

Craft Leader Handbook

Tree of Life Bible Camp

Compiled by Holly and Linda Marquardt in 2015

Craft Guidelines

1. Christ-centered
2. Age-appropriate
3. Practical
4. Aesthetics
5. Fits the theme

Tie-dyeing

Preparation

Get paint ready before Bible study but shake up paint just before craft time

Hang up clothesline beforehand

Get buckets from activities

Fill with water with hose by volleyball courts

Spread rubber bands and sharpies on three tables (4th is for us)

At announcements: Tell campers to bring T-shirts to crafts!

Bible study: Leave Bible study early to get ready for tie dye

In girls' bathroom: (clean up well every time)

Fill squeeze bottles quarter-full with paint, rest with water

Stir so not gloppy with skewers, or sticks on ground

(or shake—cover hole with finger, shake into sink)

Carry with ice cream buckets

In between: gather rubber bands and a bucket to rinse them out

Refill paint, low bottles can be squeeze bottles

Rag to wipe down tables (paint dries, won't come off)

Tie-dyeing

Instructions

Write name on collar with black sharpies

Take to a bucket filled with water, get T-shirt wet, wring out

Squirt paint on both sides, don't have to be sparing

Counselors and craft leaders can make their own, too

Different ways to tie up T-shirt:

Stripes: Accordion top to bottom, rubber bands 2-4 inch intervals, in between each section put a different color

Spiral: center, twist all the way around, rubber bands crosswise and one around (doesn't have to look pretty)

Rubber bands always give nice sections

Bull's eye: take center, lift, rubber bands down

After painting take rubber bands off (don't cut them), carefully unfold shirt

Hang from bottom with two clothespins

When it's dry, it's done

Tell them to come and check after lunch

If it's not picked up they'll be on a table in the dining hall

Tiles

Instructions

Ask activities director for tiles and list of awards

Bring extra just in case

Seniors draw with sharpies

Give tiles back to activities director

Art and Writing Olympics

Supplies

Check beforehand so you can report to someone if you need more supplies

Colored paper, white paper

Notebooks for writing

Pencils, colored pencils, crayons, markers

Scissors, glue, tape

Tablecloths

Theme

Preferably a reflection of week's theme

Something that allows flexibility, creativity, and inspiration

Judging

One or two judges for both categories

Each age group has first, second, and third medals

Come up with criteria beforehand for what makes the best work

Take care of judging right away

Needs to be ready by campfire on Friday

Bio Board

Ask staff members either to create a new biography or for permission to recycle the old one

Have them email, fax, or mail their bio and a recent photo to yourself

Set a deadline for incoming submissions to make sure it's done before camp

Create a "Not Pictured" box for those who don't send in a bio

Use a template for all biographies to keep them neat and uniform

Print in color, and matt with colored paper

Add fun clipart and decorations as time permits

Paste on a large trifold board (may have to use two if all staff members send in their bio)

Hang up by bathhouse or by registration

Linda's Words of Wisdom

Stay in contact with business manager

- Keep track of number of campers up until camp

- Retain receipts for reimbursement

Have a checklist or inventory of supplies

Store stuff on back porch of Little Lambs

Allow time before each craft to make sure everything's ready

Tie dye should be outside, but secure a place in the cafeteria for the rest

- Otherwise things blow around, hard to keep their attention

Wipe off tables in between sessions

- Don't have to use new tablecloths every time

Make sure things stay clean so as not to get in trouble with the campground

Set out a box of lanyard supplies by ping pong tables

- Make sure there's a how-to booklet and plenty of safety pins

- Either learn to do them or refer campers to an older one who knows how

- Rewind spools and close box at night

Bring snacks for munching, but be careful with peanuts and other allergens