



A - Z

**Theme
Nights**

A

Adopt-A-Club Night

Show the Awana CD about Adopt-A-Club during Council time. Tell about an Awana club overseas. Challenge your clubber and leaders to Adopt an Awana Club. Free Resource from AWANA: Adopt A Club CD #75686

Affliction Night or Wailing Wounded Night

Clubbers and leaders dress up like they were wounded. It could be a sprained ankle broken arm, bandaged head, or face make-up to make it look like a black eye. Some of the clubbers cover themselves with Band-aids. The devotional for that night centers around how Christ is the Great Physician. Give prize for best the affliction.

All in the Family

On a piece of wood or cardboard make a rock family. Award prize for best.

All Nations

Missions emphasis night with leaders and clubbers preparing ethnic desserts.

All Tired Out

We played all our games with old tires. Clubbers had to roll the tires in a relay and played an obstacle type course using the tires. You could also have the clubbers run and crawl through the tires.

Aloha Fest

Since aloha means hello, love and goodbye, we thought we'd make it our harvest festival: hello to Fall and club, goodbye to summer and love. Well, that goes without saying. Love covers everything! We had several rooms decorated with Tiki hut plastic sheeting, blow-up palm trees, parrots hanging from the ceiling, tropical fish, hula music in the background ...our snack choices were pineapple on a stick, fruit punch, trail mix with tropical fruits and coconuts, snow cones and popcorn. We had enough leis and grass skirts to go around and had also asked one of our Cubbies parents to bring a big "jumping castle" so the kids could be outside. We did this on a Saturday to utilize the daylight while we could. The Lord blessed us with a warm day, too. We had several carnival style game booths that were run by our older kids.

Alphabet Night

Clubbers choose a letter and wear as many items as possible which start with that letter. For instance, if the clubber chooses "s," he or she might wear a shirt, scarf, sandals, sunvisor, striped pants, etc. For one of the games, call out a letter, and the teams "bodily" form that letter. A snack could be alphabet crackers.

Council time: Alpha and Omega Revelation 22:13

Alphabet Soup Night

On this night we put a box or two of Alphabet Cereal in a bowl in the middle of the circle (this was an indoor game for us). At the whistle, one clubber from each team came into the center and got as big a handful of cereal as they could and took it back to their color line. They made as many words as possible in one minutes time. The team with the most words won. You could lengthen the time if you wanted to. On the second round of the game, each team came to the center and got as much cereal in both hands as they could. They went back to their line and the teams tried to make the longest sentences they could in 2-4 minutes time.

Angel Night

Bring a gift for needy children.

Animal Night or Cuddly Creature Night

#1 Have the kids bring in their favorite stuffed animal or a picture of one or their beloved pet. You give a couple of them a chance to tell about them, and then you do your lesson on how God gave us, man, dominion over the animals, but since they are God's creation, we are to treat them with respect. You can recite different Bible verses like, Provo 12:10 : "A good man is concerned for the welfare of his animals." etc. You can also teach the kids good habits for taking care of the animals and our responsibility.

#2 Everyone brings his or her favorite stuffed animal. Make ribbons for each. Example: cuddliest, biggest, cutest, most loved, best smile, greenest, biggest eyes, etc. Pile them all together for the evening and have clubbers pick them up after club.

Apple Night

For game time, you can bob for apples, have an apple toss, hang an apple from the ceiling and a blindfolded team member tries to bite it while others shout instructions, etc. Possible Council time lesson could be Adam and Eve (discuss disobedience and how it led to sin and what the consequences of sin were and are today); or Psalm 17:8, the apple of God's eye (Use several apples -one that looks

perfect, one with a blemish on the outside and one with a gummy worm in it. Talk about sin, our blemishes, and what sin in our life can do and how it can spread). Give apples as awards/treats, possibly giving the winning team candied apples.

As You Were Night

Have everyone bring a baby picture the week before. You can put them all on poster paper. The clubbers should write beside the picture their name and who they think the baby is. The person with the most guesses wins.

Auction Night

Have items donated and/or purchase items for auction. Have an auctioneer to come in and auction items off to clubbers.

Awana Awesome Autumn Adventure Around

5A Night is our alternative to Halloween. Clubbers each get a brown lunch bag. Every 10 minutes they change rooms according to club. We have leaders posted around the grounds with buckets of candy distributed during the kids' travels. They also get candy when arriving at and leaving each room. Each club is assigned a different topic for the 10-minute visit: songs, Council Time message, games, crafts (usually edible) and more games. We don't do sections this night.

Awana Day

This started out as Awana Worker Appreciation Day during Ministry Appreciation Month. I made an Awana appreciation presentation in church and had all the leaders come up on stage. We also had the T&T boys participate to complete the "service" section in their handbook. The boys took up offering in church. The T&T girls handed out bulletins and song books.

That night, all the clubbers brought cards/gifts for their leaders, listeners, snacks team and game leaders. My group made treat bags that said, "For all you give, for all you do, these sweet treats are just for YOU." The next week, we took plastic see-through gloves and filled them with popcorn and included a card that said, "Giving you a HAND for all you do in AWANA." We went to each room and handed them out to the workers.

Awana Kick-off Night

Everyone wear football uniforms or jersey's. Award prize for smallest football.

Awana Round-up Night

Everyone dress in western wear and a award prize for the person who brings the biggest boot.

Awana Theater

At sign-in, we give a theater ticket to every visitor and the clubber who brought him or her. At a designated time, those with tickets go to the theater where they enjoy popcorn and lemonade while learning more about Awana. We show a short video that presents the gospel, then have a leader give the plan of salvation using the Evangecube. Our clubbers love the theater, so they bring a lot of friends, and it ensures that all visitors hear the gospel. Last year, 15 children received Christ during Awana Theater.

B

Back to School Night

Play games with chalk, chalkboards, paper, etc.

Council Time: invite a Christian teacher to talk about making the most out of the school year.

Back Yard 500

Clubbers make a race car and actually race during game time.

A. Sparks borrow upper clubber's cars if need be. Have driving class.

B. Cubbies make a bus. Play follow the leader.

Backwards Night or Thgin Sdrawkcab

#1 Everyone wears his or her clothes backwards. Play games backwards. Consider reversing the order of your program (i.e. if you usually have game time then handbook time then council time, try council time first followed by handbook and game times). For council time, use the idea of "backwards ways" people try to get to God (works, money, power, friends, etc.). Then explain that just like there is only one way to wear clothes, there is only one way to get to heaven (John 14:6).

#2 Just to break monotony have all clubbers and leaders to wear their clothes backwards. Do council time first, singing second, handbook time, then game time, then flag ceremony, or However you normally have club sequence, do it in reverse. Hints: for story in council time, do it by saying some of the words backwards, (this takes some practice) have clubbers following in the Bible. This really gets their attention. Or maybe without any one knowing, award a special prize for the clubber with the most articles of clothing on backward, and don't forget to walk backwards for a few laughs at first.

#3 Kids and leaders come to club wearing their clothes inside out. Have Council Time first and Game Time last. Serve dessert first followed by inside-out sandwiches and upside-down cans of soda with holes punched for straws. Have leaders recite verses to clubbers! Have kids run backwards during relay races. Call clubbers by their backwards names (have them wear nametags with their names spelled backwards).

Backwards Parents Night

Variation on Parent's Night when clubbers become leaders. Parents and leaders are the clubbers. Choose key clubbers to be in charge (motivation for clubbers who say the most sections) Plan it well.

Bad Hair Night

#1 Give prizes for the worst hairdo. Play games with combs, brushes, as the baton. Council Time: 1 Samuel 16:7 and how people look on the outside but God looks on the inside.

#2 For every three sections, clubbers say they get a squirt of Mousse to put in the game directors hair.

Bakes-giving

We do this close to Thanksgiving. On this night, the clubbers and their dads bake a cake together! No moms! It is a great time of fun and fellowship for kids and dads! The guys have to go to the store and pick out their favorite cake mix and frosting and all the ingredients. Then they have to gather up everything they need to stir up and bake their cake. Some of these dads have NEVER seen the inside of a kitchen. It is so funny! But the funnier part is Mom's job is to eat a piece of the creation!

Balloon Night or Balloon Blast

#1 Decorate all the rooms with helium balloons which have a slip of paper in them. At the end of club, each clubber picks a balloon and pops it and then redeems the slip of paper for a gift. Gifts range from candy to pencils, coloring books, toys, etc

#2 For game time include balloon, draw Bible characters on balloons and judge the cutest, funniest, most creative, etc. Let clubbers "shave" whipped cream or shaving cream from the balloons. Council time: messages could be "Am I full of Hot Air?" or "How to be careful with others feelings."

BARF Night or Friend Night

Be a Real Friend, Bring a Real Friend - Bring a friend to Awana and you and your friend will receive a prize-small candy bar or small toy and/or Awana shares.

Basketball Night

A basketball is given to the clubber who recites the most sections. A chocolate basketball is given for each section said.

Beach Night

#1 Everyone dresses in summer clothes (no bathing suits). We play volley ball, frisbee, and other beach games during game time or play games with beach balls, pails and shovels. Give a seashell for each section passed. We usually do this in January.

#2 Here's one way to beat those winter doldrums. Encourage everyone to wear his favorite beach attire. Play beach volleyball and Frisbee® tag. If feasible, bring in sand for sandcastles or make crafts using sand. Let clubbers pelt their leaders in a game of water balloon dodge ball - in a water-safe area, that is! In Council Time, discuss Jesus' post-resurrection meeting on the beach with His disciples. Hand out popsicles to help clubbers "cool" down.

Beautiful Feet Night (Phenomenal Phoot Phestival)

We have everyone come barefoot that night. The T&T girls paint toenails! We make "feet people" for a craft.

Belts Bash

Let everyone make a belt at home, bring it to club to be judged. Award prize for best, funniest etc.

Bethlehem Night

Come to Awana dressed as if you were going to Bethlehem in Biblical times to visit the baby Jesus. Be creative and make your outfits. Some simple ideas are: Take a sheet and cut a hole in center to place over your head or just wrap it around you. Add a robe, string or yarn to tie around waist. Use a colorful bathrobe as a coat.

Bible Baseball

We choose color teams to play bible baseball. Once or twice a year, we pick questions from council time, messages, Handbooks, and from flag ceremonies. Leaders play a big part in making questions. A clubber comes to home plate from every color team, (4 people at bat at once) each is asked if they want a single, or a double, or a home run. Each clubber gets to go to his or her base according to each correct answer. At the end of club, score is kept to find out how many runs came home.

Bible Costume Night

If you do not have a Fall Festival or Carnival, this is a great Halloween alternative. This is a fun night when the kids can dress as a character, animal, or anything else they find in the Bible (examples: baby, lightning bolt, snake, apple, David and sling shot, use slime for Jonah coming out of the whale's belly, etc.).

Council time message - "Then, now or later, God loves me" - John 15:13, Romans 8:35, Hebrews 13:5

Have Now & Laters chewy candy for treats.

Bible Dress up Night or Bible Character Night

Dress up like your favorite bible character. Award prize for the best costume.

