

# **UNA CLUB TRAINING MANUAL NOTES**

For use with the 8-Session
Powerpoint Training Modules

# **ENGLISH**

UNA A MINISTRY OF THE ROMA BIBLE UNION





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#### **SESSION 1 UNA CLUB TRAINING MANUAL**



## HONEY

The UNA Club was founded to bring Bible and Literacy as a foundation to spiritual, developmental and social transformation into the lives of very young Roma children, their families, and their communities in Eastern and Central Europe.

The Logo, theme, and mascot for the UNA Club is the little honey bee called UNA. UNA in the Bayash Roma language, (where the UNA CLUBS began) means 'ONE' or TOGETHER' or 'UNITY' and this bee was selected for several reasons:

- A honey bee is a very hard and diligent worker.
- She makes honey and sweetness for the whole hive.
- Reading, learning to read and reading God's Word brings sweetness and joy to the young child and her family and community
- This experience starts in the lives of the young Roma child who is exposed to the Word of God through the UNA CLUB.
- The HONEY POT UNA holds contains Crayons which are the KEY to early reading and writing.
- UNA CLUB brings HONEY, the sweetness of God's transforming Word to a young child's heart, and mind, and spirit





How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalms119:103

# HONEY

Central Compelling Concepts for UNA Club

# H Holy Grounding 'MEANING'

The UNA Club is so much more than the Vacation Bible School or Sunday School Bible Education Material program. UNA Club is grounded on the Trinity and the focus on the 'Personhood' of each member of the Holy Trinity. Personhood is the central focus. Many Roma children live their whole lives as a non-descript part of a whole.

They never realize their personhood in Christ and never actualize the Will of God for their life as a Person made in His image. The meaning of Person grounded in the Persons of the Trinity is one of the central essential elements of the UNA CLUB: its structure and its program, its materials and its workers.

**PERSONHOOD** Each Child is a Person MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD and reflecting 'personhood' which is grounded in the 3 persons of the GODHEAD of the TRINITY

'NAME' Each Roma child has a name, known to God from before he or she was born. Name may be a curse in the Roma village but in the UNA

Club the name is honored.



#### Name is:

- Written many times in all the material
- Written on the colorful NAME TAG each child wears
- Shouted out with cheers and honor as the child 'RUNS THE BANNER'
- Sung about in some of the UNA CLUB Songs

## **IDENTITY of UNA the BEE**

UNA the bee is a hard worker who brings the sweetness of her labor to the hive community. The word of God is identified with the sweetness of Honey (Ps. 119:103)

#### **EMERGENT LITERACY**

Many children in the Roma communities enter school at a developmental disadvantage due to economic and linguistic factors. The UNA Club was Created to offer opportunities to experience literacy, numeracy, and pre-writing experiences as well as have, in the Biblical-spiritual context many positive READ –TO-EXPERIENCES which are essential to a successful start to the early school experience.

O Original Intent 'WHOLENESS'

**PHYSICAL** 

**EMOTIONAL** 

**PSYCHOLOGICAL** 

**SPIRITUAL** 

**SOCIAL** 

**EXPERIENTIAL** 





N New Worlds 'WONDER'

**RUPTURING OF KNOWN WORLD** 

**DISCOVERY** 

**IMAGINATION** 

**RE-COLLECTION** 

**RE-MEMBERING** 



PLAY Games, boxed, virtual, Online, physical, cards are of the 'world' and many people enjoy them but 'Play' is of the spirit and is facilitated by the freedom of time and space required to enter into the space of the expression of play. Even animals display the freedom of their spirit as they 'play' together in community with each other. Children require the space to 'play' to express their spirit and to grow in their creativity and imagination. UNA allows time and space for play and exploration in the activities and use of materials craft, musical 'instruments' and other materials of expression and imagination.

**COLOUR** Color for a very young and still yet illiterate child is a 'language'. Colorful books and toys 'speak' and draw a child into the space of wonder and learning. All the materials and printed covers, banners and posters of UNA use color to begin to bring the child into this 'wonder' space. The use of colored crayons, markers or pencils as well as colorful craft materials is essential to maintain this open and created 'wonder' space of *color* and imagination within the child.





E Eventual Victory 'INCARNATION'

**REVEALING THE KINGDOM OF GOD** 

**ESCHATOLOGICAL ONTOLOGY** 

**CONTEXTUAL** 

Y Yearning for Change 'PROPHETIC'

**ENGAGING CULTURE** 

**RE-IMAGINING** 

**BEING AND DOING** 

**BELONGING** 





# NECTAR

# UNA Kid's Club Membership

Nectar is the part of the plant the Bee goes to collect and carry back to the Bee Hive where it is turned into honey. In UNA CLUBS the Nectar is soul or the heart of the UNA Message. That message is shared through Five Nectar Parts: Motto, Creed, Song, Cheer and Prayer.

- The Motto
- The Creed
- The Song
- The Cheer
- The Prayer

The UNA Club has been built around a series of important social and spiritual concepts that affect the everyday lives of Roma children. The view that the Roma have of themselves is almost completely negative and they have almost no view of how valuable they are to God. The Motto, Creed, Song, Cheer and Prayer are all designed to show Roma children that they are loved and valued by God.



