

SEEKERS



LEADERSHIP HANDBOOK

Produced by
G.C. Ministries

of the

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE CHURCH OF GOD
(Seventh Day)

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Denver, Colorado

FOREWARD

The SEEKERS program contained in this book was designed with our children in mind. Its purpose is to establish the best possible activities for the children of the church in this unique age group.

The overall program is adaptable to large churches as well as smaller ones. All of our churches can easily use this well-planned program for their children. It also affords a wonderful means of reaching out to children within the communities. Use of these activities will keep many children interested in the total church operation and assist them in growing up to be good “workers” in the faith.

I would like to offer my appreciation to the United Missions Board for assigning this project to the Women’s Association and for their financial backing of this complete program.

My special thanks goes to the fine committee members, who donated countless hours to the planning and development of the SEEKERS.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sandra Lawson".

Sandra Lawson
W.A. President

INTRODUCTION

CONGRATULATIONS! You are about to become involved in a new and exciting organization – the SEEKERS. It's a challenging organization designed for 9-12 year-old youths.

“Why do we need such an organization,” you say? Boys and girls at this age are reaching a critical stage in making decisions which will affect their future. Surrounding them in a Christian atmosphere and helping them develop mentally, socially, emotionally, and spiritually will directly influence their decisions. Attending Sabbath School provides good weekly Bible instruction. This allows for Bible study and fellowship 52 days a year, but what about the remaining 313 days? With the busy life that the average family lives today, family worship is becoming less regular. Boys and girls with time, energy, and enthusiasm are looking for activities to fulfill their needs.

The SEEKERS program is designed to allow them to expend this energy and enthusiasm in the right direction. The Seekers is a Bible-centered program designed to help young people learn of God's plan of salvation and help them develop Christian attitudes and skills. With these abilities they will be able to better serve God through involvement in church and concern for others.

Use this program creatively. It provides a great opportunity for outreach as Seekers can invite their friends to join and participate. Don't limit your possibilities. Other parents are looking for Christian activities for their young people.

This book is your guide to adventure with young people. Study it carefully and prayerfully. Get excited!

Happy Seeking...

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THE "SEEKERS" PROGRAM

The SEEKERS program is designed to actively involve young people in Bible-based church, family, and social activities. It consists of regularly scheduled meetings and fellowship to fulfill the needs of our young people.

The SEEKERS organization is based on three types of meetings:

1. Regular meetings: "Time for Sharing," once-a-month
2. Education meetings: "Time for Discovery," once-a-quarter
3. Special activities: "Time for Adventure," once-a-quarter

TIME FOR SHARING

The regular once-a-month meeting is called "Time for Sharing." This meeting is the time each month when Seekers will get together for fun, fellowship, studying God's Word, learning new activities, and to report on badges toward which they are working. The meeting will include the following activities:

1. Seeking Action – approximately 30 minutes of games and fellowship
2. Seeking Joy – 10-15 minutes of choruses and songs
3. Seeking God – 15-20 minute devotional and study of the Bible.
4. Seeking Tracks – 30 minutes devoted to working on achievement badges or craft, service, and educational projects.

TIME FOR DISCOVERY

Educational meetings called “Time for Discovery” will be flexible as to format and meeting location. If several in your group would like to work toward their First Aid badge, you might consider calling in a person from the community to instruct all of your Seekers. (A list of possible resource people in communities is given in the Resource Unit.) If Seekers are interested in different badges, set up mini-meetings in the homes of your local congregation. For example, have one meeting in the home of a Preschool Teacher or young mother for Seekers working on their Child Care badge. Another group might meet with some person teaching cooking. The location of these meetings will be up to the sponsor and the individuals helping the Seekers.

TIME FOR ADVENTURE

“Time for Adventure” is the name of the special activities meeting. This is a time, quarterly, when you provide Seekers with something really special. It might be a banquet, stunt night, social, nature hike, etc.

The ideas given here are just basic guidelines. You should feel free to adjust the program to the needs of your local group. For example, you might like to have the Time for Sharing meeting twice a month instead of once a month. The order of activities for this meeting could also be changed. You may want to have your game time (Seeking Action) last. This is your program; adjust it to meet your Seekers’ needs.

ACHIEVEMENT BADGES

Seekers will be involved in a program of achievement badges. The program is designed to give Seekers a wide variety of achievement areas from which to choose. Each area will increase the Seeker's knowledge of practical skills and Biblical teachings. Once a Seeker fulfills the requirements for an achievement badge, he/she will be given that badge to wear on his/her vest. (See the Uniform section of The Seekers Path.) The program has been designed so that many achievement areas may be completed at home with parental supervision to allow isolated or semi-isolated Seekers to participate in the achievement badge program. Each Seeker may purchase or be given a booklet containing the requirements for a particular achievement badge. Sponsors can print off this same information for themselves.

Once the SEEKERS program is implemented and individual Seekers have earned achievement awards, an awards presentation should be held. This should be a special time when Seekers wear their uniforms. It is suggested that the presentations be made at a Sabbath morning worship service so that the entire congregation may become familiar with the program, as well as to give greater recognition to the Seeker's accomplishments.



ADULT LEADERSHIP

Adult leadership in the SEEKERS organization is very important. Effective leaders are people who love God and enjoy working with young people. They should be dedicated Christian adults who can provide friendship and Christian models for the boys and girls. They must exhibit the qualities they want to develop in young people. Their responsibilities include:

1. Arriving 15-20 minutes early to set-up
2. Being pleasant and patient
3. Being prepared
4. Being enthusiastic
5. Acting natural
6. Trusting God for guidance

The number of adult leaders needed in each SEEKERS organization will vary according to the size of your local group. Generally, a ratio of one leader to six Seekers is a good guideline. Since our SEEKERS organization is co-educational, it is imperative that the leadership include both men and women.

In addition to the sponsors, each local organization will need a group of volunteers available to help occasionally by teaching an achievement area, helping small groups of Seekers earn achievement badges, teaching a craft activity, or helping furnish refreshments for a special activity.

KNOW YOUR SEEKERS

In order to be an effective sponsor, it is important that you know something about the boys and girls with whom you will be working. There will be many areas in which children will differ – their likes and dislikes, their hobbies, their backgrounds, their physical appearances, etc. It will be your responsibility as sponsor to learn about your boys and girls. You should make opportunities to visit with each one individually in order to get to know him/her as a person. It is only through such individual attention that you will be able to demonstrate your real love and concern for each Seeker.

Getting to know each Seeker is your responsibility. We can help you with this project by giving you some general characteristics of your Seekers. By now, you're probably well aware of the enthusiasm and seemingly excessive energy displayed by this age group. The SEEKERS organization is dedicated to helping these boys and girls put this energy and enthusiasm to work for God. It is our desire that Seekers will dedicate their lives and enthusiasm to God and whatever He wants them to do.

At this time, Seekers are beginning a stage in their lives when they are looking to adults for models. They can definitely identify men and women that they admire. These men and women will have a direct influence upon the types of adults that these children become. For this reason, it is very important that we provide good Christian examples. Christ must live within us and be evident in our every word and action.

Boys and girls within this age group are beginning to form values and goals concerning what they want from life. They are beginning to make judgments about what is important to them, the correct means of achieving a goal, and what personality characteristics they want to develop in their own lives. The basis for their adult lives is being established at this time.

Friends are becoming more and more important to boys and girls of this age. Being accepted by other boys and girls of the same age is a matter of great importance. SEEKERS believes that the opportunity for fellowship with others in a Christian environment will aid in developing friendships that are more satisfying and enriching than secular friendships could be.

God has great things in store for you and your Seekers. Expect great things!

THE "JONATHAN" PROGRAM

One of the best known friendships recorded in the Bible is that of David and Jonathan. The love and devotion of Jonathan for David (in spite of his father's hatred) is a beautiful example of the type of relationship that can exist between friends. Friendships are special. They can exist between all age groups with only one requirement – mutual trust and admiration.

SEEKERS has its own unique friendship program – The Jonathan Program – named for one of the truest friends known. This program provides an opportunity for some adults to build a special friendship with one Seeker. It will be the sponsor's duty to either insure that each Seeker is assigned an adult friend or to appoint a special "Jonathan Program" chairman who will do that.

This friend has the pleasure of encouraging his/her seeker in the SEEKER program and in his relationship with God. The adult should be available to aid the Seeker with his requirements for badges, provide genuine attention to his hobbies and interests, and show love and concern for the Seeker as an individual. (Perhaps this person could be available to help with transportation if that is a problem.)

The sponsor or "Jonathan Program" chairman should prayerfully match men and women in your church to the boys and girls. Consideration should be given to the needs of each Seeker and the ability of the assigned adult to meet those needs.

We believe that this is an excellent opportunity for you to make use of your senior adult church members as they perhaps have more time to devote to such a project. They definitely have skills that can benefit the program. Furthermore, we feel that this is a fantastic way of letting our senior adults know that we love them and need them. This also gives our Seekers an opportunity to develop friendships with some interesting people that they might not consider as friends otherwise.

The following information sheets should be duplicated and the appropriate sheets given to your Seekers and adult friends for them to complete. This will give leaders some information that will aid in assigning Seekers to adults that have similar interests and will also provide the adults and Seekers with some interesting facts about each other.

JONATHAN PROGRAM
(Filled in by Seeker)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Age _____ Birth Date _____

School I go to _____ Grade _____

My favorite subject _____

I go to Church at _____

My Parents' names _____

How many brothers _____ How many sisters _____

What I like best about being a Seeker _____

I am working on the _____ badge.

Things I like to do best are _____

Favorite Bible Verse _____

JONATHAN PROGRAM
(Filled in by Adult)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Birth Date _____

I go to Church at _____

What I like best about Seekers _____

Hobbies _____

Favorite Bible Verse _____

PLAN YOUR PROGRAM

Those of you who have had experience in sponsoring a youth group or teaching a class know the importance of pre-planning. Nothing is more chaotic or frustrating than trying to plan an effective program at the last minute. There is no guaranteed means of always achieving a perfect program, but thorough planning is the key.

Know your young people and their needs and plan your program with these needs in mind. Make a list of each person in your SEEKERS group. Beside each name write one outstanding characteristic of that person and then write a suggestion of how you might use that particular trait in your program. For example, that wiggly 10-year-old might be just the one to teach a new game one night. Or that quiet, withdrawn 11-year-old might do a great job of selecting songs and choruses to be sung during the 'Seeking Joy' session.



Include your Seekers in the program. Give them responsibilities and help them be successful with these responsibilities.

As was said before, a successful program depends on pre-planning. Sponsors should get together and put their program for a whole quarter down on paper. Decide on activities and dates. Then stick to the program. Regularly scheduled activities add strength to your program.

Program planning can be more efficient if permanent up-to-date records are kept for each Seeker. The forms on the next few pages are a simplified means of keeping records of pertinent information that leaders need. These records should be filled so that successive leaders will have access to the information.

Registration Card

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Parent(s) Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Birthday _____

Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone _____

Family Members and Ages:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Child's Interests _____

Church Affiliation _____

Permission for Field Trips _____

Parent's Signature

Registration Card

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Parent(s) Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Birthday _____

Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone _____

Family Members and Ages:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Child's Interests _____

Church Affiliation _____

Permission for Field Trips _____

Parent's Signature

The diagram below is a sample record page. An 'X' indicates that a step has been completed. A single slash (\) indicates that the Seeker is currently working on that project. When he completes the project, the other slash (/) is added to complete the 'X'.

In the example, Brittany has completed all of the membership projects and has started on the Nature Badge. Jose has learned the verse and promise. He has also attended many meetings. He has completed the Bible Badge. Ashton has learned the song and verse. He has also attended one meeting.

This is a simple, graphic way to keep a record of your Seekers' progress. Any new leader can immediately see what stage of the program each Seeker has reached.

Seeker's Name	Seeker Song	Key Verse	Seeker Promise	Meeting Attendance	Bible Badge	Nature Badge	Living with Others Badge	Health Badge	Food Badge	Kitchen Craft Badge	Outdoor Cooking Badge	Weather Badge	Monitors
Brittany Baker	X	X	X	X		\							
Jose Nunez		X	X	X	X								
Ashton Phillips	X	X		\									

[illegible]

How to Finance Your Program



Each local church will be solely responsible for the costs of operating and maintaining their local SEEKERS program. Costs of operating a program include:

1. Cost of printing Leadership and SEEKERS handbooks
2. Achievement badges
3. Game equipment
4. Craft supplies
5. Group insurance*

There are numerous methods of financing such a program. Each local church should adopt a method most suitable to its needs. The following are some suggestions:

1. Membership fees – each member might be asked to pay a membership fee to cover the cost of badges and supplies.
2. Sales items – in the resource section of this handbook, you will find a list of sources for purchasing whole-sale items to be sold by groups. Your group might choose to sell one or more items.
3. Donations – this might be a particularly effective means of obtaining craft supplies and recreational equipment. Make an announcement during your church service or in a bulletin or newsletter concerning the supplies you need. Attach an identical list on the bulletin board and ask individuals to sign their names by the items they will donate.
4. Church boards – local church boards might be willing to accept the responsibility of purchasing the name patches and achievement badges.
5. Women's Associations – your local Women's Association might also be willing to purchase badges or help in other ways.

No one of the preceding suggestions will be best for all churches. Generally a combination of several of the ideas can be employed effectively.

* When having group outings, it is advisable to have a group insurance policy. Yearly group rates are fairly inexpensive. Check with a local insurance agent.

Time for Sharing

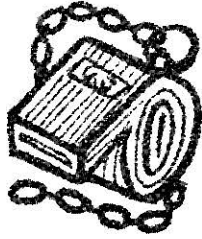
The once-a-month “Time for Sharing” meeting is composed of four (4) different activities. During this meeting, you are going to have an opportunity to observe your Seekers in many situations. It will also provide special times for you to share God with your Seekers. Your relationship with God will be evident as you play, sing, and worship together.



The first thirty (30) minutes of your meeting is a recreational time. Boys and girls enjoy games; therefore, they are less likely to want to be late if games come first. Also, if children do come in late, it is much easier to involve them in games than it is to try to fill them in on what they have missed in a devotional. People moving around and arriving at different times are not as distracting when you are actively involved in recreation.

The pages in this section will help you in planning your games. Remember that game time provides a unique opportunity for you to fellowship with your Seekers and to learn more about them as individuals. It is amazing how much you can learn about a person's character by observing them at play. Keep your eyes open. But don't forget – your attitudes will be on display, too.

Game Time



Playing games is important in that it helps develop self-confidence, independence, and the ability to get along better with other people. The physical activity of games provides a creative outlet for the emotions and helps relaxation. At the same time, it is a good way to meet and make new friends and to learn Christian sportsmanship.

The leader is responsible for the success of game time. He should plan the program to be as interesting as possible.

A good leader:

1. Is careful about appearance; is neat, clean, and wears suitable clothing for playing games.
2. Has a good attitude towards participants; is cheerful, friendly and enthusiastic.
3. Shows good manners; uses "please" and "thank you."
4. Is liberal with praise and offers only constructive criticism.
5. Displays good sportsmanship at all times.
6. Isn't bossy.
7. Let players help in any way they can: gathering equipment, giving directions to a game, etc.



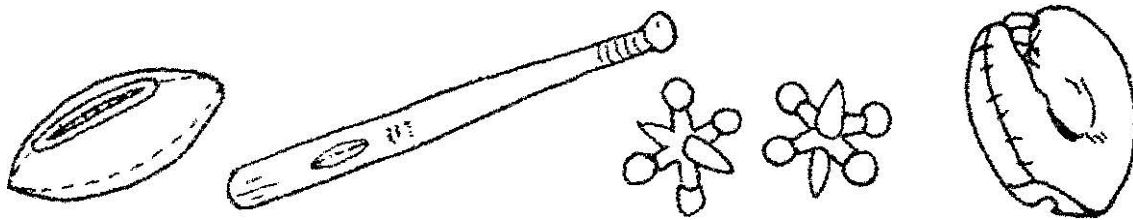
- ☐ Have enough games planned and organized to cover the entire game time, even if some are left over.
- ☐ Let all leaders and helpers know in advance what games are to be played.
- ☐ Gather all equipment to be used ahead of time, so you can pass it out as you explain the game.
- ☐ Start with very active games and taper off to quieter ones.
- ☐ Follow circle games with circle games and line games with line games so there will be less confusion.
- ☐ End with a popular game and stop it at the height of enjoyment.
- ☐ Have an alternate game time plan prepared for indoors in case outdoor games planned have to be cancelled due to weather, etc.



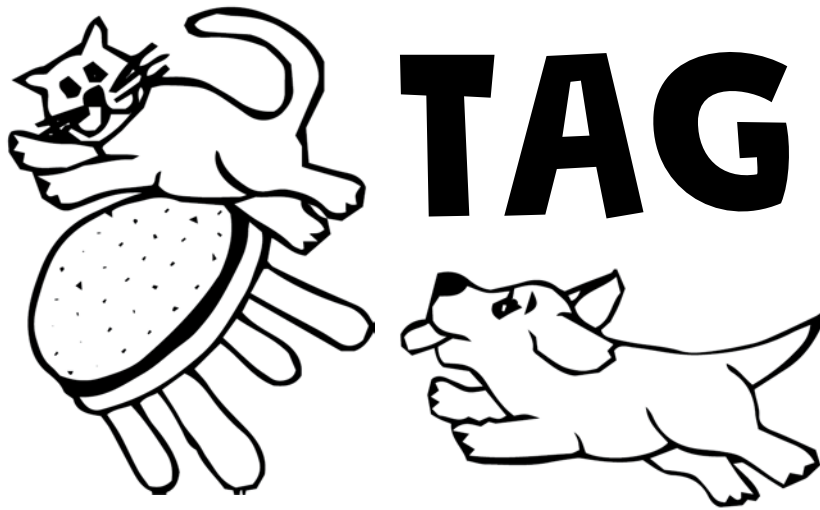
Conducting the Game Time

1. Stand so that players are not facing any distracting objects. You should face them so that you have the attention of the group.
2. You should have the first game so well organized that you can explain it step by step without hesitation. Also, have in mind who you want to start the game.

3. Keep the first few games simple. They should be well known or easy to learn.
4. Speak slowly and clearly when giving instructions. Give players time to digest what you have explained before they begin playing.
5. Learn whether players have understood your instructions by asking them to tell you what they are to do. This is better than repeating your instructions to them.
6. Stay cool and smile – never show your anger! When you find that there are a few players who are disrupting the game, you should first approach the whole group. Try to persuade them gently to cooperate.
7. Never embarrass anyone by speaking out loud or mentioning names. If one player is making a mistake in the game, move over as unnoticeably as possible to quietly tell the player what he should be doing.
8. If several are playing incorrectly, stop the game and tell the group that they are doing fine, but explain it could be smoother if certain things were done.
9. Let game time be an enjoyable time for everyone and have fun!



On the next pages a few games are given to help you get started. Many game books are available from your local library. You can also find game ideas online. You might like to start your own game file. Write out the instructions for games your Seekers like and place them in a file box or folder under appropriate headings, such as relays, circle games, tags, singing games, etc.