Bible Scavenger Hunt

We originally designed this for our Sunday School class. My husband and I took places in our church and tried to find scriptures with those words in them. An example would be: Where voices sing together (choir). Each team would be given a card with the following verses and which word in each verse to write down. John 1 :30 -11th word (where); Luke 23:23 -7th word (voices); Isaiah 12:5 -1st word (sing); Proverbs 22:2 -6th word (together) We tried to divide up the cards evenly as to how many verses they had to look up. Our rules were that they had to have the cards completely filled out. One clubber could look up the verse and count while another wrote the answer. Each clue would take them to another card in that place. The last card would state that they were to return it to us. The winning team would receive a candy prize. We also had a prize for every one else. We used four to five clues usually per team. Some of ours were: Under Left Fifth Seat in Church (this was under a pew); Under round table (they would have to search around the church for a round table); Under organ seat; Under hall way table; In fourth hall window. This is a very exciting game for the night. We bought colored 3x5 cards so that each team would have a different color, otherwise some might see someone elses and get it by mistake.

Birthday Night

We explain your earthly birthday and your spiritual birthday and then we even had cupcakes and party hats.

Bible Heroes Night

Every 2nd Club night of the month is Bible Hero night. We alternate men and women heroes of the Bible (Joseph, Miriam, David, Elizabeth etc.). We have a story with flannel graph or with the clubbers as the characters acting out the stories. It is a

great way to introduce great men and women of faith and have fun with some great Bible stories. It teaches clubbers how ordinary people can turn into extra-ordinary people when God uses them for His purpose!

BIG Game Night

Play games with Big everything. Use 5-gallon water jugs for pins. We made colored strips on them out of fabric. Make large beanbags - pillows with red, blue, green, yellow and black & white cases on them. Use swimming noodles for batons. Large plastic trash cans to gather items in pick up relay. Get a semi truck intertube for each game line to roll around the circle. Use hoola hoops to throw over the large pins.

Black Out Night

Lights are lowered and flashlights and candles are used. Walk color lines with flashlights. Have relays. Use water guns to put out the flames. Leaders hold candles in the darkness.

Blind Man's Bluff

No special equipment. Use bandanas for blind folds. Games are played blindfolded. Council Time: Blind Bartimus - How sinners are blind.

Book Night

Clubbers bring their favorite books. Play games with old books. Clubbers balance books (instead of beanbags) on their head. Give everyone an old book. First person on a team carries the book around the circle. Second person takes the book from the first person so he runs around the circle carrying two books and so on. The last person carries all the books around the circle. Give Christian children's books as prizes. Council Time focuses on God's book, the Bible.

Bookmark Night

A wonderful night for the clubbers to make something special for themselves or to make and give to their Adopt-a-Club. Also, if your budget allows, this is a terrific opportunity to give inexpensive paperback Bibles to the children in your Club who have been attending but may not own a Bible or who have been borrowing one from your Club.

Buy some plain white bookmarks from a local paper supplier. Appoint several children the week before to come prepared to read their favorite Bible verse and tell why it is their favorite (call parents to remind them). Have all the children print (older) their favorite verse on the bookmark or draw a picture of their favorite Bible story (younger) on the bookmark or if time does not allow for bookmarks to be made let

the children take them home the week before and bring them back and follow the same council time message with your kids. If kids are not able to participate, have several Leaders ready to share their favorite verses and why they are favorites.

Game time: games involving books -balancing a book on your head as you relay race around AWANA circle, books of the Bible drill as a team, or just do favorite games of your clubbers.

Council time messages -Sharing favorite scriptures and explaining their meaning and importance in your life. Leaders could share their favorite salvation verses.

Awards and treats -their favorite snack food (chips, popcorn, chocolate,etc.)

Boot Camp Night

Idea: Training games and message. Dress up in camouflage.

Council Time: Talk about what it means to train yourself to be a good soldier of Jesus.

On this night we played an obstacle course game. We used chairs, tables, chairs, 2x4's, and any other thing we could find to make an obstacle course out on our football field.

Break the Record Night

#1 Break the record of number of sections said in one night and the attendance record.

#2 We tell our clubbers that if they can break the combined high total for number of clubbers on that night, we will treat them to one of the following: World's Largest Pizza, World's Largest Banana Split or World's Largest Nachos. This gets everyone, including the visitors, back for a second night to get the treat! We take pictures of all the clubbers with the featured food before we serve it. It's been a huge success every time.

Bubble Night or Bubble Mania

Everyone receives a bottle of bubbles. Go outside and let the clubbers blow them.

Burger Bucks

We gave tickets to clubbers who passed sections. They wrote their names on the back and put them in a box for a drawing. The winner received certificates for Burger King. Even one section passed made it possible to win.

C

Camera Creations

Do some funny stuff for the camera and see it on a slide show at the end of the night.

Camo night

Clubbers come dressed up wearing camouflage (as much as possible). Council message will be Eph 6:11 Putting on the armor of God.(for this night, the previous club night we will give the kids a reminder of the verse and if they come knowing the verse at check-in we will be giving them a little camo bear from oriental trading co.). during Game time we will be playing Air-zooka and dodge ball (not Awana games but they fit with the theme), during the handbook time Sparks will get a color page of the sword of truth and T&T will receive a camo sticker to place onto the page in the handbook that they pass that night.

Camp Out Night

I make a fake camp fire with Christmas lights and cellophane and firewood. I put up a pop-up tent to sit in to tell the story. We sit around the camp fire and “roast” marshmallows.

Candy Guess

Fill container full of candy. For every section passed, clubbers get a guess to win the candy.

Candy Cane Night

#1 Clubbers use regular candy canes as batons for relay games, smaller ones to pick up and carry items around the circle and larger (plastic) canes to push balls around the circle.

#2 One church had a leader dress as an old shepherd and tell the history of Christ’s birth as if he had been a participant. He used candy cane lawn ornaments and explained how they reminded him of Jesus Christ. An upside-down cane makes a “J” for Jesus. The red stripe is for the blood Jesus shed on the cross. The white stripe is the purity we have when we are saved. He also handed out candy canes for everyone to take home.

Card Board Box Night

Leaders gather shoe boxes and big boxes. That night game time is played in boxes (e.g. tape boxes on feet and run races). Use two giant boxes to stuff as many clubbers in as possible during a timed period (e.g. 15 seconds).

Council Time: The Man of God

Before club is dismissed hide Pastor or leader in box and let clubbers guess what is in the box for a prize.

Carpet Capers

Have everyone bring a rug to club. Use rugs in your games.

Caveman Calamity

Everyone dress as cave people. Award prize for the best costume.

Character Dress Day

Everyone dress like their favorite Disney character.

Cherry Jubilee

Allow all the clubbers passing sections play this game for a prize. Place four cherries on the top of their left hand. race to a designated place and back. If the cherries fall off, pick them up and keep going. Winner takes prize.

Chew Chew Night

This is another name for Bubble game night. On this night we gave awards for the biggest bubble. Another game was taking a 3X5 card and chewing up a piece of gum. The clubber who made the best baby on the card with their gum would win. We used our club secretary to judge this event. The boys' clubs really liked this one.

Chocolate Kiss Night

Give chocolate kisses to anyone who passes a section. Clubber with most section earns large chocolate kiss.

Christmas Activities Geared Toward Families

One church hosted a Christmas program and party for parents and families of clubbers, many of whom don't attend church. Sparkies quoted John 3:16, sang the "Sparks Theme Song" and gave the Sparky Yell. Second-graders paired up and recited Scripture directly to the parents. A guest speaker gave a salvation message and the clubs put on a few skits. The evening ended with refreshments and time for leaders to fellowship with the parents.

Christmas Caroling

Take your club to a nursing home to sing Christmas Carols. Be sure to get signed permission slips.

Christmas Play Night

Have clubbers act out the Christmas story for council time.

Christmas Store Night

Ask people in church to donate items and/or purchase items for Awana Christmas store. Children get to buy things with their shares for their family and friends.

Clown Night

#1 Have a Christian clown come and do council time. Clubbers dress as clowns.

#2 Make up clown faces (happy and sad clowns). Leaders entertain with bad juggling, slapstick, confetti in water buckets, scarves up sleeves, etc.

#3 Clubbers make up leaders as clowns. Best clown wins a prize.

Game Time -Games would include juggling, painting clown faces on balloon as team without breaking, riding tricycle with bell around cones

Council Time Message -"God Gives Us the Ability to be Happy, Not Sad"

Scripture references: Galatians 5:22; Romans 14:17; James 1:2; I John 1:4

Awards and Treats -Suckers (big ones if you can afford them)

Colored Dot Night or Awana Fever

For every section the clubbers say they receive a colored dot (red, blue, green or yellow) to put on their leader at the end of the night.

Cocoon Night

This was another name for "Wrap Your Leader Night" with toilet paper. Our clubbers especially like this night. We try to keep their suspense about the night by changing the name so they won't know what it is.

Color Night

Pick a color and wear as many things in that color.

Country Western Fair -Contest/Theme

This event is held the last Wednesday in October. Clubbers are given a ticket for earning points in AWANA beginning in September. We give one ticket for every 200 points earned. The tickets are used to play games during the fair. The harder the clubbers work, the more games they get to play. The clubbers look forward to earning their tickets and we see the overall number of sections passed increase each week as the time for the fair approaches.

Craft Night

A fast and easy craft. Do during game time. One color line at a time.

Crazy Cap Night or Happenin' Hat Night or Radical Hat Night

Each clubber creates their own crazy hat. Award prizes and points for participation.

Crazy Clubber Night

Wear crazy clothes, shoes, and hair crazy.

Crazy Legs Night

Wear wild pants or decorate pants crazy. Wear wild socks.

Crazy Sock Night or Silly Sock Night

Clubbers and leaders wear socks. Shoes must be removed at the front door and not worn all evening. Have a sock tree either on your bulletin board or a potted tree so each child can bring a new pair of socks to give to some needy children. The Commander and Clubber of the Month from each Club will deliver the socks to a Christian organization or church clothes closet. Each pair of socks should have a child's tract attached to share the Good News. Every child who brings one pair of socks will receive one point/share.

Game Time -Normal AWANA games, only sock-footed

Council Time Message -"How Beautiful are the Feet of Those Who Witness" Scripture reference -Romans 13-17

Cupcake Night

Bring cupcakes of all types to AWANA.

Game Time -cupcake walk, cupcake eating contest, making and icing cupcakes as a team, etc.

Council Time Message -"How Many Ingredients Do I Need to be a Christian?" (Share that the right mix of ingredients put together in order make a much more tasty treat rather than drinking the batter through a straw OR have one of your female leaders mix a batch of cupcakes [microwaveable] and as she puts in the ingredients share her testimony.) Scripture references: Ephesians 2:8-9; John 3:16

Awards and Treats -Cupcakes (if you don't have any made, you can go by a Hostess or Dolly Madison Thrift and buy several boxes of cupcakes check the freshness dates)

D

Decorate a Banana or Potato or Lemon

Games are played with fruit or vegetable relays, eat or feed teammates. Present prizes to best three places.

