another, then there were four.

Four little kites, so “Hye” and alive,
Along came another, then there were five.

Five little kites, here at Sunday school,
Learning to be faithful, following the Golden Rule.

Hundreds of kites, loving God each day,
For this is what we teach them; this is what we pray!