## **THE UNA MOTTO**

#### "GOD IS FOR US..... HE IS NOT AGAINST US"

In many Roma communities there all kinds of superstitions about how the Roma are cursed by God and that is why their cultures are the way they are. To the average Roma child as hard as it is to accept they really do believe there is something wrong with them and that ultimately God is against them.

When the children stand together in a group led by a leader and has them chanting out loud God is for us not against us it has the effect of them picking up a message that they are not even aware of and that it is they are loved by God.

When they experience the love and kindness of the UNA leaders and also experience joy in the UNA Festival or Club it slowly begins to sink in that they they are valuable to God.



The Gospel is usually applied in two basic ways:

- 1. I am so proud and I think I am so worthy and I am a good person. That person has to come to the cross in humility leaving their pride behind.
- 2. I am worthless, I am useless, I am nothing. That person is told they are so valuable to God that Christ came to cleanse us of our sins and to give us a life that is full.

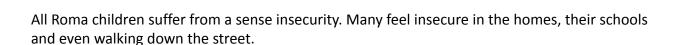
You can see the difference. In most cases with the Roma it is going to be the second application that is used.

The way this applied is to bring the group together and then either with a Motto Card that the children can read or simply by teaching them the words, the children then chant the motto several times.

## **THE UNA CREED**

The UNA Club Creed is made up of three concepts and they can be applied differently according to the situation.

- 1. Security
- 2. Hope
- 3. Ambassadors



We need to emphasize that God desires for HIS Children to have a sense of security and safety in their hearts. For many, sadly, the only place they may actually feel secure is in the UNA Club.

It is not uncommon to hear a child say after day one at an UNA Festival that 'This day has been the happiest day of my life!" Often an UNA Leader will report that a child has come up to them after the UNA club and say the leader is the "best friend they ever had!"

It is good to use the CREED at a point when an activity is just starting or ending. It is also helpful to use as a question they answer after you have taught them. Always using this formula:

Leader:





"U"..."U" READS 'SECURITY" (Utačista)

Children:

"GOD GIVES US SECURITY IN OUR HEARTS" (utočiste)





Leader:

"N"..."N" READS HOPE (Nada)

Children:

"GOD GIVES US HOPE FOR THE FAMILY"





I Love My Family!

Leader:

"A"..."A" ..."A" READS AMBASSADORS (Ambassadore)

Children:

"GOD HAS MADE UNA KIDS AMBASSADORS TO CHANGE THE WORLD"





The actual sentences can be chosen to fit a particular situation or even set of circumstances. The key though is these truths effect:

My Heart - The Individual - the Heart Logo-



My Family - Immediate Community —the House Logo—Ambassadors - Change the world —the World Logo—

That is why the UNA CREED is always shown on the LARGE POSTERS made to help with teaching of the CREED and in each edition of the UNA Club Coloring Book where it is always printed within and connected visually to the LOGOS of a HEART, A HOUSE, and the WORLD.

You will find that this works together with the UNA CLUB MOTTO "God is for us not against us" to begin to build a spiritual worldview in the hearts and minds of the children.

#### THE UNA CLUB SONG

The UNA SONG is more complex than it seems and has been designed for several purposes.

1. To have a tune or melody that is very difficult, some have said impossible, to forget. In some case the children who had not been visited for a year when they saw the UNA Club leaders walking down the street they all came out marching singing the UNA Song. So the melody is very, very important. With that tune is a very simple chorus which becomes the



point where everyone comes together. Just starting the UNA Chorus can be a way of restoring order if it has broken down.

2. The UNA Song has three verses and the chorus in between each verse. It may take several clubs before the children know the whole song by heart. You will see it shares the same truths as in the CREED.

**Verse 1** speaks of God's love bringing Security into my heart.

**Verse 2** speaks of God's love bringing Hope to the family.

Verse 3 speaks of our being Ambassadors to change the world.

3. Music with words is a very powerful means of memorizing and it is also something the children take with them when they leave.

Bring the children together at the beginning and at the end to sing the UNA Song and becomes the meaning of the Club.

In some places where it safe a great way to start the club is to march up and down the streets singing the UNA song as children then come from their homes to join the procession.





The UNA KID'S CLUB CHEER

#### THE UNA CLUB CHEER

The UNA Cheer is what is used to get the children to listen, to come over for an activity and to in general get their attention. It is done in the following way:

A Leader either kneels or crouches and places his arms out in front of him and then shakes his hands.

He then makes a Buzzing sound whilst he continues to shakes his hands. He slowly rises and then he changes the buzzing sound to a slow sound then leads to a cheer as he says the word U - N - A raising his hands in the air. This is done several times as a means of bringing the group together to make an announcement or a change of activity.