Decorate a Leader Night

Clubbers bring all sorts of Christmas decorations and lights, and four leaders get to become a Christmas tree. There is a prize for the best tree. The lights are plugged in if they work.

Donut Night

Life without Jesus is like a donut: it leaves a hole in the middle of your heart! Play games with donuts and the snacks are donuts. Council Time: Prodigal Son

Donut Jump Night

We hung donuts from our ceiling with strings at different heights for the clubbers. They would have to eat their donut without using their hands. This was very popular with our clubbers.

Double Friend Night

Bring two friends to Awana. All get a prize.

Double Section Night

Give double points for sections and/or shares.

Drive-In Night

#1 One favorite night for our Awana club is Drive In Movie Night. We have a short time where the kids say their sections and then it's on to the movies. Clubbers design their own cars from cardboard boxes, then sit in them. You'll be surprised at how fancy these cars will get. We even get buses, trains, airplanes, and spaceships. We serve popcorn and water to them in their cars, turn down the lights and watch a Christian video (usually Veggie Tales).

#2 Last year we had Drive-in Movie Night. This was a blast for the kids, parents and leaders! The children were to build a "car" out of a cardboard box. The kids brought in their cars that night and picked a spot in front of the big screen. We played a movie. The children enjoyed viewing it from their vehicles. We also served popcorn and soda. One of the more memorable moments was a child came in for the first time that night and did not have a car. One of the other children in Cubbies went to this child and said, "You can sit with me in my car if you want to." Moments like this make all the difference. This year we plan to have a design contest, because the kids and parents really got into this event.

Dude Ranch

Clubbers wear cowboy hats, scarves, boots, etc. (Remember that clubbers must wear Awana uniform to every theme night.)

Games: Ride stick horses. Make horse shoes of card board or foam rubber. Have barrel races or catalog races. Council Time: The Rapture

E

Earth Birth

Celebrate Earth Day and take a nature walk.

Council Time: Creation

Eat Around the World Night

Have leaders and other people from church bring in different foods from around the world. Each clubber has a suit case (made from construction paper) and they go around to different tables and taste everything. Give the clubber a sticker (you can get ones with flags or kids from across the world) for each item he tries. Examples: tortillas from Mexico, grape leaves from Greece, fish from Hong Kong, etc., be

creative. At the end give a small prize to everyone who tried everything or to the one who tried the most. We did this on a missions night.

E.T. EXCLUSIVE

For all clubbers who pass a section, have a M&M eating contest. The catch is they must wear a sock on each hand that they will eat with. Put two holes in the sock so that the index and small finger stick out. They can only eat with these two fingers. Prize for winner.

F

Farmer Night or Down on the Farm

Everyone dresses up like a farmer or things on a farm - scarecrow, animals, tractors, feed sacks. Play games with items you would find on a farm.

Favorite Hat Night

Wear your favorite hat. Play games with hats. Council Time message with different hats the last one being a crown of thorns that Jesus wore explaining salvation.

Favorites Folly

Let the clubbers choose the theme night they liked best and do it again.

Feed the Hungry or Awana Feeds You

During the month of November, around Thanksgiving, clubbers will be challenged to bring in canned goods for the hungry. Which ever Clubber brings in the most canned items will win a free pizza (there is room for options here). Clubbers will be competing with each other as well as leaders (obviously we expect a Clubber to win). What a way to teach about sharing and helping others in need. During council time, this would be a good time to talk about the feeding of the 5000.

Field Day Night

Play outdoors games such as broad jump, sack race, high jump, 50 yard dash, 100 yard dash, ball throw, etc. Station leaders at each location to supervise and instruct. May award ribbons for each event.

Council Time: Compare the Christian life to a race (1 Corinthians 9:24, Philippians 2:16, 3:14; Hebrews 12:1)

Fifties Flashback

Brylcreem contest for boys with a comb and see which boy has the most cream in his hair. Have a poodle skirt contest for the girls.

Fish and Loaf Night

Come and hear the story of how one boy's sacrificial giving of his lunch of fish and bread fed a multitude. Hand out goldfish crackers or gummy fish.

Fish 'N Ships Night

Clubbers dress as fisherman. Council Time: Fishers of Men

Fishbowl Night or Fishbowl Frenzy

Clubbers names go in fishbowl for every section passed. Draw for prizes.

Fisherman Masquerade

Clubbers dress as if they are on a fishing trip. Games center around fishing. Use fish crackers and candy worms. Council Time could be any "fish" story from the Bible.

Flashlight Night

We have the clubbers bring flashlights and play games in the dark (almost dark). For council time, we have a message on the Light of the World. We also have used a message on the anatomy and usage of a flashlight -battery for power/clear glass for testimony/switched on to be connected to the power source/give light to others not self/etc. We sing The Light of the World is Jesus. This Little Light of Mine.

Foreign Lands Night

We planned this night around our Mission Conference time. Each clubber came dressed in an outfit of a country of their choice. Some came as Arabs, Mexicans, Koreans, etc. We also paraded them across the platform so that all could see. Some clubs might also want to give an award for the best costume. Our message was from a missionary who spoke about getting the gospel around the world.

Friendship Tree

February is friendship tree month. We decorate the branches of an artificial (so we can slide it into a closet for the next week) tree with prizes: lizard key chains, glow pens, glow-in-the-dark ceiling stickers, jump ropes. When a clubber brings a visitor, he or she gets to choose a prize from the tree. The friend receives a visitor's pack that also includes a prize.

Frisbee Fling

Play games with Frisbees

FROG Night

Teach clubbers to Fully Rely On God - hand out small frogs (toy not real) or gummy frogs.

Fruit Night

Play Fruit Basket Upset or plan a fruit relay. The first player runs around the circle with an orange and apple. That player gives each to the second player, who is already holding a banana and grapefruit. The second player runs around the circle and gives all the fruit to the third player, who is already holding a tangerine and pear. That player runs around the circle and in for the pin with all the fruit. Council Time could focus on the Fruit of the Spirit.

Fruit of the Spirit Night

Council Time message on the fruit of the spirit. Play games with plastic fruit.

Fun Fair

Set up small games with prizes. Check Idea Encyclopedia for games ideas.

G

Giant Night

This is a good theme with many variations. The clubbers can dress in large clothes. Message on David and Goliath or David being chosen to be king (small on the outside but big in God's sight.) Game time is great: we get carpet rolls and cut them up into huge batons, pillow-sized bean bags filled with Styrofoam popcorn, and huge balloons. Our church also has a 6 foot ball for games. We give out large candy bars to the winning team.

Giant Banana Split Night

Lots of clubs I think have this. We get pvc pipe, 20 feet, and cut them in half. We tape the pieces together and put them on metal folding chairs. Each chair faces the opposite way of the last. We cover it with aluminum foil. Then we put the banana

halves, ice cream, chocolate syrup, whipped cream, and cherries on top. This is how we begin our club year. It makes a great way to draw children to see a 40 foot banana split.

Go Fishin' Night

1. All clubbers should wear their fishing gear and hats. No hooks please.
2. Prizes for the best dressed.
3. 10 Shares for each visitor (Fishers of Men)

Golf Night

Have a man or woman who plays golf come and demonstrate putting and the proper swing of the club as well as the proper stance to keep your balance. Also, have someone else come and be a terrible golfer to show how practice and skill makes a difference.

Game Time includes golf clubs, bags, shoes, and golf balls and perhaps a putting contest.

Council Time Message - "How to Stand and Keep Your Balance" OR "Practice and Study Make the Difference" Scripture references: Romans 14:4; I Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 6:14

Awards and Treats -Sam's Wholesale Club sells golf balls bubble gum in buckets for awards

Goldfish Night

Clubbers saying three sections receive a small bag of goldfish crackers.

Good Sam Night

We have Good Sam Night (Good Samaritan) where all the kids bring a non-perishable food item or toiletry item for a local charity. We just happen to have a Christian homeless center for men called the Good Samaritan Inn. But this ,could work for any charity.

Good Steward Night

We have a Good Steward night which we use as a night to gather aluminum cans to recycle. This then helps with raising money for where ever you may need funds for something. This goes good with the clubbers recycling section of their book as well.

Great Goofy Grape Gulp

Have lots of grape soda and grape juice on hand to play some exciting games. Council Time could be the story of the 12 spies who went to Canaan.

Grab Bag Night

One night during the month at Commander or Directors discretion, they announce that tonight is Grab Bag night. For every section said, (up to 5 sections) you may pick that many grab bags after council time or upon leaving. Grab bags will have inexpensive toys, games, candy bars and maybe a special prize like a five dollar bill or a silver dollar.

Great Outdoors Night

Come dressed to camp. Build a campfire, eat Smores and sing camp songs. Play flashlight tag and “Wandering in the Wilderness”. In the latter, clubbers run between “Egypt” and the “Promised Land” and drop to the ground when the Game Director yells “Gather manna”. The last clubber on the ground is out. Continue until one clubber is standing. Have groups follow instructions to assemble tents for handbook time. Teach them the Bible is God’s instruction book for life.

Great Shake UP Night

Clubbers are to invite friends to club to hear gospel message. All info and downloads at www.awana.org.

Groovy Glasses

Everyone wears groovy glasses.

Guess Who I Am

All leaders bring pictures of themselves and the secretary puts them on a piece of poster board. Clubbers try to guess who they are. The one with the most correct guesses wins a prize. A couple of fake pictures can spice up the game. Adults from the church get a kick out of this as well as clubbers. The secretary has to be very discreet. Game Time is played with diapers, bottles, and pudding.

Guys vs Girls Night

Boys and girls competing to earn most points and/or passing most sections during club night. Encourage clubbers to make posters with slogans such as T&T Girls are #1 and T&T Boys are the best, etc. Winner of competition earns prize. Also may give prizes for posters.

H

Hairstyling Night or Do Your “Do” Night

Wear crazy hair. Award Prizes.

Halfway Night

Halfway through the club year, if clubbers are halfway through their handbook, they earn a half dollar coin.

Happy Birthday Party or Birthday Bash

It is everyone’s birthday. Have cake or cupcakes and give them a small gift.

Happy Birthday Jesus Night

Have a Happy Birthday Jesus cake and celebrate.

Heart Health Night

Clubbers dress up as doctors or nurses.

Hearts Night or Heart to Heart Night

#1 Everyone wears hearts. Give a prize to the clubber who has the most hearts on.

#2 Wear red. Council Time about Love.

This is a night to discuss the love Christ has for us and the love we have for one another. You can also make this a night in which the clubbers should wear a white, black, or red shirt to assist in council time message.

Council Time Message -"What Color is My Heart?" Scripture references:

Isaiah 1:18; Acts 20:28; Ephesians 1:7; I Peter 1:9; Hebrews 9:22 (Make one large flannel or paper heart in black, red, and white. Work on the message using these visual aids to show how our heart is black with sin, the blood of Jesus covers it and washes away sin to make our heart pure white.)

Awards and Treats -Pencils which are red, white, or red & white with hearts. Christian bookstores have scripture verse pencils for more \$ OR have ladies or leaders make Rice Krispy treats or cookies with a cookie cutter in a heart shape.