1. **Animal Tag**

Make two goals about 50 ft. apart. Choose a player to be hunter and place him behind one goal. The opposite goal is called "the zoo." The remaining players are lined up behind it. Secretly give each child in "the zoo" a name of an animal. "The hunter" calls an animal name. If no one answers to the name, he calls another until he finds one that some player has. This player runs to the opposite goal and returns. The "hunter" runs to "the zoo" line and tries to tag the runner on his way back. When an "animal" is tagged, he becomes the "hunter." If an "animal" returns without being tagged, he is given a new name.

2. **Seat - Exchange Tag**

Players sit in a circle on the floor. The person who is "it" stands in the middle. "It" calls the names of two players in the circle. They exchange seats. "It" tries to get one of the seats. The person losing a seat is the new "it."

3. **Tag**

One player is "it." He chases players until he catches someone to be "it."

Variations:

- a. Everyone could skip or hop.
- b. A person can't be tagged if he kneeled and put his head on the ground.
- c. A person can't be tagged if he squatted.

4. **Two Deep**

Place players in a single circle. Choose one player to be "it" and one to be the "runner." "It" tries to tag the "runner." To be safe, the "runner" steps in front of any player in the circle, thus making that group two deep. The player behind then becomes the "runner" and may be tagged by "it" unless he goes in front

of another person. When one is tagged, he is “it” and tries to tag the one who tagged him. The runners stay outside the circle except when stepping in front of a player in the circle.

5. **Pillow Tag**

Select a small throw pillow, bean bag, or any soft object that is throwable. Choose a player to be “it.” Give him the pillow to carry. Everyone else tries to tag “it.” “It” may toss the pillow to another player and that player then becomes “it.”

Team Races and Relays



1. **Egg Relay Race**

Mark start and finish lines a running distance apart. Line players up into two equal teams. Have two boiled eggs and two spoons ready. Give one spoon and one egg to each team. One person from each team races to the finish line and comes back holding the spoon with the egg in it and gives it to the next player. The team that finishes first wins.

2. **Imitation Race**

Divide players into two teams. Instruct them to imitate an animal walk such as: hopping like a rabbit, galloping like a horse, or waddling like a duck. The team to finish first wins.

3. **Balloon Push**

This game may be played in a large or small room, although this is a very active game. Divide players into two teams and place them at opposite ends of the room. Toss two balloons into the air in the center of the room. The teams run forward and try to hit their balloon until it touches the other wall. The team that reaches its goal first wins. Be sure to have extra balloons in case the ones

you're using break. Toss them in wherever the others break.

4. **Potato Relay**

Have enough potatoes so there is one per player. Place potatoes on the ground three to fifteen feet apart, creating a potato course. Each team has a course. Give the leaders of the teams a fork. The first runner runs to the first potato and stabs it with the fork and brings it back to drop it in a bucket or dish, then gives the fork to the next player. The second player then runs and stabs the second potato and so on. The hands must not touch the potatoes. The first team to collect all the potatoes wins.

5. **Hat and Shirt Relay**

The leader of each team gets an old large shirt and hat. When told to do so, they run to the turning line and put on the clothing over their own and return to starting point. Then they take off the hat and shirt and give them to the next player. The second player then repeats what the first did. The first team done wins.



1. **Taking a Car Trip**

Give each player the name of a car part such as a fender, hood, windshield, gas tank, etc. One player is chosen to be the storyteller, who then walks around while telling of a trip taken by the car. In the story he mentions parts of the car. The "parts" mentioned get up and follow him. If he calls "blow-out," everyone scrambles for a seat. The one who doesn't find a seat is the next storyteller.

2. **Waves**

Seat players in a circle. Leave one seat vacant. The player who is "it" stands in the center. He calls out "slide left" or "slide right." The seated players move in the indicated direction to fill a vacant chair. "It" tries to sit in a vacant seat. The

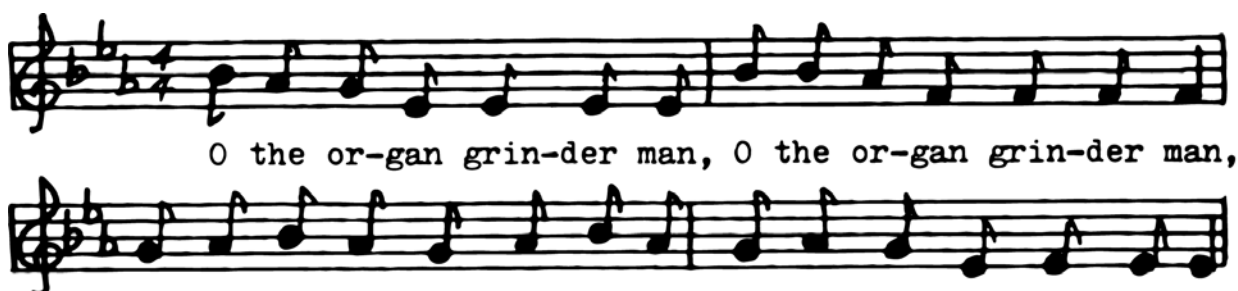
players move into the vacant chair as it comes to them. If the call was “slide right” when “it” gets a seat, the person on the left of “it” is the next one to be “it” and vice versa.

3. Hot and Cold

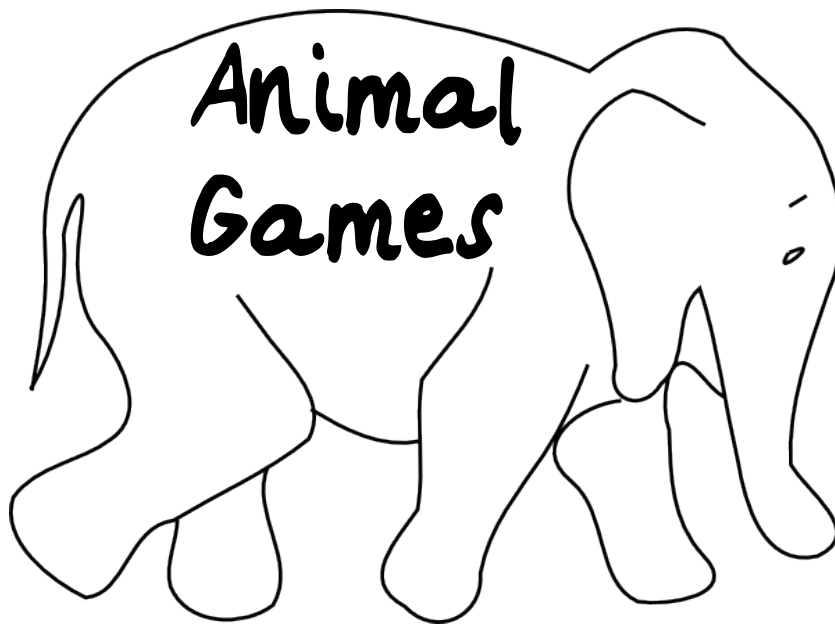
Players sit in a circle. Choose one to be the “guesser”; he must then leave the room. While he is out, the rest of the players choose an object for him to guess. The object must be in the room. Have the “guesser” come back into the room. All other players begin clapping. As the “guesser” moves closer to the chosen object the clapping gets louder; when he moves away the clapping gets softer. When the guesser identifies the object, he chooses someone else to leave the room.

4. The Organ Grinder Man – Musical Game

While one player is out of the room, the other players decide what he is to do when he comes back. Everyone begins singing “The Organ Grinder Man” and the player returns to the center of the group. He then tries to guess where he is to perform. As he gets closer to the place of his performance the singing gets quieter; as he moves away, the singing gets louder. After he locates the spot, he then tries various things such as taking off someone’s shoe, kneeling in front of someone, taking a hat off someone and placing it on someone else, etc. If what he does is wrong, the players sing loudly. They sing softly when he is correct. When he is finished he chooses someone else to go out.



We will do the best we can to help the or-gan grin-der man.



1. Zoo

Hide peanuts around the room or yard. Divide Seekers into three or four groups and give each group an animal name, such as elephant, monkey, bear, etc. Have one person in each group be the “zoo keeper.” When a player finds a peanut, he cannot pick it up until he makes the same sound that his group’s animal makes. The zoo keeper then gives him the peanut. The group with the most peanuts wins.

2. Rabbit Hop

Choose a player to be the “leader” and another one the “watcher.” Have everyone else stand in a line facing them. The “leader” hops up and down and calls “rabbits hop.” The rest hop up and down and call out “rabbits hop.” The leader may use other animals such as ducks, cats, dogs, etc., imitating noises and movements. If the leader should say “dogs meow” or “cats quack” the rest should not follow him. Anyone who barks, meows or hops up and down when he shouldn’t becomes a “watcher.” The last person left in line is the next “leader.”

3. Poor Kitty

Have children sit around the room. The person chosen to be kitty must crawl on his hands and knees and go over to a guest and meow three times. The guest must pet “kitty’s” head and say “poor kitty” three times without laughing. The kitty can do things to make the guest laugh such as walk like a cat or meow funny. The kitty continues from one person to another until someone laughs. The one that is first to laugh is the new kitty.

4. Tap the Tiger

Choose a child to be the “tiger” and another to be his “guard.” The tiger sits in a chair in the middle of a circle of children. The guard must stand behind his chair. The children in turn try to touch the “tiger” and return to their places before the “guard” touches them. When a child has been touched by the “guard,” he then becomes the next “tiger.” If the “guard” does not touch the child before he taps the “tiger” and returns to his place, the “tiger” is free; and the “guard” must be the tiger. Select another child to be the “guard” and continue until everyone has been the “tiger” at least once.

SEEKING



The "Seeking Joy" segment of your meeting is important as a mood setter. Music will serve as the "bridge" between game time and the devotional. More ideas for your song time can be found on the following pages.

“Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!” Psalm 100:1

“Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! For He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.” Psalm 98:1

“It is good to give thanks to the LORD, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High.” Psalm 92:1

These are just a few of the ever-so-many verses in which we are told to sing unto the Lord – OUR Lord. Singing is a beautiful way of “Seeking Joy.”

Music can be and should be an important part of a child’s growing-up experience. As Christians today, serving a fantastic God, we have so very much to be joyful about. He’s given us a country in which to freely worship, neighbors with whom we can be friendly, and time that can be spent enjoying ourselves.

As a leader of a SEEKERS group, it is part of your responsibility to help the young Seekers learn to appreciate all that God has provided for them.

There’s more to music than just singing. The children need to learn the words well and understand what they are singing about. Explain words that they may not understand. In the song, “The Star Spangled Banner,” do they all know what a rampart is? Wouldn’t it be nice if the children learned the story behind this song?

This may be a learning process for more than just the children. Do a little research, leaders, and make this a fun time, as well as an informative time. It’s an important process.

The most important time (to make sure your Seekers are understanding what they sing) is when they are singing of Christ’s love. Quite often children don’t understand the full meaning of the songs or choruses they sing in church.

One must be cautious, though, not to bore the youngsters with details about every song. Perhaps one or two songs each meeting would be sufficient. Try it out with your group. It may not be a good thing to do in every SEEKERS group. Do try it, though. Pray for guidance and wisdom. These are the formative years for the children. If it makes sense now, and if they understand what they are singing, it could make a big difference in their future relationships with Christ. Remember! They are our future church.

You can do all this, too. God has given us the opportunity to ask of Him the things we need. Ask and you shall receive. God will give you the wisdom to know what to say to these youngsters so they’ll understand.

So what if you think you can't sing? That's no handicap and it could be a blessing in disguise. Suppose you can't sing well enough to lead the children in singing their songs. Are there FYCers who would lend a hand (or voice in this case)? If they already have activities planned, perhaps there is another man or woman who would help out in this way. This might even be a good opportunity to involve a person, young or old, who isn't very involved in other church activities. The possibilities are unlimited because prayer knows no bounds. Think about it! This could be a good time to start developing the children's leadership capabilities. Let them lead the songs for part of the song session.

There are so many types of songs to have the children sing. You don't have to sing just religious songs either. Have them get involved in singing both secular and religious songs. Both types can be fun.

Just before the music time, the children will be playing games. They'll have endless energy. It might be a little hard to get them to sit quietly and sing. So, start with some lively songs. Songs that have actions would be best. Have the children select some of the songs. Even if you don't know them, maybe most of them do. Let the child teach it if none of the other youngsters know it.

When you want to start quieting the children and the singing, have the group start singing some slower songs. Don't go straight to the prayerfully slow songs, but start choosing songs that don't have actions and aren't quite so lively.

As the children calm down sufficiently, they can sing some songs that would go along with the devotion of the evening. Choose ones that will set the mood for what you are going to tell them about Christ, their wonderful friend and Savior. It might be best not to have them select songs right away. When you feel they are in the mood or that they wouldn't choose any lively songs, then have them say which songs they want to sing.

The song session doesn't have to take a long time, but it's during these moments that the children are quieted from the play time. Prepare for this time so that the mood can be directed.

Here is a sample singing session:

LIVELY OR ACTION SONGS

Oh, Susanna
She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain
Anybody Here?
My God Is So Great

BRIDGE GAPPERS

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
This Land Is Your Land
Put Your Hand in the Hand
Five Hundred Miles
Michael Row Your Boat Ashore

MOOD SETTERS

Kum Ba Yah
Whisper a Prayer

A list of some songs and links to these songs are included in this section.
This is just a beginning! You are not to think these are the only songs to be sung.

YouTube has a lot of songs you can listen to and learn. You can even play these songs for the students to listen to. Have the children listen to the song once or twice; then sing along with it the next time. It might be even easier if the words were written on a big poster. This would help for all new songs.

Music is an important experience. You can be an integral part of this experience. They're "SEEKING JOY," so – HAVE FUN!!!

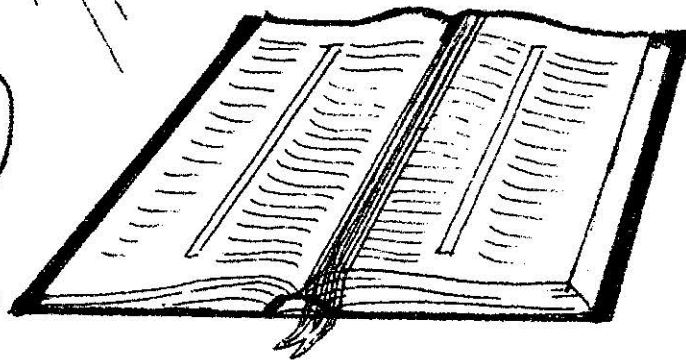
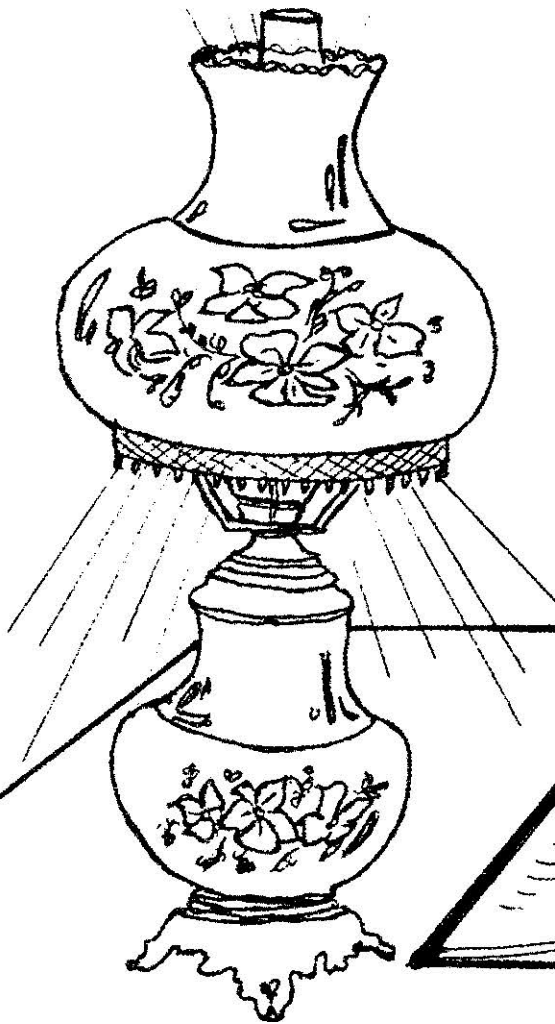
Oh, Susanna – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70N1bE2vQYo>
Penguin Song – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FEPjhVtdc>
She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain –
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNWaUIRaRYw>
Green Grass Grows All Around –
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTbswd1Q3-o>
Hokey Pokey – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZinb6rVoZc>
The Ants Go Marching – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWb9LI9hYUI>
I Met a Bear – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3FpdXUTj0o>
In the Jungle – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PsEQiuVhneM>
We're Going on a Bear Hunt – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0gyI6yKDwds>

This Land Is Your Land – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRnHx3yVuf4>
Barges – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ck3BSdO-uLs>
Five Hundred Miles – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ya-SEOWe94>
I Am One Voice – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cSjilygNtk>

If You're Happy – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrsM9WggCdo>
My God Is So Great – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ruatU4gl_mw
Happy All the Time – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRsvJJOs-7xQ>
Clap Your Hands – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tOrDC5ICV4>
Our God Is an Awesome God – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gK5sgfBIC34>
Do Lord – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SX1GyG8NJ7U>
Give Me Oil in My Lamp – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kt_4cTQw8y8
I Have the Joy – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lljzJWZOS6s>
He Knows My Name – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPWO6mRC1yc>
You Are My All in All – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVkwWG-3T2Y>
Into My Heart – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XBR0QpQYKdw>
You Are My King – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRDiRT8RWjQ>

SEEKING GOD

"Seeking God" is the special time for Seekers to learn about God and His love. This time will be more meaningful if your Seekers can take part in the service. Most of the devotions in this section follow the same format. You will want to devise some other types of presentations to add variety.



Here are a few suggestions:

- ❖ Have a Bible sword drill where the Seekers race to find scriptures that you have chosen on a certain subject. The first one to find the scripture reads it. Be sure to discuss each scripture.
- ❖ Read a Bible story and discuss it; then let your Seekers dramatize it.
- ❖ Read and share the testimony given by a Christian in a biography, such as Corrie Ten Boom, David Wilkerson, Brother Andrew, Dale Evans Rogers, Nicky Cruz, etc.
- ❖ Object lessons are always effective.

Here are some websites with ideas for various types of devotionals:

WHY WORRY??

Song: “Why Worry When You Can Pray?”

Scripture Reading: Luke 12:22-30

Key Verse: Psalm 32:8

It was bedtime and Mother was reading a story to the children. The story was a make-believe story but it taught a great lesson. It was about a big clock that stood in the hall and ticked so graciously day after day. Its pendulum swung back and forth, back and forth, but suddenly one day the big clock began to think about how many times he had ticked and how many times he could tick in the future. The more he thought about it, the more he began to worry about how he was going to keep going. This all made him very tired. Finally, he felt so tired that he gave up and stopped ticking. The pendulum stood still. It just seemed like too much work to think about ticking that many times, each day, each week, each month and then each year. “I’ll just not tick anymore,” he said. When the room grew quiet, the big clock began to think again. Soon he came to a decision. “Why should I worry about how many times I tick in a year? I’ll just tick one little tick at a time.” So he began to tick again, and the big pendulum began to swing again.