#### THE UNA CLUB PRAYER

Upon completion of the UNA KID'S CLUB FESTIVAL each day, as well as at the end of each UNA CLUB Monthly meeting the leaders gather the children together and read aloud the UNA KID'S CLUB CLOSING PRAYER. This prayer (show below) reminds the children of their Father in Heaven who loves each one and has a plan of salvation for them. It also is read out loud in a way —as a prayer litany— that incorporates all the elements of the UNA Creed together which echos all the parts of the UNA CLUB which have just come to an end that week. Also, the UNA CLUB PRAYER finishes by evoking the Trinity which is foundational for the child in his spiritual grow as he or she hears this prayer over and over therefore, making a lasting mark in their spiritual life concerning the truths of their growing Christian faith: in God as his or her Father in Christ the Saviour of the World as the Son of God, and in the Holy Spirit who will continue to do a work in their lives until the next time the UNA CLUB meets.



# **The UNA KIDS'S CLUB PRAYER**

God and Father in Heaven, Thank you that you are for us and not against us.

Thank you that you love us so much you want to live in our hearts.

Thank you that you love our families and want the best for them.

thank you that you love all the world and we are your ambassadors to change the world.

We thank you in the Name of the Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit. AMEN



# POLLEN

## UNA Kid's Club Festival Essentials

- Flags
- Registration
- Running the Banner
- T-Shirt
- Name Tag
- UNA Badge
- Food

## **FLAGS**

- Creates Order
- Beehive Recognition
- · Game and Banner Team Identity



Different brightly colored flags are used throughout the UNA Festival and Clubs to assist in creating

order, assisting in BEEHIVE recognition, and game or team identity. Early on in the Festival the child is assigned a beehive with a colored flag and from that point onwards the child knows 'Which is my group' by the colored flag associated with that beehive.

UNA opening Processional with flags and the singing of the UNA SONG may be used to begin the UNA Festival, collect up the children from around the village and give the atmosphere of excitement and Festival. Children may follow along behind the flags while singing the UNA SONG and stopping from time to time to be lead in the UNA CHEER. As the children collect in a group the 'procession may proceed to stand in the front of the UNA CLUB BANNERS.

The leader then calls out a Colored Flag and a select number of children, assisted by the volunteer leaders of the UNA Festival or Club, collect around the color flag. Once the 'COLOR GROUPS' are established those flags and colors may be used for the rest of the Festival to collect and organize children by their 'COLORED UNA FLAG'.

Teams for games may use the Flags to organize and reorganize after a game or while transitioning to another UNA CLUB activity. Moving large groups of children may be accomplished using their UNA COLORED FLAG.



## REGISTRATION

- First Contact
- Advanced Permission
- Pre-enrolment
- Flexibility
- Grace
- Contingency



Prior to the actual date of the UNA FESTIVAL or the first day of the UNA Monthly Club, the leaders go from house to house and offer UNA CLUB Invitations and 'PRE-ENROLLMENT to the children and a registration with the parents of each child who may attend. The Name, age, and grade of the child is recorded for use in collecting the children in age appropriate groupings on the first day by the use of the COLORED UNA FLAGS.

The excitement of an UNA Festival can bring some confusion and a bit of chaos at times. Much grace and flexibility are needed by the leaders as the 'registration' period (either with the handing out of invitations or ON THE DAY of the event) as this may be the FIRST CONTACT with the child and or his parents in the village.

This is an opportunity to exercise GRACE and the Fruit of the Spirit and to show the love of Christ as there may be misunderstanding and a sense of 'not wanting to be left out'. Much love is required and it will pay off in time as the children and their parents see that there is 'enough for all' and NO ONE will be left out.



## THE BANNER

- Initiation
- Membership
- Belonging
- Name
- Affirmation



The UNA BANNER—'RUNNING THE BANNER" is a key element in the UNA CLUB. It is used in the UNA FESTIVAL to have the initiation EVENT called 'RUNNING THE BANNER" This EVENT establishes Membership into the UNA CLUB, helps each and every child to feel that he is a member and BELONGS to the UNA CLUB. The NAME of the child is connected to the banner at this initiation RUNNING THE BANNER EVENT (see below) and it is done in such as way as to affirm the PERSON of the child as special and recognized by the others.

The UNA BANNER is set up at the central area at which the UNA Festival is to be held. The UNA CLUB Festival children assemble in front of it at the beginning of each FESTIVAL Day and it is erected in front of the Club location each month or inside the building at which the children will attend the UNA CLUB.

On the Day 1 of a Festival the children assemble in lines by their colored UNA FLAG. As the UNA Leader approaches each flag the leader gives the list of the children which are in that colored group. One by one the UNA LEADER (using a microphone or megaphone) calls out the name clearly of each child in that COLORED UNA GROUP or BEEHIVE and that child runs under the banner while all the rest of the UNA Club cheer for him and clap their hands. If there are musical instruments they may each strum or hit the drum to make sound during this recognition Much excitement is gathered as each child is called by his NAME and is recognized and honored in this way before the entire rest of the UNA CLUB.

If the group is very large this activity may be shortened by calling ALL the names slowly by COLORED FLAG and after the entire group of names is called that WHOLE group runs through the BANNER to the other side. It is however better to have the child individually RUN THE BANNER if at all possible.

