

Tips for Square 1

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. Many school supplies are on sale during these months. Check your supply area, and make a list of items you may be low on or use frequently. It's also a good time to stock up on hand sanitizer and tissues. Ask parents to send in toilet paper and paper towel tubes for Crafts.
3. The lessons are a guide for you. Feel free to change the order to fit what works best in your class. Be familiar with the lesson so you can tell it while displaying the *Teaching Essentials* instead of reading from the *Teaching Guide*.
4. If your church moves children to their new classes this quarter, get to know your children. Explain the rules of your class. Remind them throughout the class what is expected. For example, "we share our crayons with our friends" or "during story time, we sit on our bottoms." Patience and repetition are keys to success.
5. Taking turns, sharing, working together—using these words consistently when correcting poor behavior provides cue words for solving future problems. Use positive phrases to reinforce good behavior. Say things like, "Thank you for sitting still during the Bible story," "Jimmy, thank you for waiting your turn," or "Samantha, I like the way you shared your crayons with Missy."

Welcome to the D6 2nd Gen. 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. Page 2 also provides highlights of our curriculum.
2. Page 3 provides an explanation for the various icons that are featured in each lesson.
3. Page 5 of the Teaching Guide describes the components related to Square 1. Look through your teaching guide, the *Teaching Essentials* packet, and the *Kids' Cards* together to understand how each part is used. Use the *Cuddle Time Bible Storybook* each quarter as a supplement to the lesson.
4. Cut apart just the Teaching Pictures for the first month in the *Teaching Essentials* packet or cut out all the Teaching Pictures and divide them by months (two-gallon plastic bags work well for this). Use the Preparation Checklist on page 4 to help you know what things are needed each quarter. Highlight items you will need to gather for the lessons in the quarter. Be sure you have them all and know where they are so they will be easily accessible when you need them.
5. Make a copy of all the 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. Have a separate bag or file folder for the *Take 'n Talks*.
6. Read through all the lessons for each unit at the beginning of the month. Then review the lesson at the beginning of each week. Begin the week by gathering items for any of the CONNECT, Craft, and Bible Activities you will need for that week's lesson. Do NOT wait until Saturday to begin preparing.

7. Choose Craft and Bible activities that best fit the needs of your classroom. You know your children best. Feel free to adapt any of these to the personalities of your children.
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. Download and copy some of the bonus coloring pages at www.d6teacher.com to use in art centers, to send home with the children, or for when services run long.
10. Pray each day for your students and that God will use you to teach His Word.