

VBS 2019 RECREATION ROTATION CONFERENCE PLAN (50 MINUTES)

Purpose Statement

This conference plan is designed to train and equip church leaders on how to have a successful Vacation Bible School recreation rotation for their church.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2019 Recreation Rotation Leader Cards*
- Item 1: "Handout" — Copy 1 per conferee
- 5 tennis balls or whiffle balls — Write one of the following statements on each ball (1 statement per ball):
 - #1: Be Prepared
 - #2: Keep Rules Simple & Short
 - #3: Interact with Kids
 - #4: Ask VBS Director for Help with Difficult Situations
 - #5: Pray
- Bucket — Place the prepared tennis or whiffle balls in the bucket.
- Supplies to play the following games from the recreation cards:
 - Day 1: Hoop Herds; Find Your Herd
 - Day 2: Feed the Elephant; Fish and Birds
 - Day 3: In The Boat, In The Water
 - Day 4: Pack a Backpack
 - Day 5: Animal Relay

Room Setup

Arrange chairs in the focal area, leaving a large open area for playing games. Decorate the room using the ideas found in the *VBS 2019 Decorating Made Easy* guide for Recreation at Beluga Bay. Cover a table with a *VBS 2019 Tablecloth* and display the *VBS 2019 Recreation Rotation Leader Cards* and recreation supplies.

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Welcome conferees to Recreation at Beluga Bay! Mention that kids will have a wild adventure when they rotate to recreation during VBS. Explain that each day includes several recreation games to choose from to help reinforce each day's Bible study content.
- Say: "All of the games in the rec cards have been kid-tested and kid-approved so your kids are sure to love any game you pick!"
- Get to know your herd (conferees). Lead conferees to play the Day 1 game: "Find Your Herd" to get into groups.
 - After playing the game, lead conferees to quickly introduce themselves to their groups.

2. Gearing Up for a Wild Adventure (5 minutes)

- Display the *VBS 2019 Recreation Rotation Leader Cards*. Talk about what is in the recreation card set and the format of each card:
 - Front of Card:
 - Day 1 (2–5) & Name of Game
 - Lesson Title
 - Bible Story and Scripture Reference
 - Bible Verse

- The Point (main point or take-away of each day)
 - Back of Card:
 - Name of Game
 - Materials needed to play the game
 - Instructions on how to play the game
 - Make the Point (how to relate the game to the Bible content for that day)

3. Zoom In: The Purpose for VBS Recreation (5 minutes)

- Remind conferees that recreation is a teaching time during VBS ... it's not just a time to play games and get energy out.
- Invite conferees to fill in the blanks on their handouts (Item 1) as you discuss the following tips for *teaching* through recreation:
 - Build **relationships** with kids during recreation.
 - Use simple **language** that kids can understand.
 - Share the **gospel** and how to become a Christian during recreation.
 - Learn through **play**.
 - Know the Bible **content** of each day's Bible study.
 - Ask review **questions** about the Bible story as kids are lining up for the game or leaving the play area.
 - Play the VBS **songs** during recreation.
 - Recite the VBS **Scripture**, John 20:31, often in various ways.
 - Share your **testimony** about how you became a Christian and how you are still growing as a Christian.
 - **Pray** with your group.

4. Adventure Awaits: Let's Play (20 minutes)

- Review each day's games (listed for conferees on their handout). Lead the group to play one game from each day, according to the instructions on the recreation cards.
 - Day 1: Hoop Herds
 - Day 2: Feed the Elephant
 - Day 3: In the Boat, In the Water
 - Day 4: Pack a Backpack
 - Day 5: Animal Relay
- After playing each game, review the main point and how that games relates to that day's Bible story or Point.

5. Optional Recreation Games: Messy Games & Water Games (5 minutes)

- Explain that the rec cards also include options to participate in messy games and water games.
- Form two groups. Assign one group to "Messy Games" and the other to "Water Games." Distribute the messy games cards to the messy games group and the water games cards to the water games group. Lead each group to discuss their assigned games and present a brief summary to the entire group.
- Discuss the following messy and water games options:
 - Messy Games: Hidden Animals, Feed The Animals, Messy Pictures
 - Water Games: Lion's Mane Relay, Filling the Water Hole, Water Words, Water Animals

6. Focus: Recreation Tips (5 minutes)

- Mention that many kids are competitive and like to win. As leaders, it is our job to be a friend, encourager, leader, participant in the games, and sometimes even a referee.
- Guide volunteers to select a ball from the bucket and read the tip to the group.
- Elaborate on each tip as needed. Encourage conferees to keep the tips in mind to help everyone enjoy recreation:
 - #1. Be Prepared.
 - Number of kids participating
 - Indoor or outdoor options
 - Be flexible
 - Change game or activity before kids lose interest
 - #2. Keep rules simple and short.
 - Enforce the rules of the game
 - Use consequences when needed
 - Remind kids games are a learning opportunity
 - Address any issues quickly and discreetly
 - Have a "cool down" area
 - #3. Interact with the kids.
 - Encourage kids to play their best
 - Focus on kids when giving directions
 - #4. Ask VBS director for help with difficult situations.
 - Report any injuries
 - #5. Pray.
 - Pray as you prepare to lead recreation
 - Pray with kids at recreation

7. One Last Game (5 minutes)

- Lead the group to play one last game: "Fish and Birds" (Day 2).
- After playing, pray for and then dismiss the conferees.

Recreation at Beluga Bay

ZOOM IN: The Purpose for VBS Recreation

- Build _____ with kids during recreation.
- Use simple _____ that kids can understand.
- Share the _____ and how to become a Christian during recreation.
- Learn through _____.
- Know the Bible _____ of each day's Bible study.
- Ask review _____ about the Bible study as kids are lining up for the game or leaving the play area.
- Play the VBS _____ during recreation.
- Recite the VBS _____, John 20:31, often in various ways.
- Share your _____ about how you became a Christian and how you are still growing as a Christian.
- _____ with your group.

RECREATION GAMES

Day 1: Hoop Herds

Leaping Tag
Find Your Herd

Day 2: Animal Chase

Feed the Elephant
Fish and Birds

Day 3: In The Boat, In The Water

Pass The Fox
Hippo Chomp

Day 4: Pack A Backpack

Leader of The Pack
Animal Trail

Day 5: Monkey Tails

Animal Relay
Balloon Animals

OPTIONAL: Messy Games:

Water Games:

RECREATION TIPS:

#1: _____

#2: _____

#3: _____

#4: _____

#5: _____