

Let The SON SHINE

Summer
Event
Kit





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Let the SON SHINE

Summer Event Kit

About the Event Kit

*The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons
the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.*

Psalm 50:1

During the summer months there's a certain freedom and luxury with changing things up and redesigning what a "regular" routine looks like for a household. The summer months are also a great time to change things up on the congregational level and offer connect events that provide intergenerational opportunities for the households of faith to come together and grow in their relationship with each other as well as their relationship with Jesus.

This kit contains three ideas (Water, Campout, Serve) of what a Let the Son Shine Event might look like in your congregation. Each separate event (Water, Campout, Serve) includes Food, Fun, Serve and Faith Talk. You can use each event as a whole, or pick and choose two or three things and break them up throughout the summer, or you might even consider taking these ideas into your own neighborhoods to create mini moments in your own backyard. Invite the neighbors around you to come and connect and share faith talk together. The Family Faith Talk Moment can even be used separately when a household is on a similar outing.



Get Organized

Depending on the activities you choose to incorporate into your event, you will need leaders and helpers for the following (*Note: in many cases, volunteers can lead more than one activity. Don't feel you have to do something from every category. Assess your resources and plan accordingly.*):

You will need to recruit:

Let the Son Shine Director

Food Director and food team

Activities Director and activities team

Serve Director and service team

Communication/Registration Director and team

Activities and service teams will need to meet ahead of time to plan out their individual stations. The communications team will need to promote the date(s) and time(s) of the events to the congregation and send out registration forms.

Itty Bitties refers to children 2-6. Youth means those 13-18. All other grade-school children can participate in stations for youth or all ages.



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Sample Schedules

The following samples offer ideas for incorporating the activities in this kit into your schedule. You may extend or reduce the length of your event or change the hours as you desire.

Water Theme Event

- 6:00 p.m. Nacho Bar
- 6:30 p.m. Water Stations open (*Stations are manned by 1-2 volunteers.*)
- + Itty Bitties Stations
 - Kiddie Pools
 - Sprinkler Pad
 - Bubbles
 - Bubble Painting
 - + All Ages Stations
 - Pool Noodle Sprinkler(s)
 - Mini Water Blobs
 - Giant Bubbles

+ Youth/Adults Stations

- Slip-and-Slide Kickball
- Dunk Tank
- Water Slide Inflatable
- Nine Square in the Air with Sprinkler attached
- Old-Fashioned Water Balloon Fight
- Ice Cube Toe Treasure Hunt

Service Project (Water Bottles for the Homeless)

8:00 p.m. Faith Talk (Snow Cones/Popsicles)

8:30 p.m. Close

Campout Theme Event

6:00 p.m. Hot Dogs/Brats Cookout

6:30 p.m. Campout Stations open (*Stations are manned by 1-2 volunteers*)

+ Itty Bitties Station

- Glow-in-the-Dark Dance Party

+ Adult/Youth Station

- Glow-in-the-Dark Capture the Flag

+ All Ages Stations

- Tents and Games
- Fire Pit Sing-along
- Outdoor Movie

Service Project (“Bear Hugs from Jesus” Teddy Bears)

8:00 p.m. Faith Talk (Root Beer Floats)

8:30 p.m. Close

Serve Theme Event

6:00 p.m. Pizza Buffet

6:30 p.m. Serve Stations open (*Stations are manned by 1-2 volunteers*)

+ Itty Bitties Stations

—Artwork for a Grandfriend

—Kid Comfort Bag

—Handprint Painting

+ Adult/Youth Stations

—Kindness Jars

—Kindness Message Rocks

—Sidewalk Chalk Messages

—Butterfly Broaches

7:45 p.m. Faith Talk (S’mores Bar)

8:30 p.m. Close



WATER THEME EVENT

Water Theme Event Stations

Nachos Bar

The event will open with a nachos bar with nacho chips served on paper plates for people to add fixings to, like cheese, sour cream, guacamole, tomatoes, lettuce, olives, salsa and anything else you wish to offer as add-ons.

The communications team will need to inform participants to wear their swimming suits to this event and to bring towels.

