

Spirit Play Training: What You Need at Sponsoring Church

If you are going to host a training at your church, this document is what you'll need. Your trainer will also be in contact with you to let you know of any unique requirements and to answer any questions you have.

Someone (DRE or other) should be available the day before the training to help with set-up and finding materials. Set-up may take up to three hours depending on what is done ahead of the trainer's arrival. If you already have a Spirit Play room set up, please let your trainer know what stories you have available and make copies of the scripts for use during our model classroom time. The trainer will bring stories to fill in any gaps. Check the art supplies listed below and set up as suggested. Also remove any extraneous materials such as games in boxes.

Room Requirements

We will need several spaces as follows

- The gathering room where the majority of the training will take place. This can be a conference room, classroom, or fellowship hall. We'll want to be able to sit in a circle and the trainer will need a place in the middle of the circle to sit on the floor to tell a story.
- In or nearby this room we'll need a table set up for resources, name tags for participants and post-it notes.
- A model Spirit Play classroom. This is the room where we'll simulate what a Spirit Play class is like. We will need room for the participants to sit in a circle on the floor (for those who are unable to sit on the floor comfortably, we will bring in chairs) and room for work activities. It's best to have some shelves in the room to store the work activities and stories.
- Three to four breakout rooms where the participants can practice stories in small groups. One of those can be the model classroom. These rooms do not need to be set up like the model classroom; we just need room for 3-4 participants to be able to sit and practice some stories.
- Room for eating (whether providing lunch or participants are bringing their own)
- Please make sure that rooms have been cleaned and dusted.

Model Classroom Requirements

Trainer will need access to the following for the model classroom

- 12 to 20 medium (15" or smaller) baskets
- About 15 medium size trays (plastic are fine with smooth surface; in some cases we have used cookie sheets as a substitute)
- Art materials you probably have in your resources. See below for a list of art supplies needed for training.
- About 15 small rugs, either mats or roll up ones. These are for use with art materials for the most part although if there is no rug on the floor they can be used for stories and lessons also.



Many classrooms use whatever they have including carpet remnants, yoga mats cut to smaller sizes, or even towels.

- Feast supplies needed for training:
 - 20 napkins, either paper or cloth (if you are a green congregation) in basket
 - Small cups for number of participants plus doorkeeper and leader, either paper or plastic; bathroom size cups are the best, but slightly larger are okay.
 - Pitcher for water
 - Some kind of snack for feast in basket (crackers or goldfish are okay). If small like goldfish, then provide a large spoon for serving them. Fruit such as grapes or raisins are fine too.
- Water Source: if you have no water source in the room or just off the room, set up a small table with two dishwashing or other tubs. With clear plastic tape, place a picture of hands on the front of one, and a picture of paint brushes on the other. Have a large pitcher for water that the teacher would fill each week and a bucket under the table for dirty water to be emptied. Have two sponges and a roll of paper towels either on the table or nearby on a shelf.
- Optional:
 - Altar Table with decorating supplies such as scarves or table cloths, stones, shells, vase and variety of plastic flowers.
 - Small dust pan and broom
 - Carpet sweeper if you have one for rug
- Access to projector and laptop if available. Let trainer know if unavailable.
- Copies of training packet for each person. A PDF file to copy and assemble will be sent to you when your deposit is received. Please do not give out ahead of time, but only to those who come on the day of training.
- Lunch for participants or you can provide list of area restaurants allowing one hour for lunch.
- Childcare if possible for participants

Suggested Art Materials for Training

Please note you do not need all of these and we can use what is on hand. Set up as much as possible before the trainer arrives. These will be located in the model classroom.

1. 2 sets fat markers in rainbow colors (red, orange, yellow, green, light blue, dark blue, and purple)
2. 2 sets of skinny markers in rainbow colors
3. 2 sets of crayons in rainbow colors plus others
4. 2 sets of sharpened colored pencils in rainbow colors plus others
5. Container with several sharp pencils with erasers in holder or basket
6. One basket to hold all the “tools” below
 - a. 5 or 6 glue sticks
 - b. 5 or 6 scissors
 - c. pencil sharpener
 - d. hole punch
 - e. large eraser
7. Paper
 - a. White drawing paper (a little heavier than copier paper but that can be used if necessary) 9”x12” 20 sheets at least.
 - b. Construction paper in rainbow colors
 - c. Tissue and/or scrapbook paper in a variety of colors



- d. Several old magazines with bright photographs for collage (National Geographic, Better Homes and Gardens, etc.)
8. 2 or 3 sets of oval or round pan watercolors in long plastic box set up in this way: each tray with one set of watercolors, one small sponge, one water container, two brushes (one wider bristles than the other one that comes with the set), white piece of 9"x12" paper or slightly smaller to fit tray
9. Variety of small lengths of yarn for making booklets
10. Colored pipe cleaners

Optional art materials (if available)

- Clay or Model Magic or Playdoh: 2 Trays set up with each color in a plastic bag that can shut tightly, 2 or 3 colors; 2 or 3 clay tools as available on each tray. If tray does not have smooth surface, also provide a small cutting board.
- Variety of stickers in basket or bowl cut into strips or sections so that only a few stickers are on each sheet.
- Variety of sequins or other materials for collage
- Variety of buttons or beads with large holes for stringing, along with cord
- Large Paints: If you already have an easel in the classroom, should be clean with new white paper attached by clips. Have at least primary colors of paint; each with its own brush, smock.
- Any other kind of puffy paints or marker paints
- Any other materials that can be used for collage

Each item should be in its own basket or as suggested. Baskets can be woven or plastic. Materials should not easily fall out of them. You might also put markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, etc. into mugs or other containers that can hold them upright.

Other Items

The trainer will need a person willing to act as the Doorkeeper for the model classroom. This can be either an extra person or a participant in training who can arrive by 8:30 am or the day before when trainer is setting up.

At least one week before the training send names, e-mails, and church affiliation of everyone participating and an indication of whether they have had any Montessori or Godly Play training or workshop experience.