#### **UNA CLUB T SHIRT**

- Message of Value
- Unity



- Identity
- Colour

The UNA CLUB T-SHIRT brings identity and color and a message of personal value and worth to the UNA CLUB Member. Each child receives an UNA CLUB T-Shirt at the UNA CLUB FESTIVAL on Day 1. The UNA BEE Logo is on the shirt. As the group assembles the same colored shirts enliven the experience of 'group' and identity among the children. Different colored shirt may also identify different roles in the UNA CLUB with the teachers and the helpers. Sometimes older children from the village who have 'graduated' from UNA CLUB and who are trained to do so may wear a different color UNA T-SHIRT than the leaders and the children so that they may be recognized as 'helpers'.



# **NAME TAGS**

- Name
- Identity
- Uniqueness
- Value

Each UNA Club Festival attendant receives a NAME TAG. The value of the NAME is connected to this NAME TAG and





brings a sense of identity, and uniqueness and value to each individual child.

For some children this might be the first time they have seen their name written and attached to them. Seeing the Name written on the NAME TAG will inhance literacy alphabetic awareness through the first word they may ever read—their OWN NAME.

For the Leaders seeing the NAME and learning each child's name early is aided by the tag. The NAME TAGS need to be colorful and creatively made. Each day they are collected and the child receives his NAME TAG the next day or the next monthly club when he is assembled in his COLORED BEEHIVE through the use of the UNA CLUB FLAGS.

#### **UNA BADGE**

- Membership
- · Gives identity beyond the festival
- Ambassador
- Connects to broader RBU membership



#### **FOOD TIME**

- Hunger
- Focus
- Message to Village





Each DAY of an UNA FESTIVAL as well as each monthly UNA Club makes sure that there is some kind of nutritional snack for each child who attends. This is a message to the child and to the parents of the child as well. It says that each child is important and that the leaders are willing to eat in the village and fellowship in this way. UNA CLUB cares that the nutritional need of the child is met so that they may benefit and enjoy the experience of the UNA CLUB or FESTIVAL without the possible hunger and the lack of concentration that it causes. for little children.



### **SESSION 4 UNA CLUB TRAINING MANUAL**

# BEEHIVE

The UNA Kid's Club Main Activities



The Monthly UNA CLUB is a BEEHIVE of activity and there are 5 main activities which make up the basic UNA MONTHLY CLUB. These activities echo the activities which were experienced by the UNA CLUB Members in the 1 to 3 –DAY UNA CLUB which was held prior to the beginning of the MONTHLY UNA CLUBS.

The UNA BEEHIVE activities are in every UNA CLUB and are the BIG BOOK STORY, the UNA COLORING BOOK, the UNA CRAFT or COMMUNITY SERVICE (which alternate from month to month), UNA MUSIC, and UNA GAMES.

- Big Book
- Coloring Book
- Craft or Community Service
- Music
- Games



# **BIG BOOK**

- Platform for Bible Story
- Life Change Applications
- Emergent Literacy
- Engagement with text
- Literacy Enhancement
- Story Telling and Re-telling



The UNA CLUB BIG BOOK as a large (A3 viewing size) Picture Story Book which is used to teach the Bible Story of that month. Pictures are large and the font is bold and large for reading in areas which might not be so well lit. These Stories are told during each UNA CLUB and run throughout the year beginning in September after the Summer UNA Festivals. The UNA CLUB runs in a 2 year repeating cycle with a break for the Christmas UNA CLUB event at which the Christmas Story BIG BOOK is told and the same for the Easter Time Event when the BIG BOOK Easter Story is used.

The BIG BOOK is large so that very young children may engage with the pictures and as the teacher tells/reads the story he or she may engage the children in some simple TEXT which is also a part of the BIG BOOK page.

Children are encouraged to read or recite the simple sentences which are inserted throughout the BIG BOOK as part of the story. While the child may not have the literacy skill to read the entire text of a story he may be able to read or recite these smaller pieces of text which are repeated through out the BIG BOOK Story. This allows the children to view the text and their language and builds phonetic and alphabetic awareness for future or enhanced literacy.

Each BIG BOOK story Cover is used in the beginning to bring the child into the interest of the story. The teacher may ask opening questions to see if the child might know what the story is about. The teacher many show a few of the pictures BEFORE telling the story in an attempt to bring the child into an idea of where the story might be going.

After the story is told by the UNA CLUB Leader the teacher will allow the children to go through the book with him or her and 're-tell' the story and recite the SIMPLE text sentence along with the teacher.

The BIG BOOK Story prepares the UNA CLUB child to be able to reacquaint them self later with the Bible Story when they are given their own UNA CLUB COLORING BOOK to read and color and do the activities.





Examples of pages from an UNA BIG BOOK



#### **UNA COLORING BOOK**

- Retelling Bible Story
- Re-enforcement UNA Core Distinctive Ideas
- My Name
- Implement use
- Wonder
- Color as language
- Play
- Accomplishment



The UNA COLORING BOOK is the main element of the UNA CLUB BEEHIVE. Each month after the BIG BOOK Story the UNA CLUB member is gifted with a UNA COLORING BOOK in which the Bible Story is illustrated and text is added for the child to color in and 'read'. Each coloring book also has the Core ELEMENTS of the UNA Club printed in its pages. The UNA SONG, the CREED, The MOTTO are always contained in the book. Also there is for his or her creative expression a 'BLANK PAGE called 'My own drawing page'. Many Roma children do not have the resources for creative expression and so this is an essential page allowing the child to draw, write, or just plain scribble as in the case of the youngest child who is just learning how to hold a crayon and to express himself.