Because several stations require a hose, plan in advance for the number of hoses and water sources you will need, and/or a plan for when stations sharing a hose will be activated.

The following is what you will need for each station in the Water Theme Event:

Itty Bitties Stations

Kiddie Pools Station

You will need 1-2 volunteers and 6-10 blow-up pools for kids to play in.

Sprinkler Pad Station

You will need 1-2 volunteers for this station. You can purchase a sprinkler pad or pads from Amazon for \$15-25 each. You will also need a water hose. Hook the hose up to a sprinkler or sprinklers and have children play in the water on the pad or pads.

Bubbles Station

You will need 1-2 volunteers for this station. You can purchase a bubble machine from Amazon for kids to play with. You will also need bottles of bubbles or you can make your own bubbles formula using recipes found on Pinterest or other sites on the internet.

Bubble Painting Station

You will need 1-2 volunteers for this station. Use the supplies listed here and follow the directions for bubble painting below.

Supplies needed: Dish soap, washable tempera paint, cups, straws and construction or watercolor paper.

Directions: Add three tablespoons of bubble solution and two tablespoons of paint to a cup. Mix the paint and bubble solution together. Place a piece of paper on the grass or a table. Dip the bubble wand or a straw into the bubble paint and then blow out bubbles so they land on the paper.

All Ages Stations

Pool Noodle Sprinkler(s) Station

You will need 1-2 volunteers for this station. Use the supplies listed here and follow the directions for the pool noodle sprinkler(s) activity below. Take a look at the finished product online (<https://ziggityzoom.com/ultimate-pool-noodle-sprinkler/>) to get an idea of what the finished product looks like.

Supplies needed: 4 pool noodles, duct tape, scissors, skewer or ice pick, string, water hose.

Directions:

1. Connect all 4 pool noodles to form a large circle, taping securely with duct tape. Make the tape taunt so there will be no leaks.
2. Poke holes, using a skewer, into the noodles, poking holes only on the inner part of the circle you created, and poking only as deep as the hollow section of the noodle. You will get more spray if holes are concentrated facing the center of your sprinkler. Be sure to NOT poke through to the outside of the noodles.

3. With scissors, or small knife, cut a small opening into the top of your sprinkler. Remember that the hose needs to fit snugly, so make the opening smaller than the end of the hose.
4. Attach the sprinkler to a tree limb or pole with string/twine. Insert hose and tape securely in position. (*Stand your giant sprinkler up so that participants can run through the center of the circle. Attach one end of the circle sprinkler to a tree limb. Before you add the water, the bottom of the sprinkler should set about 6-8 inches above the ground, as the water weight will weigh the sprinkler down and let it set flush with the ground.*)
6. Turn on the hose.
7. Encourage participants to play in the water that comes from the pool noodles.

Mini Water Blobs Station

You will need 1-2 volunteers for this station. Use the supplies listed below and follow the directions for the mini water blobs activity below. This information can also be found at clumsycrafter.com. Just search for mini water blobs on that site, and they will give you a step-by-step tutorial and supplies needed.

Supplies needed: duct tape, a roll of plastic sheeting, water hose.

Directions:

1. Lay out the plastic sheeting and fold the plastic sheeting in half.
2. Tape the three open sides with duct tape (*it helps to have assistance*), but leave open a small hole for the water hose.
3. Put the water hose in the hole and let the sheeting fill. When the folded sheeting is totally full, tape the small opening around the hose shut and let the kids play on the sheeting.

Giant Bubbles Station

You will need 1-2 volunteers for this station. Use the supplies listed here and follow the directions for the giant bubbles activity below.

For the bubble wand:

Supplies needed: 2 wood dowels, each about 18" long, ½" in diameter; 2 eye screws to fit in the dowel ends; 9" cotton cord (*you can get it from a fabric/sewing department*).

Directions:

1. Twist the eye screws into the dowel ends.
2. Thread the cording through the eye screws and tie a knot so it makes one large circle.

For the bubble solution:

Supplies needed: 6 cups of water (*tap water is OK, but distilled is best*); ½ cup of Blue Dawn dish detergent (*original is best*); ½ cup of corn starch; 1 Tablespoon of baking powder (*not baking soda*); 1 Tablespoon of glycerin.