Hero of the Faith Night

To draw kids' attention away from ungodly heroes in sports or on TV, we invite a special speaker who has proven his or her faith in the public arena. We invite local TV personalities, athletes or coaches, police officers, firemen, politicians, missionaries and others who speak out for Christian values. We want our kids to meet and hear from individuals who know that real heroes serve Christ and work for eternal values, not just temporary personal gains. We give each of our heroes an Awana trophy with "Hero of the Faith" engraved on the name plate.

Hobo Night

#1 Everyone dresses up as Hobo's and we play hobo games. Make a campfire in the middle of the game circle. We hang a large pot from an easel. Put firewood with a flashing light under it for the fire.

Hobo Stew: Place potatoes, celery, carrots, and turnips halfway between each color on the game circle. Play a relay where each clubber picks up a vegetable puts it in a large coffee can and passes it to the next clubber and they add a vegetable. The last relay member goes into the circle and dumps it into the pot. Then play a relay with a large wooden spoon. Last member goes in to stir the hobo stew.

Hobo sweep relay: Make paper wads for the hobo's to sweep up. Each relay member has to add a paper wad until there are 4 wads to sweep into the center.

Good Night Hobo relay: Take four sticks and four bandanas (red, green, blue, & yellow). Stuff the bandanas with paper and tie to sticks. Tell the clubbers the hobo's have had a long day and are very tired. They must walk slowly around the circle and pass off their stick. The last hobo goes into the circle and lays their head down on the bandana.

Gather around the campfire and sing songs at the end of game time.

#2 We had the kids and leaders dress up as hobos (after we explained what one was) and had peppercornies and dirt 'n' worms for a snack. For Council Time we talked to them about Jesus' love for everyone, even tho~ we think are unlovable (smelly, dirty, etc.). They were encouraged to treat all people as they would like to be treated. We also had them stand in front of the church on the curb with signs that read, "Will work for Jesus," "Honk if you love Awana" and "Jesus loves everyone." The kids found out what it's like to have people look at you as a street person and then ignore you. They didn't like that at all. It was a night that was fun but also had a great lesson to be learned. We will be repeating this theme night for sure.

Horse Show

Clubbers make a stick horse decorated with yarn mane, cardboard head, colored and painted for show. Have games like races, best of show, tricks, etc. Award prizes. Maybe club can have a rodeo later.

Hugs and Kisses Night

We like to do this one the week before Valentines Day. The clubbers have Valentines Day on their mind and we play on that. The week before we play this up by telling all the kids that next week the boys have to hug and kiss the girls and vis a versa. The first year we did this it was a lot of fun to see their reactions to this. Now they know we are just joking. On our promotional flier though, we tell the parents that their will not be any hugging and kissing, only that we will be handing out hugs and kisses next week. We also play our games with them as well as make sure that every clubber gets at least one of each before they leave club. Of course, I am talking about the Hershey's Hugs and Kisses chocolate candy. Last year we took this night one step further and bought the snack size zip lock bags. I printed labels up on the computer that had a Valentine heart that says 'I Love You' and then put this message on it as well -Jesus Wants To Be Your Valentine and them put our church name and address on it as well. We stuck this to the outside of the bag. On the inside we put some candy message hearts, hugs and kisses as well as a simple, children's gospel track. This was a unique way to even reach these clubbers parents at a time that they were not expecting to be hit with something like this.

Human Hotdog

Clubbers who pass the most sections gets to squirt mustard and ketchup on an AWANA Leader.

Hygiene Night

Messy game night using hygiene items like toothpaste, shaving cream and soap.



Ice Cream Sundae Night

Sundaes for everyone but they get to select a topping for each section they say. Sections could be added up for than one night of Awana.

In Your Face Night

This was our 1st year of Awana and near the end of the year everybody is very busy and tired of memorizing sections. So we decided to have a contest for 4 weeks to push all kids -no matter where they were in their book to memorize the most sections. The top two kids (over all the clubs) who said the most sections just during that 4 week period put a pie in the Commander's and Game Director's faces. Then the top two kids in each club were allowed to do one of the following.

1. Put make-up on their director
2. Put a pie in the face of their director
3. Have a water gun show down with their director

We found this fun for all kids, not just the kids who have blown through their books. This In Your Face night was loads of fun.

Inner Tube Night

Play games with large truck or tractor size inner tubes.

Inside Out Night

Everyone wears his or her clothes inside out.

Invasion USA

This works especially well with Trek groups. As clubbers arrive, "soldiers" confiscate their Bibles and handbooks. Young people are special targets and must defend their faith using only what they have memorized. Award points at various times during the evening for the verses recited from memory. Prime time should be an emphasis on the freedom we have to own Bibles and to meet together as Christians. If possible, invite someone to speak who has lived in, or who has had relatives who lived in, a country where people were (or are) not allowed to have Bibles.

J

Jeopardy

Play during council time to prepare clubbers for Bible Quiz. Review or just for fun.

Jesus Jubilee

Celebration with praise music and testimonies from Awana leaders.

Joseph's Egyptian Storehouse

The Flyer-We sent flyers home with the clubbers the week before with a verse in hieroglyphics. Just using the font "Wingdings." The verse was Genesis 50:20 " But as for you, ye thought evil against me, . but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive". On the back of the flyer was a code key. The clubbers were to decipher the code and memorize the verse, for extra points that week. The content of the flyer told clubbers not to miss out on Joseph's Egyptian Storehouse. And be sure to come to find out how Joseph saved Egypt and the Hebrew nation. The flyer used Egyptians boarders to draw interest in something different.

The Event-The clubbers were given a pass to Joseph's Egyptian Storehouse after passing a section. This took the place of the pieces of candy we usually give them. The clubbers were then allowed to go to the Awana Office Window which was decorated up with Egyptian stuff just for the occasion. There they were allowed to choose their own candy for the treat they earned for passing their section. Council Time: You guessed it! The story of Joseph and how God brought him to the position he did, just to save his own people!! :)

Journey to Meet Jesus

The song, "Children, Go Where I Send Thee" is the theme for the evening. We sing a new verse as each event in the Nativity is told. At each point in the story, the characters recite Bible verses that describe the events. We begin in the Story Time area and watch Mary and Joseph leaving on their trip to get counted. After they leave, shepherds enter. An "angel" declares to them the good news of Jesus' birth. All the Cubbies then travel to Bethlehem, a second room in the church with a small crèche. Mary, Joseph and the baby are there and tell of their experiences. We all then follow the family as they take Jesus to the tabernacle (in our sanctuary) to be presented and to meet Simeon and Anna. We then follow Mary and Joseph to another room representing their home. We watch as Joseph is awakened by a dream and told to flee to Egypt. They leave, and soon four soldiers arrive to look for the baby. We then return to the Story Time area and listen as several leaders share their testimonies. Afterwards, we celebrate with a birthday cake for Jesus.

Junk Night

One of our clubs favorite theme nights of the year is Junk Night. We tell the clubbers the week before to fill their pockets with all kinds of different items. The next week I take a list of various items and ask for those items at different times during the club night. The first person to bring me the item gets points or a prize. We always have to be clear that we will not be asking for sharp items or other things that might be dangerous for them to bring.

Just Say No Nite

Have a guest speaker talk about drugs.

K

Kick Off Night

Everyone wear football uniforms or jerseys.

Kids of the World

Dress in different countries costume.

L

Leader Appreciation Night

Toward the end of the year ask all the clubbers to write a letter of appreciation to their leaders.

Leaders' Backwards Night

Without telling the clubbers, leaders come dressed backwards. See if the clubbers notice and question what is happening.

Council Time: Be watchful 1 Corinthians 16:13.

Letter Night

Clubbers pick a letter and bring as many things that starts with that letter.

Let's Make A Deal

#1 Based on the game show. All clubbers had to dress up in order to play and I (Monty Hall) dressed up also. The kids had a great time and the leaders really enjoyed it as well.

#2 Having discipline problems? This works great, each night (3) children are picked to make a deal. They are chosen by different leaders each week, or however often game is played. Clubbers are picked by being very quiet and paying attention.

Setting on a table are (3) boxes. Each child gets to pick a box ,on top of the box is one item. For example, a bag of marshmallows, or a bag of Potato chips, or a small game. Each child is given the opportunity To keep the gift or trade. However, one box is a prank gift. They Trade or keep what was on top of the box. Example: box no. (1) a 2 Liter coke, a box of Jello pudding, cracker jacks, cakes or pies, And a bolo paddle. Box no. (2) a baby bottle and a pacifier with a note in the bottle to keep what was on the top of the box. (Prank Gift). Box no. (3) a fashion doll, a 6-pack of coke, peanuts, Fiddle Faddle, a sack of candy bars, and a model car. Please be sure to Keep a list of the clubbers picked so that leaders will not always choose the same children each week or month.

Lifesaver Night

You bring a life preserver in and yell "man overboard" and throw it into the audience. When they catch it you ask them, "Why did I throw that and what is it for," the emphasis being on the fact that you use it to save lives, right? Well, who is our "lifesaver" when we are in spiritual trouble? Jesus, of course. Then you take out the original lifesavers (candy) and do the wordless book. Then give them out as treats at the end of game time.

Lights Out Night or Blackout Night or Let Your Light Shine

Turn off the lights. Use electric candles (Christmas window type). All clubbers and leaders receive a glow-in-the dark bracelet when they arrive. Have them bring flashlights. Play relay games with flashlights.

Little Game Night

Use a small bowling pin set for miniature pins. Make tiny bean bags. Paint small buckets to use for pick up game. Small wooden dowels painted for pins.

Look in the Mirror

Invite a guest to give tips for hair and makeup. Council Time: 1 Samuel 16:7

Love Bears All Things Night

Clubbers bring their favorite teddy bear. We put bear paw prints on the floor to mark the path to our room. We usually do this one for Valentines Day. We have teddy bear snacks and crafts.

Lunchbox Night

Clubbers bring their lunch box filled with canned goods for needy families. Council Time: The boy and his lunch he shared with Jesus.

M

M&M Madness

Do an M&M scavenger hunt during game time.

Mad Hatter Massacre

Award a prize for the funniest home-made hat.

March Madness

In March, of course, we do Upward Basketball in our church, so this is Upward Night with a basketball theme. Our pastor is also the coordinator for Upward in our church, so we have him come that night for story time and he does one of the lessons in their books. The kids wear their Upward uniforms and games are basketball for the night. I try to find the little chocolate sports candies that look like basketballs to give for treats.

March to the Ark Night

In March, of course, we build a big ark and the kids all come dressed as animals on the ark. The snack room is the “feed store.”

Marshmallow Mash

Have games using marshmallows. Have a contest to see who can stuff the most marshmallows in their mouth without swallowing.

Mascot Mania

Draw an Awana mascot for a prize.

Measles Night

One of our most favorite theme nights is "Measles Night". For every section a clubber passes, he is allowed to put measles (little round red sticker) on his leader's face. Great motivation for passing sections.

Meet the Pastor

Have the Pastor come in and do council time.