The children loved the story. Mother told them that God will take care of us if we will just do what we are meant to do. If we love God and keep His commandments, then He will help us from day to day. Some people worry all the time about what will happen in the years to come, but God said He would take care of us if we will just live for Him. We only need to walk one step at a time when we have the Lord Jesus as our Savior. He will lead us and tell us what to do. We need to do as the big clock did – make up our minds to not worry about the future, but just take one tick (step) at a time.

Our prayer should be that we would learn to trust the Lord Jesus to lead us, and help us so that we don’t worry about the future. The Bible, God’s Word, tells us that Christians do not have to worry.

THE GREAT LOVER

Song: “Oh, How I Love Jesus”

Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Memory Verse: 1 John 3:18

(Have an opened letter handy, or make a large picture of a letter on poster board.)

One morning this past week, the mailman left us a love letter. It was a letter from our Grandpa and Grandma, filled with their love to us. We didn't waste any time in opening it, as we were anxious to hear what they had to say. We knew that there were some good words inside that would make our hearts all glad. It would tell us how they loved us and encourage us to be good. We are reminded of this every time we get their letters.

The Bible is a love letter to us from God. He loves us even more dearly than our grandparents, parents, or friends. We are always anxious to open our letters from others, but our letter from God sometimes lies on the table from one week to another. We should be as anxious to open it and read what God has to say to us as we are to read our love letters which come through the mail. His book tells us about many interesting things as well as how much He loves us, and wants us to be good. Read John 3:16 every day until you know it by heart. (John 13:34 and 1 John 4:10 are good verses to learn, as well) We reread our letters from grandparents to make sure we don't forget anything they tell us. We should read and reread our Bibles, too. If you have difficulty in reading, then have your parents or someone older help you. It is the most wonderful book ever written, and it is your love letter from God.

Is it a daily habit for you to read God's word? What can you do to make this a true habit?

Our daily prayer should be that we will love God and show it by taking time to read His love letter to us: the Word of God.

BE USEABLE

Songs: "Every Day with Jesus"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

Memory Verse: James 1:22

(Use an umbrella for an object lesson)

An elderly man was walking in a heavy downpour of rain. The storekeeper who was looking out his window watching the rain, saw the elderly man, and asked him into his store.

"Sir" he called, "I would like to give you an umbrella." The elderly man thanked the storekeeper, took the umbrella and walked out the door into the rain. Watching from the window, the storekeeper saw the elderly man put the umbrella under his coat and walk on in the rain. In the next block the elderly man met a friend.

"Friend, what do you have under your coat?" he asked.

The elderly man replied, "An umbrella, which the store-keeper loaned to me."

"Then why not use it?" asked his friend.

"Because it was so nice of him to loan it to me that I don't want to get it wet."

Does this sound foolish on the part of the elderly man, not using the umbrella which was made to protect from the wet? So many times we as human beings do just such foolish things. Do you know of anyone who will get a new Bible and then lay it up on the dresser or put it away just to keep it looking new? God does not want us just to have a Bible to keep beautiful. We need to use it, read it, and hide it in our hearts by memorizing verses. If we do not do these things, then we are as the foolish elderly man who did not use the umbrella, but hid it under his coat.

Let our prayer be that God will help us to memorize His word, and that we can live according to the scriptures and be witnesses wherever we are.

GROWING WITH JESUS

Songs: “More about Jesus”

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:15-20

Memory Verse: Proverbs 11:30

Have you ever taken the time to notice the leaves on a tree and how they tell us a story? Tiny buds appear in the spring, and then in just a few days those buds grow and pop open to reveal little leaves. The leaves grow and give us shade during the summer months. As fall comes, the leaves begin to turn colors – such beautiful colors: reds, oranges, yellows and browns. The longer the leaves hang on the tree the prettier they become.

As the leaves on the trees tell a story and become more beautiful with time, so should the lives of all Christians.

As a new Christian, you should be bright and springing forth like the little buds. Then growing each day for the Lord Jesus, your life becomes more beautiful with goodness, kindness, meekness, and love.

The older you grow, the more your life becomes a better testimony for the Lord. Your life will be as the beautiful leaves on the trees. Others who see you and know you will be able to see through your life that you belong to the Lord Jesus.

Can you be as the leaves of a tree? What can you change about your life that would make it more beautiful?

Let your prayer be that you will not be satisfied to stay as you are, but that you will grow and be more “beautiful for the Lord” and more loving to others.

GOSSIP

Songs: "I Love Jesus"

Scripture Reading: Mark 12:28-34

Memory Verse: Proverbs 4:20

A poet once wrote, "All who told it added something new." Have you ever played the game called "Gossip"? It is funny how a story that is told can be changed completely from its original meaning. In real life, how do you repeat a tale that has been told to you? Is it not exciting enough or do you want to add a little to make your friend look bad?

The best of friends, Beth and Sally, were separated by a tale that was told by Sally to another friend. Soon the story came back to the ears of Beth, causing such hurt, as she knew only Sally could have started the story.

Few of us would intentionally tear another person to pieces and feel good about it. While we are telling the gossip, we are usually the center of attention, and it makes us feel popular. Some may not have thought of gossiping as being a sin, but we all know the commandment, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." We certainly would not go around telling malicious tales about ourselves and we wouldn't hold ourselves up to be ridiculed – so let us not gossip about our neighbor(s), either.

Do your friendships mean more to you than being the center of attention? Learning to be faithful to our friends helps us to become more faithful to God.

Our daily prayer should be that God will help us to love one another that we can be faithful to our friends as well as to God.

LIFE SAVING FLUID

Songs: "There is Power in the Blood," "Nothing But the Blood"

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 1:14-25

Memory Verse: Ephesians 1:7

As everyone was kneeling for prayer, Father reminded the family that they must pray for Ted Barker, who was very ill in the hospital and was to have an operation the next morning. "He will need a lot of blood for the operation, and we must pray that there will be donors there to give blood."

Next morning as the children waited in the car for Father and Mother to come out of the hospital, they talked about their good friend Ted. "It will be so good to see him up and about again," said Larry. "If only he can make it through the operation alright. I'm sure that he wants to be strong and play ball again."

Soon Mother came out of the hospital. "Where's our Daddy?" asked little Susan.

"He's at the hospital blood bank. He is going to give blood for Ted," replied Mother.

"All those people went to give blood; didn't they have enough?" inquired Garry.

"It takes a certain type of blood," explained mother, "and father has that type of blood."

"We all have a very serious heart condition when we have sin in our lives, and it takes a special type of blood to change our sinful lives and to clean up our hearts, and that blood is the blood of Jesus. No one else can give their blood to us to cleanse our hearts. It was on the cross of Calvary that Jesus shed His blood, and that blood can be applied to our hearts and lives when we ask Him to forgive us of our sins. We must not reject the blood of Jesus, just as Ted won't reject the blood that Father is giving to save his life during the operation."

Has your heart been cleansed by the blood of Jesus? Have you asked Him to take away your sins?

Let us pray and thank the Lord Jesus for shedding His blood for you and for all the people of the world.

A COVERED SURPRISE

Songs: “Trust and Obey,” “I Just Keep Trusting My Lord”

Scripture Reading: Matthew 10:24-32

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:7

Devotional Lesson: As the children rushed into the house from school, they noticed the table in the dining room had a large box on it. “Hey Mom, we’re home,” Brent and Mary called. There was no answer, so they walked over to the table and saw a note which Mother had written.

It read, “Please children, change your clothes before going out to play, and don’t bother the box on the table. I will be home soon . . . Mom.”

Oh the curiosity that arose in their hearts! Brent was about to lift the cover on the box, when Mary said, “Mother would not have covered the box if she had wanted us to know what was in it. Let’s not spoil her surprise, but trust her judgment.”

At times we do not understand what God has for us. He allows things to be hid from our eyes. We must learn to trust Him and let Him tell us about it when He wants us to know. We must learn to live by faith, do what we know to do, and He will reveal other things to us as He wants to. Romans 8:28 tells us, “All things work together for good to those who love God.”

Do you live by faith? Do you trust God in the things you don’t understand? In sickness or in sadness, do you trust Him?

Let us pray that we may learn to trust the Lord Jesus more completely and not question the things He allows to come into our lives.

KEEPING YOUR LINES CLEAR

Songs: “The Royal Telephone,” “Talk It Over With Jesus”

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 1:20-29

Memory Verse: Psalm 66:18

Hiss, crackle, crackle. “Hello, Brian. Can you hear me?” Krista asked loudly. “What did you say?” replied Brian, equally loudly. “I can’t hear you well because there’s so much static.

“Let’s hang up and I’ll call you again,” suggested Krista.

“What did you say?” replied Brian. “Maybe we should hang up and try again.”

“That’s what I said,” responded Krista.

“I still can’t hear you,” answered Brian. “I’m just going to hang up and call you back.”

Krista and Brian both hung up. In a minute, Brian had called Krista again. “Hello, Brian. Can you hear me now?” asked Krista.

“Ah, that’s much better,” replied Brian. “I wonder what was wrong. I’m driving with my parents to the mountains. We just went through a massive storm. Do you think that could have caused the static?”

“Maybe,” replied Krista. “I’m just glad I can hear you now. I have something really important to tell you. . .”

Using a phone is like prayer. Prayer is talking to God when we can’t see him. The song calls it the “Royal Telephone,” because of the fact that we are talking to the King of Kings, Jesus Christ Himself. We can talk with the Lord Jesus anytime, but when there is sin in our lives, we get bad connections and therefore need to cry for help to clear it up. There are times when we sin that we think no one sees our sinful acts, but we should remember that there is One who sees all, and that is God. He sees everything.

Lying, stealing, cheating, and disobeying are sins, and make for bad connections when we want to talk with the Lord Jesus in prayer.

Let us pray that we will live our lives free of sin so that we will have a clear prayer line to Jesus at all times.

PUSH-ABOUTS

Songs: “Bring Them In,” “Work for the Night Is Coming”

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 4:1-8

Memory Verse: Philippians 4:13

As the family was riding home from church, the silence was broken by father asking them about the sermon they had heard. “Are any of you wheelbarrow Christians?” he asked.

There was silence for a moment; then Ann spoke, “Well, I don’t know if I am or not, as I don’t quite understand a wheelbarrow Christian.”

“Neither do I,” replied Stan. “But it sounded interesting when the pastor was talking about it.”

“I certainly don’t want to be a Wheelbarrow Christian,” chimed in Mother. “Wheel barrow Christians sit around too much. Dad, why don’t you explain it more clearly to the children?”

“A Wheelbarrow Christian is one who has to be pushed into everything they do for the Lord. Pam, remember when they had the ‘Break Our Record Attendance Day’ and we had to keep reminding you to call your friend and ask her to go to Sabbath School with us? Then there was the time when Stan was asked to help collect items for a clothing drive for the family that had been burned out. Mother had to just keep telling him to carry his bag over to the church. Now what conclusions have you all come to?”

“Well, I guess I’m a Wheelbarrow Christian,” replied Stan.

“I need pushing to get anything accomplished for the Lord.”

“Me too,” chirped Pam, “But I’m not going to be any more. When I’m asked to do something, I’m going to get right at it.”

“I believe we all can do better, and be pushers, instead of being pushed, and I’m sure the Lord will give us the strength,” said Mother.

“Not only will we be helping ourselves, and the church, but we will be pleasing the Lord,” said Father.

What are you, a wheelbarrow or a pusher? Can you make some changes in your life that would help you become a better helper in your church?

We must pray that we will realize how much the Lord Jesus has done for us and then in turn give ourselves willingly to his service.

BEAUTIFUL ON THE OUTSIDE

Song: “Rolled Away,” “Gone, Gone, Gone, Gone”

Scripture Reading: Matthew 23:23-28

Memory Verse: Psalm 51:10

Mother had reminded Jack that he must take a bath before they left for a shopping trip downtown. Jack hated baths and did everything he could to keep from taking one. He assured his mother that a wash cloth could get him clean, since he didn't want to use soap and water. So he turned on the faucet and let the water run while he played with a little toy.

“Hurry Jack, we must leave soon,” came mother's voice from the kitchen. Jack hurried to the bedroom. Clean socks would cover up his dirty ankles he thought. His clean pants would keep his dirty knees from showing, and his long-sleeved shirt would cover those dirty arms and elbows.

Rushing into the kitchen where mother was waiting, he exclaimed, “I'm ready to go.”

“My, you look nice,” exclaimed mother, and they rushed off to the car.

In the store, mother found the nicest outfit that she felt would just fit Jack. How surprised mother was to see those dirty arms when Jack tried on the new short sleeved shirt. When Jack got home, mother had a little scrubbing session.

Jack is like some Christians, who dress up so beautifully on Sabbath, but don't clean up their lives. Little sins can cause their lives to be black and dirty inside, and all the pretty clothes cannot hide their lives from God. He sees inside and knows our lives. We can look much better outside if we are clean inside, as well.

Pray that God will help us to keep our lives clean inside, and that we can shine so brightly and glorify the Lord Jesus.

POTATO CHIPS AND CANDY BARS

Song: “I Love Him Better Everyday”

Scripture Reading: John 6:31-41

Memory Verse: Luke 4:4

Steve had just finished a big bag of potato chips and a giant candy bar. Rubbing his stomach, he announced to his Mother, “I could live on potato chips and candy bars, and I wish that was all there was to eat.”

“You would soon get tired of it, and possibly sick in just a few days,” said Mother.

“Oh, I would never tire of it, and those icky vegetables are what make me sick; Squash, ack, ack,” replied Steve.

“Our bodies need protein, fruits, vegetables, and grains in order to grow properly. A baby needs her mother’s milk to start out in life, but soon she begins to eat more complex foods. We need the different nutrients in the foods, to make our bodies function properly.

In the same way, we need the different lessons from the Bible to help us grow spiritually as we should. A diet of candy is not sufficient. It may taste good, look good and smell good, but too much can make us sickly. We need to eat everything God has provided for us, so that we can become big, strong and healthy in body,” explained Mother.

Just reading our favorite Bible verse over and over, is not enough. We need to read about the life of Jesus and try to follow His example. We need to read about men, women and children of faith who trusted God and as a result, did great things to His glory and honor. Then, we too can grow in grace, knowledge, and in the love of the Lord Jesus.

We need to pray that we will read the Word of God, and take it into our lives to become more and more like Jesus.

FILLING THE FATHER'S SHOES

Songs: "Footsteps of Jesus"

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:1-9

Memory Verse: Psalm 37:23

(Use a large pair of men's shoes for an object lesson.)

One evening as the family sat in the living room quietly reading and studying, no one noticed that little Bobby had slipped off upstairs. Soon the quietness was broken by the sound of large footsteps clumping down the stairs.

Clump! Clump! Down, down came Bobby, walking in Father's shoes.

"I'm Dad," he called. "See, I'm walking in his shoes."

"Son, aren't they a little too big for you?" inquired Dad.

"Oh, that's okay," replied Bobby, "I'm wearing my own shoes inside of yours."

It was time for devotion and Father began to read the commission of Jesus to the disciples from the Bible that lay on the center table. When he closed the Bible he said, "God has some shoes that need to be filled, and He needs people to fill them. His shoes not only go to Sabbath School and church services, but to our neighborhoods, and then to foreign countries. I wonder how many of us can step into His shoes. Just as Bobby stepped into my shoes, so we must be willing to step into the shoes God has for us."

We can be a witness in our schools, on the playgrounds, at play and at home. We must prepare ourselves and be ready to step into His shoes and go where He wants us to go.

Thoughts for Discussion: (Hold up the pair of shoes) Can anyone step into God's shoes? Can anyone be a witness for the Lord? Where can we go and who can we tell?

Our prayer should be that God will use us as messengers and witnesses for Him, and that we will be willing workers wherever He leads.

GIVING

Song: "Give of Your Best to the Master"

Scripture Reading: Luke 6:30-38

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 9:6

As everyone was listening carefully to the sermon, they were suddenly amused at the short story the pastor told. He told how one day, while sitting in his office, an elderly rich man came to talk with him.

"Pastor," he said, "I have a problem. Why is it that people are always criticizing me for being so frugal with my money? I save my money, and one day when I die, it will all go to the church, as that is the way my will reads."

The Pastor looked surprised, and then seemed to be changing the subject. "I have a little story to tell you," he said. "One day a turkey and a cow were talking in the barnyard. The turkey, gobbling to the cow, said, 'How is it that people are always so kind and gentle to you, and take time to talk with you, while they seem to pay little attention to me? You give them only milk and cream, while I give them a turkey dinner, but still no one likes me.'

"The cow stood chewing her cud for a few minutes, and then answered, 'Well, I trust I can answer your question. Maybe it is because I give my milk and cream while I am living. You don't give yours until you are dead.'"

Some boys, girls and big people, too, are like the turkey. They want to wait and give what they have when they die.

But God needs money now to get His work done. Let's be like the cow and give now so our money can be useful and we can see the benefits of it.

Are you one who wants to wait until death to give to the Lord? Can you see in your life where you could do better in your giving?

Let us pray that we will give cheerfully, not only of our possessions, but of our lives also.

IRRITATIONS

Song: "Wonderful Words of Life"

Scripture Reading: Luke 6:27-45

Memory Verse: James 5:16

As the children sat in the family room doing their homework, the silence was broken by a 'cluck, cluck' noise.

"Stop it," shouted Kathy. "Stop it right now; Mom make him stop." Tom loved to make a clucking noise from the corner of his mouth with his tongue, and this irritated his sister to no end. This ended many times in a quarrel.

Mother decided to end the quarrel. She called both children to her. "Now which one of you is in the wrong?" she asked. "Tom for making those noises or Kathy for shouting in such unkind ways?"

Tom thought a minute, and then said, "But she always screams at me."

Kathy broke in, "But that noise is so terrible that I can't study when he does it."

"These are both bad habits," said Mother. "Tom, you must stop making that noise with your mouth and irritating your sister, and Kathy you must stop your habit of shouting at him. Both of you are in the wrong."

Sometimes we try to put the blame for our own habits and faults on others. By doing this we are letting sin control our lives!

Do you find it easy to blame someone else for your bad habits or faults? Can you find some habits in your life that you know irritate others that you could control? What should we do when bad habits control our lives?

Let us pray about our habits and faults so that they don't control our lives, and that we can be loving, kind, and have a forgiving spirit toward others.

DANGER SIGNS

Song: "Look and Live"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 24:42-51

Memory Verse: Mark 13:33

The guide was telling us about the habits of the park animals when his voice was drowned out by the siren of an ambulance. What an awful feeling went over the group as we waited for the ambulance to go on down the road. All along the road we were told by the guide that we were to observe the signs, "Do Not Feed the Bears." He warned us over and over again to please observe the signs and heed them.

"I believe I know what has happened," said the guide.

"Someone did not pay attention to a sign warning of the bears."

"Why?" asked Larry. "I don't understand what you mean."

"All groups are warned as we take you through the park to not feed the bears. They get over-anxious for food, and will knock a person down and claw him/her when they are eager. The signs are warnings to protect you from harm," explained the guide.

As the group moved on down the road, they came to where the ambulance had stopped. The guide was right. There lay a little boy, who had just been put on a stretcher. He was crying, and saying, "I was just trying to feed the bears some of my apple." The bear had attacked the boy, and left great gashes on his face and hands.