Directions:

1. In a dishpan, dissolve the corn starch in the water. Make sure to stir well!
2. Gently add the other ingredients; you don't want do make it frothy.
3. Let the mix set for at least an hour, gently stirring occasionally when the corn starch settles.
4. Dip the bubble wand in the bubble solution in the dishpan.
5. Walk or run with bubble wand filled with solution to make bubbles.

Youth/Adult Stations

Slip-and-Slide Kickball Station

You will need 1-2 volunteers for this station to referee. Use the supplies listed here and follow the directions below for the slip-and-slide kickball station, which is simply kickball with a twist—water is involved.

Supplies needed: four 3' x 50' plastic drop cloths or four slip-and-slides; four kiddie pools (*round or square*); approx. 18-20 tarp stakes; 4-8 bottles of dish soap; a kickball; water hoses; a hammer.

Directions for Building the Field:

1. Lay out the plastic drop cloths in the shape of a baseball diamond. (*These will serve as your baselines and will work best if laid on the flat ground.*)

2. At home base, create a fair-sized gap between the tarps. (*With this space, players can kick the ball without slipping on the soap and water.*)
3. Place a kiddie pool at each corner of the diamond. (*These will be your bases.*) If you are worried about sliding on the rough ground, you can make the game safer by placing cardboard under the tarps for a smoother slide without any injuries.
4. Nail down the plastic drop cloths with the tarp stakes. (*To be sure that the tarps are secure, be sure to nail them down deep into the ground.*) Check the stakes every once in a while to make sure they do not come above the surface.
5. Add soap and water to fill each kiddie pool.
6. Add dish soap to the baselines and rub it in to make them slippery.

Player positions needed: catcher, first base, second base, third base, shortstop, outfield.

Rules for the game:

1. The teams will decide who will kick first.
2. The team that is kicking first will send a player up to homeplate. The pitcher will roll the ball without the ball bouncing, and the kicker will try to kick it. If the ball goes past the pitcher's mound without getting caught, the kicker will run to the first base kiddie pool.
3. The goal is to get to the first kiddie pool (base) before getting tagged. Players will have to jump in the pool to be safe on base.
4. If concerned about falling and injuring yourself, you can run alongside the slip and slide then hop on and slip at the end.
5. The main point of the game is simple; one team needs to have more runs than the other.
6. To achieve this, players will kick the ball and run to all the bases to score points. When not kicking, the opposing team will try to stop players from scoring by catching the ball or striking the kicker out.

Dunk Tank Station

If you have a really large crowd, this is a fun side game to dunk the pastor, youth leader or favorite Sunday school teacher. Recruit someone in your church with a construction background to build one for you.

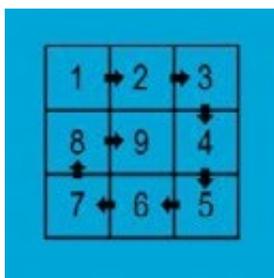
Nine Square in the Air With Sprinkler Attached Station

You can rent a 9 square in the air game from any party rental place. Or if you want, you can make a permanent DIY 9 square with PVC pipes to sit in your church property throughout the summer for others to play. (*You can also purchase a 9 square in the air game through 9squareintheair.com.*) Use the supplies listed here and follow the directions for the rules to the game.

Supplies: beach ball; sprinkler; water hose; zip ties (or duct tape) to affix the sprinkler to the 9 square pipes you have purchased or rented.

Rules to the game:

1. Nine people are required for the game at a time, one person standing in each square.
2. The person in the middle square (the king square) will serve the ball by hitting the ball up and out of their square.
3. When the ball comes into your square, simply hit the ball up and out of your square into any other square.
4. If the ball falls into your square, you are out.
5. If the ball is hit outside of the whole game structure, the last person who touched the ball is out.
6. If someone double hits the ball, they are out.
7. If someone hits the game structure, they are out.
8. When someone gets out, they move to the sideline. Everyone who was behind them will advance forward one square to fill in the empty place. Follow the rotation pattern below to the king square.



9. The last person remaining without getting out is the winner.