

VBS 2018 SNACK ROTATION CONFERENCE PLAN (1 HOUR)

Purpose Statement

This one-hour conference is designed to explore the more than 30 snack options available to serve during LifeWay's VBS 2018 Game On!™ Conferees will learn more about the supplies needed, places to shop, tips for preparing food, ways to serve the snacks, and how to incorporate biblical content into Team Snacks.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2018 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards*
- *VBS 2018 Tablecloth*
- *VBS 2018 String Flags*
- *VBS 2018 Music for Kids CD*
- Item 1: "Handout" — Copy 1 per conferee.
- Item 2: "Snack Overview" — Copy 1 per conferee.
- Item 3: "Container Tags" — Cut along the solid lines to yield 4 tags. Tape or tie to 4 containers. Fill the containers with the type of snack indicated on the tags.
- Marker
- Tape
- Poster board — Print *Store Bought Snacks Shopping List* at the top of the poster board. Print the store bought snack list provided in the *VBS 2018 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards* on the poster board. Secure the poster near the focal wall and use a tape loop to secure a marker near the poster board. (*Option: Use a whiteboard instead.*)
- 5 plates — Place on the focal table and lay one Bible-related snack card on top with the photo facing up. (*Option: Prepare each Bible-related snacks ahead of time and display on the plates instead of pictures.*)
- 5 pieces of cardstock — Write one day's point and Bible story title on each piece of cardstock:
 - *Day 1: Jesus Cares for Me, The Lost Sheep*
 - *Day 2: Jesus Gives Me Hope, The Resurrection of Lazarus*
 - *Day 3: Jesus Helps Me to Believe, Thomas Believed*
 - *Day 4: Jesus Loves Me, John Wrote About Jesus*
 - *Day 5: Jesus Gives Me Joy, Paul and Silas in Prison*
- Clipboard
- 6 pieces of paper — Print each of the following statements on a separate piece of paper. Prepare tape loops to attach the papers to the focal wall. (*Option: If leading this conference more than once, consider laminating the papers.*) Clip paper to clipboard in the following order:
 - *S: Study the ingredients.*
 - *N: Never make a big deal out of an allergy.*
 - *A: Always ask.*
 - *C: Communicate the importance of avoiding contamination.*
 - *K: Keep allergies visible as a reminder. (Peanut, Red Dye, Gluten, and Milk)*
 - *S: Supply other options.*
- 5 pom-poms (or gathered tissue paper) in red, orange, purple, multicolored, and green
- Serving options (small paper plate, napkin, plastic basket with a parchment paper liner, small paper boats, and small brown lunch bag)
- CD Player

- OPTIONAL: Make and serve the “4 Sports Ball Mix” snack for conferees during Step 4. Mix the items in a large bowl and spoon out snack mix into cups.
- OPTIONAL: Consider serving a simple snack during the conference, such as Basketball Cookies, Frozen Footballs, Touchdown Taco Crackers, or Mini Football Brownie Bites.
- NOTE: You do not have to make or serve any snacks to successfully lead this conference.

Room Setup

Arrange chairs in a semi-circle. Cover a table with a *VBS 2018 Tablecloth* and place the four containers with snack ingredients on top. Decorate with pom-poms, megaphones, and small sports balls. Drape *VBS 2018 String Flags* from the ceiling and across the doorway. If desired, use sports equipment as centerpieces for snack tables. Use any items gathered for the conference as decorations as needed.

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Invite conferees to review the “Store Bought Snacks Shopping List” displayed and add any additional items they may be able to think of to the list.
- Welcome conferees to Team Snacks and engage in a fan-friendly competition. Explain that you will call out two different items. Conferees must determine which item they are a “fan” of and cheer for that choice the second time you call out the choices.
- Lead a practice round. Call out, “VBS vs. No VBS,” then encourage conferees to cheer for their preference as you repeat the two choices.
- Use the following prompts and allow conferees to cheer for their choices:
 - Winter vs. Summer
 - Indoor sports vs. Outdoor sports
 - Day VBS vs. Night VBS
 - Football vs. Baseball
 - Soccer vs. Basketball
 - Watch sports on TV vs. Being at the game
 - Sweet snacks vs. Salty snacks
- Say: “You can tell we don’t all agree on everything, do we? That’s OK! God made each of us different, including what foods we like to enjoy. Today we will explore Team Snacks and all of the options available to make kids’ time in Team Snacks as enjoyable as possible.”