"You see what I mean?" asked the guide. "The signs are for your safety and this little guy didn't obey the warning."

The Word of God is also for our safety. It is our warning against the sins of this life that will put us in danger. Romans 6:23 tells us "For the wages of sin is death. . ." Therefore we need to not fall into sin, nor keep the sins we have, but ask Jesus to free us from them.

Do you take heed to warning signs? Can you see how you can be more careful in your life to not take part in anything that is sin?

Pray daily that God will help you take His warning signs seriously and obey them, and that you will take Jesus as your Savior and Guide before it is too late.

EATING GOD'S WORD

Song: "More about Jesus"

Scripture Reading: Psalm 1:1-6

Memory Verse: Psalm 34:8

Having overslept one morning, Susan had to rush to get ready for school. Running down the steps with coat in hand, she called, "I'm late Mother, no time to eat."

But mother had breakfast ready, and insisted a little something would give Susan new strength for the day. So quickly Susan drank her glass of juice and stuffed a large piece of a roll in her mouth, swallowing it with milk. Then running out the door with books under her arm, she waved good-bye to her mother.

In a short time Susan was settled down at school, but she began to feel ill. In trying to explain to the teacher why she felt ill, she said, "I believe I swallowed my breakfast without chewing it enough."

(Give each child a soda cracker, telling them to eat it as fast as they can. Ask them how it tasted. Then give them each another one, telling them to take their time and chew it slowly, trying to taste each ingredient in the cracker.)*

Now some people are like Susan; they pick up their Bibles and rapidly read through verse after verse, never taking time to think about what they have read, or to see how sweet the words really are . . . to understand the real meaning of them, and how they can make our lives so rich and full. Our scripture reading tells us to meditate, which is like chewing food. With fathers running off to work, children to school, and mothers with many household duties, it is so easy to forget to meditate or chew the verses we read each morning.

Did you take time to chew and then digest your spiritual food this morning? Did you meditate or think about it and try to apply it to your life?

Our prayer should be that the Heavenly Father would help us to take more time each day to read our Bibles and then to meditate upon what we have read.

(*Pieces of candy or cookies could be substituted for the crackers.)

A BRIGHT AND SHINING LIGHT

Songs: “Be a Light,” “This Little Light of Mine”

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:13-16

Memory Verse: Proverbs 4:18

Bob was an honor student in Sabbath School and could quote memory verse after memory verse. At the SEEKERS meetings he took great pride in being able to lead out in all the devotionals. He seemed to know all the answers. At the last SEEKERS meeting, he won the award for being able to find the most scriptures in a scripture-finding contest. At school the next day, two friends approached him in the hall.

“Hey Bob,” said one of them, “We understand you go to church on Saturday; isn’t that kind of queer, when everyone else goes to church on Sunday?” Bob squirmed; he tried to avoid the question by getting the fellows involved in talking about the basketball game that was coming up.

Why was it that he never had anything to say about what he believed? Was he a very good light?

(Hold up a light bulb) Can anyone tell me if this bulb is good? You can’t know until I screw it in this socket. (Screw it in.) Now we all know it is good because it lights up. The bulb being lit is like boys and girls who are true Christians, always living lives in which others can see Jesus living in them. They are not ashamed of what they believe.

Of course, the unattached bulb is like some boys and girls who are ashamed to tell their school friends what they believe. The difference is the power to which the bulb is connected. As the light bulb needs the power of electricity to burn, so we need the power of the Lord Jesus working in us. John 15:5 tells us that we can do nothing without Him. Only sin in our lives can break our connection with Jesus. If we sin, we need to confess it.

Are you a good light for Jesus? Have you got the power that will keep you shining bright? Can you keep burning?

We should pray for Jesus to keep us burning and to help us stay in His fellowship at all times.

OBEDIENCE

Songs: “Trust and Obey,” “I Just Keep Trusting My Lord”

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:15-25

Memory Verse: Ephesians 6:1

Mother was placing a jar on the top shelf of the cabinet when Robby came in from play.

“Mom, what are you putting up there?” asked Robby.

“Something you must not touch, and that is why I am putting it way up high. I don’t want you children to bother it,” she said as she was climbing down.

The next day as Robby was waiting on Timmy to wake from his nap, he began to think about that jar on the top shelf. Mom was in the laundry room, and she wouldn’t know if he climbed up and looked. Slipping the chair over to the cabinet, he climbed up, got the jar down and began to open the jar. The lid slid open and it looked like jelly, but it didn’t smell like jelly. Being a third grader in school, he tried to read the label, RAT POISON. Just then Mom called for Robby to come and sort some socks for her. Robby jumped down and left the jar sitting on the cabinet. Running to help Mom, he forgot about the jar.

Soon Timmy was peeping around the kitchen door to surprise Mom, but she wasn’t there. Looking around, he saw the jar which looked like jelly.

“Oh, I love jelly,” he said as he hunted for a spoon. Just as he put a spoonful into his mouth, Robby bounced into the room. “No, no,” he screamed, but it was too late.

Robby sat in the waiting room at the hospital, crying as they were pumping the stomach of his little brother. How he wished he had listened and obeyed his Mom.

The Bible tells us to obey our parents. Our parents know what is best for us and want the very best for us in life. Therefore, we should listen and then remember what we are told, so that we obey in all things.

Is it possible to obey those we love? Who does our obedience really please? Pray that we will obey our parents with love at all times.

VALUABLE TIME

Song: “Take Time to Be Holy”

Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Memory Verse: Hosea 10:12

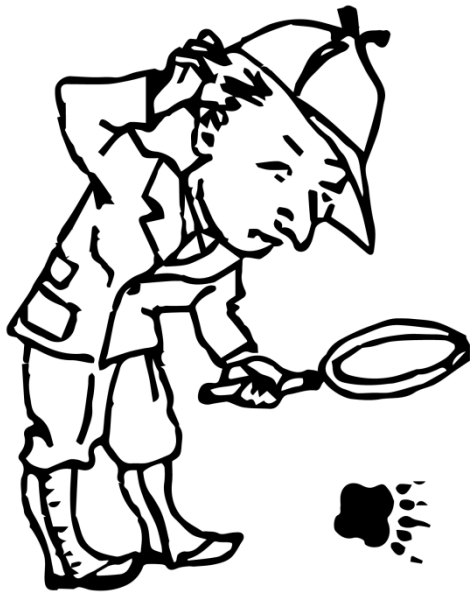
(Object lesson: a comic page, or newspaper funnies.)

I am sure that all of you can recognize what I have here. How many of you love to read the comics or funnies in the newspaper? I can see that most of you do. Now here’s an even more important question. How many of you read your Bible every day?

It seems we are so very busy when it comes to thinking about taking time to read from the Word of God. We’re busy with so many things, so being too busy becomes our best excuse. How long does it take to read the funnies or comics? Can we take that much time to read the Bible? Many of you spend at least 30 minutes a day watching TV and I am sure many spend much more time than that. There is nothing wrong with this, if we watch the right type of programs and if we don’t let TV take priority in our lives. It would be better to turn off the TV earlier in order to read from God’s Word, than to put it off and not have time. Let us not have an excuse of “busyness” for not reading the Word of God each day. We have time, if we just make sure we do! There should be a time for everything as our scripture reading tells us. Our time that is spent in praying and reading from the Bible is the most valuable time we spend all day.

Do you think you can spend more time reading God’s Word? Can you use your time in a more valuable way?

Let us pray that God will help us to make reading His Word a matter of importance each day of our lives.



SEEKING TRACKS

The “Seeking Tracks” time period allows Seekers an opportunity to develop skills enabling them to put their Bible training into action for God, church, society, and self. On the following pages, you will find ideas to aid you in achieving this goal.

This thirty (30) minute period may be utilized for various projects. Projects could include arts and crafts for sharing with others, planning programs, church beautification, etc. Seekers might also use this time to report to their leader or SEEKERS group for completion of badge requirements.

Seeking Tracks

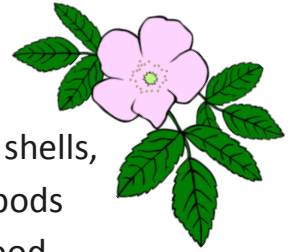
This final segment of your monthly meeting may be used for many activities. Since your Seekers are going to need to make reports to you (or another adult) or to the entire group, part of this time could be designated as report time. Make sure that all Seekers are involved in some activity during this time.

You will probably want to present special programs in church or for a special service periodically. The Seeking Tracks time could be utilized for rehearsal time.

At other times, you and your Seekers will want to be involved in arts and crafts activities for fun or for sharing with others. Some ideas are given on the following pages.



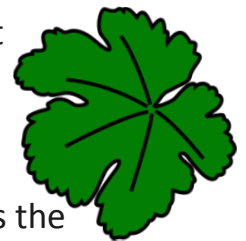
A NATURE COLLECTION



What did you do with all those pieces of drift wood, sea shells, leaves, pieces of bark, twigs, or dried flowers and dried weed pods you picked up on your nature hike? Do you still have them? Good, we'll use them now.

You will need a piece of burlap (your choice of color) 7 inches wide and 14 inches long. Some thumbtacks for attaching the burlap to a heavy stick or dowel for hanging, will be needed, as well.

You could make up your own design for the collection, but leave room at the top before you start your design. Here is an example:



Row 1 - could be twigs, so pull out eight or twelve threads across the piece of burlap and weave the twigs in and out.

Row 2 - weave a stiff colored plastic cord across the burlap and glue on dried pods or whatever you like about a half inch apart.

Row 3 - pull out ten threads and weave in some leaves or whatever.

Row 4 - pull out twelve or so threads and weave in a piece of bark.

Row 5 - pull out fifteen threads and weave in three sticks you gathered.



Row 6 - pull out fourteen threads and weave in some straw or wheat.

Row 7 - pull out ten threads and weave in seashells or glue something else you have. You might like to draw a picture of Racky and put him on top of your hanging.

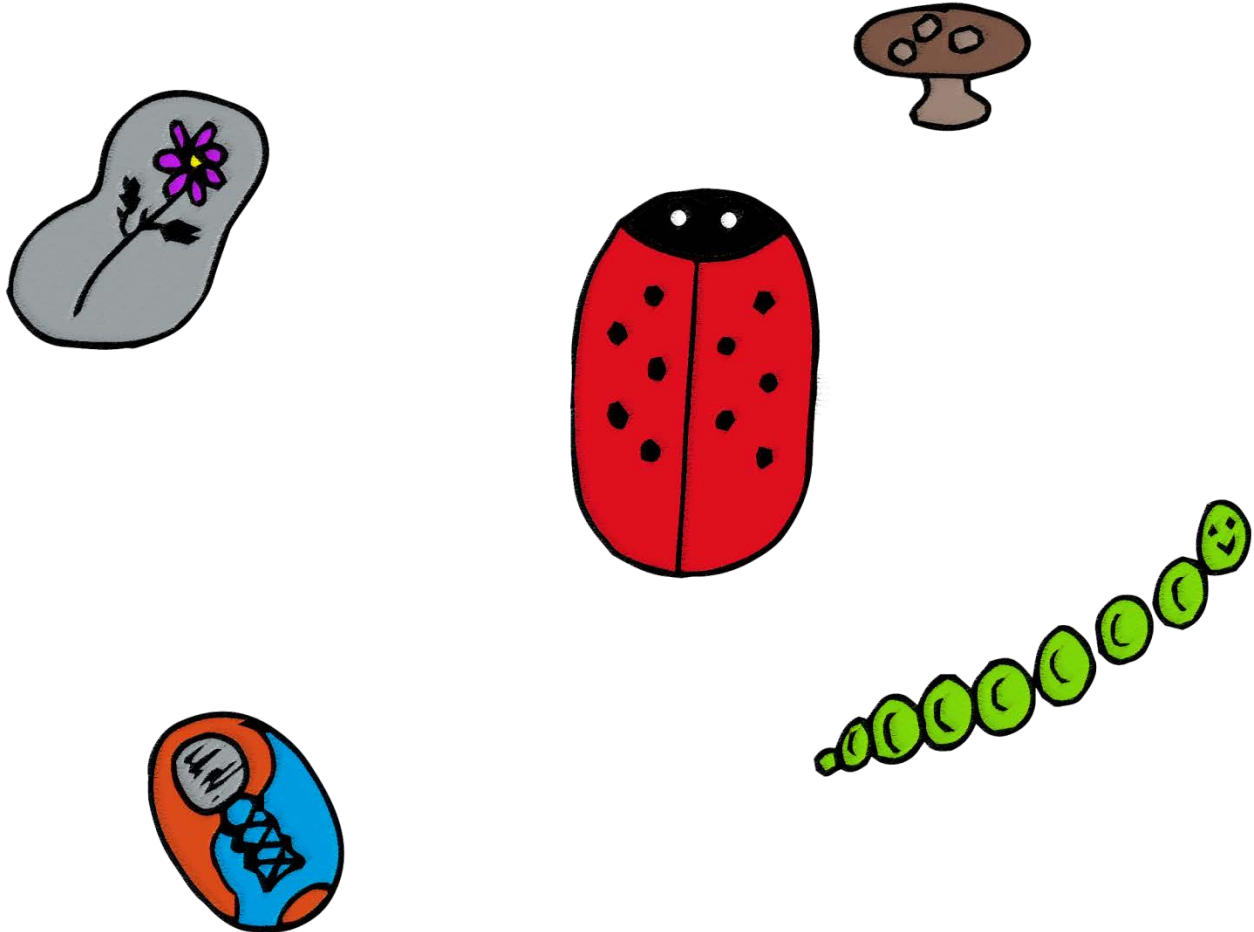


PAINTING ON ROCKS

Just pick up rocks in any size or shape and paint on them with water colors. All you will need are rocks, water colors, paint brushes and water.

You can paint flowers, animals, ladybugs, scenes or whatever you like to draw; just use your imagination. You can also glue small flat rocks together to make worms or other animal shapes. Then paint them and put a face on them.

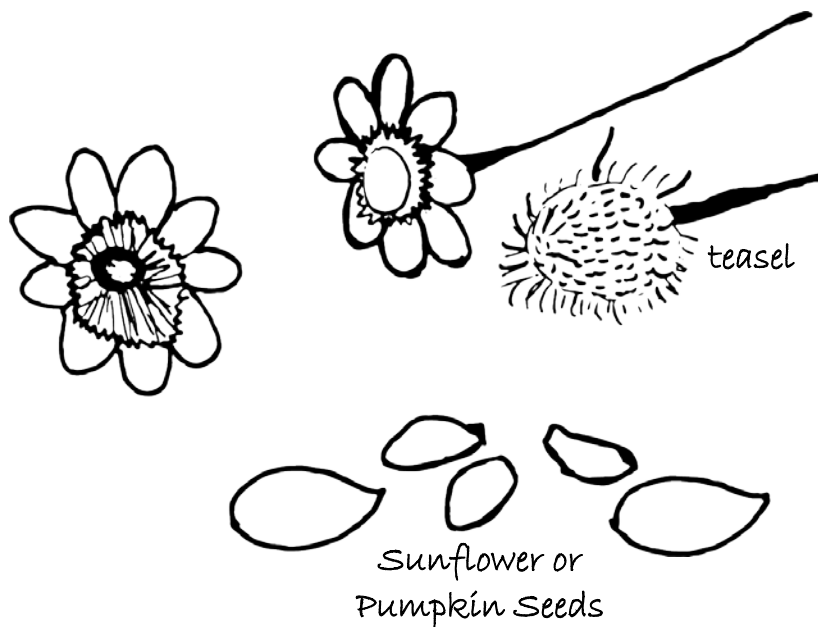
Your finished product can be used for paper weights, bookends or just fun things to set around.



FLOWERS FROM TEASELS

These flowers are made from dry teasel burrs and seeds. A teasel is a weed that grows almost anywhere, especially by the road, and is ready to pick at the end of summer. Handle with care because they do have stickers.

Leaving the stems long, cut off the top half of the teasel burr with a knife. Paint some dried pumpkin or sunflower seeds with bright poster paint or spray with paint. Push the seeds into the burr to look like flower petals. Decorate the center with a stone from old jewelry or buttons. HAVE FUN!



TISSUE PAPER FLOWERS

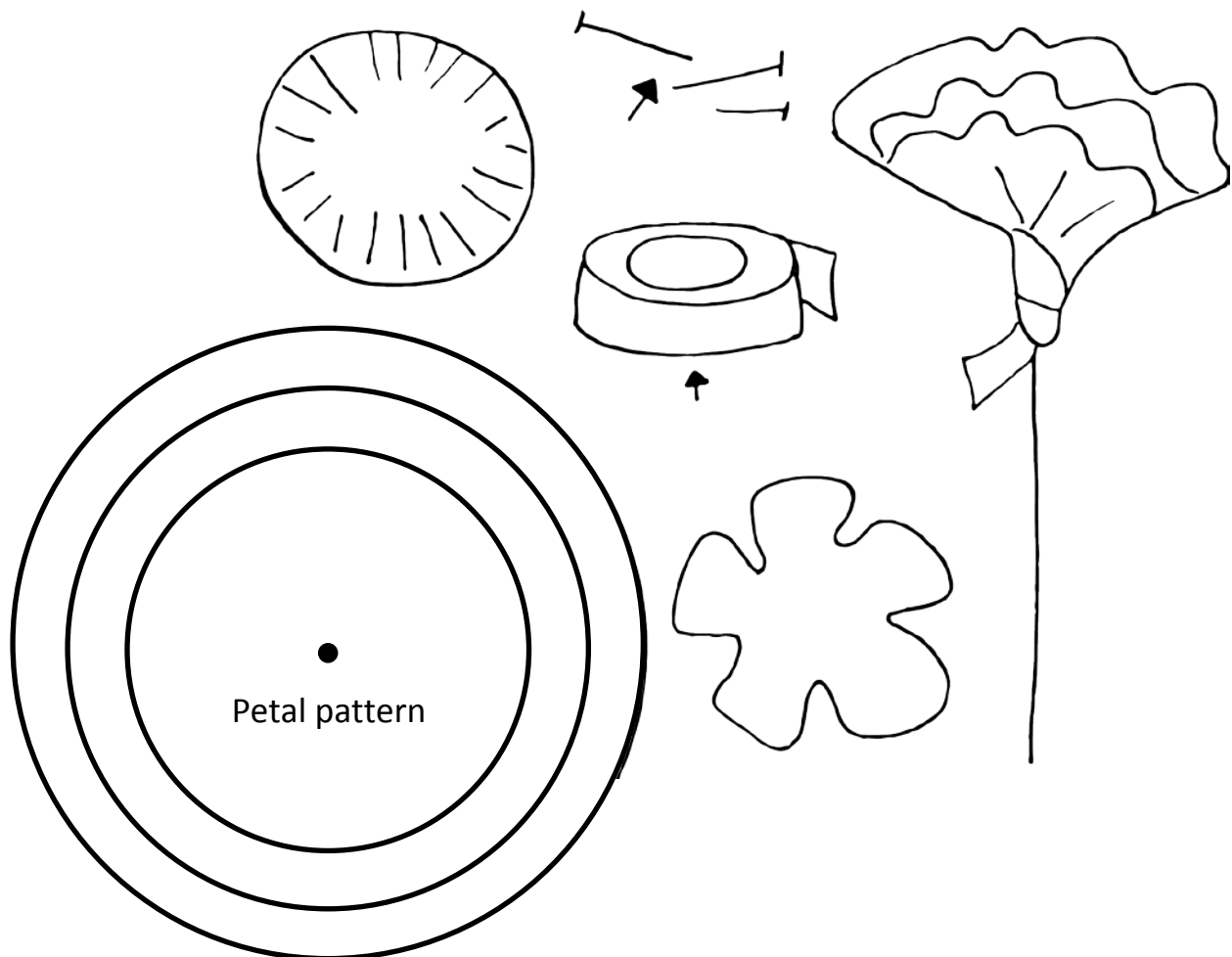
Let's make a pretty bouquet of flowers for Mother, a rest home, or to take to a shut-in.

