

Baby Playgroups – Kathryn Blazewicz

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This is an area of growth. It's an opportunity for the church to meet young families in their community, offer support, a chance for families to meet other families and to create relationships.

The world is changing and will continue to do so. The church needs to be ready to meet these changes, be adaptable and to meet the people where they are.

Why are baby playgroups popular?

- Parents are going back to work a lot earlier than before. It is a rare occurrence when a mother can stay home with her child until they start school.
- Parents need to develop a community/social network in their suburbs. Often they have been working and don't even know their neighbours or where to go to meet other parents.
- They need support in finding out information – yes, even though these families are more often than not computer savvy, they still need another parent saying, "My baby did that" Etc.

What do you need to run a baby playgroup?

- A clean welcoming area preferably carpeted or with a carpet square.
- People to welcome, show hospitality, encourage and include.
- A few small quilts and some clean bright toys and books that are easily washed.
- A change table.
- A comfortable chair/lounge for mums to sit and breastfeed.
- Prayer

I hope to cover throughout the workshop

- How to contact families, appropriate time, what age group.
- What age appropriate activities to do.
- Other help