There is always a GAME page on which each month are different fun games and puzzles and quizzes. This is always at the center of the book and allows for more space to enjoy this element of his or her UNA COLORING BOOK.



**UNA KID'S CLUB Monthly Coloring Book** 



Also in geographical areas where it is difficult or impossible to maintain a monthly club, (again due to weather or difficult to access locations in the rainy Springtime weather), Roma Bible Union is seeking to have UNA KIDS MAIL CLUB in which each child still receives, through the winter months, his or her own Coloring Book by the post, with a pack of crayons every so often until the regular monthly UNA CLUB can be reestablished in better weather.

Below are examples of the 'My own Drawing Page', Coloring page for the Abraham Story, including the Colorful UNA CLUB COLORING BOOK COVER, Bible verse page, Game page, and UNA Song Page.

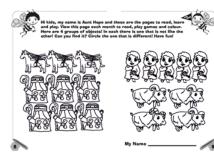


UNA CLUB Coloring Book Page Sample



UNA CLUB Coloring Book Cover





UNA COLORING BOOK Game Page

UNA Song Page & Bible Verse Page





UNA 'MY OWN Drawing Page'

#### CRAFT

- Creativity Development
- Material Expression of Bible Story
- Kinesthetic and Dexterity Development
- Personalized Creativity
- Name

Craft time in the UNA KID'S MONTHLY CLUB is that time which many children love the most. This is the opportunity for a child who would love to explore his or her God given gift of creativity to do so. The UNA CLUB leader prepares the first sample of the craft which he or she has decided to make and then the children are each given the 'pack' of materials to make his or her own.

The Craft may, but does not need to relate to the Bible Story which has been given. The craft is taken home and often is something which may enhance the beauty of the child's room may even be a gift to his parents.

The object of the craft 'sample' is just that to give an idea of 'A' way that could be done and the children are encouraged to use materials such as paint, stickers, yarn, crayons, and other adornments to decorate their craft in the own way and explore their own creativity. For some children this is not easy and they will take time to believe and begin to open up and try to think of their own creative way of making the craft 'beautiful in their own eyes'. The UNA CLUB teacher is encouraged to allow the child to be bold to create their own 'masterpiece'. This is the time for FREEDOM of expression.

This creativity will help the child to transfer that skill later into his or her own school experience. Having at least some opportunity to be creative during the monthly club will help the child in his educational experiences in school.

Name is very important in the UNA CLUB world and the name of the child is ALWAYS placed on the craft that he has made. So much of what a young Roma child is given must be shared by having enough for all the children to make their 'own' craft and placing their name somewhere (of their choice) on the craft sends



the message 'This is YOURS' and it has YOUR name in it. You are special and so is you NAME.

#### **MUSIC**

- Method of Learning
- Unity
- Contagious Spirituality
- Creativity Development through kinesthetic activity
- Activity





Music is a language, and children when allowed to be childlike and free will sing even when they do not know that they are being observed. UNA CLUB musicians from the Roma Bible Music Ministry called MY MUSIC MY VOICE are writing and arranging songs for the UNA CLUB which bring the message of the UNA CLUB in songs that are in the genre of the Roma people. The hope is that the child would be able to sing these songs in their own Mother Tongue which is the language of the spirit of the child.

All of the UNA CLUB SONGS are in the National Language of Instruction and soon RBU hopes to begin to translate and arrange the UNA CLUB Songs into many of the Roma Languages and dialects.



The UNA CLUB Song is sung each club event many times and a copy of the words of the song are



always present in the coloring book which is taken home in the hope that parents will see and read it and maybe sing along. The melodies are catchy and easy to sing. The messages of the song reinforces the message of the UNA CLUB.

#### **UNA GAMES & UNA-LYMPICS**

- Teamwork & Discipline
- Movement
- Joy
- Fun



Games and movement, dance and rhythm are part of what makes a young child healthy, well and whole. The UNA CLUB desires that children will be all of those and therefore each UNA MONTHLY KID'S CLUB has a game time. Depending on the weather and the space the 'game' may be very active or active in a stationary place. In the summer months if there is space there may be an event called the UNA-LYMPICS which may coordinate with the 3 Day UNA KID'S CLUB Festival. In this event many different sorts of games are conducted.





Games bring JOY and FUN but also enhance the goodness of TEAM. In the UNA CLUB Game time 'Color Teams' (for larger groups) may be separated by the Colored Flags used in gathering the children at the beginning of the club. The children work together to play the GAMES as TEAMS working together in ways



that bring a good spirit to the club and later are transferred to the Home and the Community.





