

Decorating Preschool Rooms

Place the **Welcome Poster** from *Sparky's Lab Posters & Props* near your entrance or outside the room. Each day children will visit one to four Bible Learning Activity centers. With a few decorations, each center can become a special place to visit at Sparky's Lab, the part of SonSpark Labs set aside for your littlest lab assistants! If you don't wish to set up all the centers, use or adapt any of the ideas on the following pages to decorate your room.

Use the **Bible Verse Posters** and **Decorating Posters** from *Sparky's Lab Posters & Props* to decorate room walls or designate various activity centers. The images shown on each poster can be used to direct children to the centers, or enlarge the **Preschool Lab** patterns (p. 24–25) onto **butcher paper** or **poster board**, cut them out, paint them and place them on walls where activity centers will be located. In each center, place the learning activity supplies that are needed (see *Sparky's Lab Leader's Guide*).

Sparky's Lab

Create a gathering place in your room for Bible Story Time and Daily Wrap-Up.

- Trace **Sparky the Lab** pattern (p. 20–21) onto butcher paper, paint and attach to wall or mount on foam core board to make a standing prop. (Or use the extra-large poster of Sparky the Lab from the *MEGA Decorating Pack*. Cut out or use as is.)
- Set up a **whiteboard** next to Sparky pattern. With **fluorescent dry-erase markers**, draw some pictures to illustrate simple science such as weather, color or the senses.

Whiteboard Option: Use the whiteboard to draw simple pictures to illustrate the Bible story each day.

- Set a **stool** in front for teacher to sit on. Place some brightly colored circle “spots” on the floor for children to sit upon. Use purchased **poly circles from educational supply stores** or cut **colored craft foam or vinyl placemats** into large circles.

- Enlarge **Preschool Mystery Machine** pattern (pp. 22–23) onto butcher paper, paint and attach to wall (or use the preprinted **Wall Mural** available from Gospel Light).
- Set a **small table** in a corner. Cover with a **space blanket or silver table cover**. Set out **laboratory items** to create an experiment display. Tint water with **food coloring or liquid watercolors** and pour into **clear plastic jars, vases and beakers**. Place **plastic tubing** in containers. Insert a piece of **fiberfill** in the top of each container. Gently pull apart to form “smoke” coming from the solutions. Place a **lava lamp or other lighted novelty item** on table.
- String **colorful LED lights** around doorways or across the top of walls.
- Choose **Mylar balloons** in shapes such as star, moon, sun or other theme-related shapes. Place weighted balloons in room.
- Create tinsel **Sparks** (see p. 14) and hang from the ceiling. Use various **Preschool Lab** patterns and photocopy onto **brightly colored card stock**. Add details with black marker to create bold decorations to hang from ceiling.

Additional Ideas

Use any of the following ideas throughout your room to add to Sparky's Lab:

- Attendance Chart, Fiber-Optic Lab Lamp, Puzzle Cube, Atom Ball, Lab Entrance Cover, Test Tubes, Lab Beaker Set—all from Gospel Light
- Daily Plan Pennants (available from Gospel Light)
- Starbursts (see **Sparks and Starbursts**, p. 14)
- Preschool crafts (see *MasterMind Crafts*)
- Battery-operated LED lights
- Broken appliances and electronics (with cords cut off) and play tools for tinkering
- Building and mechanical toy sets
- Mylar items such as ribbon, tinsel and rain curtains
- Real or artificial nature items to examine (rocks, feathers, leaves, flowers, bones)
- Play microscopes, syringes, pipettes, measuring cups

