

Playgroup Information



It is our goal that everyone who joins the Chico Mothers' Club will be involved in a playgroup. Playgroups foster friendships, support and socialization. Not only are they great for moms, but they help our kids learn how to play with others, build friendships, and share.

Playgroups are one of the BEST reasons to be a part of the Chico Mothers' Club!

How playgroups work: CMC has a variety of playgroups to help meet your needs. When you join CMC, our playgroup coordinator will contact you and put you in a playgroup that best suits your needs. Most playgroups are based on age and meet weekly. Playgroup communication is either done via email or on the playgroups closed Facebook group. Your playgroup leader will help guide you in the process of how your playgroup communicates with each other (Facebook or email). Each week, a member of playgroup takes turns "hosting" the playgroup. This simply means the host gets to choose where playgroup will meet during that week (and bring snacks, if that is something your playgroup does). The host will communicate a couple days in advance of your playgroup day where you will be meeting.

How do you know who is hosting or when it is your turn to host? Typically, a playgroup signup sheet is set up via Facebook or emailed out (by the playgroup leader) every couple months. Each member of the playgroup will choose ONE day to sign up to host. When it is your turn to host, you simply send out an email or Facebook post a couple days in advance to other moms in your playgroup saying where you will meet. As the kids get older, they love hosting, because they get to pick out their favorite park or have friends over to their house. Again, if you have any questions, your playgroup leader is there to help.

Places to host: There are lots of places you can host playgroups. One of the best places to host, and what CMC recommends, is your home. You might be wondering, why does CMC recommend you host at your home? When playgroups meet at a home, it give the moms more of chance to connect, which is why most of us joined CMC in the first place -to find new mom friends and friends for our kids. When playgroups meet at other places, often times kids are off and running in different directions and you spend more time chasing the kids than being able to connect with other moms. Being in a safe place (most of us have our homes kid-proofed already), where the kids are within an arms reach or ear shot, allows moms more of a chance to talk and connect. Just remember to follow some simple rules when going to a home for playgroup:

1. Be respectful of their home—please follow any of the hosts house rules (taking off shoes, no running, no jumping on furniture, whatever it may be)
2. Clean up after your child. At the end of playgroup, help (or help your child) put away toys that he/she played with. Help clean up the snack area. Leave the house as clean (or cleaner) as you found it.

If you can't host at your home or choose not to host at your home, there are lots of other options, which include (but not limited to): Sunny Garden Montessori, parks, the creek, Chico Mall play area, library, and CMC events being hosted on the same day your playgroup meets. You can keep it simple or have fun with it by hosting a fun craft (holiday, seasonal), cookie decorating party, bubble party, etc. - the only limitation is your imagination!

What makes a successful playgroup? Have you ever wondered why some playgroups are more successful than others? Over the years, CMC has overseen dozens of playgroups and seen some thrive and some fail. What makes a successful playgroup, is the commitment of its members. The recipe for an amazing playgroup is simple: attend playgroup every week and be a part of your playgroup Facebook group (If you have questions about motherhood, reach out to your fellow moms, respond to other moms questions, let that weeks host know if you will be making it to playgroup or not that week). When moms regularly attend playgroup, they build a trusting atmosphere, where moms can just be moms and friendships can form.

Do you need more information or have questions? For more information about any of our playgroups or if you have any concerns about your playgroup, feel free to contact the playgroup coordinator, Jennifer Brown at jbrownhund@gmail.com



CMC Playgroup By-laws



These rules are meant to be guidelines only. Each playgroup should talk about them and tailor them to fit their individual group.

1. Be committed. In order to have a successful playgroup, each member must be committed to it. Regular attendance is essential for there to be a group.
2. Call, text or Facebook the host if you are unable to attend, it is only courteous.
3. Keep your child home if they're sick. (First sign of a cold and until they are free of fever, bad cough, or other symptoms of illness for at least 24 hrs.)
4. Agree to abide by host's "house rules". (Example: No standing on furniture, food & drinks in the kitchen only, off limit areas).
5. Supervise your own child! Step in if he/she is hurting another child or disobeying any house rules the host may have. (You may be asked to stop attending playgroup if there is an ongoing problem.)
6. When bringing snacks for your playgroup or your own child, choose less messy items or have your child sit at the table to eat. Also, please be aware of any allergies that might be present.
7. Help clean up the host's home before you leave.