Materials Needed:

- Tissue paper – several colors
- Straight pins
- Florist tape
- Thin wire – cut in 8-inch lengths

Directions:

Trace the petal pattern at the bottom of this page. Then stack with the largest petal on the bottom. Stick a pin in the center dot, down through all the layers. Push the petals up over the head of the pin. Then hold the pin tightly against a piece of wire and wrap florist tape snugly around the pin and wire. You can also cut your circles curvy or scallop them.



Let's Make a Scriptural Bouquet

Have your Seekers make a bouquet of flowers for a shut-in or an elderly person in your church or neighborhood.

Materials Needed: fresh flowers, paper, pencils, ribbon, scissors, paper punch

Directions:

Have each Seeker bring a fresh flower from home. (Note: if fresh flowers are not available, make paper flowers.)

Each Seeker should write his favorite memory verse on a strip of paper about 2 inches by 8 inches. Fold the paper once. Punch a hole in it, and tie it to the flower with a ribbon. Place all of the flowers in a container and deliver it to the person chosen.



Scrapbooks



Scrapbooks can be made or purchased at hobby stores and department stores. Fill them with all kinds of pretty pictures from greeting cards and magazines; or have your Seekers draw their own pictures. These are really enjoyed by children in the hospital. You could also make them for the church nursery.

Perhaps you would like to let your Seekers make a scrapbook to keep their extra Seeker goodies. Scrapbook covers can be made from any sturdy piece of material such as cardstock, cardboard, vinyl or acrylic. For the scrapbook pages, use printer paper, construction paper, or regular scrapbook pages. The pages can be held together with yarn, brads, or rings.

Tic-Tac-Toe Pillow Game

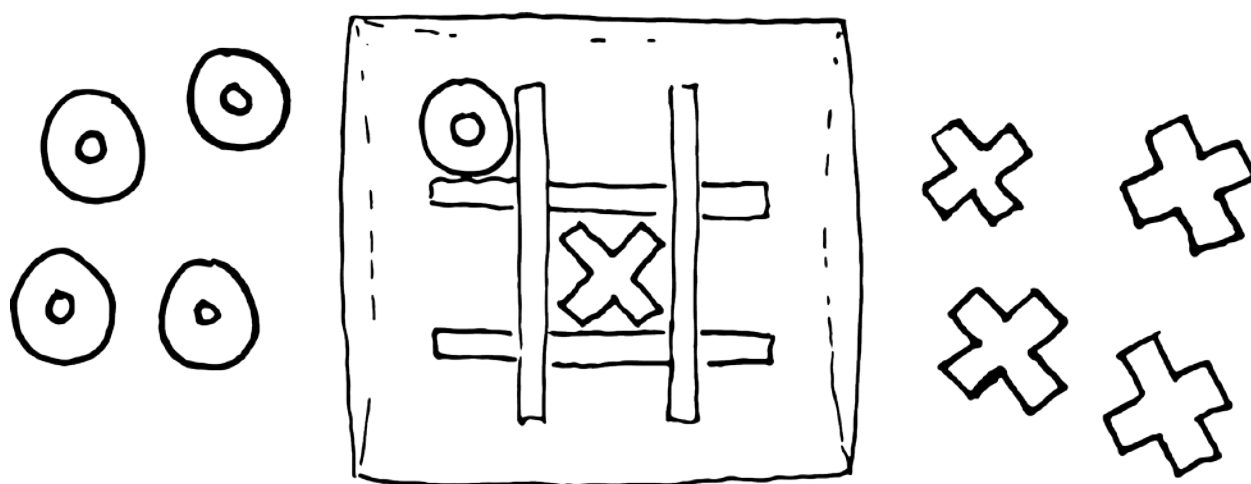
This pillow game is good for traveling, children in hospitals, or just for yourself. Older people in rest homes would even enjoy this game.

Materials Needed: felt (any color), stuffing material, scissors, sewing machine (Fabric glue or fusible web may also be used.)

Instructions:

1. Cut two 13 inch squares of felt.
2. Cut one 6 inch square of felt to make a pocket for the back of the pillow. Sew, glue, or use fusible web to attach three (3) edges of the small square to the large square. This is to hold your X's and O's.
3. Cut four (4) strips of felt 10 inches long and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide for the tic-tac-toe design on the front of the pillow. Attach to the large square.
4. Cut X's and O's out of felt.
5. Attach front to back on three (3) sides. Stuff lightly as you want the pillow to lie flat so that you can play anywhere (traveling, lying down, or in your lap). Close the last side.

Other games may be made in a similar manner. This game could also be made on wood, Masonite or cardboard using colored tape or contact paper for the game board.



Bulletin Board

Everyone likes to post their papers, school pictures, etc. So why don't we make a bulletin board?

You can make them any size. For example, take a piece of 18-inch square double corrugated cardboard and some contact paper or wallpaper trim for borders. Paste your trim around the edge of your cardboard. Punch two holes in the cardboard and attach a light weight rope to hang it.

Bulletin boards can also be made with corrugated cardboard covered with burlap and decorated with felt scraps. Or make one out of cork glued to plywood. Use tacks or stick pins to hold your treasures.

Your SEEKERS group might want to make a large bulletin board for your church. Use it to announce upcoming events and badges earned.



Tissue Notepaper or Greeting Card

Materials Needed: flower petals, leaves, small whole flowers, ferns, etc.; facial tissue, waxed paper, glue, ruler, pencil, pastry brush, white printer paper

Instructions:

1. Plan the finished size of your notepaper and draw an outline on a piece of plain paper.
2. Place a sheet of waxed paper over the outline.
3. Arrange your leaves, flowers, etc. attractively on the waxed paper.
4. Separate the tissue into thin sheets. Cover leaves, etc. with one (1) thin sheet of tissue.

5. Using a pastry brush dab a solution of equal measures of white glue and water on the tissue. Be sure to saturate the tissue.
6. Allow to dry thoroughly. Press to flatten.
7. Using a ruler as a guide, tear excess off edges. Fold in half and insert a piece of notepaper (white paper cut to desired size).



Toys for Church Nursery

Materials Needed: wood blocks (any shape or size), sand paper, lead-free paint, and paint brushes

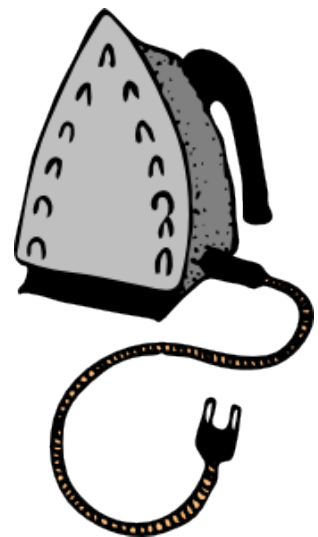
Have each Seeker choose several blocks and sand the rough edges down, making sure all sides are smooth. Then paint them bright colors. Some Seekers may like to paint ABC's or draw pictures on the blocks.

Note: If you don't have any blocks of wood available at your home, most lumber yards will supply you with scraps gladly. Or there may be a carpenter in your church who will save the scraps for your group.

Iron-On Designs

Many different projects can be made using fabric and iron-on fabric tape. Decorate a pair of white cloth gloves for Mom or Grandma who likes to garden. Cut out ten (10) red fingernails, make a flower, or use your own imagination. Press the designs on with a hot iron. It's fun and easy!

Napkins, placemats, almost anything can be decorated with iron-on tape.



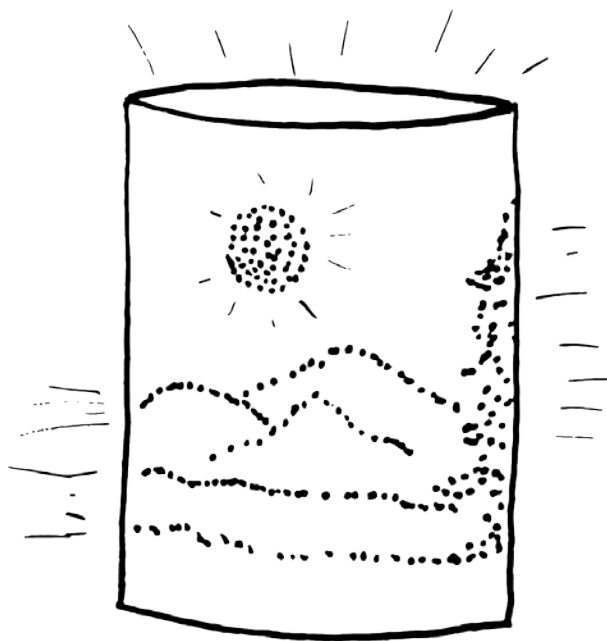
Tin Can Lanterns

Several days ahead of your meeting have each Seeker fill a tin can with water to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the top of the can. You can use cans of any size. Make sure the water is frozen very hard before you begin working on your can. (Leaders, you may want to have Seekers bring can weeks in advance and freeze them yourself.)

Materials Needed: nails, hammers, paper, masking or cloth tape, an old bath towel (have them bring one from home)

Directions:

1. Cut a piece of heavy paper – like freezer paper – big enough to go around the can and draw your design on it.
2. Wrap your design paper around the can and tape it.
3. Place the can on the folded bath towel.
4. Now with your nail and hammer, punch holes into the can along the lines of your design.
5. If the ice starts to melt, put the can and paper in the freezer until it is hard enough to work on again.
6. Place a candle inside after your design is finished.



Spool Candle Holder and Nut Cup

Materials Needed: large spools, paint or markers, long chenille pipe cleaners, birthday candles, nut cups, cards 3 x 1½ inches, flower stickers (optional)

Instructions: Color or paint your spool. Take a pipe cleaner and push the ends through the spool holes to form a handle. Glue one end of the spool to the card, leaving space for your nut cup beside it. Glue your nut cup to the card. Then place the candle in the holder made by the spool. Decorate the card with flowers or write names on the card if you have names available.



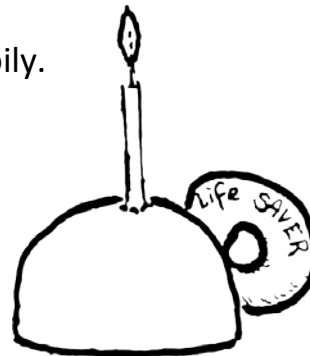
Birthday Candle Favor

These can be used as tray favors for hospitals or even a banquet.

Materials Needed: Life Savers, gum drops, birthday candles, construction paper or paper doilies, and glue

Instructions:

1. Cut construction paper to desired shape or choose a doily.
2. Push one side of a Life Saver into a gum drop to form a handle for the candle holder.
3. Insert the candle in the gum drop.
4. Glue the gum drop to the paper shape or doily.



Turkey Favor

Your SEEKERS group could make these for Thanksgiving Day favors for a rest home or hospital.

Materials Needed: nut cups, crepe paper, white paper, scissors, paint brushes, tempera paints, and glue

Instructions:

1. Cover your nut cup with brown crepe paper.
2. Cut the wattle and tail from white paper, using the pattern below. Paint on head features, feet, and feathers.
3. Glue a nut cup to the position indicated in the pattern.
4. Fill nut cups with mints and nuts and take to a rest home or hospital.

Pattern:



Here's another tray favor. Seekers would even like these as place cards at a banquet.

Materials Needed: rolls of Life Savers, tissue paper in any color, white construction paper, scissors, glue, felt-tip pen to coordinate with the tissue paper (black is always good)

Instructions:

1. Wrap the Life Saver roll with a piece of colored tissue paper.
2. Cut a heart or some other shape about 2½ inches high out of construction paper. Write “God is Love (1 John 4:8)” or some other appropriate verse or saying on the heart with a felt-tip pen.
3. Cut ¾ inch squares of tissue paper; crinkle them slightly and glue them around the edge of the heart.
4. Glue the heart to the Life Saver roll so that the favor will stand.

**Decorate the Throw-Aways**

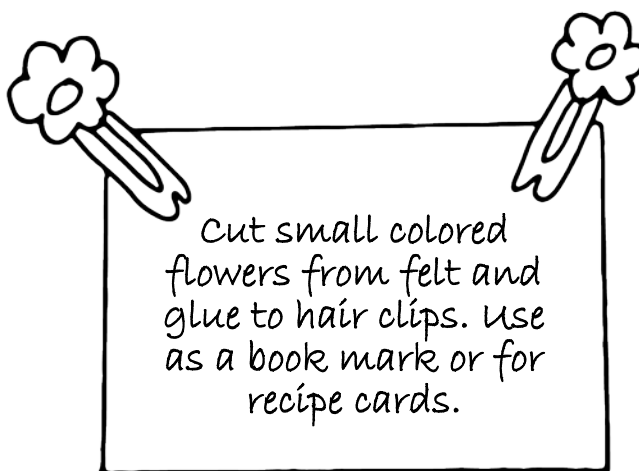
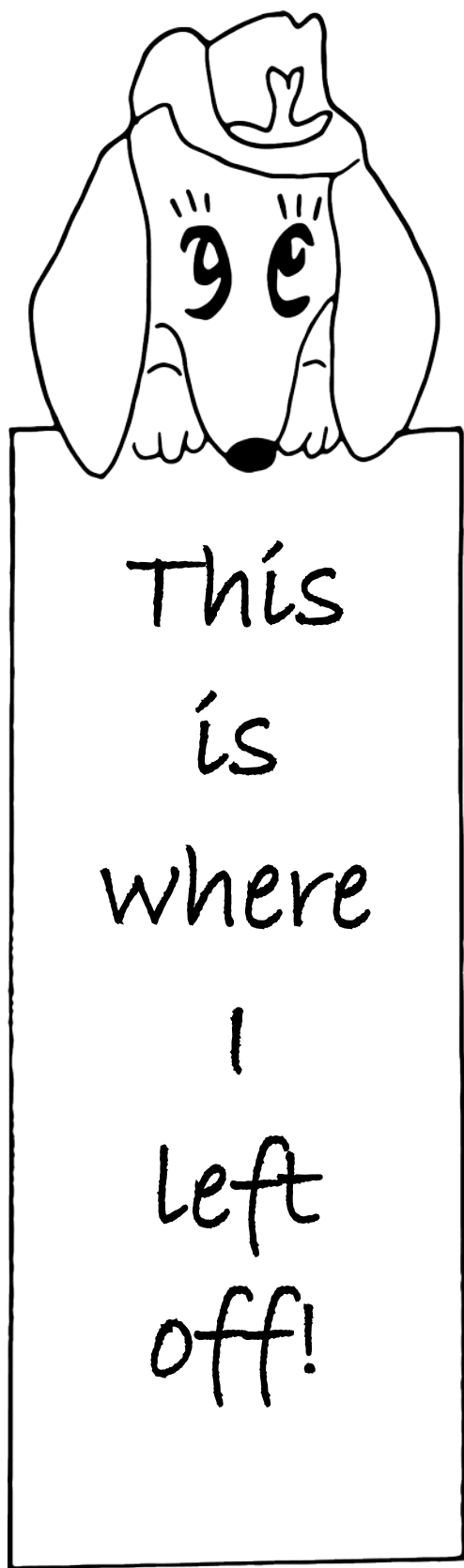
Use your household jars, cans, plastic butter tubs or bowls, and bottles to make useful decorative items. Cover with contact paper, paint with glass paint (available at hobby stores), or decorate with stickers, sequins, felt scraps, rick-rack, old jewelry, or whatever you have.

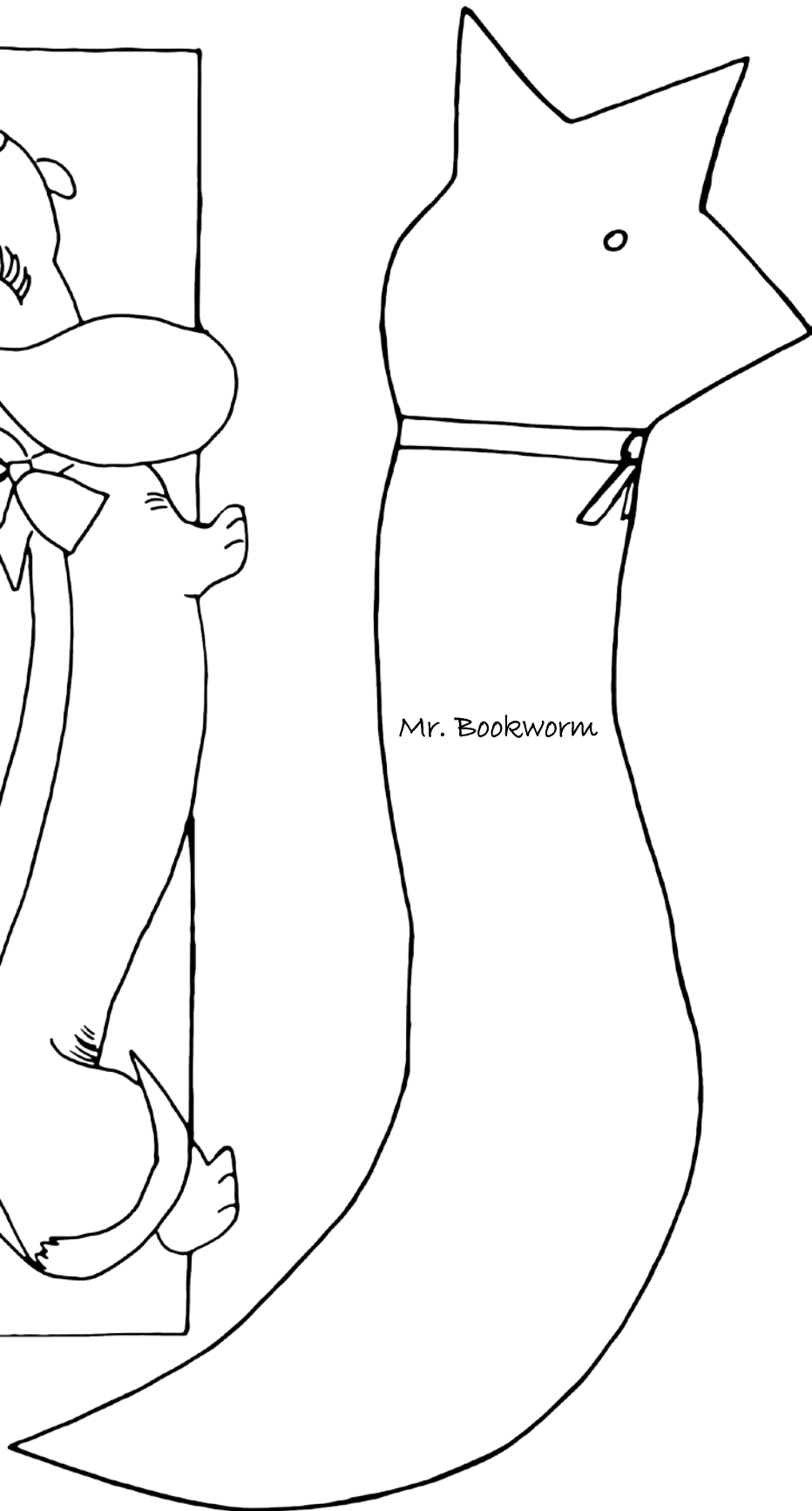
These containers can be used for banks and pencil holders. Or decorate a container and fill it with homemade candy to give to a shut-in or to a member of your family. The larger containers are even nice to put homemade cookies in to take to some elderly person in your neighborhood.

