

## Ministry to Preschoolers

Faith foundations are laid during the preschool years through Sunday School, VBS, Missions, Music, and Weekday Programs.

## Ministry to Families

When programs share space effectively, relationships are built between teachers and families. Families feel their children are loved and cared for. Through these relationships, ministry and outreach takes place.

## Ministry to Teachers

When teachers in various programs minister together by sharing space and resources, care for and pray for each other, they are ministered to as well.

## Helpful Resources

TEACHING PRESCHOOLERS:  
FIRST STEPS TOWARD FAITH

*Thomas Sanders, Mary Ann Bradberry*

WEEKDAY EARLY EDUCATION  
ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDE

*Bob Couch, Lois Gamble*

TEACHING IN CHRISTIAN WEEKDAY EARLY  
EDUCATION

*compiled by Pam Boucher*

# SHARING SPACE

## IT'S ALL ABOUT MINISTRY

**“All your children will be taught  
by the Lord, and great will be  
their peace.”**

ISAIAH 54:13

## SUCCESSFULLY SHARING SPACE AND RESOURCES

Design and equip each room for appropriate age groups.

Agree that the room belongs to the children using the room.

Establish and communicate guidelines for sharing space. This is the responsibility of the person in charge of the preschool ministry for the church (preschool minister, children's minister) or a person designated by that person.

Meet regularly as teachers sharing the room to:

- *Pray together*
- *Decide on room arrangement and equipment needed*
- *Assign and neatly label cabinet and storage space*
- *Decide on basic room supplies needed*

Leave the room clean and ready for the next ministry to use, "just as if I had never been there."

Display a room arrangement diagram in each room to ensure that the room is left in the agreed upon arrangement.

## SETTING UP A RESOURCE ROOM

A well-supplied, well-maintained resource room is an effective way to manage classroom supplies for all children's ministries of the church.

Designate a room or closet for the resource room.

Hire a Resource Room Coordinator, if possible. If not, enlist a dedicated volunteer.

Stock with the necessary classroom supplies:

- *Glue, papers, scissors, markers, and so forth*
- *Teaching aids – puzzles, books, manipulatives*
- *Purchase a copy machine and laminator if your budget allows.*
- *Furnish a list of items needed to the church family and ask them to help stock your Resource Room.*

Train all ministry volunteers, paid teachers, and staff members to use the Resource Room following these guidelines:

- *Submit requests for supplies and teaching aids prior to ministry event. A Supply Request Form should be developed for use by all ministries.*
- *Supplies requested are gathered by the Coordinator and will be picked up by the requesting staff member.*
- *Return all supplies to the Resource Room at the end of the event.*

Costs for supplies will be allocated to the appropriate ministry budget. The Resource Room Coordinator should do this.

Requests for specific supplies not in the Resource Room should be approved by the appropriate ministerial staff member, purchased by the Coordinator, and charged to that budget.

## TO AVOID CONFLICT

Provide free standing, lockable cabinets to use for additional storage and security.

Put away personal or ministry-specific items after use.

Address concerns or issues to program leaders.

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**"I have taught in our church's weekday ministry for 13 years, sharing a classroom with other ministries. The Sunday School teacher leaves little treats for me, a cute craft or memory verse, to find on Monday morning. What a blessing!"**

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EVELYN RHODES