

WHAT ABOUT FOOD IN THE CLASSROOM?

A national survey of Sunday School children rated snacks as one of the top three things children liked about Sunday School! Feed them and they will come!

Here are some suggestions for doing snacks in your classroom:

1. First of all, we do have a BUG problem from time to time. If you are going to be storing any food in your cabinets, make sure the food is locked tightly in plastic containers. Please keep the cabinets free of crumbs.
2. Please always be aware of children's allergies. In fact, you might want to ask parents about allergies early on in the year. If you have a child with allergies to a particular ingredient, ask the parents to keep the room stocked with something their child can eat. (For instance, a plastic container of pretzels that you can pull out for the child while the rest of the class are eating their snacks.)
3. For 2 and 3 year old classes, it's probably best to request snacks on your requisition form. We'll keep you supplied with toddler-friendly snacks such as animal crackers, gold fish, etc.
4. Older classes often rely on parents for snacks. Put out a snack schedule each Sunday for parents to sign up on. Most classes using this method do the schedule by semester. (August - December and then January - May) Encourage parents to sign up for a Sunday near their child's birthday so that the Sunday School class can celebrate together.
5. "Cooking" is a great addition to lessons. Kids of all ages love to make their own snacks even if it's just spreading peanut butter on crackers and decorating with a few chocolate chips.
6. Even if you decide not to regularly use snacks in your classroom, occasional treats will help keep the kids energized. At least celebrate holidays with your class. (Remember how much you like a cup of coffee or cookie when you attend a meeting???)