

SJC Nursery's Policies and Procedures

Nursery Behavior Goals and Guidelines

At St. John's our goal is to help children know God and experience His love in an environment that is welcoming, fun, nurturing and growth producing. We want the best possible experience for every child, teacher and helper involved in the Nursery.

The following are our basic guidelines:

1. To help ensure the safety of all children, rough play, wrestling, hitting, biting and all other actions that might harm any individual are not allowed.
2. We teach and practice cooperation and respect for all children and adults. Name calling, swearing, "mean" teasing and other forms of verbal abuse or rude language are not accepted.
3. Children are expected to respect and comply with the adults and youth helpers in leadership positions.
4. Everyone is expected to respect personal and church property.
5. We try to respond very consistently to inappropriate behavior. When incidents occur, children are reminded of the guidelines listed above. They may be redirected to another activity. They will be given a choice of participating appropriately or sitting apart from others for a few minutes until they are ready to return to the group activity (time out).
6. In the event your child experiences separation anxiety you are welcome to stay with your child until you feel they are able to join in play with others without you.

Planning For a Positive Experience

†Pray for the Children

You will discover that God gives you insights and ideas on how to understand and minister to them.

†Be a UNITED Team

Discuss these behavioral guidelines and decide on your action plan. Expectations and tolerance in the nursery varies among team members. Discuss these differences and decide how you will handle them. Be supportive of each other's leadership. When one person is leading an activity remember all others help the children to participate.

†Plan Ahead and Be Prepared

If you are not in control the children will be. Have a variety of interesting activities planned for them, including pre-class and post-class time. Do not lose confidence with negative remarks. Some children first express the negative but soon get caught up in the activity as it progresses. Choose activities that children can participate in.

†Build Relationships with & Among the Children

Relationships form when children know you love and care for them. Greet each child as he/she enters the room and call them by name. Participate with them in the activities. Listen to them and observe what interests them and how they may be feeling that day.

†Reinforce Positive Behavior

Be specific in affirming children and encourage positive participation.

†Seek Direction from Nursery Supervisor

If you are frustrated with how to work with a child to make his/her time a positive experience, please call the Nursery Supervisor.

We want to hear your questions and concerns.