Bookmarks

Anyone who likes to read would enjoy receiving a bookmark. Make them out of scraps of felt. Make them 10 inches long for big books and 7 inches long for little books. You might make a flower at the top and then a long stem; or make a cat at the top and a mouse at the bottom. Or how about making a giraffe with a long neck? Use sequins and felt-tip pens to decorate them if you wish.

Bookmarks can also be traced on fusible interfacing and colored with felt-tip pens. Some patterns are on the next couple of pages.





Crayon Design on Cloth

Materials Needed: cloth, crayons, felt-tip marking pen, designs from coloring books, original drawings, stencils, etc.

Trace the design on the material and color with crayons. You can outline with felt-tip pens. To make the design permanent, press the cloth with a hot iron using a pressing cloth.

You can make crayon designs on placemats, aprons, napkins or whatever you choose. You might even do a wall hanging.

Dough Art

Materials Needed: flour, salt, water, cookie cutters, acrylic paint (or model paint)

Recipe:

- 4 cups flour
 - 1 cup salt
 - ½ cup water
1. Mix ingredients together. Add either more flour or water to achieve a dough that is not sticky, but that does not flake or crumble.
 2. Knead the dough until it becomes soft and pliable. This may take up to 20 minutes. Shape dough as desired or use cookie cutters. Bake in 350° oven until crust is golden brown.
 3. Cool and paint.

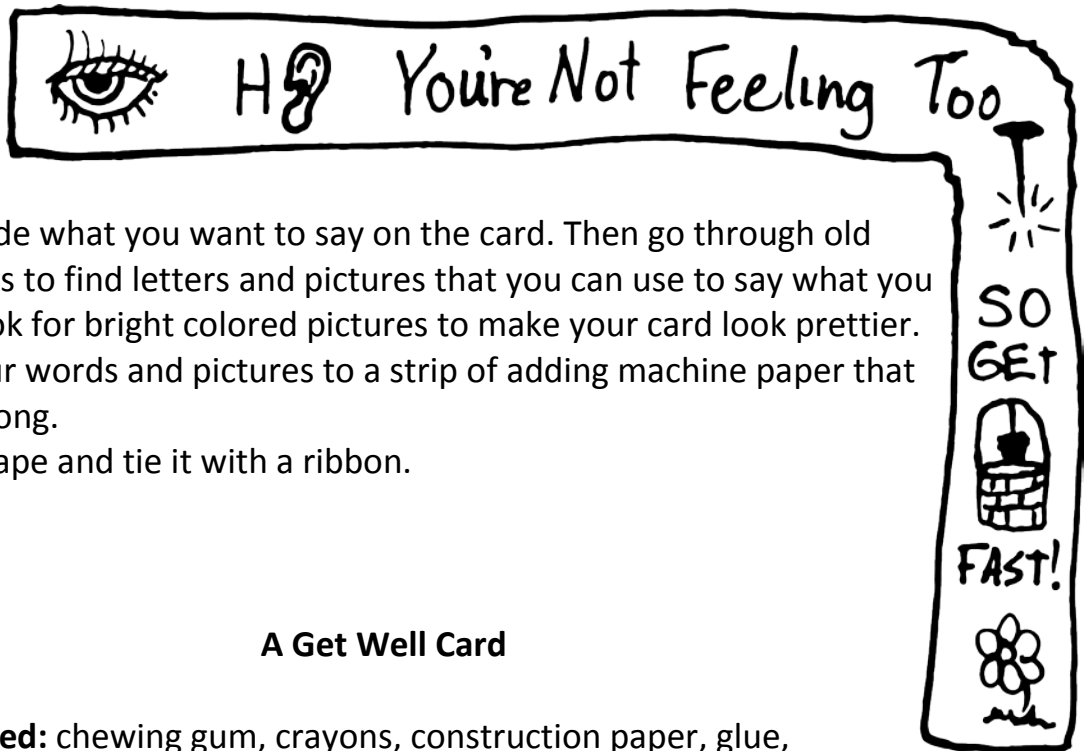
Dough can be wrapped in plastic and refrigerated for long periods of time. The painted dough objects can be used in many ways. Glue them to a board or corkboard to make a wall decoration. By making a hole near the top of your objects, they can be used to make a mobile. Fruits and vegetables can be made and painted for a kitchen arrangement. Remember that objects that are flat on one side work best. As the dough bakes, watch for air bubbles. These can be punctured with a pin.

Greeting Cards

Make a two (2) foot long greeting card.

Materials Needed: a roll of white adding machine paper, old magazines, scissors, glue, and narrow ribbon

Example:



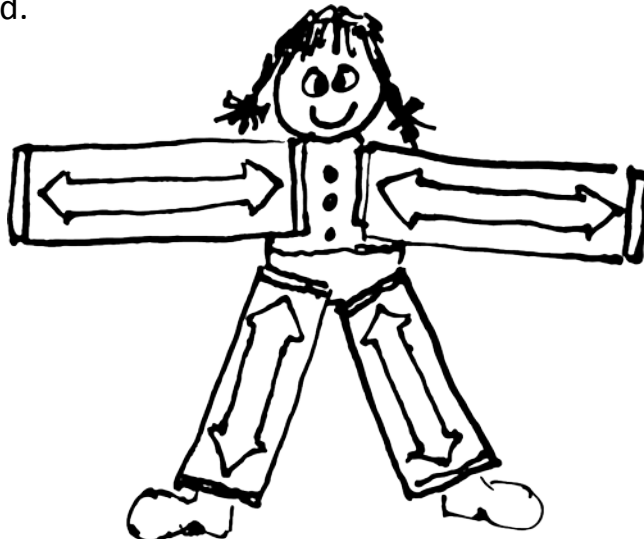
Directions:

1. First decide what you want to say on the card. Then go through old magazines to find letters and pictures that you can use to say what you want. Look for bright colored pictures to make your card look prettier.
2. Paste your words and pictures to a strip of adding machine paper that is 2 feet long.
3. Roll the tape and tie it with a ribbon.

A Get Well Card

Materials Needed: chewing gum, crayons, construction paper, glue, scissors, felt pens

On a folded piece of construction paper, draw a face and body. Then use the sticks of gum for legs and arms. Let the Seekers write a message or verse on the inside of the card.



Time for Discovery

Time for Discovery meetings should be held at least once a quarter. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information for your Seekers relative to the badges toward which they are working. Creativity is the key to making this meeting exciting and meaningful.

At times, you will want to have group meetings where you have a guest speaker talk to all of your Seekers. At other times, you may want to go on a field trip that would provide information that Seekers need to complete badge requirements. There will probably be very few times when all of your Seekers are working on the same badge; however, there is no reason that all of them cannot benefit from information relative to other badges.

Occasionally, you might set up mini-meetings in homes for small groups of Seekers working on the same badge. Hopefully, the “Jonathan Program” will help fill gaps in this area, too. The Seekers’ “Jonathan” friends should help provide information and experiences for their Seekers.

On the following pages are ideas of places to visit or people to contact about speaking to your group. There are also other resources such as books, websites and videos. You will want to review any resources before sharing them with your Seekers. The list has been categorized in order to give you suggestions relative to each badge. This list is by no means complete. Perhaps your Seekers could help make their own list of speakers and places to visit.

Who knows – you may make some new discoveries, too!

BIBLE BADGE

1. Books
 - a. *The Story of the Bible: The Fascinating History of Its Writing, Translation & Effect on Civilization* by Larry Stone
 - b. *How We Got the Bible* by Neil R. Lightfoot
 - c. *Who Wrote the Bible* by Richard Elliott Friedman
2. Movies
 - a. <https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/a-lamp-in-the-dark-the-untold-history-of-the-bible/>
 - b. <https://www.christianfilmdatabase.com/review-categories/bible-history/>
3. Websites
 - a. <http://www.greatsite.com/timeline-english-bible-history/>
 - b. <https://www.wycliffe.org/discovery-center>
4. Online Museum: <https://library.osu.edu/innovation-projects/omeka/exhibits/show/the-king-james-bible/sections/exhibit-overview>
5. Museums
 - a. <https://www.museumofthebible.org/explore>
 - b. <https://www.deseretnews.com/article/865607070/Bible-museums-across-the-US-range-from-scholarly-to-colorful.html>
 - c. <https://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2014/11/a-collection-of-bible-museums-exhibits/>
6. Talks by a pastor or Bible College teacher or student

CHILD CARE BADGE

1. Websites
 - a. <https://www.babycenter.com/baby>
 - b. <http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/guide-parents.html>
 - c. <https://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/>
 - d. <https://www.universalclass.com/articles/self-help/babysitting/care-giving/small-business/early-childhood-development/a-babysitters-guide-to-caring-for-children.htm>
 - e. <https://www.familyfuntwincities.com/fun-indoor-games-for-kids-of-all-ages-categorized/>
 - f. <https://www.care.com/c/stories/3775/101-indoor-games-and-activities-for-kids/>
2. Field Trips
 - a. Visit a preschool or day care center
 - b. Visit your church's preschool or kindergarten Sabbath School class
3. Guest Speakers
 - a. A new mother
 - b. A preschool or kindergarten teacher

FIRST AID BADGE

1. Literature & Possible Speakers from:
 - a. American Red Cross
 - b. Medical Association
 - c. Cancer Society
 - d. Lung Association
 - e. Muscular Dystrophy Association
2. General First Aid Websites
 - a. <https://www.webmd.com/first-aid/default.htm>
 - b. <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/firstaid-safe/>
 - c. <https://medlineplus.gov/firstaid.html>
3. Teaching Children First Aid Websites
 - a. <http://www.teacherplanet.com/content/first-aid>
 - b. <http://www.redcross.org.uk/What-we-do/Teaching-resources/Teaching-packages/Microsite/Life-Live-it-first-aid-education-for-children>
 - c. <https://www.theguardian.com/teacher-network/teacher-blog/2014/sep/08/how-to-teach-first-aid-life-saving-skills>
4. Guest Speakers
 - a. Doctor
 - b. Nurse
 - c. Paramedic
5. Field Trips
 - a. Hospital
 - b. Clinic
 - c. Ambulance Service

FOOD BADGE

1. Websites for children
 - a. <https://www.choosemyplate.gov/kids>
 - b. <http://www.nourishinteractive.com/kids>
 - c. <https://healthy-kids.com.au/kids/primary-school/>
2. Websites for leaders
 - a. <https://www.superhealthykids.com/tools-for-teaching/>
 - b. <http://www.nourishinteractive.com/nutrition-education>
3. Field Trips
 - a. Farm
 - b. Farmer's Market

- c. Grocery Store
- 4. Speakers
 - a. Dietician
 - b. Healthy Foods Chef

HEALTH BADGE

1. Websites for children
 - a. <http://kidshealth.org/en/kids/?WT.ac=k-nav>
 - b. <https://www.healthyactivekids.com.au/kids/>
 - c. <https://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/kids-teens.aspx>
 - d. <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/humanbody.html>
 - e. http://www.softschools.com/facts/human_body/
 - f. <http://easyscienceforkids.com/human-body/>
 - g. <http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicCategories.aspx?p=285>
 - h. <https://drugfacts4youngpeople.com/>
2. Websites for leaders
 - a. <https://www.healthyactivekids.com.au/teachers/>
 - b. <https://www.teachervision.com/subjects/health-safety/nutrition>
 - c. <https://kidskonnect.com/health/human-body/>
3. YouTube Videos
 - a. How the Human Body Works – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9n0Nfh-G2c>
 - b. Learn about the Human Body – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rg34VwymLXc>
 - c. Health Videos – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fF7SNcw7kxQ&list=PLY-UzbX3YTp-FwP0FU3iu10AqQq2nExIL>
4. Guest Speakers
 - a. Doctor or Nurse

HOME SKILLS BADGE

1. Websites
 - a. <http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/miscellaneous/mtable-setting.htm>
 - b. <https://educationpossible.com/teach-kids-to-set-the-table-5-simple-steps/>
 - c. <https://www.thirtyhandmadedays.com/guidelines-for-practical-life-skills-for-kids/>
 - d. <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/children.html>
2. YouTube Videos
 - a. Doorway Manners – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvbsyUVCKFc>
 - b. Telephone Skills – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RKiG57_ghwo
 - c. Caring for My Family – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Valce3-6RAI>

3. Easy Table Centerpieces: <https://www.pinterest.com/explore/easy-table-decorations/?lp=true>
4. Guest Speakers from:
 - a. Fire Department
 - b. Telephone Company
5. Field Trip to a Motel

KITCHEN CRAFT BADGE

1. Websites for kids
 - a. <https://www.thespruce.com/basic-cooking-lessons-479941>
 - b. <http://kidshealth.org/en/kids/recipes/>
 - c. <http://spatulatta.com/>
 - d. <http://www.chopchopmag.org/>
 - e. <http://www.cookwithamber.com/>
2. Websites for leaders
 - a. <https://www.nutrition.gov/subject/life-stages/children/kids-in-the-kitchen>
 - b. <http://www.thekidscookmonday.org/>
 - c. <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/packages/recipes-for-kids/cooking-with-kids>
 - d. <https://www.kids-cooking-activities.com/index.html>
3. Field Trips
 - a. Restaurant
 - b. Bakery
 - c. Pizza Parlor

LIVING WITH OTHERS BADGE

1. Websites
 - a. <https://www.momschoiceawards.com/blog/etiquette-ig-quiz/>
 - b. <https://howdoesshe.com/18-fun-activities-that-teach-good-manners/>
 - c. <https://www.thespruce.com/etiquette-games-and-activities-for-children-1216589>
 - d. <http://www.nea.org/tools/lessons/learning-and-practicing-good-manners-grades-K-5.html>
 - e. <http://www.teacherplanet.com/content/manners>
 - f. <http://extension.illinois.edu/conflict/index.cfm>
2. YouTube Videos
Family Education Series – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgZeziVUsZ0&list=PLWUvWgxGsU5WEfQPZCoY5blmfONTiyneb>

3. Field Trips
 - a. Go to a nice restaurant
 - b. Visit an orphanage or nursing home

MONEY BADGE

1. Websites for kids
 - a. <https://handsonbanking.org/kids/>
 - b. <http://www.richkidsmartkid.com/>
 - c. <https://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/play>
 - d. <http://bizkids.com/games>
2. Websites for leaders
 - a. <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/money-as-you-grow/middle-childhood/>
 - b. <https://www.kidsplayandcreate.com/how-teach-kids-about-money-fun-and-interesting-facts-about-money-for-kids/>
 - c. <https://www.usa.gov/money-factory-lesson-plan>
3. Field Trips – <http://www.moneylessonsforlife.com/money-field-trips.html>
 - a. Bank
 - b. Mall
 - c. Supermarket
4. Guest Speakers
 - a. Banker
 - b. Small Business Owner

NATURE BADGE

1. Websites for kids
 - a. <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>
 - b. <http://eekwi.org/index.htm>
 - c. <http://pbskids.org/games/nature/>
 - d. <https://www.nps.gov/webrangers/index.cfm>
 - e. <http://discoverykids.com/>
 - f. <https://www.dkfindout.com/us/animals-and-nature/>
2. Websites for leaders:
 - a. <http://learn.eartheasy.com/2009/03/environmental-websites-for-kids/>
 - b. <https://www.exploringnature.org/>
3. Tours of:
 - a. Commercial Nurseries
 - b. Flower Gardens

- c. Visitor Centers
 - d. Observatories
 - e. Planetariums
 - f. National and State Parks
4. Speakers from:
- a. State Parks & Recreation
 - b. Forestry Service

OUTDOOR COOKING BADGE

1. Website for kids – <https://www.kids-cooking-activities.com/kids-campfire-cooking.html>
2. Websites for leaders
 - a. http://eartheasy.com/play_campfire_cooking.htm
 - b. http://www.lovetheoutdoors.com/camping/cooking_methods.htm
 - c. <http://www.macscouter.com/cooking/>
 - d. <http://www.scoutorama.com/recipe/>
3. Field Trips
 - a. Camping
 - b. Picnic
 - c. Beach Party

READING BADGE

1. Websites for kids
 - a. Dewey Decimal System Games – <https://www.quia.com/jg/7265.html>
 - b. <https://sites.google.com/site/dawnmediacenter/library-learning-games>
 - c. <http://breitlinks.com/DeweyChallenge/>
 - d. <http://www.beetlebugbooks.com/kids/how-books-are-made/>
 - e. <https://wonderopolis.org/wonder/how-are-books-made>
 - f. <https://www.poetry4kids.com/>
 - g. <http://www.loriswebs.com/youngpoets/>
2. Websites for leaders
 - a. <https://www.goalexandria.com/dewey-decimal-system/>
 - b. <http://www.dltk-kids.com/type/poetry.htm>
3. YouTube Videos
 - a. Non-fiction Book Organization – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kwoa8sDiIOs>
 - b. The Dewey Decimal System – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bV_sl8XQdI
 - c. How a Book Is Made – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGNC1Yn9kM0>
 - d. Parts of a Book – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cu8j7YnunuzQ>

4. Field Trips
 - a. Library
 - b. Printing Press
 - c. Bookstore

ROCKS AND MINERALS BADGE

1. Websites
 - a. http://www.onegeology.org/extra/kids/rocks_and_minerals.html
 - b. <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/earth/rocksandminerals.html>
 - c. <https://kidsloverocks.com/>
 - d. <https://www.dkfindout.com/us/earth/rocks-and-minerals/>
 - e. <https://www.coolkidfacts.com/rocks-and-minerals/>
 - f. <http://www.mineralogy4kids.org/>
 - g. <http://www.ducksters.com/science/rocks.php>
2. YouTube Videos
 - a. Rocks and Minerals for Kids – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jjCEWkCiZ9M>
 - b. Rocks and Minerals – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-f9wrB5-yEY>
3. Movies and Videos
 - a. <https://rmpbs.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/idptv11.sci.ess.earthsys.d4krom/rocks-and-minerals/#.WisKpCErL0o>
 - b. <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/videos/chemistry/mineralchemistry.html>
4. Visits to:
 - a. Caves, Canyons, Rock Formations
 - b. Local Rock Collector or Rock Shop
 - c. Museum

WEATHER BADGE

1. Websites for kids
 - a. <http://eo.ucar.edu/kids/>
 - b. <https://eo.ucar.edu/webweather/>
 - c. <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/weather.html>
 - d. <http://www.weatherwizkids.com/>
 - e. <http://www.weatherforkids.org/>
 - f. <https://scijinks.gov/>
 - g. <http://youngmeteorologist.org/>
2. Websites for leaders
 - a. http://eo.ucar.edu/educators/KC_guide_intro.html
 - b. <https://scijinks.gov/menu/educators/>

3. YouTube Videos
 - a. Weather – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UckUHeWxD0>
 - b. National Geographic Kids Weather – <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/youtube-playlist-pages/youtube-playlist-weather/>
4. Field Trips
 - a. Tours of Airport Tower
 - b. Weather Station
 - c. Museum of Science
5. Talk by Local TV or Radio Weatherman

WRITING BADGE

1. Websites for kids
 - a. <https://www.poetry4kids.com/blog/lessons/poetry-writing-lessons>
 - b. <https://www.poetry4kids.com/rhymes>
 - c. <https://sites.google.com/site/easygrammar4kids/home>
2. Websites for leaders
 - a. <http://www.sparklebox.co.uk/thumbs331-335/sb331prev.html#.WnDzkXlG1hF>
 - b. http://www.softschools.com/language_arts/
 - c. <https://www.education.com/activity/writing-process/>
3. Literacy Lessons Videos – <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLY-UzbX3YTp91nHCYW9-wFpYbZnMSd1nW>
4. Guest Speakers
 - a. Author
 - b. Editor
 - c. Illustrator
5. Field Trips
 - a. Printing Press
 - b. Anywhere – Have students write about their trip when they get back

Time for Adventure

This will probably be the favorite meeting for your Seekers. Socials are always an exciting event. They provide an excellent opportunity to involve other people in SEEKER activities. You could very effectively use these activities to acquaint parents and other adults with the SEEKER program and the accomplishments of your group.