### **SESSION 7 UNA CLUB TRAINING MANUAL**

# HONEYCOMB

# THE MONTHLY UNA CLUB

## INTRODUCTION to SESSION 7



The Monthly UNA Club

- What?
- Where?
- Who?
- When?
- How?
- Why?
- Uses the same elements as the UNA Club Festival
- Builds as a follow on from the UNA 1 or 3 Day Festival Experience

After the initial 1 to 3- Day UNA FESTIVAL is completed Church Workers, Pastors or missionaries may initiate an UNA MONTHLY CHILDREN'S CLUB in the area in which the UNA FESTIVAL was judt held. This session will discuss the 'What'?, 'Where'?, 'Who'?, 'When'?, 'How'? and 'Why'? of the UNA Follow on Monthly Club.

#### WHAT?

The UNA Monthly Children's Club uses all the same elements which were established in the UNA 3 Day Festival. The Core of the UNA Club is the use of the Coloring Book that focuses on the Bible Story which is given each month and which builds Biblical and Spiritual learning over time.

Emergent Reading, Writing and Numeracy Pre-Literacy and Literacy Skills are incorporated into the UNA CLUB Materials and provide for the child opportunities to explore his or her creativity and spiritual expression through the many activities which the UNA CLUB provides each month.



Community awareness and Christian Service is also incorporated within the UNA CLUB Program. UNA opens up, through community activities the whole of the Roma village. The young child

and his or her parent may also participate in being an influence for transformative change in their own community through activities conducted in the UNA CLUB Program.

UNA CLUB is a good children's work, both the initial 3-DAY UNA CLUB FESTIVAL, and the follow-on MONTHLY UNA CLUB, to be considered in a Roma village in which the desire is later to plant a Roma church fellowship.

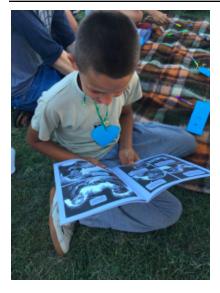
The engagement with the children, families and community leaders which regular UNA CLUB provides opens up the village spiritually, socially and educationally for future opportunities for the Gospel and for Church Life and Social Transformation experiences and process.

#### WHERE?

**WHO?** UNA KID'S CLUB was developed by the Roma Bible Union for National Pastors, Church Workers and Leaders, Roma Christian Youth Leaders, and Missionaries serving Roma in Central Europe who are seeking to open up a Bible and Llteracy program or movement in their region and wherever possible and appropriate using the Roma Mother tongue or dialect of that region when spoken by the small children they serve.

UNA Club begins on the lap of the mother because that is where literacy really begins. From age 0-2) UNA encourages and can assist the young mother in bringing 'book' and reading into the experience of her child with infant books and activities in her mother tongue. The UNA KID'S CLUB movement then moves on from age 3-5 with the SunShine Club which brings Emergent Reading coloring books and age appropriate activities into the program. UNA KID'S CLUB continues the learning and fun with ages 6-9 or 10 (depending on ability and interest) also in the mother tongue if possible and in a way which may enhance learning which the child is experiencing in his place of National Education.







Other future programs now in the development stage are the ARATA CLUBS which will bring activities around the theme of 'Wonder in Nature – The Sky, The Water, The Earth, The Field in the future for those children who have reached the age and ability in which UNA KID'S CLUB is beneath their pedigogical, interest, and enjoyment level. UNA KID'S CLUB members who are able may, however, be mentored and assist UNA CLUB leaders in monthly Clubs and UNA Festivals.

UNA KID'S CLUB can be held in homes with smaller clubs, in churches if the space allows, in open fields, back yards, in culture centers, or in schools where permission is granted. Consideration needs to be made for the ability to do all the elements of the club and have space for games and crafts.

**WHEN?** The one or three day UNA KID'S CLUB Festival is normally held some time in the summer months when all the children who normally attend school are available. After the Festival the Monthly Kid's UNA Club may begin.

Special UNA Events such as an UNA CLUB Christmas Event, or Easter Event or any other appropriate and locally important season or event may be tied to the UNA KID'S CLUB and replace the regular monthly club. Sunshine UNA Clubs may be held during the day so that young mothers and their small children may most benefit from the age appropriate activities while their older children are occupied in their schools. UNA KID'S CLUBS for older children may be held after school, in the early evening, or on the weekends

**HOW?** UNA KID'S Club is facilitated by a group, either church based, or other Christian volunteer led, or via missionaries in the area who are working and serving the Roma Community toward the goal of planting churches or assisting pastors in growing their existing churches or in planting mission churches in their area. Training Sessions can be offered by The Roma Bible Union to assist in the planning and beginning of an UNA KID'S CLUB in a region. Coloring Books and some of the materials along with this manual and other training materials are made



available to assist the new UNA CLUB Leaders to get the club started. Templates for activities and materials are made available in this manual as well as through online resources.



WHY? As stated above many Roma children in communities across Eastern and Central Europe are under resourced and find their educational experience and literacy levels affected by the lack of pre-reading experience, lack of school supplies or pre-school writing implements experiences such as paper, pencils and crayons, and early childhood books and learning toys in the home. Spiritually many Roma families are marginalized in their ecclesial communities or parishes and so are unable to obtain the spiritual and Biblical resources they need to assist them in their personal and family spiritual needs. The UNA KID'S CLUB and the connections that it makes both pedagogically and spiritually assists in addressing that under resourced state and can make a difference in the educational life of the small child and in his or her spiritual life and growth as well as that of their parents and siblings.

