AWVBS HOST SUCCESS TIPS

Prepare for Success

- **Study the Guide:** Know the flow, schedule, and guide well enough that you aren't reliant on it.
 - Use our RBKids Cue Cards to make your own notes/cues so you don't have to hold the Script. Ask your Children's Minister about these if you don't have any!
 - Practice talking in front of a mirror or video yourself. This will help with timing, voice inflection, and facial expressions!
 - Locate your props and have a plan for each night (where they will be stored, how you will get them)
- Work as a Team: Know how you, your co-leader (if applicable), Worship Leader, and Production team will work together to lead well. Talk about cues and practice transitions.
 - If you have a co-host, practice the skits and transitions together before AWVBS!
- Understand Attention Span and Stay on Schedule: The average attention span for the age range of kids at AWVBS is 3-5 minutes. Our Large Group Guide is designed to have short sections split up with worship and video content. Keep the opening skit, Bible lesson, and Missions script short and sweet.
- **Keep it Fun and Engaging:** AWVBS is meant to be FUN! Use voice inflection, humor, and funny voices to develop a fun engaging stage presence.

Lead with Confidence and Intention

- **Set the Tone:** Lead with confidence and set clear expectations.
 - Know the lesson and materials well enough to make eye contact with kids and use a warm, dynamic voice as you lead.
 - Use your voice, movement and body language effectively to command the room.
 - Give expectations for each transition:
 - Worship stand, sing loudly, dance, but don't be a distraction to your neighbor or leave your row.
 - Bible story sit quietly, don't touch your neighbor, listen to this very important True Story from the Bible!
- **Be Sensitive to our First Time Guests:** One of the most important aspects of AWVBS is that kids who have never been to church before will be in your audience!
 - Avoid "churchy" words that would be unfamiliar to a kid who has never read the Bible or been to church.
 - Give simple definitions and explanations, not assuming any prior knowledge.
 - Before Large Group and transitions, seek out kids you don't know and learn their name!



MISSIONS

This year we will be partnering with **Samaritan's Purse** to help provide clean water and food to people in **Sudan and South Sudan.** Today there are over 22,000 people who were displaced from their homes as they fled from warfare. Samaritan's Purse has been acting as the hands and feet to provide for their physical needs, emotional needs and spiritual needs.

Our focus is on providing clean water to communities in South Sudan. Samaritan's Purse drills wells with multiple spigots, transforming community life by providing access to safe water sources. Clean water is essential for hydration, sanitation, and hygiene, crucial for maintaining health and preventing diseases. By improving access to clean water, we can reduce waterborne illnesses, enhance overall health outcomes, and uplift the quality of life for individuals and communities. Access to clean water frees up time and resources spent on water collection, empowering women and children to pursue education, work, and personal development opportunities.

Food:

• The cost of feeding one person in Sudan for three months is \$33. So a gift of \$5,000 will feed over 150 people for three months. That's a lot of lives saved.

Water:

• It costs about \$15,000 to drill a deep bore well that pumps water to over 600 people. Non-functioning wells can be rehabilitated for \$3,000.

Preschool Crew Leaders will be dismissed before the Missions videos are played, however, their Crew Leaders will talk to them about it and they will have an opportunity to give as they are heading to their first rotation.

As crews are dismissed from large group, please have your ushers stationed at the doors with their collection container. Your host will instruct kids to put their money in the container as they head to their rotation.

Missions videos are found on the resource page at <u>rockbridge.cc/awvbsresources</u> please watch videos before the first night of AWVBS.



HOW TO COMMUNICATE OFFERING TO KIDS

As we give kids (and their leaders!) an opportunity to give financially each night, we want to be sure we have explained what it is and why we do it. Here are some basic truths to keep in mind as you set up offering each night:

