

Connecting Sunday School to Life

Equipment and Furnishings Analysis

The teaching-learning climate is affected by the equipment and furnishings that are available. Different age groups need different kinds of equipment and furnishings appropriate to the physical size of those using the space and the teaching approaches used with them. The following lists, and on the **CD-ROM** (especially age-group e-books), indicate recommended items for each age group.

Review the equipment and furnishings list. Walk through your facility to overview what equipment and furnishings currently are available. As you view this picture, consider the kind of impression your space, equipment, and furnishings leave on those individuals and families your church is trying to reach. Is it an attractive picture? What can be done to make it better?

Recommended Equipment and Furnishings List

Symbols: x - recommended

o - optional

all - specialized equipment purchased in limited quantity for use by all ages.

Preschool General Items

General	B	1	2	3	4	K	All	B-2	3-K	B-K
Rest mats or towels		x	o					x		o
Cribs (hospital 27"x42")	x	o						x		x
Adult rocking chair (2)	x							x		x
Solid surface floor mat (42" x 42")	x									
Wall cabinet (50" above floor)	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Trash receptacles with lid	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Diaper bag cubbies or hooks	x	x	x							
Vinyl changing pad		x	x							
Open shelf/closed back for toys (26"x36"x12")		o						o		o
Child safety gate										o
Water source for disinfecting	x	x	x					x		x
Slow cookers	x							x		x
Folding screen for nursing area	x							x		x
Rocking boat with enclosed steps		o								
Small counter top refrigerator	o									

ESSENTIALS FOR EXCELLENCE

Recommended Equipment and Furnishings List, cont'd.

Children's, Youth, Adult, and Special Education Departments/Classes

Equipment	Children	Youth	Adults	Special Education ¹⁰
Chairs (age appropriate)	x ¹	x ²	x ²	x ²
Coat rack	x	x	x	x
Resources cabinet	x	x		x
Tables	x ³	x ⁵	o	x (4-6 members)
Shelves	x ⁶	x	x	o
Book racks	x ⁷	x	o	o
Tackboard or bulletin boards	x ⁸	x	x	x
Wastebasket	x	x	x	x
Podium/table for teacher	o	o		o
Sink	o			o
Autoharp	x			o
Cassette player	x	x	x	o
TV/VCR combination	o	o	o	o
CD player	o	x	o	x
Piano	o	o	o	o
Chalk/marker board(s)	x	x ⁴	x ⁴	x ⁴
Tear sheets	x	x	x	x
Equipment	Children	Youth	Adults	
Felt-tip markers	x	x	x	x
Other art/writing supplies	x	x	x	x
Picture rails	x ⁹			

¹Recommended chair sizes for children:

Grades 1&2: 12-13 inches

Grades 3&4: 14-15 inches

Grades 5&6: 16-17 inches

²Standard chairs 18 inches above the floor.

³Tabletops for children should be 10 inches above chair seats.

⁴36x45 inches min. for hanging boards; freestanding and movable boards of comparable size or larger are preferred.

⁵Folding chairs for youth should be no more than 28 inches high.

⁶14-19 inches deep, 42-46 inches high, and 3-4 feet long with shelves 12-14 inches apart.

⁷Bookracks should be 42-46 inches high and 30-42 inches long.

⁸Tackboards should be 24-30 inches in height and 6-10 feet in length with the bottom edge 24-30 inches above the floor.

⁹Picture rails should be about 30 inches above the floor on the front wall & 12 feet long.

¹⁰Wheelchairs: class doors should be 32 inches wide; hallways, 48 inches wide; wheelchairs should fit underneath tables; accessible rest room nearby may dictate classroom location.