

Top 20 list for Children's Workers

1. Show love. All children, regardless of age or appearance, need to be loved. Greet them warmly each day, and always be ready with smiles, giggles, encouraging words, and appropriate hugs. Make sure all staff are aware of your church's appropriate touching policies.
2. Learn names. It makes a child feel important and loved to be called by his name. Make sure visible name tags are always on each child.
3. Keep it moving. Children have short attention spans.
4. Use active learning. The more children can actively be involved in the learning process, the more they will retain. Be all there!
5. Try to leave behind whatever is currently going on in your life, and focus your attention on the children under your care. Listen to them and care for them.
6. Eliminate down time. Find activities to do when you have a few free minutes so that all time is being used in a fun and productive way. Boredom leads to problems, so think through the day and make sure there is no down time.
7. Think safety. Know your child safety precautions. Ensure there are always at least two adults with anyone under 18 years old at all times.
8. Be thematic. Children love crazy hats, fun cheers, songs, and anything that goes with the theme. Be ready to don that parrot hat or explorer's garb. Get them enthused and excited about participating in specials and contests.
9. Walk worthy. Be an example in both word and deed. Children need to see authentic Christianity, so make sure you are walking the walk and not just talking the talk.
10. Notice the good. Children want attention and will sometimes act up in an effort to receive attention, even if it is negative attention. Be proactive by noticing and praising the things they do right. Be an encourager.
11. Be aware of age level characteristics. With younger children, activities need to be hands-on, concrete, short, and simple.

12. Challenge them. Children generally rise to the level expected of them, so challenge them to learn their memory verses and song lyrics. At the same time, encourage in them a true love for the Lord and His Word.
13. Pray. Before, during, and after. Be a faithful prayer warrior for the children in your care.
14. Be organized. Read through all training information, ask questions, and faithfully prepare any materials for which you are responsible.
15. Be a team player. Children do not need to hear negative words from their leaders. If you are frustrated or upset, take it to the Lord, but do not complain or get angry in front of the children.
16. Remember bathroom breaks. The younger the child, the more important this is!
17. Maintain order. Children like order! Think through potential trouble spots in your day, and decide on a firm, loving discipline strategy. Ask for help from experienced individuals.
18. Build team spirit. Work as a team rather than allowing cliques to develop. Everyone should be an important member of the group.
19. Use guided conversation. Be alert and ready to turn conversations to spiritual matters. Build upon what the children are learning.
20. Be prepared to lead a child to Christ. Attend the gospel presentation workshop to be equipped should God give you the awesome opportunity to talk to a child about Christ.