2. Watch the Clock (10 minutes)

- Say: “When playing a game, you must use your time wisely, maximize your effort, and work hard to play your best. As a snack leader, it’s also important to maximize your efforts and use the time you have with kids wisely.”
- Distribute Handout 1 and continue. Encourage conferees to take notes.
- Explain that out of all of the recipes available on the snack cards, five snacks (one per day) are designed to encourage discussion about the Bible story each day. These are called Bible-related snacks.
- Choose five volunteers and hand each one a prepared piece cardstock with the daily Bible content.
- Call attention to the pictures of snacks on the plates (on focal table). Explain that each volunteer must decide which snack matches his day’s Bible content by placing his cardstock in front of the matching snack.
- Review matches, making correction where necessary. Spend a few minutes reviewing each day’s Bible content and talk about ways to incorporate conversation with kids about each

day's Bible story and point. Make sure to point out the connections written on each Bible-related snack card. Summarize the connection or invite a volunteer to read it aloud.

- Day 1: Jesus Cares for Me, The Lost Sheep — Sheep Crackers
- Day 2: Jesus Gives Me Hope, The Resurrection of Lazarus — Tailgate Turkey Wraps
- Day 3: Jesus Helps Me to Believe, Thomas Believed — Donut Glasses
- Day 4: Jesus Loves Me, John Wrote About Jesus — Sweetheart Sandwiches
- Day 5: Jesus Gives Me Joy, Paul and Silas in Prison — Earthquake Cups
- OPTIONAL: Conferees could assemble each of these Bible-related snacks while you review the information, or you may have them prepared and ready for conferees to enjoy.
- Say: "We have 25 more snacks to review, but before we do, we are going to spend time on a serious subject that needs to be addressed by anyone leading Team Snacks."

3. Address Allergy Concerns (10 minutes)

- Say: "Keeping kids safe at VBS is very important, and this includes making sure everything kids eat is safe for them. Many kids have different food allergies. We **MUST** make sure ALL kids are safe while enjoying snacks each day of VBS."
- Encourage conferees to make notes on their handouts.
- Hand the prepared clipboard to the conferee closest to you. Play music (Music for Kids CD) and lead conferees to pass the clipboard around the room.
 - Randomly pause the music. When the music stops, the person holding the clipboard must read the information on the top piece of paper aloud, then remove the paper from the clipboard and secure it to the focal wall with tape.
 - Lead conferees to add the letters in order, moving from left to right to spell S-N-A-C-K-S.
- Continue playing until all statements have been shared. (NOTE: Be careful not to spend too much time discussing any one point. Offer to continue the discussion after the conference with anyone needing more information or help with a specific allergy situation.)
 - **S: Study the ingredients.** It is important to note some snacks may not contain a specific ingredient (allergen), but could still be processed in a plant that handles that allergen. Read labels carefully and always double-check with parents before serving a child something to which he or she may be allergic.
 - **N: Never make a big deal out of an allergy.** Be careful not to single kids out or call undue attention to a child who has an allergy. Handle accommodations quickly and keep kids at ease.
 - **A: Always ask.** If you are not sure if a child can eat something, do your research. Ask the child and/or the parent. If in doubt, do not serve the food to a child.
 - **C: Communicate the importance of avoiding contamination.** Some people are much more allergic to items than others. It is important to thoroughly clean a surface after using items that may contain ingredients kids are allergic to. Make sure volunteers are aware of the importance of cleaning surfaces, kitchen tools, and bowls.
 - **K: Keep allergies visible as a reminder.** (Peanut, Red Dye, Gluten, and Milk are four of the most common allergens.) Keep a list of allergies posted in a visible area in the kitchen. Write the names and allergies of kids attending your VBS on the card provided in *VBS 2018 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards*. Learn what your church does to identify kids with allergies and educate your leaders.
 - **S: Supply other options.** Prepare alternative foods for those with allergies. Talk with your VBS director about ways to contact parents of kids with allergies and provide other, safe options.

4. Snack Preview (20 minutes)

- Distribute Item 2 to each conferee. Point out the columns that identify Oven, Refrigerator, Microwave, Preschool Friendly, and Gluten Free.
- Explain that this comprehensive list of snacks will help snack leaders determine which snacks will best work for their kids and the equipment available for food preparation.
- Distribute pom-poms to five volunteers. Explain that each color represents one of the possible categories snacks fall into:
 - Oven = orange
 - Refrigerator = red
 - Microwave = multi-colored
 - Preschool Friendly = purple
 - Gluten Free = green
- Use the *VBS 2018 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards* to review snacks 1-25 while conferees follow along on Item 2. Encourage participants with pom-poms to wave them whenever a snack falls into the category represented by their pom-pom.
 - Provide tips and extra information when appropriate and as time permits.
 - Note the different kitchen equipment needed and offer suggestions to conferees that need help problem solving or who need clarification on how to make any of the snacks.
- Point out that most of the decorating of snacks involves simple little touches. A pastry bag and icing tip will be very helpful when preparing many of the snacks. However, a plastic sandwich bag with the corner cut off will also work well for piping icing.