UNA KID'S CLub, therefore, is a movement of BIble and Literacy which seeks to transform Roma Communities socially, spiritually, and educationally by beginning with the youngest of aged child and his mother together with reading, imagination, color, play and wonder and wherever possible through the use of mother tongue materials both for the enhancement of future literacy and the opening of the heart through the use of the 'heart language'.









# HONEYCOMB THE MONTHLY UNA CLUB

- Literacy
- Character
- Team
- Spiritual Life
- Service



The Session will discuss the Literacy, Character, Team, Spiritual Life and Service that make up The MONTHLY UNA KIDS CLUB





#### **LITERACY**

- Emergent Literacy and Numeracy
- Literacy Enhancement
- Writing

Many Roma children in the villages of Central and Eastern Europe begin school life at a developmental disadvantage having never had the opportunities in home and community to experience the sorts of pre-literacy Emergent Reading, Numeracy and Pre-Writing activities which their counterparts in the West and in their own countries in the homes of the non- Roma do frequently experience.

The reasons for this vary and include low level literacy in the parent or illiteracy. Also conditions in the home economically are prohibitive of the purchase of the necessary books and creative supplies or toys. Even such things as poor lighting or inadequate space for materials and activities are a factor as well. Many children will enter school not yet speaking the National Language of instruction well enough to understand their teacher's instruction thus causing, early own a deficit which is often never overcome.

UNA CLUB is a Bible and Literacy movement that seeks, (through its materials and creative activities), to provide for the very young pre-school child (3-5 years of age) and the Kindergarten and early elementary age child, an offsetting of the pedagogical disadvantage by giving opportunity to use, and creatively experiment with the implements of writing, the 'reading-to' of many different books, and also to engagement of their own language in song, poem, Bible verse, games, and activities to increase alphabetic awareness. Early engagement with one's language in this manner may pave the way to early reading and make for a better entry into school and the possibility of increased success in the early grades where many elementary age Roma children suffer and fall behind their National peers.

#### **CHARACTER**

- Honesty
- Inclusion
- Trust
- Unselfishness
- Compassion for other





Character is built by modeling and this through the principles of the Bible and Christian Life. The UNA CLUB, through Biblical Story, Leadership Mentoring, Membership, Fellowship, and Care for 'other' less able builds CHARACTER in the young child in areas of HONESTY, TRUST, UNSELFISHNESS, and COMPASSION FOR OTHERS, and a love for the TRUE, the GOOD, and the BEAUTIFUL; all elements grounded in the Lord Jesus Christ who becomes more than just an idea

or historical figure to the young UNA CLUB Member as he shares in all the UNA CLUB teaching and activities.



#### **TEAM**

- Group Responsibility
- Identity

Team is COMMUNITY, TEAM is IDENTITY, TEAM is RESPONSIBILITY BUILDING. As the UNA CLUB begins and the mass of children attending are set apart by the COLOR of a FLAG they begin to build 'TEAM IDENTITY'. Throughout the initial UNA CLUB Festival and later at the follow-on UNA MONTHLY CLUBS the building of a sense of 'Team Spirit' and Community is fostered.

Playing fairly and by the rules for the good and right of your TEAM and the whole UNA CLUB is taught in this way. Working selflessly to assist a team member is part of being a good 'TEAM PLAYER'. In the many games and activities of the UNA CLUB the idea of 'TEAM,' and the character that it instills in a young child early on, will assist that child in later years in his participation of the Christian Transformation. A transformation within his own life (as a servant of others in your 'LIFE-TEAM'), in his own home (as he one day becomes a family of his own and part of a partnership marriage "TEAM," and in his or her Roma or National Community as he connect to being a 'TEAM PLAYER' within Neighborhood, village, or Nation.

This is the only way to see light and transformation and fellowship within Roma Community toward the growing of healthy and whole Communities which served each other and seek to help those that are less advantaged than themselves. UNA brings TEAM and TEAM life into the life of a child in his or her very early life.

#### **SPIRITUAL LIFE**



- Rooted in the Bible
- Personal
- Prayer
- Worship
- Embryo of Church Life

The SPIRITUAL LIFE of a Roma village can be enhanced through the UNA CLUB and can be the beginning 'EMBRYO' of a Church in the village. As the young child grows up through UNA CLUB membership and moves on to some of the other Roma Bible Union Discipleship Programs he or she will 'grow into' being 'THE CHURCH'.

UNA CLUB teaches a personal faith through Song/Worship, Bible Story, Prayer and Community Service a SPIRITUAL LIFE that is slowly and organically grown to be real and authentic. The Mentorship and Modeling of the UNA CLUB Missionary, Pastor, or Church Worker will bring, through the ongoing UNA CLUB experience, the Life of Christ fostered by his or her care and modeling of Christ's Love.

