



Mission Friends Leadership

How many leaders are needed?

Each Mission Friends group needs at least two adults in a classroom for safety and security reasons. The chart below shows the recommended child to leader ratio for preschool groups. For a blended age group, use the child to leader ratio for the youngest preschooler in attendance.

Category	# of Preschoolers	# of Leaders Required	For Additional preschoolers in multiples of:	# of Additional Leaders Required
Babies, ones, and twos	1-6	2	1-3	+1
Threes and fours	1-10	2	1-5	+1
Kindergarten	1-12	2	1-6	+1

Additional leaders are advised when the ratio exceeds these guidelines or when a specific situation would benefit from a smaller leader to child ratio. A church may have safety and security guidelines with a lower ratio of preschoolers per adult, and leaders should follow those guidelines.

Work with church leadership to put protocols in place that ensure the safety of each child placed in your care.

How do leaders divide responsibilities in the classroom?

Leaders for each Mission Friends group determine how they will share leadership responsibilities. A church may have an experienced leader who serves as the lead teacher while another leader assists. In other churches, the leaders may divide responsibilities for planning and leading activities and Group Time.

Do we need a Mission Friends coordinator?

A church with more than one Mission Friends group may select a Mission Friends coordinator. This leader has the responsibility to

- bring Mission Friends leaders together for coordinated planning;
- coordinate activities or events for Mission Friends groups to do together, such as enlistment events or Helping Others activities;
- coordinate training efforts for Mission Friends leaders, such as attendance at a state WMU training event;
- enlist leaders;
- order resources and supplies;
- maintain records and report accomplishments to the church;
- promote Mission Friends within the church; and
- evaluate missions discipleship for preschoolers.