

## **The Top Ten for the Nursery Attendant**

10. **No Food Allowed.** Please do not bring food for your child or offer children any sort of snacks. This is a safety precaution for children with food allergies.
9. **Offer help to Parents struggling with separation issues.** If you are comfortable doing so, offer assistance to a parent having difficulty leaving their child. Try to distract the child and offer them an activity or toy to play with and assure them that Mom or Dad will be back after the service. If the child seems unresponsive or uninterested, invite the parent or older sibling to stay.
8. **Attempt to control activities.** The scheduled attendant should select 3-5 activities that children can play with in order to avoid children becoming overwhelmed with choices.
7. **Keep the room orderly.** Too many toys on the floor can become a safety hazard depending on how many children and adults are in the room. If you notice a child is done playing with something, ask them to put it away or just do it for them.
6. **Find someone to take your place if you cannot volunteer on a scheduled day.** It is difficult to track everyone's availability. Please call another nursery volunteer to switch days if you have a conflict. Check the schedule printed in the church newsletter or call the church office for suggestions on other potential volunteers.
5. **Promote healthy habits.** If a child uses the restroom while in nursery care, ensure s/he washed their hands prior to returning. Also encourage children to wash if they have a cold or have marker on their hands.
4. **Names are important.** Be sure to ask the parent the child's name before they leave and remember to introduce yourself.
3. **Take note of closing procedures listed by the light switch.** Prior to leaving the room, be sure to turn off the TV, close the curtains and turn down the thermostat.
2. **Enlist the help of the children to clean up.** Parents will return for their child shortly after communion. If the television is on, show the kids that the service is almost done and it is time to clean up.
1. **Direct parents on toy donations.** Toy donations are most welcome, but there is limited space in the nursery room. Donations may be left in the church office for consideration for either the nursery or other local charity.