



## Do's and Don'ts of Discipline

One of the best ways to prevent disciplinary problems is to keep Adventurers busy and on task. The following strategies will help you manage your Adventurers. And remember, you're there to help the children and their families learn to love Jesus; therefore, it is important that you model love, patience, and a cheerful attitude. You want the Adventurer Club to be a fun experience for everyone, so try to keep your sense of humor and compassion even when an Adventurer's behavior is a problem.

### DO

- Have a few short, simple rules and post them. Sample rules: Be kind to others. Use good manners. Listen quietly to others. Follow directions. Be positive.
- Use signals to let the children know when you want their attention. Signals can be just about anything such as quickly turning a light on and off, turning a flashlight on and off, raising your hand, or using a clicker.
- Use silence. Stop what you are doing and stay quiet until their focus is back on you.
- Make eye contact. Often getting a child to look at you is a good way to get her to stop what she is doing and focus on you.
- Use names. If you say an Adventurer's name followed by a question or directions, you can usually get him back on track.
- Stand near an Adventurer to get her back on task.
- Ask adults to interact with the children. If adults are happily participating in the activities, the Adventurers are more likely to model the adults' behavior. Additionally, having adults involved can prevent misbehavior from escalating.





## DON'T

- Embarrass or shame a child in front of others or privately
- Overreact
- Lose your temper—no screaming, using threats, or nagging
- Hit or spank
- Insult a child by saying “you’re stupid,” “you’re useless,” “you’re a klutz”
- Use sarcasm
- Compare children
- Label children
- Demand respect—respect is earned
- Expect children to behave as adults