Mexican Fiesta Night

#1 Bring some pinatas to club. We filled each with candy. We pulled it by a rope thrown over our basketball goal and pulled it up and down while they were blindfolded. Each clubber got a certain time to hit at it. When all the candy was out, they all had bags to put the candy in.

#2 All clubbers passing section, or brings a friend gets to take turns hitting the pinata then shares the candy.

Missionary Night

1) Have a missionary give the council time message. If they have children close to the age of your clubbers have them come in and tell about their life as a missionary kid. Let the clubbers ask them questions.

2) Have your AWANA missionaries visit. Do something special for them such as a canned goods drive, office supplies, or a book of postage stamps for each clubber family could be brought to club for them. Even if your missionary cannot come, you can do something special for them.

3) Get a huge box and have the clubbers bring treats, books, stickers and other small items for their Adopt-A-Club. Also, this would be a great night to have your \$5.00 Adopt-a-Club bank filled in and the patches could be awarded for the year.

4) Get some Leaders or ladies in your church to prepare an ethnic dish from the country of your Adopt-A-Club.

5) Bring a camera to share pictures of this night with your Adopt-a-Club. Perhaps have the kids draw some pictures and write a few letters to make a book for your Adopt-a-Club.

Game Time -find a book (i.e. Carousel of Counties) or talk with someone in your church or a local seminary and perhaps have a seminary student come and teach games from different countries.

Council Time Message -If missionary is visiting ask them to speak about their country or work. Discuss how "We are All Missionaries" within our school, neighborhood, or family. Scripture references: Matthew 9:37-38; Luke 10:2; John 4:35.

Missions Night

One year we traveled by train, another by plane and another by boat. We “build” the transportation and “travel” from country to country. We make passports for each child to get stamped. Each room is a country. We put a missionary in each room. The kids travel from country to country.

Money for Missions Makes “CENTS” Night

We start a penny contest between handbook rooms around October through November to raise money to participate in Operation Christmas Child. The monies are counted and the winning room wins a prize. The leaders in each room take their clubbers on a shopping outing to a dollar store with a shoebox to fill with gifts. We divide out the money evenly among the kids. The kids LOVE this one!

Movie Night

Play Christian movie and eat popcorn.

Mud Pie Night

The idea was to let clubbers snack on chocolate pudding. The Cubbies did OK. But the Sparks directors let the kids play in the pudding and try to make mud pies. They were totally covered in chocolate. It was a huge mess but fun!

My Name in Lights

Materials-stars or light bulbs made from construction paper. This is used in an individual club for best results. For every section a clubber says, he or she gets a star on light bulb With their name on it. Also, if they turn in a paper with every verse written (5) times, they receive a star or light bulb. They must recite verses or complete sections in order to get credit. At the end of the month the stars or lights are counted, the person with the most stars or lights is the winner. Director or leader picks up a small gift to give as a special prize. Plaques with Bible verses, small trophy with world's greatest star, or any simple gift for special recognition will do.

Mystery Night

Clubbers do not know what the night will be but make sure it is something they do not want to miss.

N

Name That Food Night

Leaders bring in many different food items, some tasty and some not so tasty. Clubbers are divided into two teams: Each team member is given a number. Food items are covered and put in similar containers. A covered food is brought out, and a number is called. The two players with that number (one from each team) face off. The first one says, "I can eat that food in 10 (or whatever number) bites." The other one says, "I can eat that food in 9 bites." This goes on until one clubber stops and challenges the other clubber, "OK, eat that food." The "winning" clubber then gets to see the food and must eat it in however many bites he or she said. If he or she eats all the food, then the team is awarded 10 points. But, if the clubber sees the food and refuses to eat any of it, the other team is awarded 50 points. Some "fun" foods for the containers: pickles, sardines or tuna, lemons, chocolate, hot dogs, yogurt, snack pack box of cereal, or cottage cheese.

Name That Tune Night

Clubbers try to guess song by how many notes they hear.

NASCAR Box Derby

Every one will make a car out of a card board box. Parents may help. They can be painted, glued, taped, bolted, rivets, wired, or sewn together. You must be able to pull it up around your waist. No straps maybe used to hold car up. It must Be held by your hands. At game time, kids are chosen in heats and race around a circle, make checkered flags and use empty oil cans for atmosphere. Winners are chosen by team colors or Individual clubs, or boys against the girls. After winners are Picked have a car contest. (Design, color, most original etc). Finally end with a race picking some of the leaders to compete.

Nautical Night

Everyone dresses up in something that has to do with a ship. Examples Captains hat, fishing vest or pole, sailor's hat, etc (no real fish hooks please!) Then we explain to the kids how the captain directs and guides the ship and without him we would get lost. Then we tell them how Jesus is the captain of our ship and directs us spiritually on where and how to go. We have a little contest for the dressed-up people: most original, creative, etc and we give out Gumi fish as a treat after game time.

Nerd Night

Pretty basic. Everyone dresses up like a nerd. Hair slicked down for the guys. Unbalanced ponytails for girls. Thick glasses, half tracked shirts, flip flop shoes with white socks. Pocket protector overstuffed with pens. Dark blue eye shadow and poorly put on lip stick. The list goes on and on.

Games can be explained to where only mathematical/physics/engineering professors would understand (then explained for real). Add a twist to any event (bean bag carried on forehead instead of head).

Council time explain how God makes all of us different, but yet no matter our differences we should care for each other and work together to share the gospel.

New Year Babies

Everyone dress like babies and play games using baby activities like a baby food eating contest, diapering contest and drinking from a bottle contest.

New Year Night

In January, we begin a contest between the girls and boys in each room to get the kids back into the swing of things. We draw a big snowman and a snowwoman on the board. We cut out white circles. For each verse the kids say, they get to put a snowball in their team's snowperson. The team with the most snowballs at the end of the contest, which is the week before Valentines Day, wins! What do they win? We have a Valentine banquet. The runner-up has to serve the winners at the banquet. We usually cook spaghetti. The runner-ups have to wear aprons and be their personal servers! The winners leave "tips" for their servers! At the banquet, I also crown a Little Mr. Sparky and a Little Miss Sparky. Miss Sparky gets a banner to wear and a dozen red rose bouquet. They each get a crown.

No Room In the Inn Theme Night

A local petting zoo graciously donates their services and brings a llama, goats, bunnies and a pony. Two leaders dress as Mary and Joseph with a baby. We take the clubbers outside and sit them on the ground in front of the manger while Mary and Joseph tell of the events of Jesus' birth.

Noah Night

Since AWANA is falling on Halloween we are having a NOAH NIGHT. Children are to dress up like an Animal from Noah's Ark or a Bible Person. We will be having Animal Crackers for Treats. The children will be given bags to decorate with animals or Bible Verses. For every section that they pass, we will be giving candy to put in the bag.

Noodle Night

Have no hands spaghetti eating contest with clubbers wearing bibs. Give a prize of Italian ice cream to the clubber who eats the most in three minutes. For younger clubbers, use noodles for crafts. Clubbers can glue noodles on cardboard or in freestanding statues to form animals for noodle zoo. Younger clubbers can make noodles-on-string necklaces. The Council Time message could show different types and shapes of noodles from different countries and talk about how people are different but God loves everyone.

Nose Nightmare

Prize for the funniest nose. Can be store bought.

O

Oh Where! O Where! Is My Hairbrush Scavenger Hunt

This is a "Veggie Tales" Scavenger hunt that we did. We called it: Larry Boy's-"Oh Where! Oh Where! Is My Hair Brush" Scavenger Hunt . We started out by listening to the song "Oh Where! Oh Where! is My Hair Brush" off the "Veggie Tales" audio cassette tape to build up excitement. We held our hunt outside in the Spring. I went early and hid clues around the outside of the church building and yard. Our church is in a rural area, so we had lots of hiding places. We used scripture verses for clues. For example, one clue read-"In Revelation 3:2, Jesus says, "I stand at the DOOR and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." We emphasized the word "door" and told them to find the next clue at the place where Jesus was knocking. I bought a little hair brush and the last clue led them to it. The clubber who found it, got to keep it. For Green Meadow time, we watch the "Veggie Tales" movie, "Are You My Neighbor?" In Sparkle time, when they were finished saying verses, they colored a picture of "Larry Boy" that I had down loaded off the computer.

Old Fogey Night

Dress up very old fashioned. Award prizes.

Operation Christmas Child

Some churches participate in the Operation Christmas Child ministry. In Awana, one church used the items purchased and donated in its Awana store. The clubbers used

their shares to buy items to put in the shoeboxes. It took the focus off the clubbers and caused them to think of others less fortunate.

Orange Crush Night

During game time, provide a table for each team with one five-ounce cup for each team member. Fill cups with soda and give each clubber a straw. At signal, the first player runs to table and sips all the soda in his cup. He then tags the second player who repeats the action. Play continues until all players have emptied their cups. First team to finish wins. 2) Also, play games with oranges. Serve Orange popsicles.

P

Pajama Night

We all wear pajamas, robes, slippers and messy hair!! Contests for the best. You can tie it in to not being "asleep" in Christ when he returns. (Cubbies like this the best!).

Pack your Bags Night

Last year Halloween fell on our Awana Night. Wal-mart gave us free white bags with handles that worked great for each clubber. Our church members all brought a bag of candy to use. We played every game with candy. They would do a relay in which they would go in the center and get a handful of candy out of a big bowl and put it in their sack. Then they would run back and tag the next player. At the end of the night, we also gave out candy so that everyone left getting plenty.

Parent-Child Night

Parents work alongside their children throughout club - even during Game Time. Present the gospel during Council Time. Parents will get the inside scoop on Awana and learn about God's plan for their own lives.

Parents Night

#1 Parents come to Awana with their child, participate during game time, go to Council Time and meet with the club director during handbook time. Have a Parent's Night for each club so parents do not have to choose which club to go to if they have children in different clubs.

Have a parent/clubber night. The parents have to go through handbook time with their clubbers, say sections to the leaders, etc. They go through game time with their clubbers, with a twist, have them run the relays backwards. And finally, during council time, have a message about being closer to God than we are to our parents. Relate how God is our Father, and bring a salvation message. We have several clubbers who do not go to church anywhere, and are only allowed to come to Awana. So far this year, we have had 3 clubbers saved -all bus kids.

Pass It On

Play passing games such as Hot Potato or passing a football or basketball back and forth. Council Time could teach passing the good news of the gospel on to friends.

Pass the Purple Cow Night

Everyone wears purple and at the end of club night we all have purple cows. MMMmmm!!! :)

PURPLE COW Recipe

Combine in a blender:

1 1/2 Cups Fat Free Milk ,3 Tablespoons Frozen Grape Juice Concentrate

5 Ice Cubes. For extra creaminess add 1/2 cup fat free or lowfat vanilla frozen yogurt instead of ice cubes. Blend until smooth. Serve and enjoy.

110 calories, 0 grams fat, 20% calcium

Pastor Appreciation Night

Have clubbers write letters or color pictures to give to the Pastor/Pastors telling them how much they appreciate them. Have the Pastor/Pastors come into council time to receive them.

Pastor Popcorn Night

Pastor gives message and wears uniform. Participates in every aspect of the meeting. Run games on each team. Brings popcorn to handbook time.

