

1. Check out the *Weekly Teaching Essential* List to help you in preparation for the quarter. While your *Teaching Guide* lists items needed for each lesson, this list can help you at the front end of the quarter to help you know which *Teaching Essentials* are needed for each lesson.
2. The third lesson of the Special Topic Unit involves a craft that requires three clean, empty sports bottles for each student. Go ahead and begin collecting them at the beginning of the quarter. Ask parents, especially parents of students who participate in sports, to send them in with their student.
3. To ensure the health of the students in your classroom, set up an area with plenty of tissues and hand sanitizer. Purchase extra cans of Lysol to use after each class to kill any germs. Remind parents if their child has run a fever in the previous 24 hours, he or she should remain at home to prevent the spreading of illness.
4. As you begin this next calendar year, try to celebrate each student's birthday. Birthdays are a big deal to kids. Purchase a calendar for your classroom, and have the students write their birthdays on the calendar. Celebrate the birthdays each month by purchasing a special birthday hat or pin the student will get to wear during class time. Send the student a card in the mail (most students are so excited to get mail). Create a birthday box or bag and fill with small trinkets and prizes. Allow the birthday student to choose an item from the box or bag.
5. The *Teaching Essentials* are available in four different translations. Your students may not have the translation you are using in their homes. Download the different application verses to send with the students the first week of every month to help them be able to work on learning them at home.

Welcome to the D6 curriculum! Here are a few helpful hints and ideas to help you get started and see what's new!

1. If you're new to the CLEAR Learning System, page 2 of the Teaching Guide will help explain the different aspects of it. Read through *What's New* on page 2 to learn about special features that have been added to the curriculum.
2. Page 3 tells about the Application Verse and the new Lesson Objectives. It also provides an explanation for the various icons that are featured in each lesson.
3. Read page 4-5 to gain a better understanding of the products used with this age group. Look through your teaching guide, the *Teaching Essentials* packet, and the *Discovery Guide* together to understand how each part is used.
4. Page 5 gives an introduction to the three different units. It provides an overall description for each unit as well as what we hope the students will gain through the lessons.
5. Page 6 provides general guidelines and principles regarding to talking with children about Spiritual matters including how to lead them to Christ.
6. File folders or two-gallon plastic bags work well to hold each week's Teaching Pictures, reproducibles, and *Field Notes*. Make a list of any supplies you will need for the month on a large sticky note and attach it to the front of the teaching guide before the first Sunday of each month. Be sure you have them all and know where they are so they will be easily accessible when you need them. Make a copy of all reproducibles at the beginning of the month. Place them in the plastic bag or a file folder. Be sure to always have a few extras for visitors.
7. Browse through the teaching guide at the beginning of the quarter, making note of items that may be required for a CONNECT activity. Try to obtain any that are needed for the quarter as soon as possible to avoid the last-minute frustration of not being able to find an item. Also, at the beginning of the quarter, take note of any monologues or dramas that require additional help or assistance. Be sure to give the persons doing the monologues or dramas plenty of advance notice as well as a friendly reminder as the date approaches.

8. Download Home Connection for your parents. It is a one-stop resource for connecting the entire family based on the D6 curriculum. It is free and available at www.d6home.com.
9. Choose CONNECT Activities that best fit the needs of your classroom. You know your students best. Feel free to adapt any of these to the personalities of your children.
10. Pray each day for your students and that God will use you to teach His Word.