#### **SERVICE**

- Serve the Poor and the Oppressed
- Widows and Orphans
- Family
- Community



Monthly each UNA CLUB member may engage with the leader in activities which teach the Biblical Principles of SERVING THE POOR and the OPPRESSED. Such activities as collecting fire wood for widows, or making soup under the leadership for a sick or aging member of the community, singing Christmas Carols around the village, planting flowers or garden vegetables for a family, packing school bags with school supplies for the orphans in the village or in children's homes are just some of the activities which can be facilitated with the Honeycomb UNA CLUB Groups as directed by the leadership on a monthly or bi-monthly basis.

Encouraging the UNA CLUB Members to reach out to their community in their early life through the modeling of their leaders is an excellent way to instill very early a love and care for their community and will assist the lessons learned in the UNA CLUB Monthly Bible Material with a coordinating of the Scriptural and Spiritual message of the Gospel.



THE STORY PLAYER

THE 'WONDER-BOX'



**SPECIAL UNA KID'S CLUB EVENTS** 

The UNA COLORING BOOK

#### **REPRODUCIBLE PAGES**

Una Song Sheets Lined Paper Template for Writing Practice The UNA MOTTO The UNA CREED







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### MY UNA CLUB SONG

#### Chorus



UNA, UNA We are the UNA Kids Club,

Come Along with us to the Club for one and All.

UNA, UNA Children of God's family

Sharing, Caring His Love for everyone X2

God's Love shining in my heart,

Shines His way to light the dark. X2

#### Chorus

God's hope for my family

In our home I love to be X2

#### Chorus

God's ambassador I'll be

In His world my life they'll see X2

#### Chorus











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Una Scribble Pages: 'My Own Drawing Page' (Page 38)

The purpose of the 'My Own Drawing Page is to the give UNA Club Child an opportunity each time to express his or her own creativity. In each UNA CLUB Coloring Book there will be a 'My Scribble Page' for this purpose, however some children may enjoy and require more room for their unique and creative expression and use of writing implements. The UNA CLUB teacher may print off these sheets and distribute for those who would enjoy to draw more on his or her own.

The reproducible 'My Own Drawing Page' can be found online in downloadable PDF format here:





My own drawing page.



My Name\_



# THE UNA KID'S CLUB LOGO GRAYSCALE





### UNA KID'S CLUB LOGO COLOR





The UNA KID'S CLUB CREED



## UNA CLUB BIBLE COLOURING BOOK



Under God' love and care





New hope for my family





Ambassadors to change my world









**Una Games And Puzzle Sheets** 

Craft Ideas

**UNA CLUB NAME TAG HEART SHAPES** (page 46)



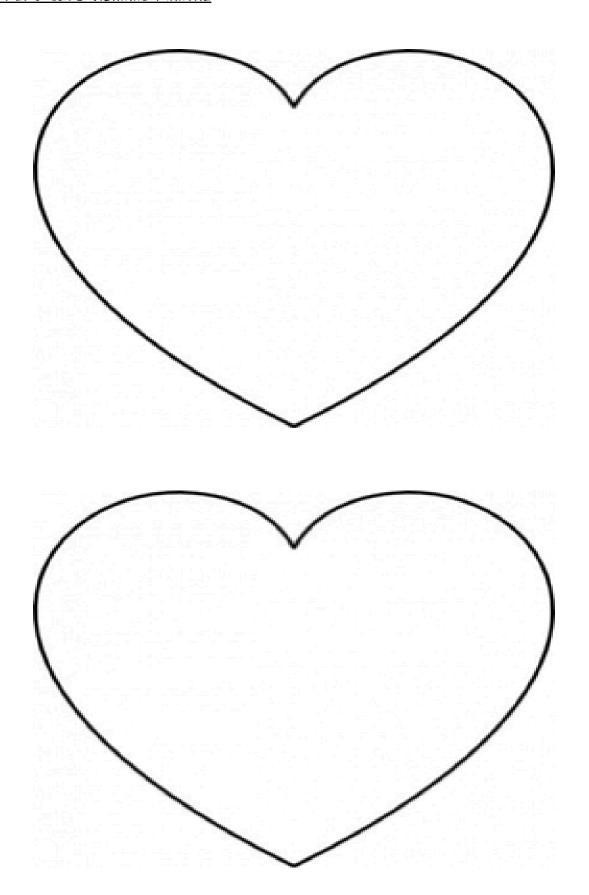
Each child is given a name tag at the beginning of the UNA CLUB Festival and also for the follow on UNA Kids Monthly Club. These name tags may be made of simple tag colorful tag board and have on them the child's name. They may also be decorated in any way that the UNA leaders choose.

Each Name tag may be pinned on or placed with a colorful ribbon onto the child's shirt or around his neck. Safety and age appropriateness is the key when deciding how to apply the name tag. Below is the pattern for a HEART Name Tag. Other shapes may be used. If possible the name tag may be laminated and taken back at the end of each club to be stored for the next time the club meets.

See Page 46

Additionally the Online downloadable version of the HEART Shaped UNA Name Tag may be obtained here:







#### SUNSHINE CLUB COLORING PAGE 1









## UNA KID'S CLUB TRAINING MANUAL ONLINE LINKS TO UNA CLUB RESOURCES