



I'm a Mission Friends Leader – What Do I Do?

As a Mission Friends leader, you can look forward to reading mission story books to preschoolers, helping preschoolers build a village from Asia or Africa, singing motion songs, and telling stories of missionaries who serve around the world. You will do many things like this as you lead preschoolers in the Mission Friends classroom. The list below shows the overall responsibilities of a Mission Friends leader.

- **Make overall plans for the year:** Look at the year ahead and decide on the annual experiences in which Mission Friends will be involved, such as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Children's Missions Day, or a missions recognition service. Place dates on the church calendar. Think about your goals for your Mission Friends group.
- **Plan the sessions in Mission Friends:** Use the Mission Friends Plan Sheet to jot down the activities you choose from *Mission Friends Leader* for the sessions in a month. Plan Group Time for the sessions and a Helping Others activity for the month.
- **Lead missions learning experiences in Mission Friends sessions:** Gather materials for activities you have chosen. Prepare to tell the story in Group Time. Become involved in activities with preschoolers during the sessions. Ask questions and lead preschoolers in conversations related to the missionaries' work.
- **Follow safety and security practices of the church:** Follow the practices your church has in place for receiving preschoolers at the beginning of sessions, and releasing preschoolers at the close of sessions.
- **Assess missions learning experiences:** What worked and what did not work? Is there something that needs to be changed for the next session?
- **Communicate with parents or caregivers of preschoolers:** Share what their preschooler learns in Mission Friends. Copy and distribute "Mission Friends at Home" as a great tool for parents to

continue missions learning at home. Invite parents or caregivers to find additional missions information and activities online at wmu.com/preschool.

- **Make contacts with families of your Mission Friends:** Text, email, or call to keep parents informed of activities. Make contact when a preschooler is absent to see if there are needs.
- **Invite families with preschoolers:** Look for potential Mission Friends within your church or in the surrounding neighborhood.
- **Work within your church budget:** Find out the church's procedures to order materials or request reimbursement for supplies.
- **Keep class records and report accomplishments:** Use attendance and enrollment forms to keep up with records. Report on the things your Mission Friends do by sharing about accomplishments.