Boys and girls will enjoy being able to help plan their socials. Parents are usually happy to provide refreshments if given advance notice.

With a little imagination and planning, even simple refreshments and games can turn into quite an adventure.

FLOWER GARDEN PARTY

Here's a good mixer game to get the party going: give each person half a flower and let them find their partner. Here are several examples:

cowslip
carnation
primrose
marigold
mistletoe
crocus
calla lily

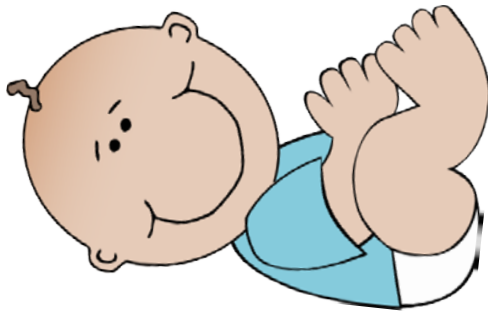
tulips
lilac
sweet william
bleeding heart
rosemary
silver dollar
moss rose

birdbill
black-eyed susan
bachelor button
painted daisy
johnny jump up
mission bell
jack in-the-pulpit

This would be a good outdoor party to play badminton, volleyball, handball, or a good game of softball.

Refreshments: Have a sheet cake decorated with real flowers. Make ice cubes with real, edible flowers in them to float in the punch.





GUESS WHO??????????

Have everyone bring a baby picture; then put them on display and number each one. See who can guess the most correctly.

Some verses you may like to use and share with them are Romans 2:11, Ephesians 6:9, and 1 Samuel 16:7 in regard to respect of persons.

Game: Scramble the letters of each child's name and see who can unscramble the most.

Refreshments: tacos or burritos

Ejo, Rolie, Skitse, Luije, Mji
 Kne, Addvi, Olcra, Hnjo, Nycan
 Ryam, Nkxae, Alrac, Nan
 Nobien, Hilp, Jeffrey, Rolie
 Matie, Horic

DADS AND DAUGHTERS

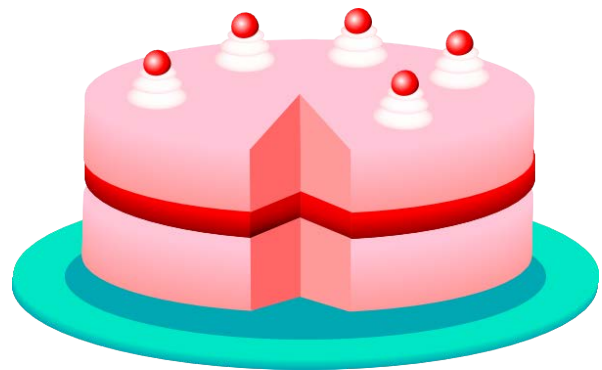
Let the girls bake a cake at home and bring it to the party unfrosted. Have the dads frost and decorate their daughter's cake. Give prizes for the best decorated, the neatest, and the most original one.

Decorate the walls with cutout cake pictures from magazines, or the girls may want to draw and decorate a cake from construction paper to put up. Crepe paper streamers can add a festive touch.

Balloon Game: Divide up into teams; each person gets a balloon to blow up and tie in a knot. Each person sits on his/her balloon until it breaks; the first team to break all their balloons wins.

Alphabet Letter Game: Have alphabet letters cut out of paper and put them on a table. The dads and daughters must use a straw to suck up one letter at a time to spell words. If any letters are dropped, the word does not count. The team with the most words after each person has had a turn wins.

Refreshments: cake, ice cream and punch



HOBOS ARE COMING

Each person dresses as a hobo with a bindle stick. You might want to give a prize for the best costume and the dirtiest looking one.

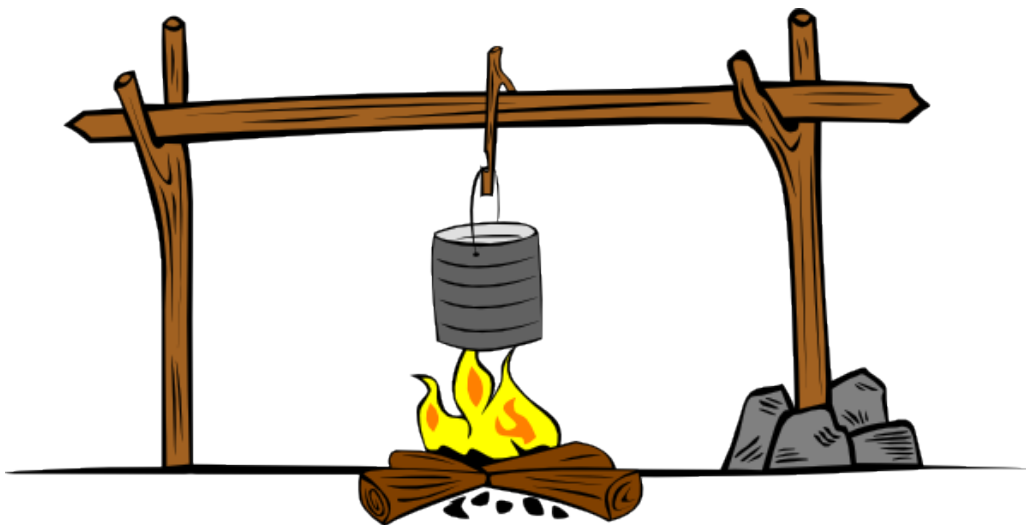
Bible thoughts about dirty rags: Titus 3:4-6, Isaiah 64:6, and Romans 12:1-2 could be read and discussed.

You might serve cheese, wieners, and bologna cut in short pieces and placed on tooth picks. Have carrot and celery sticks, olives, and dips. Also, check the outdoor cooking badge booklet for recipes.

Serve the refreshments in tin cans, cups and aluminum pie pans or any old dishes.

Games:

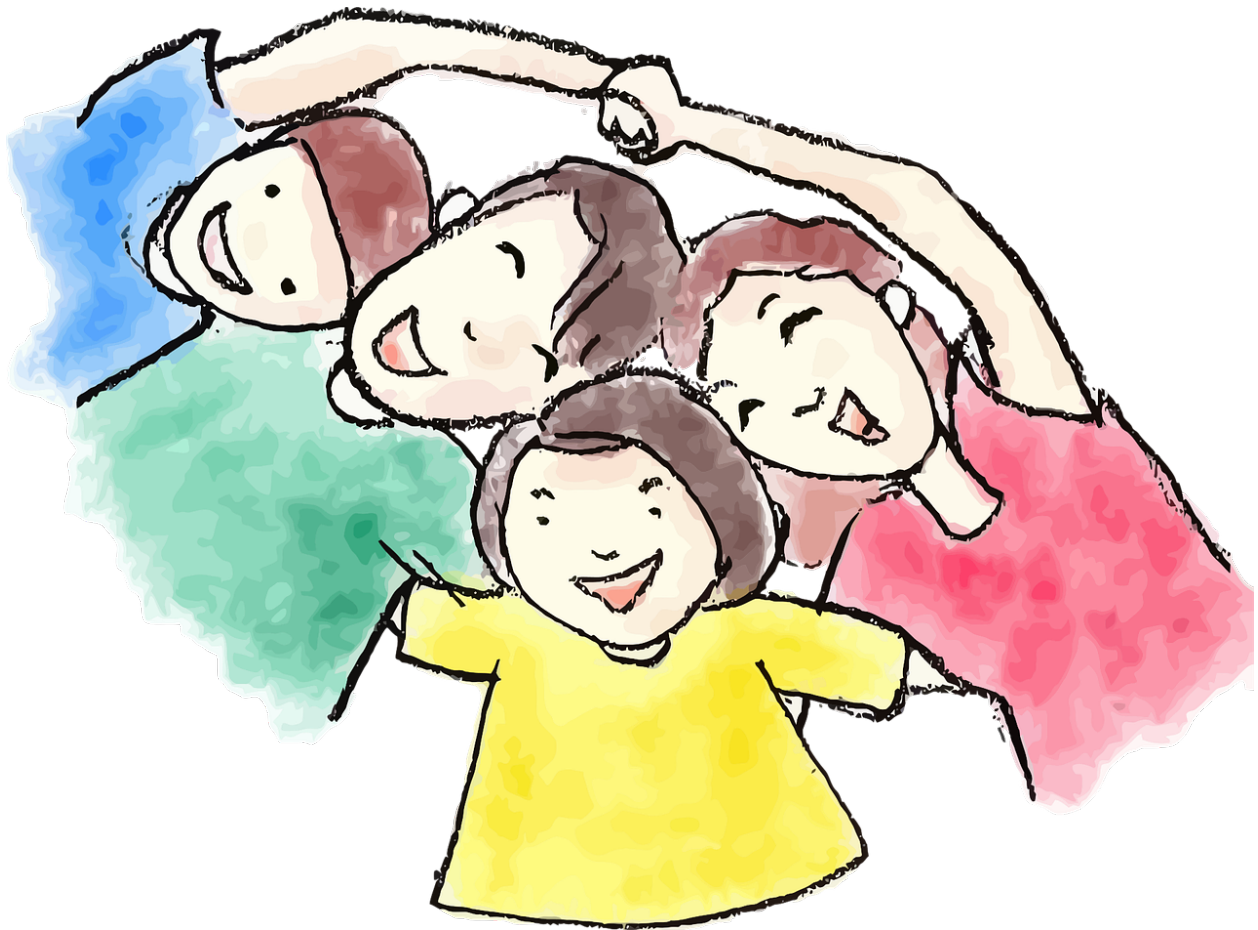
- Gunny sack race
- Lifesavers on a tooth pick relay
- Eggs in a spoon relay race
- Or see game section



PARENT NIGHT

Point out parent-child relationship and responsibilities: Colossians 3:20-21, Exodus 20:12, Ephesians 6:1-4, and Genesis 22:11-19. Also let the Seekers tell different aspects of the program to their parents that evening.

This could be a banquet for the parents. Let the Seekers prepare it. How about their favorite food: hamburgers, chips, punch, homemade ice cream and cookies?





MISSIONARY PARTY

Like something different? Try this one!



Have each person choose one of our mission fields and bring some information or pictures about the country or the work in that country to share with others.

They may even like to dress in foreign costumes that evening.

Invite a missionary to speak or show a film or slides on our own missionary work in the church, if possible.

It would be fun to decorate different tables to represent various countries.

This could be done as a potluck for everyone, for families, or just for Seekers and their friends. Serve refreshments of your choice, or serve foods of foreign countries.

You could end the party with breaking a piñata!





SEEKERS JULY 4th BANG UP



This party could be lots of fun with relay races of all kinds. Let the boys and girls decide and choose what kind they like to play. You might want to check the Game Section.

Decorations of red, white, and blue are especially appropriate for this party.

BE CAREFUL with the firecrackers and sparklers.

Serve: Hot dogs, chips, punch, and cold watermelon.



“SHARING WITH OTHERS – LET’S BE THANKFUL”
(Good for November)



Have each person bring fresh fruit, canned goods or whatever you decide. Then let them fill baskets and deliver them to rest homes, shut-ins, the elderly, or needy families. Some older people would even enjoy a fresh bouquet of fall flowers.

Bible text: Luke 17:11-19.

Decorate your church or home (wherever you meet) with fall colors, leaves, pumpkins, or corn stalks.

Baskets could be delivered that night or the next day.

Serve: Sandwiches, homemade cookies and hot chocolate.

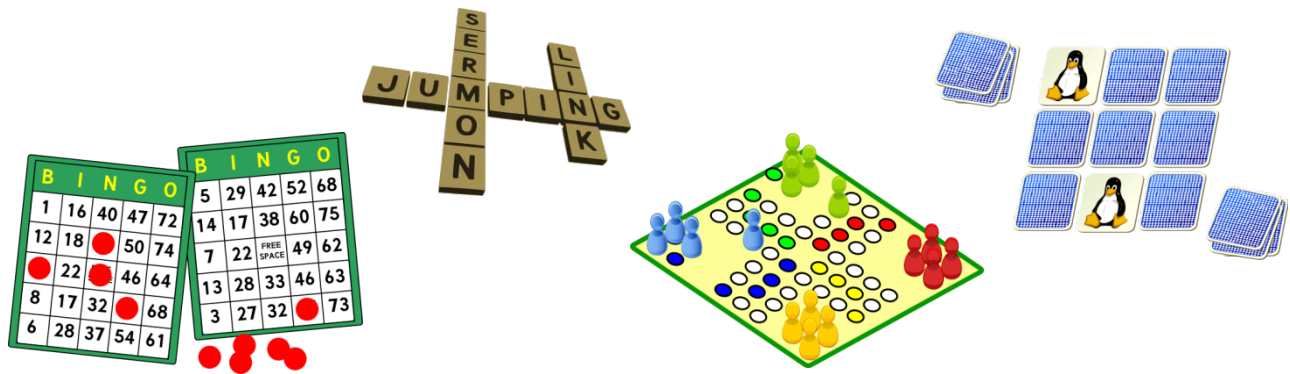


GAME NIGHT

Some cold winter night have a game night at a Seeker's home or the church multi-purpose room. Provide a variety of games from the Seekers' homes. Some suggestions are Checkers, Parcheesi, Sorry, Pit, Waterworks, Old Maid, Dominoes, and Chutes and Ladders.

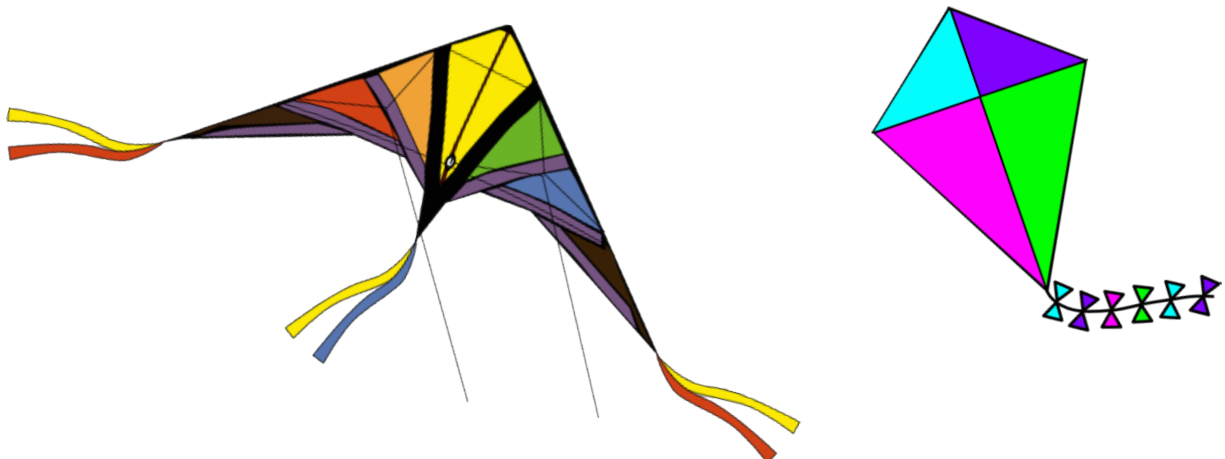
Prizes could be given to the person who wins the most and least games.

Refreshments: popcorn, apples, nuts, hot chocolate



GO FLY A KITE

Plan a Sunday in March for Seekers and their dads to make kites. Give prizes for the best flier, most original, biggest, smallest, etc. For refreshments, have everyone bring sack lunches.



FINDERS SEEKERS

(Moms and Sons)

Find the objects that your son leaves in his pockets that usually go through the washer. Items include: Legos, rubber bands, gum, small toys, rocks, erasers, pennies, lip balm, trading cards, candy, balloons, playdough, acorns, etc. Have the boys go and hide the objects; then the mothers try to find them.

Games: bubble gum blowing contest, table games (see game section)

Serve: pizza, punch, and cookies



“GIVE AWAY”
(This one is for everyone)

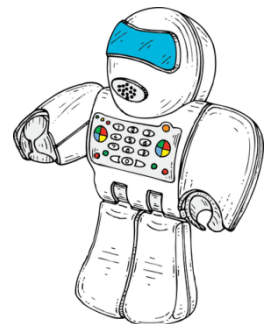
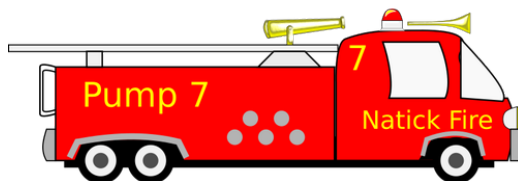
Have everyone bring something they no longer can use or need, but that would make someone else happy. This is one way of teaching Seekers to share material things, as well as have fun. These items could be taken to a foster home, needy family, or to replenish the church nursery. Some may even like to make stuffed animals for a hospital; if they do, be sure to check with the hospital so you have the correct stuffing.

Games:

- See game section
- Seekers’ choice
- Hostess’ choice

Refreshments:

- Popcorn or popcorn balls
- Fresh apples and punch



OVERNIGHT CAMPOUT

Plan an overnight campout at a state park, recreational area, or on land belonging to a church member. Seekers could have a planning session to discuss food and activities. Appoint committees to plan meals, recreation, schedule and evening devotion. Each committee should have an adult member to provide guidance.

Your evening devotion might be based on Genesis 12:1-5. Abraham and Sarah left all their possessions and went camping for many years. They did not know where they were going.

