

# For Preschool Ranch Crew Leaders Only

## What's a Ranch Crew Leader?

If you've been asked to be a Ranch Crew Leader for preschoolers, you've met two important qualifications: You love the Lord, and you love children.

During Avalanche Ranch, you'll visit different activities with a group of three to five children. **You're not in charge of preparing or teaching activities; you just get to be there and help children enjoy them as you shepherd your Ranch Crew.**

The following guidelines will help you be the most awesome Ranch Crew Leader.

## A Ranch Crew Leader for preschoolers is

- a friend and helper.
- someone who helps children complete activities.
- someone who gets down on the floor to interact with children.
- someone who encourages kids.
- someone who supports Prairie Dog Preschool staff.

During Avalanche Ranch, you'll shepherd a group of up to five preschool children. Your role is to love, encourage, and enjoy the children in your crew. If you've never worked with preschoolers before, the following tips will help you.

- Learn the names of the children in your crew. Call children by name often.

- You'll have 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds in your Ranch Crew. You'll probably notice big differences in motor skills (such as cutting and coloring) between older and younger children. Help children work at their own pace, and encourage 5-year-olds to help younger children when possible.

- Look into preschoolers' eyes when you speak to them. You may need to kneel or sit on the floor to do this.



- Empower children by offering them choices.

Ask, "Would you like to make a craft or play with blocks?" Don't ask, "What do you want to do?" or children may decide they want to do activities that are unavailable or inappropriate.

