

Miscellaneous Cubbies Ideas

Games:

Jesus, Jesus, Where's my Heart?

Line children against a wall sitting in chairs on the floor. One child sits in front-center and hides their eyes. Teacher then hands a small heart shape to one of the children sitting in line. All children must fold their hands together so the child in front can't tell who has the heart. The child hiding their eyes (when cued by the teacher then turns around and says "Jesus, Jesus, where's my heart?" I usually let each child guess who has it until he/she finds the heart so everyone wins. The next child to hide their eyes is always the one who held the heart last.

Bowling relay

Each team should be in a straight line (One Cubbie in front of another). Have leader stand about 30-40 feet out, with a ball, across from the first Cubbie in their line. The leader rolls the ball to the first Cubbie; the Cubbie picks it up, runs it back to the leader, and then sits down behind their leader. Keep doing this until all Cubbies are now behind their respective leader.

Snowball Fight

Using 2 ropes, divide the game circle into quarter (like Sparky's Balloon battle). Toss a number of snowballs (crumpled up paper) into the quarters. Tell the Cubbies that they have 30 seconds to throw the snowballs into the other cubbies area and lets see who has the least in their section after the time is over. After several heats then take the ropes and divide the circle into thirds. Between the two ropes, a leader sits in a chair and tells the Cubbies they have 30 seconds to throw snowballs at that leader.

Turtle Game

Assign one of the kids to be the "turtle." Tell the kids that they have to move in slow motion – NO RUNNING ALLOWED, to get away from the turtle. The turtle's job is to try to tag the other kids (like freeze tag). If they get tagged then they have to lay down on the floor, kick their arms and legs in slow motion and say "turtle turtle..." until one of the other kids tags them, then they can get up again. It is also fun during the game to assign another turtle so you have 2 turtles. The object is to get all the other kids laying on their backs saying, "turtle turtle..."

Hide the thimble game

Sock guess

Fill a sock with different small items. Allow Cubbies to put their hand in the sock and guess what they have before pulling it out.

Obstacle course – be creative!

Crafts/Coming in Time activities:

Stained glass

1 per child – clear plastic paper protectors (used in binders)

1 per child – copy of a coloring book picture with thick black outlines

Plenty of different colored permanent markers

Slide the picture into the clear plastic paper protector. Let the children outline the picture with black marker, directly onto the plastic protector. Children then color on the plastic the rest of the picture however they wish. Slip the paper out of the plastic, hang in a window.

Placemats

Make placemats out of fun foam with fun foam shapes and animals. Put child's name on front. Cover with clear contact paper (or mac tac) and then use it weekly for snack time.

Glow in the dark fun bracelet

Large variety of glow in the dark beads, pipe cleaner (1 per child)

Make a loop at one end of each pipe cleaner before the children start. Let the children string the glow in the dark beads onto the pipe cleaner. Slip the non-looped end into the end with a loop and twist-tie ends together. Let them go into a dark room to see them!

Making Butter

Put 1 tablespoon heavy whipping cream and a pinch of salt into a baby food jar – one for each Cubbie. Shake and the cream will separate from the curds. Then pour off the liquid and spread on crackers.

Pudding Stories

Use pudding on finger-painting paper and let kids paint their depiction of the story.

Fabulous face paint

Use acrylic craft paint and cosmetics to create different animal faces on the children.

Teamwork table

Cover table in butcher paper and allow kids to draw a scene together

Game websites:

www.thesourcefym.com

www.egadideas.com

Story Websites:

www.childrensministry.net

www.rotation.org

Craft websites:

www.orientaltrading.com

www.snswwide.com

www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/

www.coloring.ws/coloring.html

www.christiancrafters.com

www.sundayschoolcrafts.com

Books: Incredible Edibles (wow – lots of cool stuff here!)

Make an Ern E. Elephant box by covering a square box with gray paper or painting it gray. Cut out ears and attach to sides. Use a gray sock as a trunk. Paint on eyes. Fill box with trinket prizes and allow children to reach into trunk to pull out a prize.

Under the apple tree motivation:

Make a plywood tree, paint it and place multiple hooks on the branches. Paint wooden apples red and write each child's name on one. If they do their apple tree section that week, they may hang their apple on the tree. (Or use foam board for the tree, or a ficus tree, etc.)

Help for Cubbies who won't say verses:

1. Say verse to parent before they leave the room, leader pretending to be preoccupied, but listening
2. Bring in a real, broken phone and have Cubbie call parent to say verse
3. As you say the verse as a group, watch the child
4. Leader call the child during the week and have Cubbie practice saying verse to them
5. Say verse to the Cubbie puppet
6. Have kids record themselves on a tape recorder
7. Put verse to song with hand motions (use Celebrations CD)

Parent Tips:

1. Have a special week when if the parent learns the verse (whole verse) with the child, the child gets a special treat
2. Visit your Cubbies at home
3. Email or paper newsletter monthly
4. Make folders with the nightly schedule, child's leaders, yearly schedule with bear hugs listed and themes listed

Leader Ideas:

1. Make a poster for the leaders to put stickers on as they say their verses
2. In August, have a breakfast with your leaders and provide training
3. In November, have a bagged lunch on a Saturday to work on Christmas program, etc.
4. In Spring, go out to dinner together and discuss discipline
5. In May have a leader dinner and evaluation