Patriotic Night or Red, White and Blue Night or Hooray for the USA

Everyone wears red, white, and blue. Have a serviceman come in uniform and give the council time message. Send cards to servicemen. Have special prayer for those who are serving in our government and Armed Forces.

Pencil Night

Clubbers earn a “decorative” pencil for each section they say.

Council Time: 2 Corinthians 3:2

Penny Night

Short version of the Penny Drive for a mission project or missionary. Obtain Indian head pennies (issued 1859-1909). These can be purchased at a coin shop in decent shape for one dollar, including some from the 1890's. You can promote the pennies as being 100 years old. Award one of these pennies to the individual in each club who brings the most pennies. For an individual grand prize, you could award an old "US large cent". These were produced between 1794 and 1858 and were about the weight of a half dollar. You can get these in fairly decent condition from a coin shop, or maybe someone in the church would donate one.

Pet Night

Clubbers bring their favorite stuffed animal. Games are played with stuffed animals. Put stuffed animals in a pile and first team to get pets and cross the color line wins.

Game: Use candy corn or wrapped candy. Each color team is assigned an animal. One clubber is the parent the others are babies. Only the parent is allowed to pick up the candy that is strewn or hidden. Babies can call parent by making animal sounds. Clubbers get to divide candy with their team.

Pig Snoot Passion

Award prize for the best pig nose.

Pillow Paradise

Everyone bring a pillow. Play games with the pillows.

Pitter Patter Night

This night was where we have baby bottles for the teams. One player from each team would try to be the first to drink all their bottle. We also brought baby food fruit jars. We put them in a bag and a player from each team would draw one out. At the whistle they would see who could finish eating their jar first.

Polar Expedition Night

For game time, we used dry ice to simulate "cold" and have clubbers to wear their coats.

Poster Paradise

Make Awana posters for a prize.

Potato Head Night

The clubbers brought potatoes decorated to look like their leaders. For Council Time, I introduced them to the **Tater Family**. I decorated paper potatoes, but real potatoes would work as well. As I introduced the Taters, I told the clubbers about each one's personality, read a verse that applied and discussed with them whether we should try to be like that Tater or not. Here are the Taters:

- o Spec Tater – just likes to watch, never helps out.
- o Iri and Agi Tater, the “Terrible Two Twins” – always stir up trouble.
- o Commen Tater – always talking, usually making negative comments.
- o Dic Tater – bossy.
- o Hesi Tater – goes to Awana and church and hears the gospel, knows she's a sinner, but has never trusted Christ as Savior.
- o Regurgi Tater (the clubbers' favorite) – been in Awana for years, knows all the verses, finishes all the books but never stops to think about what he's learned.
- o Medi Tater – loves to think about God's Word day and night.
- o Imi Tater – always tries to follow Christ's example.

Potato Sack Slaughter

Do all your games with potato sacks.

Prayer Walk

Make small signs with prayer request such as to pray for our Country, our President, our Troops, the church, their Awana club, unsaved family members, etc. Leaders take small groups around to signs/stations (preferably outdoors) to pray for each one.

Pudding Feast Night or Pudding Plaster Night

We had two games on this night. First we would line up a clubber with a bowl of chocolate pudding in front of him. The only problem was he could not use a spoon or hands. They had to eat it by licking it out of the bowl. We did use trash bags to cover their clothes and we had wet ones for clean up. Our second game was to have two clubbers blindfolded. One clubber would feed the other clubber the chocolate pudding. Since neither clubber can see, it does make for a very fun experience.

Pumpkin Head Parade

Have clubbers make their heads look like a pumpkin for a prize.

Puzzlemania Night

This was a great game for the Sparks as well as the older ones. We went to School Aids and bought blank precut puzzles. Then we drew the faces of Sparkies on each

puzzle. We put the pieces in a zip-loc bag. At the whistle each team opened their bag and saw which team could put their puzzle together first.

R

Rent A Wreck

At our annual Grand Prix meet, we include Rent-a-Wreck races. Clubbers bring in cars from previous years. Parents and other adults in the church rent a car and participate in special races after the regular races are over. The proceeds go toward missions.

Rubber Eraser Night

Clubbers get a small rubber eraser for each section they say.

S

Samaritan's Purse or Operation Christmas Child

Collect items to make shoe boxes for Samaritan's purse.

Save a Beanie Baby Night

One of our Theme nights this year will be Save A Beanie Baby. Games, crafts and snacks will revolve around this theme. The kids will bring in their Beanie Babies and we will make Beanie Babies etc. You make a beanie baby by having pre-cut paper bag bears and allowing the children to color them however they want. Then, have the children glue them together, leaving a gap in the head. They can then fill them with dried beans and glue the head together.

For game time, they can pass their real beanie babies like a baton, balance them on their heads, run their races holding their beanie babies etc. The clubbers should use the beanie babies that they brought from home, because their craft bears will not be dried properly in time for games.

Scavenger Hunt

Clubbers fill grocery bags with a variety of “stuff” from home. Leader calls out different objects. Clubbers get points or matching the leader’s object with something in their bags.

School Shirt Night

Allow the clubbers to wear their school t-shirt (t-shirt with the name and mascot of their school).

School Spirit Night

Clubbers come dressed in all school colors. We even had some kids color their hair, skin, etc.. with their school colors! The clubber with the most spirit won a prize of the commander's choice and everyone else that participated got 5 AWANA shares.

Scrumdillyitious Night

We have this night toward the end of the year. We had ice cream with all kinds of toppings for everybody. We cut time off each segment so we would have about 15 minutes at the end. All the Cubbies and Sparks got one scoop of ice cream. The older clubs got two. We had bowls filled with different toppings: red hots, candy com, gummy bears. M&M's, Skittles, sprinkles, gum balls, gum drops, and any others you might want. The leaders spooned toppings on each clubbers ice cream. We allowed a limit of 5 to 7 toppings. This way we made sure we would have enough. This takes a little longer, but it went fine for us.

SOS Night (*Share Our Savior*)

Clubbers invite unchurched friends to Awana. Present gospel message.

Shoe Fly or Scrambled Shoes Night or Sticky Feet Night

#1 We had the clubbers loosen their shoe strings and make it where their shoes would come off easily. They kicked as hard as they could and the clubber whose shoe went the farthest would win for his team.

#2 After all the shoes were in the middle, all the players faced the wall while the game director mixed up the shoes. Then as they turned around, we turned out the lights. Every ten seconds we would turn the lights on and off. It was a very exciting game. The first team with all their shoes on won.

Show & Tell

Clubbers and/or Leaders bring an item to club that is meaningful and share.

Slipper Night

Everyone wears slippers for the night.

Silent Night

Of course we had this night in December. Everyone had to whisper. NO LOUD TALKING!!! We sang quiet songs. We had a guest speaker that worked with hearing impaired people. She taught us sign language and we sang a song with our hands. Game time was quiet cheering and clapping and quiet games. The leaders loved this night so much they requested it again for this year because club night was so nice and quiet!

Singspiration

Invite Minister of Music to share his testimony and lead in songs. Award prize for funniest song written about the song leader to the tune of "On Top of Old Smoky" or any familiar tune and/or play "Name that Tune".

Snow Fun Night or Snowball Bash or Indoor Snow Carnival

#1 Have a huge paper fight using paper. Divide the room with chairs. Give equal amounts of paper to both sides. Typing paper or used computer paper is good.

#2 Games with Styrofoam snowballs.

Council Time: Job 38:22

#3 Clubbers and Leaders should dress in as many layers of clothes as they can. When they arrive they should be taken into one large room and the number of articles of clothing taken off and counted until they get down to their normal uniform. Give shares accordingly.

Game Time -Make hundreds of snowballs out of plain white typing paper. Store them in large trash bags. Have team snowball fights. Team with the least snowballs in their circle wins. Have teams make snowmen out of one in their group or a leader. Bring several brooms, carrots, raisins, hats, etc. Have two people from your church come and judge the best snowmen.

Council Time Message -"Am I hot or Cold?" Scripture references: Revelation 3:15-16.
Awards and Treats -Winning teams get hot chocolate with marshmallows or Ice cream.

Soup-Er Bowl Sunday

It usually corresponds with Super Bowl Sunday. But we put a new twist on it by having the kids bring cans of soup for needy families. We bring the local football team and its mascot, cheerleaders and band to our club. The clubbers dress as football players and cheerleaders. The cheerleaders teach the girls cheers and the football team puts the boys through drills. Then the cheerleaders give out the little plastic footballs they throw to fans during games. Popcorn, soda and hot dogs are given for snacks. Sometimes we do the football “kick-off” theme in January to kick off a new year.

Special Hearts Stampede

Give prize for the best heart poem.

Sports Team Nights

Dress in clothes promoting your favorite sports team.

Council time message: Being on God’s team or being zealous for Christ. Titus 2:14

Sticker Night or ‘Sticky’ Theme Night

#1 Clubbers receive a sticker for every section they say.

#2 We just had a "Stick it to Me" theme night for Sparks. During Green Meadow Time, the kids received a sticker for answering questions correctly and for each verse they got signed off on. They were able to place the sticker on their director (me) anywhere they wanted. They had a wonderful time, and we even had kids who never said verses before say some just to stick it to me! My face was covered, and I looked very silly, but it was effective.

Stump the Pastor’s Night

Let the clubbers ask the Pastor questions.

Super Dooper Scooper Night

Everyone bringing a friend gets to have a banana split.

Super Section Night

All clubbers saying three or more sections win a prize.

Surprise Guest or Mystery Guest or Public Servant Night

Have an outsider come in and do council time. (Policeman, fireman, nurse, doctor, dentist, builder, dry waller on stilts.) Have them give a message about how their jobs can reflect Christ.

T

T.P. Night (*Toilet Paper*)

You can substitute toilet paper tubes for batons, rolls of TP for bean bags during game time. After handbook time, clubbers get to their leader by wrapping them in toilet paper. The more sections the more toilet paper. Council time message could be about Lazarus, or about how sin can "wrap us up."

T&T Scavenger Hunt Night

This year, the T&T groups made their handbooks "come alive." There is a section that is all about the people who serve in your church. We took the kids over to the church to find the people who serve in our church and write down their names and jobs. Then the kids made "thank you" cards for each person specifically thanking everyone for the job each does in our church. We coordinated this with Ministry Appreciation Month.

T&T Interview Night

One of the gold/silver activities is to learn about the people who work in Awana. We sent them out to "interview" all the people who work in Awana. We typed up an interview sheet with the questions listed in the book plus some others. They put their name as the interviewer and wrote down the person's answers. Then we placed the interviews in the church newsletter. They loved having their work in print.

Tacky Tie Night

Award prizes and/or points for participation.

Take Me to Your Liter Night

For everyone passing a section divide into two teams. Each team gets a 2-liter of soda and some paper cups. Each team lines up with the leader standing at the other side of the room with the 2-liter. All players get a cup which holds with their teeth. At the signal, the first players from both teams run to their leader holding the cup with teeth only. The leader pours a couple ounces into cup. The player must drink it all without using hands, then rushes back to tag the next player. The team finishing first wins. Award candy bars or some other small prize to winning team.

