

Youth Camp Activities / Games



- **Bible Book Scramble** - Find 132 square boxes or milk crates all the same size if possible (2 sets of the books of the Bible). There are 66 books in the Bible (39 for Old Testament and 27 for New Testament) so you will be making 2 sets of the Bible. Use white poster board or copy paper and write the names of all the books of the Bible on each box/crate by taping paper to front of box/crate. Divide the boxes/crates by putting 1 set (66) on one side of room and the other set (66) on the other side of room and get 2 teams (5 on each team stacking and then divide the rest of the youth to be coaching the stackers). The object of the game is whoever gets their boxes stacked up (5 in a stack) in the correct order of the books of the Bible starting with the Old Testament through the New Testament first wins. This is a great way to teach your youth the correct order of the books of the Bible.
- **Everything's Bananas** – This game allows any size youth group a fun way to occupy free time. Hand out a list of items to each child or group to measure using bananas. The items you give them could be items such as pews, floor, rugs, altars, etc. Once everyone has measured everything on their list it's turned into the youth leader. The child or group that measures the most items correctly wins. After the game is over then you can celebrate by making banana splits for everyone.
- **Water in Cup Relay** – This is an outdoors game on a hot sunny day. The object of this game is whichever team has the most water in their bucket at the end of the game wins. You will have to 2 teams and a full bucket of water by the line of team members and an empty bucket a set distance away from the team members. The game starts with a team member from both teams getting a cup (Styrofoam) of water from bucket and holding it on top of their head and running to their empty bucket and pouring it in and running the empty cup back to their next team member. You can either time this relay or have whoever goes through each team member first stops the game, and then see who has the most water in the bucket – that team wins. Warning – children will get wet! 😊
- **Balloon Mouth** – This is another hot sunny outdoors game similar to the one above except you have water balloons. The challenge of the game is the children to pick up the water balloon with his/her mouth and to not pop it with a speed race. Divide your youth group up into even teams not to exceed 5 children in each group. Place water balloons into 5 gallon buckets and place empty buckets a set distance away. The first child in each team must pick up a water balloon with his mouth and then quickly make his/her

way to his empty bucket. If the balloon bursts, he/she must return and start over. His/her turn is over and the next child begins once the water balloon is successfully in the empty bucket without bursting it.

- **Football Run** - You will need your youth group, 2 footballs and 8 orange cones. You can make the cones out of construction paper if you don't have cones then space them evenly apart with 2 rows for each team to have 4 cones on the playing field or gym floor. Divide players into two teams. The first person of each team will carry a football while running back and forth through the cones and then back to starting line to pass the football to next player in line, do 10 jumping jacks and then the next player in line can go. The first team that finishes will win.
- **Bridge Ball** – You will need 2 volley or soccer balls and 2, 4 or 6 children. Arrange the children in a circle formation facing in and each child in wide straddle step with the side of the foot against the child's foot, and their hands on knees. Get 2 balls ready. The object of this game is to throw one of the balls between the legs of any child before they can get their hands down and stop it. Each time the ball goes between the legs of an individual, a point is scored against that individual. The child that has the least points against them is the winner.

Safety Note: Be sure the children catch and roll the ball rather than bat it. Children must keep their hands on their knees until a ball is thrown at them.

Alternative game can be played by putting a child in the center with a ball and he/she is "It". The other children are in the same formation as above, but only one ball is used. The center child tries to roll the ball through the legs of any child. They could fake their intent using feints and changes of direction. Any child that allows the ball to go through their legs becomes "It". All children start with hands on knees until the ball is thrown.

- **Blanket Volleyball** – You will need 1 volleyball, blankets or sheets for each team and small to medium youth groups. You can use a volleyball net if you prefer, but not necessary. Divide into teams (4 children on each team) so that there will be 1 person holding each corner of the blanket/sheet. Have 1 team serve the volleyball by placing the volleyball in the middle of the blanket. They will lower the blanket and then raise it up quickly as a team to allow the volleyball to become air borne. The opposing team must catch the volleyball in their blanket and toss it back again.