- 1. **Gratitude**: Remind the kids that offering is a way for us to show gratitude to God for all He has given us. It's our chance to say "thank you" and worship Him with our giving.
- 2. **Stewardship**: Teach our kids about stewardship the idea that God has entrusted us with resources like money, time, and talents, and it's our responsibility to use them wisely and for His glory.
- 3. **Generosity**: Emphasize the importance of generosity and giving to others in need. Encourage the children to give cheerfully and sacrificially, knowing that their gifts can make a real difference in the lives of people in Sudan and South Sudan.
- **4. Faith**: Challenge our kids to step out in faith and trust God with their giving. Teach them that when we give, we are partnering with God in His work and trusting Him to provide for our own needs.
- 5. **Community**: Highlight the importance of giving as a community. Explain that when we give together as a group, we can accomplish more and make a greater impact than we could on our own. Emphasize that our giving from all campuses will be added together!
- **6. Celebration**: Finally, celebrate each offering time as a special moment of worship and unity. Encourage our kids to give with joy and anticipation, knowing that their gifts are pleasing to God and will help further His kingdom in Sudan and South Sudan.

Bible Verses to Focus Kids On:

- 1. "This service (Giving tithes and offerings) that you perform is not only **supplying the** needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." (2 Corinthians 9:12)
- **2.I praise God because He made everything.** "In the beginning, God made the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1, NIV).
- 3. "Everything comes from the Lord. All things were made because of him and will return to him. Praise the Lord forever!" Romans 11:36
- 4. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" (Colossians 3:22, NIV).
- 5. Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. (Proverbs 3:27, NIV); "The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor" (Proverbs 22:9).

Example:

"Alright, everyone, it's time for something really special – our offering time! This is a moment where we get to show God how much we love Him by giving back some of the money He has blessed us with. You see, God has given us so much – from the air we breathe to the talents we have – and offering is one way we say 'thank you' to Him. In 2 Corinthians 9:12, it says that our giving not only meets the needs of others but also overflows with thanksgiving to God. So, as we prepare to give, let's remember that our offering isn't just about money – it's a heart-felt expression of our love and gratitude to God. Let's worship Him with our giving and see how He multiplies our generosity to bless people in Sudan!"

TOKENS

This year, our kids will participate in a Token Challenge! Tokens will be used throughout AWVBS to reward kids for remarkable expressions of love, kindness, great listening, participation, memorizing our Daily Points and Bible verse, and more!

- Award Tokens from Stage: Verbally announce the awarding of tokens and have someone record it to add to the total!
 - "You all did a great job saying Today's Point! But, I'll give 20 tokens if we can say YESTERDAY'S Point right now! 1-2-3- "(insert kids saying it!). Yes! Ryan, did you write that down? +20 tokens!"
 - Use your physical tokens to award kids as you interact with kids more personally throughout the night.
- Play into the Hype: Emphasize the excitement of earning tokens! Reward tokens to recognize and celebrate behaviors you want to see repeated.
 - Be specific as you award tokens so kids can confidently repeat their positive actions.
 Ex: Great worship participation, getting silent immediately, attentively listening, repeating the Memory Verse, etc.
 - "Did you hear the way they sang, "On Christ We Stand!"? What a powerful reminder. Let's add 10 tokens!"
- Overall Token Goal: Kids will work together to reach an Overall Token Goal (<u>please know your campus goal!</u>) and receive a celebration on the last night of AWVBS!
 - Although the goal is collective, you can still award tokens by crews, to "this side of the room", to "all the preschool kids", etc.
- **Give Out Tokens Immediately**: We want to help kids connect their positive attitudes, behaviors, and participation with the reward of the token, so as soon as you see a behavior to celebrate, pass out the reward!
 - Use short phrases like "Everybody say: Way to Go, Friends!" to help kids celebrate receiving tokens, but to also stay on track. We want to minimize the "screaming cheering" as we transition through elements of large group.
- **Pick Up Tokens:** Replenish your stash of tokens by visiting the volunteer check-in area.
- **Token Collection:** Kids can turn in their tokens during rotations, but they'll all be brought to the large group bucket at closing so we can update our goal progress each night!

There will be slides that will be updated nightly with the Token and Missions amounts. Please create this plan with your Production Team and communicate nightly on the plan for announcing progress.

Have a GREAT Week!

- Have Fun and Lead with Joy: Enjoy your time just as much as the kids as God fuels you!
- Devotions: Read the Leader Devotions to personally connect with the nightly lessons.
- Fuel Yourself: Let your "why" motivate you during challenging moments.
- Pray: Ask God for wisdom, energy, and the right heart as you lead. Pray that He will specifically use you your time, effort and energy for His glory!