

THEME NIGHTS

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1 CHOOSE A THEME: pj night, carnival, God's creation, parent's night, famous person, sports night, drive in movie, crazy hair, inside/out, . . .

2 SCHEDULE Decide how often you want to do a theme night; monthly, quarterly, once per semester? Choose a date. The date may correspond to an event or holiday; Sports night close to Super bowl Sunday. The date may be random; Crazy hair night in February.

3 Develop the theme. This step is kind of like planning a birthday party. The plans can be as simple or elaborate as you want. Is there a Green Meadow/Council time message that fits theme. What props are needed? Are there games that can be adapted to the theme?

4 PUBLICIZE THE THEME NIGHT Announce an upcoming theme night a couple of weeks ahead of time. This gives clubbers time to prepare. Send a reminder home: hand out, e-mail, phone call

5 ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION Encourage your leaders to join in the fun. Make sure you join in also. Reward clubbers who participate. Extra bucks/candy. Get into the Spirit and have fun.

****THINK AHEAD**** Will you need some extra set up time that night? How about clean up after club? Do the clubbers still need to wear their uniform on theme nights? If not, what about awards? Does the theme lend itself to questionable dress (beach night with girls in bikinis)? **Make sure all issues are addressed before hand and the clubbers have all necessary info (no bathing suits for beach night.)**

REMEMBER THAT ANY CHANGE IN SCHEDULE OR ROUTINE TENDS TO WIND CLUBBERS UP AND CONTROLLED CHAOS IS TO BE EXPECTED. Control is best kept by planning and practice. This is a great night to get some parents to help out. If you are new at theme nights, feel free to contact your "Church Care" Board Member or Chad and Karen.

EXAMPLE OF ABOVE

THEME Drive In Movie Night

DATE Last club before Christmas break

DEVELOP Chose an appropriate "movie" for Green Meadow Time/Council Time.

Veggie Tales "The Toy That Saved Christmas" Make a cardboard box car to show to clubbers the two weeks before. Encourage clubbers to make their own car. Get a couple of parent volunteers to help pop popcorn that night at club and serve to clubbers during movie. Plan for clean up afterwards (or bake some extra special cookies for the facilities folks). Games: obstacle course around cars, speakers. . . Relay race; running to the snack bar to obtain snack items.

PUBLICIZE Example cars as above. Send home a flyer.

ENCOURAGE Have a car parade during opening or before movie. Give extra bucks to each clubber who participates in the them.

THINK AHEAD Remind clubbers that this is a Drive-In Movie, not a monster truck rally or Nascar Race (to avoid inappropriate paint schemes.) Realize that the Movie "parking lot" will be covered with popcorn and will need to be cleaned. Clubbers should be able to wear uniforms, so awards can be done as usual. To prevent distraction and traffic flow issues, have a designated place for cars to be parked during handbook and game time.