Talent Night

What a great self esteem builder and this is a great way to get parents and families to come and see what AWANA is all about! This activity takes a little more pre-planning than most, but it is worth it all.

1) Have a sign up sheet for the clubbers and leaders to put down what they want to do several weeks ahead. Everything from singing, playing an instrument, gymnastics, fly casting, decorating, etc. Clubbers who don't feel they have a talent can be production or stage assistants helping get things moved and ready for the next act.
2) Important: Make sure someone in Leadership approves all the music and talent acts before hand. Parents or family members are invited to the evening and can be in the act with their family members. This activity only allows for 45 minutes of handbook time and the remainder of the evening is for the Show.

Council Time Message -"How can I use my talents for Christ?" Scripture references: Hebrews 13:5; Philippians 4:13; II Timothy 2:15-16.

Awards and Treats -Serve a simple punch after the Show so the actors and participants can mingle with friends and family.

Tangle Trouble

Everyone plays the game tangle. Hold hands to form a circle. Drop hands then reach across the circle and join hands with 2 people. Without letting go try to untangle. It can be done.

Taste of AWANA

Play a food relay. Fill paper sacks with different kinds of food. First player runs to the sack, grabs a food item, eats it and returns to the line. Second player then runs to the sack and so on. Council Time: Thankfulness for food. 1 Timothy 6:8

Tator Terror

Take a potato and decorate it like a person for a prize.

Team Color Night

Award winning team dress up the most in their team color.

Teddy Bear Bazaar

Prize for the oldest teddy.

Thank You Night

- 1) Each Clubber should bring a Thank You note for God, an AWANA Leader, A W ANA Helper, LIT, or Awana Listener who has made an impact or difference in their life.
- 2) Have a ballot box for the Leaders and the one receiving the most votes for favorite leader should be taken out to dinner by the Commander of the Club one evening.
- 3) Each Leader should have small treats or prizes to be given out every time a Clubber hears a leader say "Thank you" or "I appreciate you" during the evening. Clubbers must raise their hands when they hear those words.

Game Time -Regular Awana games but remember Games Leaders should have treats to hand out for hearing Thank You's.

Council Time Message -"How Should I Give Thanks to God?" Perhaps sing the chorus "Give Thanks" with someone playing the piano or guitar. Scripture references: Phillipians 4:4; I Thessalonians 5:16-18.

Thankful Turkey or Create-A-Turkey

Send home week before a cutout of a turkey. Clubbers bring back the "dressed" turkey. Prizes are given for best decorated turkeys.

Thanksgiving Party

Make pilgrims and Indian costumes out of paper. Pilgrims: Bonnets and collars for the girls and pilgrim hats and collars for the boys. Indians: Brown paper bags cut into vests and headbands with feathers. Serve turkey cookies and milk.

Tin Can Line Up

Clubbers bring cans of food. Line them up on their game line. See which color line makes the longest line. Give the food to needy families or a food bank.

Tooti Fruiti Night

This night we used fruit for every game. Relay races with bananas. A toss game with apples, oranges, or lemons. We used pineapples as our color team pins. We also passed a banana (or another fruit you like) over and under through a team line. The last player had to eat the fruit and go in a get the pin or bean bag.

Topsy Turvy Night

Have Sparks play T&T games and T&T play Sparks games.

T-Shirt Finale

Give an Awana T-shirt to the person with the best idea for an Awana T-shirt.

Trauma Night

Clubbers “dress up” as if they’ve been in an accident. Council Time: The Lord is with you at all time, no matter what the circumstances or there are no emergencies in heaven.

Treasure Hunt Night

#1 Clubber follow clues on a treasure hunt. The treasure can be a box of treats or WWJD bracelets.

#2 Clubbers earns prize out of a treasure chest for every section passed. The clubbers with the most sections earns very own treasure chest.

Council Time message on Matthew 6:19-21 (laying up treasures in heaven), Luke 15:8-9 (the lost coin) or 2 Corinthians 9:15, John 4:10, Romans 6:23, or Ephesians 2:8-9 (eternal life in Christ, the greatest gift/treasure of all).

Triple Play Night

Play baseball/softball/and teeball at Game Time with clubbers dressed up as baseball players.

Trunk or Treat

Our club hosted our first Trunk or Treat. It was a great outreach for our church and a fun way to celebrate Halloween. Congregation members lined up their cars and opened up their trunks. Next, they decorated their trunks with themes. Our pastor and his wife did a Jamaican theme! Then they filled their trunks with candy. Clubbers were encouraged to wear costumes that were pleasing to God and then went trick or treatin, from the car trunks of our congregation. We had hot dogs, popcorn, chips and hot chocolote for all. We had 38 cars and over 100 children preschool to sixth grade. It was a neat way to kick off the Great Shake UP!

Turkey Trot Tremor

Have relay races using coffee cans with strings attached as stilks. Simply tie the can to their shoes.

Turn Your Leader Into A Snowman (Mummy)

For every 5 sections a handbook group says they get a roll of toilet paper to wrap up their leader in at the end of the night.

Twin Night

Have the clubbers dress the same as a friend and come as "twins." We have also used this in our club to promote visitors, and encouraged clubbers to find someone with a shared attribute: A friend who also wears glasses, a friend who also has red hair, etc., or just have the visitor come wearing the same colors.

Council Time: Jacob and Esau

U

U-Choose Night

Clubbers choose games, songs, etc.

Uncle Sam Look-a-like Contest

Prize for best costume.

Under the Baseball Dome Night

Wear baseball garb and play games with baseballs. Council Time could be a game of Bible baseball. The clubber who is "it" chooses whether he wants a single, double, triple or home run. The "shorter" the hit the easier the question he is asked. A clubber who doesn't know the answer is out. Questions should be based on the handbook the clubbers are studying.

Unique Christmas decorations

On the last club night before Christmas, we host Decorate a Leader Night. Clubbers bring all sorts of Christmas decorations and lights, and four leaders get to become a Christmas tree. There is a prize for the best tree. The lights are plugged in if they work.

V

Valentine Kraft Nite

Let everyone make an inexpensive item.

Veterans Day Celebration

A dad who is a soldier came to club dressed in his “armor.” He explained the importance of each piece of armor, then taught the kids about the armor of God. One clubber came up and as the dad taught the armor, he put the armor on the clubber. Veterans from our church posted the colors. Last year, one older veteran came to our classroom and shared his World War I experiences, medals and uniform with the kids. They were spellbound! It is good for the kids to get to know these people.

W

Wacky T-Shirt Night

Have a T-Shirt fashion show. Award prizes as you would like.

Water Balloon Fight Night

Self explanatory!

Wear Your Uniform to School Day

I printed up a form to let the teachers know what the uniform was about and asked them to sign it to show that the kids did in fact have the uniform on. Not only did the teachers sign the forms, but wearing the uniforms opened the door for the kids in our club to meet kids in school that were from Awana clubs in other churches. My kids were surprised to find that there were a lot of Awana kids in school and made them their day-to-day playmates! It also helps them not feel different knowing others also go to Awana and church.

Win, Lose, or Draw Night

Use all 4 colors to play this game. Give small candy as prizes.

Winter Storm

Two teams face each other across a dividing line. Each team has the same number of snowballs (newspaper crumpled into balls) on the floor in their area. When the whistle blows, the players pick up the snowballs and throw them into the other team’s area. The clubbers continue to throw any snowballs (the original ones and

those the other team has thrown) into the opposite area until the whistle blows again. The snowballs are then counted and the team with fewer snowballs on its side wins. Encourage clubbers to wear coats, gloves, hats and boots.

What's in a Song?

Tell a story of a familiar hymn or chorus.

When I Grow Up Night or What I Want To Be

Everyone dresses as the person he would like to be when he grows up (fireman, nurse etc.) One girl, who I had in club, dressed up in maternity clothing with a beach ball taped to her tummy. She said she wanted to be just like her mommy and raise a family.

Whirlwind or Ping-Pong Night

Our clubbers love the games we play with ping pongs, but to peak their interest, we try to rename some nights so they are not sure of what will be happening. Our church has a ping pong table and we will let three players from a team on one side and three from another team on the other side. At the whistle each team tries to get the ball to go off the other teams' side of the table. Of course they are only using air their own. They score points when they succeed in doing this. (We do not have a gym, so this is a great game when the weather is cold or wet.) Another game for this night is to have two or four teams line up (depending on the room you have) and blow their ping pong ball across a goal line. The first and second across earn points.

Y

Yippi-Yae-Yea or Western Night or Round Up

All our clubbers came as cowboys or cowgirls. We had awards for the best costumes. We also played games with brooms as horses and rode around the range.

Z

Zoo Night

Everyone brings a stuffed zoo animal.

Theme Night Ideas

Theme nights add a lot of fun and excitement to any Awana program. Below is list of suggested themes but feel free to be creative and come up with some themes not on the list.

Awards Night
Backwards
Beat the Clock
Bible Drill
Black Out Night
Bring-a-Friend
Canned Food
Chocolate Night
Christmas Party
Cookie Night
Crazy Hat
Crazy Hair
Flashlight
Get Wet Night
Giant Night
Gigantic Hot Fudge Sundae
Grand Prix Prep
Ground Hog Night
Have a Ball
Kick-Off Dinner-includes parent orientation Leader Appreciation
Long Line Night
Love Night
Orange (any color)
Pajama party
Pajamas/T-shirt
Pepsi/Coke Challenge
Pie-N-Face Ice Cream or
Pilgrim Night

Pillow
Pizza
Popcorn Night
Silly Shoes
Snowman
Spry Night
Stuffed Animal
The Green Scene
Ugly Sweater Night
Uniform Inspection (*should be repeated*)
Missionary

For additional ideas and themes consult the *Awana Ministry Guide*.

Idea Explosion *Encyclopedia of Ideas*
Sparks Activity Box
Awana Ideas e-mail newsletter

Websites:
www2.awana.org/cs/forums/
www.commanderbill.net
www.mattsresources.net

September Silliness

Though September will be a memorial time, there's also room (in fact, there's always room!) for some fun and silliness when you're working with kids! Here's a list of September holidays and anniversaries to inspire your theme night planning:

- September is National Chicken Month. Take clubbers who finish their entrance booklet for fried chicken.
- National Piano Month. Let clubbers who play instruments put on a talent show each week.
- National Mushroom Month. Clubbers who pass eight sections during the month get pizza – with mushrooms.
- September 1-7 is Waffle Week. Play games with toaster waffles and then eat waffles (not the same ones you played with) with a variety of toppings.
- September 9-15 is International Housekeepers Week. Clubbers volunteer to clean houses of people who need help.
- September 23-29 is National Dog Week. Bring your pet to club. Or not.
- September 5 – Be Late for Something Day. Or is this every day for you?
- September 8 – National Grandparents Day. Have Grandparents Night at club, but don't run relays.
- September 16 – National Play-Doh® Day. Who can make the best Play-Doh waffle?
- September 22 – National Elephant Appreciation Day. Have you hugged an elephant today? Or maybe you can just play games with peanuts.
- September 29 – National Goose Day. A winner-take-all “Duck, Duck, Goose” tournament.
- On September 1, 1830, “Mary Had a Little Lamb” was published. In case you were wondering.
- On September 2, 1901, Teddy Roosevelt said, “Speak softly and carry a big stick.” Run a silent relay with wrapping paper rolls for batons.
- On September 6, 1813, “Uncle Sam” was first used as a symbol of the United States. Play games in cardboard top hats.
- On September 13, 1922, the hottest temperature ever on earth was recorded in Libya – 136 degrees. You might not want to celebrate this.
- On September 16, 1620, the Mayflower sailed for America. Play “ship” games.
- On September 23, 1848, the first chewing gum was sold. Use (wrapped) chewing gum as prizes.

