

Explorers Tips:

1. Take advantage of Back-to-School sales for supplies that are used often in your classroom such as index cards and pencils. Post a list of needed supplies for your classroom (don't forget tissues and hand sanitizer), and have a supply drive for your classroom.
2. The fall quarter is when many churches promote students to new classes. Get to know your students. Take a picture of them at the beginning of the quarter, and display them around the classroom.
3. Encourage your students to begin the new school year off the right way, by spending time each day in God's Word. Be sure each student has a copy of an *Explorer's Guide*. Ask questions about the devotions to encourage the students to develop this very important habit. Accountability is key.
4. Make a homemade beanbag with beans and a sock to use for various activities. Place the beans in the toe of a sock and knot it, tucking the top part back over the bean part.
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!

1. If you're new to the CLEAR Learning System, page 2 of the Teaching Guide will help explain the different aspects of it.
2. Page 3 tells about the Application Verse and the 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 *Explorer's 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.