

A Teacher's To-Do List

Give lots of time to preparation. Being prepared communicates that you care about the children and the importance of your teaching ministry. Being prepared can help to prevent a child's inappropriate behavior before it begins. Being prepared will help you guide the kids to where you want them to go in each class session.

- Come to class on time. "The teacher is always late" is routinely listed as the single most common turn-off by students. Always be on time. It will show kids just how much you care about them. When you're on time, you can properly greet and talk with the children as they enter your room.
- Get to know the kids in your class. Get to know each child's name and use it often. Get to know how the kids in your class learn best.
- Try different teaching methods. Don't be boring!
- Give kids appropriate praise. Don't criticize or embarrass the children in your class. Remember how you like to be treated.
- Allow time for humor. Plan for humor—kids love it!
- Always expect children to behave appropriately. Post rules and consequences. Periodically review rules.
- Remember that all the children in your class need to be heard, acknowledged, appreciated, respected, accepted, and taken seriously. They all need your support, understanding, and approval.
- Pray! Pray for the kids in your class. Pray that all you say and do will shape young hearts and guide children to grow in their knowledge and love for God and His Word.