5. Tips for Game Time (10 minutes)

- Call attention to the four prepared containers of snacks and invite conferees to help you identify what sport or sports ball each snack represents. Hand a container to each volunteer who correctly identifies an ingredient.
- Announce that the conference will wrap up with a few more tips for a successful experience for both leaders and kids.
- Ask volunteers to read aloud the information found on their containers one at a time. Elaborate on each point as follows:
 - **Puffed Cheese Balls (basketballs): Bounce from table to table.** Make a point to do more than just serve snacks. Engage kids and leaders in conversation. Use the opportunity to build relationships.
 - **Oreos (hockey pucks): Pass around the responsibilities.** Do not be a one-person show. You've heard there's no "I" in team—there's no "I" in Team Snacks either! Enlist good help and delegate responsibilities. Be clear and concise when giving directions. Review hygiene protocol and food safety practices, such as washing hands often and using gloves.
 - **Cheese or peanut butter-filled pretzel snacks (footballs): Prepare for the program.** Make a grocery list. Check it twice. Utilize stores that allow online ordering and store pick-up. You should be able to purchase almost every item at a local supermarket. Don't forget you can order items online as well! Consider asking church members to donate specific items. Many people who can't physically help with VBS are more than happy to provide needed items.
 - **Mini marshmallows (baseballs): Catch the snacks in different ways.** There are lots of options for presenting food—paper plates, napkins, plastic baskets with parchment paper, paper boats, and so forth. Many items will work well in small

paper lunch sacks as well. (Display these items and encourage conferees to share other ideas their churches have utilized in the past.)

- Remind conferees again to prepare their team (snack leaders) for the game (VBS). Challenge them to train their leaders in what they need them to do, when to arrive, specific responsibilities, and protocols for different situations.

6. Closing (5 minutes)

- Mention that there is still more information about snacks we were not able to cover today, including all of the dinner options available.
- Say: "We have reviewed a lot of ideas and information today about Team Snacks! Hopefully you'll take what you've learned and make a plan for your own church's Team Snacks! that best fits your needs."
- Optional: Mix the snack ingredients from the containers in a large bowl. Stir together and serve to conferees. (This is the "4 Sports Ball Mix" found in the recipe cards).
- Lead the group in prayer. Ask God to bless leaders as they prepare to lead Team Snacks and to provide them opportunities during snack rotation to share Jesus with kids who attend VBS this year.
- Quickly form three groups and assign each group one of the phrases from the motto: Gear Up! Get Ready! Game On! Lead the group in a cheer to conclude the conference.

VBS 2018 Snacks

Make Each Minute Matter (Bible-related Snacks)

- **Day 1:** Jesus Cares for Me —
- **Day 2:** Jesus Gives Me Hope —
- **Day 3:** Jesus Helps Me Believe —
- **Day 4:** Jesus Loves Me —
- **Day 5:** Jesus Gives Me Joy —

Address the Allergy Concerns

S:

N:

A:

C:

K:

S:

Game Time Tips:

Basketball:

Hockey Puck:

Football:

Baseball:

Snack Overview

Snack	Preschool Friendly	Gluten Free	Oven or Slow Cooker	Refrigerator	Microwave
Pizza Pick Ups	X				
Mini Chicken-n-Waffles	X		X	X	
Fruit Dunkers		X		X	
Watermelon Pops		X			
Basketball Cookies	X				
Dessert Corndogs	X				
Soccer Popcorn					X
4 Sports Snack Mix					
Veggie Cup Catcher				X	
Celebration Snack Mix					
Apple Energy Cookies		X			
Frozen footballs	X			X	
Have A Ball Cupcakes	X			X	
Bat & Ball					X
Pass the Ball	X			X	
Touchdown Taco Crackers			X		
Slam Dunk Salami Chips		X	X		
Pineapple Pennants			X		
Cheering Confetti Popcorn					X
Football Brownie Bites	X		X		
Mini Footballs	X			X	
Referee Cookies	X		X		
Snack Stadium				X	
Sweet & Salty Mix			X		

OREOS

**PASS AROUND THE
RESPONSIBILITIES**

MINI MARSHMALLOWS

**CATCH THE SNACKS IN
DIFFERENT WAYS**

PUFFED CHEESE BALLS

BOUNCE FROM TABLE TO TABLE

**CHEESE OR PEANUT
BUTTER-FILLED
PRETZEL SNACKS**

PREPARE FOR THE PROGRAM