

Activities for Plastic Mats

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Clear chopping mats, available at kitchen stores or at Wal-Mart, can be used for activities in a preschool room. (Note: Shop at the Dollar Tree® to buy a package with two mats for one dollar.)

Enjoy describing ways to use the mat as you begin an activity. Remind boys and girls that the Bible says **Work with your hands** (1 Thessalonians 4:11).



Supplies for **Play Dough and Plastic Mats**:

- clear plastic mats (clear chopping mats)
- play dough (Use basic “teacher-made” play dough recipe—not the store-bought colored dough.)
- stencils to place under mats, if desired

Supplies for **Dry-Erase Markers and Plastic Mats**:

- clear plastic mats
- dry-erase markers (tissues for cleaning)



Instructions:

Play Dough/Plastic Mats:

1. Place a mat on the table. Lay a bag of play dough nearby.
2. If using a stencil, place it under a plastic mat. (See illustration). A stencil can also be made using the child’s name.)

Note: Consider giving a mat and bag of play dough to a child in a home visit.

Teaching Tips:

- Guide a child to roll the play dough and shape it to lay on the letters.
- Omit the stencil and allow a child to play with the dough on the mat.

Dry-Erase Markers/Plastic Mats:

1. Place a mat on the table with dry-erase markers.
2. Provide printed words to copy, if desired.

Teaching Tips:

- Explain that the child can use the markers on the plastic mat. Demonstrate how the mat can be cleaned with a tissue.
- Invite a child to draw on the mat, print his name, or copy Bible words.

Bonus Idea: Photograph a child using the plastic mat; give the child a print of the photograph to remind him of happy times in his Sunday School room.