Also, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus went on a trip to the temple when Jesus was twelve (12) years old. What do you think they took with them? Luke 2:41-42. How far is it from Nazareth to Jerusalem? How many days journey was it?



DADS AND LADS TOGETHERNESS

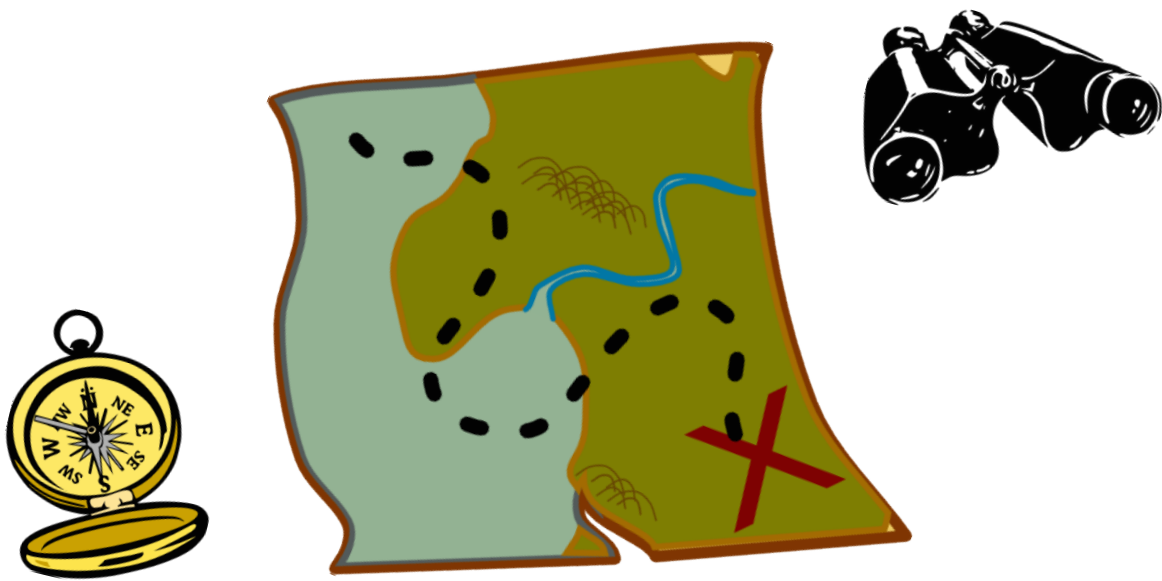
“Okay boys, get your hiking boots on. You, too, dads. We’re off . . .”

Help the young people appreciate to a greater extent the way God has blessed us with our wonderful outdoors.

Go to a farm with a wooded area or to a park which is near you. Have someone go there ahead of the group and put up clues and directions for the group to follow. He should post signs like “DANGER AHEAD!” and “Look under the rock 15 feet ahead of you.” He could also place objects along the path such as a rubber snake on a log in the middle of the trail. Finally, he should place a stuffed raccoon or picture of Racky somewhere along the trail. Remind the group to be sure to look for Racky!

The hidden treasure would be a picnic at the end of the hike. You might serve barbecued hamburgers, chips, and punch.

You might like to choose teams and play a game of baseball, horseshoes or relays.



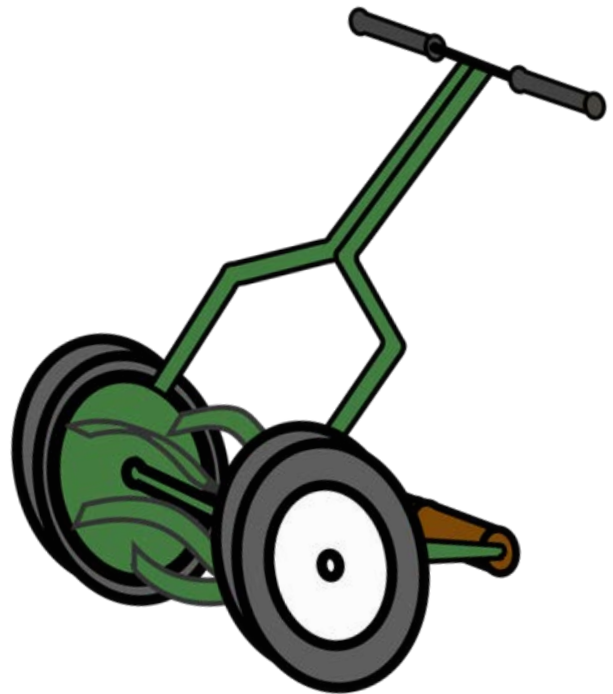
SPRING TIME CLEANUP

Don't you like a nice, neat, clean church to be proud of when you come to church and when you bring your friends to youth rallies, socials, or SEEKERS meetings? Great! Let's help keep it clean and neat! One Sunday afternoon or early evening (whatever time works out for your group) do the job.

Your Seekers could spend the afternoon pulling weeds, planting flowers, mowing the grass, or just picking up papers or whatever needs to be done. It will be greatly appreciated by your local church members and the people of the community.

Tell Mom not to forget the cookies and Kool-Aid for after the hard work is done.

THANKS, SEEKERS!



BIBLE EXPLORATION NIGHT

This is a good social to have in a home or the church multi-purpose room in the fall or winter months. Advertise ahead of time that they must bring their Bibles as their ticket for admission.

The evening's activities will be Bible games or puzzles. You may make your own or purchase them from a religious bookstore or online. Make sure the puzzles are not too difficult as this activity should be fun. Encourage the Seekers to look up answers in their Bibles. Here are some suggestions:

Bible Games to purchase – <https://www.christianbook.com/page/kids/games/bible-games?navcat=Toys|Games|Bible-Games>
https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_2?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=bible+games

Bible Trading Cards & Games –

<http://www.sundayschoolsources.com/bible-trading-cards.htm>

Gospel Hall Games –

http://www.gospelhall.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3734

Living Water Games – <http://www.livingwaterbiblegames.com/biblegames.html>

Refreshments: punch/hot chocolate, sandwiches, chips, cookies



(Games pictured are from Living Water Games – see above url.)

BLACK NIGHT

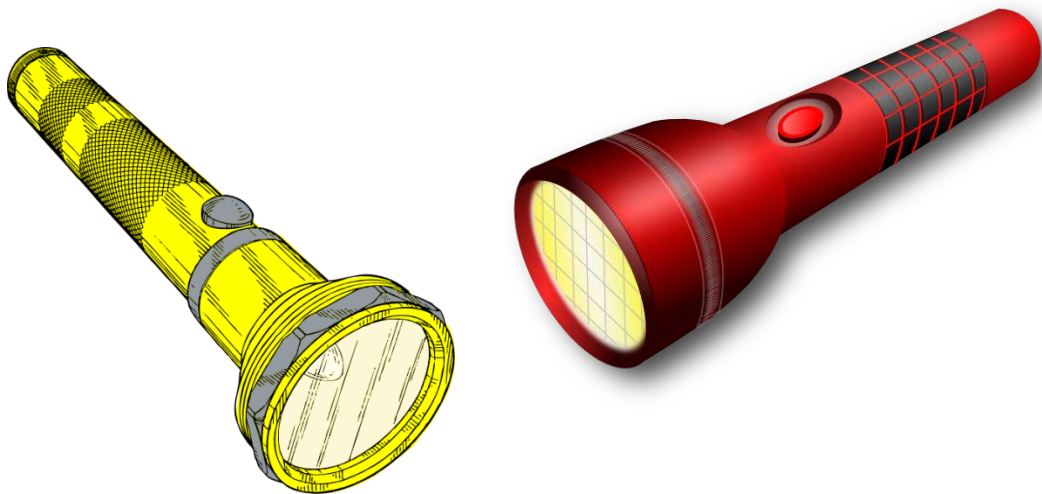
This social should be held in the church multipurpose room as lots of space is needed. Lights are used only to organize games and keep discipline. Games will be played in the dark. Each Seeker should bring his own flashlight.

Games:

- Relay using a flashlight as a baton
- Bat a balloon around a circle while holding a flashlight in one hand
- Signature relay – Divide into two or more teams. Each team member signs his name to a piece of paper and then passes the paper to the person next to him. The leader must decide which team has the neatest list.

Bible verses for short devotion:

- Matthew 8:12 – outer darkness
- Colossians 1:12-13 – we are delivered from darkness
- 1 John 1:5-6 – If we say we know the truth, but walk in darkness, we are liars.



SPRINGTIME EXPLORING

Go to a park in April or early May. Plan a nature hike to look for the signs of spring. Look for flowers, new leaves, insects, and animals. Listen for spring sounds.

Have a devotional – “God makes everything beautiful in its time.”



ENJOYMENT FOR OTHERS

Plan a trip to a rest home or the home of an isolated member. Present a short program for them. You should include songs, skits, poems, etc.

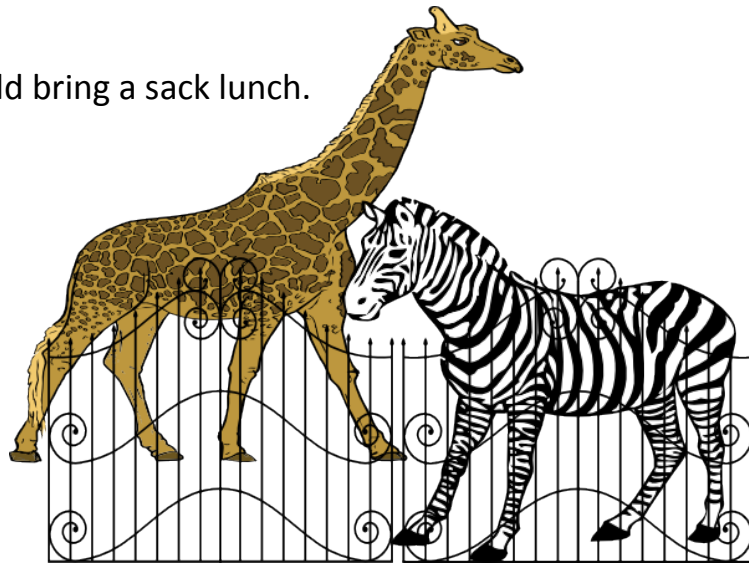


ZOO TRIP

During the summer months, schedule a trip to the zoo. This is a good place to talk about Noah and the Ark (Genesis 6:19-22; 7:13-17; 8:17-19).

How did he get all those big, ferocious animals in the ark? Discuss what kind of food they ate, etc. Have several adults along to answer questions and keep the children thinking.

Everyone should bring a sack lunch.



AUTOGRAPHS, PLEASE

For this social, each Seeker should bring a plain white T-shirt or a pillow case. Use ballpoint embroidery pens, permanent ink felt tip pens, or laundry markers to autograph and draw pictures on the shirts or pillow cases.



BRING A FRIEND

Give a prize to each Seeker who brings a friend to a SEEKERS meeting or social. Devotional ideas could center around the friendship of David and Jonathan. Read the story in 1 Samuel 18; 23:16-18.



SECRET PACKAGE

Bring a gift-wrapped package to a social. At intervals during the social, stop and give a clue concerning the prize in the package. The last clue should be given just before the devotion. Can they guess what's in the package? Let them write their answer on a sheet of paper. If no one guesses correctly, put all of the names in a box and draw a name to receive the prize.



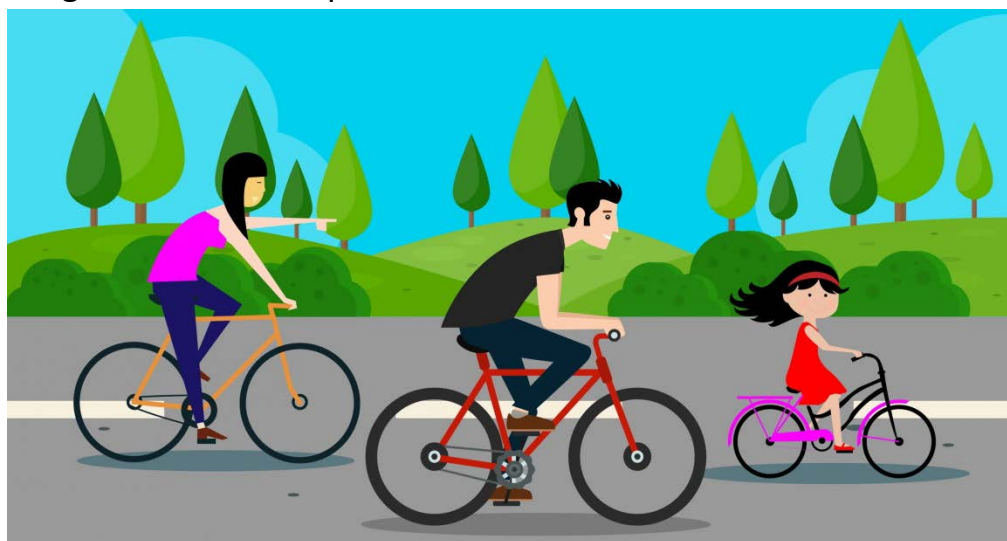
HAT NIGHT

Designate one social as “hat night.” Each Seeker should make a hat. Prizes can be given for the prettiest, ugliest, most original, etc.



BIKE TRIP

Plan a bike trip for your group. If you live in the country, map out a safe, scenic route. If you live in the city, plan a trip on a bike trail. There are usually parks along such trails. Ride for several miles before stopping for lunch. Have Seekers bring sack lunches or plan a barbecue.



SHARING GOD'S BEAUTY

One spring day, plan to plant fast-growing flowers in small decorated milk cartons, jars, or cans. Have the children bring the cans, etc. Decorate them with tin foil, paper, tissue paper and starch, or paint. Have someone assigned as gardener to keep the plants watered. When the flowers are blooming, write cheery notes and take them to shut-ins. This is a good way to teach children the fun of doing for others.

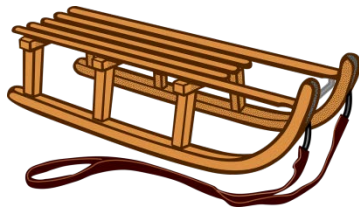


SNOW TRIP

This activity will have to be adjusted to the area in which you live. If you have lots of snow, you may just have a “snowman contest.” If you live a couple of hours from snow, you may want to make a day of it. Plan to take a sack lunch.

Devotional: “God Plans Seasons”

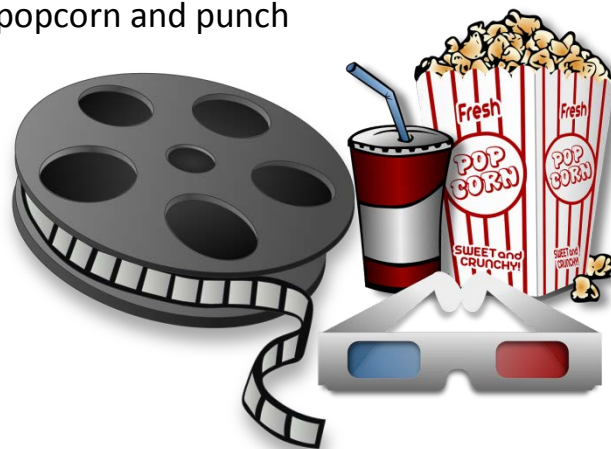
Equipment: toboggans, saucers, trash can lids, skis, etc.



MOVIE NIGHT

Invite your church family to a movie night. Charge 50¢ for adults, 25¢ for children, and nothing for uniformed Seekers. Many types of movies are available, including Walt Disney, cartoons, nature, and religious. Moody Bible Institute has films about God in nature – https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dmovies-tv&field-keywords=moody+institute+of+science+films

Refreshments: popcorn and punch



OLD FAVORITES

- **HAY RIDES:** These are always fun. End with a fireside service and choruses. Have a wiener and marshmallow roast and hot chocolate.
- **PIZZA PARTIES:** Invite Seekers and families for a night out. Go to a favorite pizza parlor. If on a Sunday, the afternoon could be spent playing soft ball or whatever you choose at a park or someone's home.
- **BACKWARDS PARTY:** Do everything backwards. Have your refreshments first – just reverse your whole meeting. Have everyone wear their clothes backwards.
- **FUN NIGHT:** Play volleyball, basketball, or relays at a local school gym.
- **TAFFY PULL:** Do this event in the church hall or at someone's home. The hostess could make the taffy or each Seeker could bring an ingredient. The fun begins when it's time to pull the taffy – have everyone get a partner and start pulling. Best of all, everyone helps clean up the sticky floor and tables. Have fun.
- **TRY A SCAVENGER HUNT FOR EVERYONE**
- **ICE CREAM SOCIALS:** Go to an ice cream parlor to celebrate birthdays or to just socialize. Have lots of fun, but remember you are representing your church.
- **PROGRESSIVE DINNER PARTY:** Seekers go from home to home, eating an appetizer at the first home, salad and soup and another, the main course at a third, and dessert at the last home.
- **GO GEOCACHING:** Seekers hunt for hidden geocaches using GPS-enabled devices such as cell phones. For more information:
<https://www.geocaching.com/guide/>

Resources

The resources on the following pages will help you plan field trips and raise money for your various Seekers activities.

Field Trips

A terrific learning experience is visiting your different community services and businesses. Here are a few suggestions of places to visit. Consult your Chamber of Commerce, Yellow Pages, and city website for additional ideas.

1. Fire station
2. Police station
3. Courthouse
4. Post office
5. Hospital
6. Airport
7. Textile factory
8. Cannery
9. Restaurant (some national chain restaurants provide guided tours of their facilities – <https://socalfieldtrips.com/20-restaurant-field-trips-for-kids/>)
10. Construction sites
11. Bakery
12. Bottling company
13. Farm
14. Ranch
15. Train station
16. Bus depot
17. Radio and TV stations

This list is limitless. A good idea is to plan field trips that will help your Seekers gain knowledge about the badges they are working on at that particular time.

Before actually taking your Seekers on a tour, consider these things:

1. If possible, visit the place and take the tour before taking your Seekers.
Note if there is an entrance fee and how much time was spent on the tour.
2. Prepare your Seekers; explain what to look for on the tour. Some prior research may be done about the place being visited and the service it performs.

Money Making Ideas

Here are a few suggestions of projects to help finance your program. Be sure to advertise the purpose of your fund raising project. People are generally more generous if they know how the money is going to be used.

1. Selling: <http://www.fundraiserhelp.com/top-10-fundraising-products.htm>
 - a. Candy
 - b. Cards, Stationery and Calendars
 - c. Candles
 - d. Christian Books
 - e. Gift Cards or Discount Cards
 - f. Fresh Fruit
2. Set up a car wash and really advertise.
3. Compile a cookbook of favorite recipes.
4. Plan a dinner; make it foods that the Seekers can prepare, such as spaghetti and salad. Charge by the plate or person.
5. Make a calendar of the church families' birthdays and anniversaries.
6. Have a slave auction.
7. Other projects are seasonal such as yard work. You will have no difficulty thinking of others.
8. Links to Various Ideas:
<https://www.mobilecause.com/fundraising-event-ideas/>
<http://www.signupgenius.com/groups/fundraising-ideas-clubs.cfm>
<https://www.classy.org/blog/25-quick-fundraising-ideas-for-nonprofits-and-charity/>