October is National Popcorn Poppin' Month. Rent a popcorn popper and watch a movie.

- October is also National Pizza Month. Watch a movie about pizza. Just kidding. Pizza for everyone who passes four sections.
- And National Cookie Month. How about Bring Your Leader a Dozen Cookies Night?
- On October 1, 1903, the first World Series began. Split into teams for a softball tournament – or kickball in the gym.
- On October 2, 1950, the comic strip Peanuts first appeared in newspapers. Everyone dress like Snoopy.
- October 7-13 is National Squirrel Awareness Week. Because you always want to know where the squirrels are. Scatter acorns on the church grounds. The team to find the most in 15 minutes wins.
- On October 9, 1876, the first telephone conversation took place. Call your clubbers on the phone to remind them. Play telephone – clubbers line up in single file. Give the first clubber a long sentence. First clubber tells the second clubber and so on down the line. The team that has the fewest changes at the end of the line wins popcorn, pizza or a cookie.
- October 10 is Bring Your Teddy Bear to Work Day. Or in this case, to club.
- October 12 is Columbus Day (celebrated on October 14 this year).
- On October 13, 1792, construction of the White House began. Teach a lesson on praying for those in power.
- October 17 is Dictionary Day. Give a quiz on the meaning of words in memory verses.
- October 18, 1867 is Alaska Day, when the United States took ownership of Alaska. Serve Klondike Bars® and run glacier races (clubbers covered in white sheets make their way through an obstacle course while teammates shout directions).
- On October 21, 1879, Thomas Edison invented the light bulb. Run a relay with the lights off and flashlights as batons. Speak on John 8:12 – “I am the light of the world.”
- October 22 is Color Day. Most colorful clubber wins a prize.
- October 26 is Wild Foods Day. Go out and hunt some down (but avoid mushrooms).
- October 28 is National Plush Animal Lovers Day. Play the Beanie Baby Grab and the Beanie Baby Relay.

November Nuttiness

Here's a list of November holidays and anniversaries to inspire you as you plan your theme nights.

- November is International Drum Month – March around town beating drums and inviting kids to Awana.
- November is also National Peanut Butter Lover's Month – Game idea – first person to whistle after eating a spoonful of peanut butter wins! Another game idea – who can eat a peanut butter and jelly sandwich the quickest?
- November 3 is National Cliché Day – Think over the way you talk to your clubbers about Christ. Are you using Christian clichés or are you talking from your heart?
- November 4-10 is National Split Pea Soup Week – OK, maybe you can celebrate this on your own.
- On November 10, 1871, Henry Morton Stanley found explorer David Livingstone at Ujiji, on Lake Tanganyika – Play hide and seek and talk about missionaries.
- November 11-17 is Geography Awareness Week – Where is Ujiji?
- November 13, 1907 was the date of the first helicopter flight – Have a section-passing contest. First place gets a helicopter ride.
- November 17 is National Chocolate Celebration Day – For some of us, every day is Chocolate Celebration Day.
- November 18-25 is National Bible Week – Make sure every clubber has his or her own Bible.
- On November 19, 1997, the first septuplets to be successfully delivered alive were born in Des Moines, Iowa, to Kenny and Bobbi McCaughey – Four years later, they were all in Cubbies!
- On November 22, 1946, the first ballpoint pens were sold – Awana offers several varieties you can give out as prizes, such as [Bendy Pens](#).
- November 24-30 is Game and Puzzle Week – See the arrange the strips idea above for an idea on using puzzles to help clubbers memorize.
- On November 26, 1789, the American holiday of Thanksgiving was celebrated nationally for the first time – in case you were wondering.
- On November 28, 1948, the first Polaroid® cameras went on sale – Have a Polaroid® scavenger hunt. Give each team a list of photos – team member with a police officer; team member up a tree; six team members in a phone booth, etc.

December Theme Night Fodder

Here's a list of December holidays and anniversaries to inspire you as you plan your theme nights.

- December is National Tie Month – everyone wear a Christmas tie. (When's casual month?)
- December 1 to 7 is Cookie Cutter Week – clubbers bring cookie cutters to make cookies for shut-ins or church socials.
- December 3 is Make a Gift Day – when all else fails, make bookmarks.
- On December 6, 1877, Thomas Edison played the first record, a recording of himself reciting “Mary Had a Little Lamb” – a fun fact to know and tell.
- On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked the United States at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii – teach clubbers about the freedoms we enjoy and those who sacrificed so we can have them.
- December 14-20 is Tell Someone They're Doing a Good Job Week – (bad grammar aside) a great time to thank leaders for their ministry.
- On December 14, 1911, Roald Amundsen and his men became the first to reach the South Pole – run an obstacle course race to the south side of the church property.
- On December 15, 1791, the Bill of Rights became part of the U.S. Constitution – another great time to teach about the freedoms we enjoy.
- On December 17, 1843, Charles Dickens published *A Christmas Carol* – present the gospel with your own versions of Christmas past, Christmas present and Christmas yet to come.
- On December 17, 1903, the Wright Brothers made the first airplane flight – everyone makes paper airplanes. Award prizes for farthest flight, best design and precision landings.
- On December 21, 1620, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock – talk about what they were willing to endure to practice their faith.
- December 22 is the first day of winter – crumple newspaper into balls, divide the gym in half and the clubbers into two teams. Clubbers throw the “snowballs” into the other teams area. Blow the whistle and see which team loses because they have more snow.
- December 28 is Call a Friend Day – or call your clubbers to remind them to come back after the holidays.

January Jollity

Here's a list of January holidays and anniversaries to inspire you as you plan your theme nights.

- January is National Book Month. – Hand out Christian fiction as prizes.
- January is also National Soup Month. – Take everyone sledding, then serve hot soup and crackers.
- On January 3, 1888, the drinking straw was invented. – Drink your soup through straws.
- January 9 is Static Electricity Day. – Does your Council Time room have carpeting? Just wondering.
- January 14 is National Dress Up Your Pet Day. – Have a contest. Clubbers bring in photos of their pets dressed up for winter. Give prizes for the best outfits.
- January 19 is Penguin Awareness Day. – Have you looked behind you lately? You always need to be aware, you know.
- January 19 is also National Popcorn Day. – Show a movie and serve popcorn.
- On January 20, 1892, the first game of basketball was played. – Hold a month-long tournament or just play relay games with basketballs.
- January 21 is Squirrel Appreciation Day. – Why?
- On January 23, 1942, Tupperware® was invented. – Hold a Tupperware stacking contest. Tallest and most creative stacks win prizes ... Tupperware containers full of candy.
- January 26 is Super Bowl Sunday. – Play games with footballs. Ask an athlete to give the Council Time message.
- January 27 is Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day. – Two clubbers, two pieces of bubble wrap. Who can pop all the bubbles first?
- January 29 is National Puzzle Day. – Hold jigsaw puzzle speed contests. Take a picture of your club and have it made into a puzzle.

February Fun

Here's a list of February holidays and anniversaries to inspire you as you plan your theme nights.

- February is National Bird Feeding Month – Build birdfeeders as a craft. Have a contest to see who can identify the most local birds.
- February is also National Hot Breakfast Month – Invite clubbers who are current in their books to a Saturday morning breakfast and game party.

- February 1 is Robinson Crusoe Day – Play Shipwreck. Have all clubbers stand in the center of the game floor. Call out commands. The last clubber to respond to each command is out. Port – clubbers run to left wall; Starboard – clubbers run to right wall; Bow – clubbers run to front of room; Stern – clubbers run to back of room; Shipwreck – clubbers fall down.
- February 2 is Groundhog Day – Who can make the best shadow picture?
- February 4 is Halfway Through Winter Day – Take clubbers outside for a snowball fight. Too warm where you live? Take them outside for a popcorn fight.
- February 5 is Weather Forecaster’s Day – The clubber who comes closest to predicting the temperature and weather at the start of next week’s club meeting earns a prize.
- On February 6, 1911, Ronald Reagan was born – Challenge your clubbers to learn all the presidents in order. Tell them there will be two contests later in the month.
- February 6 is Compliment Day – Say something nice about your leader.
- On February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln was born – Give awards to all clubbers who can list all presidents.
- February 15 is National “I Want Butterscotch” Day – Butterscotch sundaes for everyone!
- On February 18, 1930, Ollie became the first cow to fly in an airplane
- On February 22, 1918, Robert Wadlow, the world’s tallest man (8’ 11.1”) was born – Play games on stilts (but use spotters to prevent injury).
- Also on February 22, in 1732, George Washington was born – Give a cherry pie to the clubber who can list all the presidents in order.
- February 28 is Write Grandma a Letter Day – Clubbers write their grandmothers to invite them to Grandma night at club next month.

March is National Frozen Food Month and National Noodle Month!

- The second week of March is Bubble Gum Week.
- March 1 is National Pig Day and Peanut Butter Lover’s Day.
- March 3 is National Anthem Day. The *Star Spangled Banner* was adopted by Congress on this date in 1931.
- March 6 is the day Oreo® Cookies were first sold in 1912.
- March 14 is National Potato Chip Day.
- March 16 is Buzzard Day.
- March 17 is Submarine Day.

- March 19 is the day the swallows return to San Juan Capistrano.
- March 20 is the first day of spring.
- March 24 is National Chocolate Covered Raisin Day.
- March 25 is the day pancakes were first made in 1882.

April Foolishness – Great Themes for Theme Nights

- April is National Frog Month.
 - April is National Humor Month.
 - April is also International Guitar Month.
 - April 2 is National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day.
 - April 6 (1930) is the day Twinkies were invented.
 - April 15 is Rubber Eraser Day.
 - April 15 (1955) is the day the first McDonald's franchise opened (Des Plaines, Illinois).
 - April 15 (1738) is the day the bottle opener was invented. (Wonder what people did with their bottles before then?)
 - April 17 is National Cheeseball Day.
 - April 18 is International Jugglers Day.
 - April 18 (1775) is the day Paul Revere rode to warn the colonists that the "British are coming!"
 - April 20 is Look-Alike Day.
 - April 22 is National Jelly Bean Day.
 - April 26 is National Pretzel Day.
 - April 30 (1952) is the first day a toy (Mr. Potato Head®) was advertised on TV.
 - April 30 (1798) is also the day George Washington was inaugurated as the first U.S. president.
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If you have a theme night that is not included, I would love to add it. You can email it to Louise at louisecurtis@hotmail.com
God Bless!