

Kidmin Forum**Reopening Children's Ministry May 5, 2020****Notes, Takeaways & Resources****PLAN**

- Make sure you have a seat at the table!
- Open in phases?
- New policies? (only approved leadership in and out of kids' rooms, 1 parent drop off, no rotations, no playground, no diaper bags, temperature checks?)
- Inventory volunteers - How many do you have that feel comfortable in children's ministry at this time?
- Children worship with parents? How can you make that meaningful?
- Registration - online? one person? no touch?
- Pre-order cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer and no touch thermometers.
- Room set up - # of kids and square footage of rooms - how many kids can you now have?

**PREP & COMMUNICATE**

- Train staff now - remind them of the vision, new policies, cleaning procedures, new responsibilities, new emotions, background checks (via zoom?)
- Implement a volunteer cleaning crew?
- Clean, sanitize and minimize - Do you have supplies? each room has their own supplies, Clean carpets and rugs. Minimize things in rooms (toys, books, etc), disinfect nursery cribs, blankets, all solid surfaces, rotate toys out, post cleaning checklists
- Communication - website, newsletter, FB, mailings, print piece (QR code?) facility signage Let your church know what you're doing now to prepare and what will be different when they return. Regain parents' trust and answer questions before they ask!

**EXECUTE**

- Traffic flow - minimize entrances and exits, one parent pick up, no one other than approved leaders in/out of kids' rooms,
- Check in - pre-register online? one staff member touching screens?
- Train children on personal space - use hula hoops to show spacing, it used to be polite to shake hands, now it's polite to give space
- Rework lessons to avoid contact situations.
- Supplies - each child has their own bag? limit crafts/activities that require a lot of sharing of supplies
- Clean as soon as children leave. Signage outside of door stating room has been sanitized.
- Make sure all staff are aware of the cleaning standards - you never know whom a parent will ask about it!

**EVALUATE & ADJUST**

- After reopening, what's working?
- What's not working?
- Do you need to adjust schedules?
- Do you need to adjust activities?
- Are families feeling safe?
- Are children feeling safe?



# Kidmin Forum

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**Use this page to "think out loud"**

## **PLAN**

Make sure you have a seat at the table!

## **PREP & COMMUNICATE**

What will your preparation look like? Don't forget to not only prep your facilities, but also your staff/volunteers! Over communicate with your families at all stages of reopening! Regain their trust and answer questions before they ask.

## **EXECUTE**

## **EVALUATE & ADJUST**

After reopening your children's ministry, what's working? What's isn't? What do you need to adjust?



# Kidmin Forum

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### Helpful Resources

**For those that attended the 2PM forum, here are some insights that were made at the 7PM forum:**

*Resourcing parents for worshipping with their kids* - Rather than the church supplying a bag of crayons, coloring pages, pipe cleaners, etc., give parents a list of suggestions to create their own bags to bring for their kids (eliminate the risk of contamination). Give them ideas for things they can bring from home and websites where they could print a few religious coloring pages. This equips parents to take a step in discipling their kids.

*Classroom spacing* - Since the weather is getting nicer, when we bring kids back to the building for Sunday School or Children's Worship, if your rooms are small, hold your classes for kids outside. Have them sit on large beach towels (i.e. Magic Carpets) to encourage social distancing.

*Talking points for deacons who are calling families weekly* - Have your deacons ask your families with children what would make them feel safe in bringing their children back to the church.

*Remind families to stay home (or keep their kids home) if they are not feeling well.* Create a decision tree/chart graphic that helps them (reminds them) when to stay home. Post it in your children's area as well! I know this seems redundant and common sense, but it never hurts to gently remind!

**Click directly on the resource name:**

**[BCM/D Restarting On-Campus Ministry After COVID-19](#)**

**[South Carolina Baptist Association - COVID-19 Guide to Re-gathering Preschool & Children's Ministries](#)**

**[Lifeway - 6 Considerations for Reopening Your Kids Ministry](#)**

**[Ken Braddy's 48 Questions to Ask Before Reopening Your Church](#)**

**[Outreach.com - pre-order hand sanitizer stations and mask for your church](#)**

**[Baptist State Convention of North Carolina - Preparing Your Children's Ministry for Post COVID-19](#)**

**[Georgia Baptist Mission Board - Guidelines for Reopening & Returning to Church Buildings](#)**

**[Webstraunt.com - disposable crayons super cheap \(better than Oriental trading\) for Family Worship bags](#)**

**[Lifeway Research COVID-19 Congregational Survey](#)**