



## **VBS 2013 Backyard Kids Club Overview**

### **Set Up**

- Set up space with an outdoor feel. Add artificial trees and plants if available. Draw a large fence on brown or white roll paper, and adhere to the wall.
- Tape posters and other visuals to the fence created in the previous step. Otherwise, attach them to thick poster board, foam board, or other items that could be used if setting up in someone's yard.
- Use a camping chair or hard-case cooler as the leader's seat at the front of the room.
- Place conferees chairs on top of a large colorful blanket, sheet or tarp to show where children could sit if BKC is held outside.
- Decorate the room with balloons. Non-helium balloons can be hung from the ceiling to create a festive atmosphere.
- Hang plastic "race" flags between chairs to create a "lane" for conferees to walk through as they enter.
- Cover tables with brightly colored plastic tablecloths.
- Layout sample crafts, BKC folders, and pack items on the tables.
- Place the BKC handout on each chair. Have extra pens available for notes.

### **Welcome/Introduction (5 minutes)**

- Have the Colossal Coaster World music playing as people arrive.
- Welcome conferees and direct them to their seats.
- Turn off the music and introduce yourself as the BKC Colossal Coaster World tour guide.
- Briefly find out where the conferees are from.
- Open in prayer.

### BKC Intro (5 minutes)

- Ask the group the three questions at the top of the handout and allow them time to answer:
  - What is BKC?
  - Why should my church do BKC?
  - Where would I do BKC?
- Share the notes from the *Answer Handout* if the group did not already mention them.
- Acknowledge at this point that some may be fearful of trying something new or may be overwhelmed at taking on a new model.
- Ask the group to recall this year's motto with the following cheer:
  - Have half the group stand up and shout "Facing Fear!" Have the other half stand up and shout "Trusting God!"
- Ask a volunteer to read this year's theme verse. Remind the group how it applies to us as leaders when we are seeking God's will for our churches.

### Team Structure/Responsibilities (10 minutes)

- Show the BKC Box and the folders that are included. Briefly read the titles of each folder as you show them to the group.
- Set them down, and ask the group how many of those titles they can remember. Remind them of any they miss. Encourage the group by saying there are not many differences between BKC leadership and VBS leadership.
- Share the 8 positions listed on the *Answer Handout* and encourage the group to write them on their handouts.
- Quickly share the responsibilities of each position. Focus primarily on the Host and Team Leader positions, as the rest are fairly self explanatory. If time allows, refer to the folders again to show how all the information and instructions are included for each team member. Show that the pack items for Preschool and Children's Bible Study are provided as well in the box.

### Schedule (5 minutes)

- Share the schedule as listed on the *Answer Handout*.
- Ask how a team would handle a small group of 5-20 children. (Answer - keeping all ages together and moving as a group through the recommended schedule)
- Ask how a team would handle a large group of 21-30 children. (Answer – stay together for opening music and Bible Study, then split the children by ages. Half go to craft, while half are in recreation. Switch after snack).
- Ask how a team would handle a larger group of 30 or more children. (Answer – divide the children into age groups and create a rotation system between craft, recreation, and Bible Study. Or, recruit additional helpers and additional yard space from neighbors. Create two complete teams to be on separate sides of the yard.)

### Decorations (5 minutes)

- Point out the items used to decorate your conference space.
- Encourage discussion among the group for additional ideas for decorating the Colossal Coaster World Theme in an outdoor setting.
- Review any ideas listed on the *Answer Handout* that were not mentioned.

### Promotion/Publicity (10 minutes)

(At this point, you should be halfway through your time. Take a moment to allow the group to stand and stretch. Consider reviewing the motto and have them cheer as they did in the introduction.)

- Begin by asking the group how they currently promote VBS.
- After several answers, ask how they can do these same things for BKC or modify them for BKC.
- Help them brainstorm other ideas or ways to promote BKC.
- Review any ideas listed on the *Answer Handout* that were not mentioned.

### Follow up (5 minutes)

- As you did with Promotion/Publicity, ask the group how they currently follow up with visitors/prospects from VBS.
- After several answers, ask how they can do these same things for BKC or modify them for BKC.
- Help them brainstorm other ways to do meaningful and effective follow up from BKC.
- Show the page from the host folder with the BKC follow up plan.
- Review the ideas listed on the *Answer Handout* if they were not already mentioned.

### Challenges/Benefits (10 minutes)

- By this point, the group is hopefully very excited and encouraged about the idea of BKC. However, they need to be aware of some of the challenges they might face so they can be prepared to answer those challenges in a positive way.
- Ask the group what questions they might receive from their church when presenting this new idea. (rain plan, age of children, unknown numbers, liability issues, etc).
- Try to answer each question so they are ready with answers for their church.
- Review the 5 ways to handle challenges listed on the *Answer Handout*.
- Ask the group to discuss the benefits of BKC for their church. Encourage each positive answer from the group.
- Review the 6 benefits listed on the *Answer Handout* if they were not already mentioned.

### Closing (5 minutes)

- Ask the group what they think might be the “2 Keys to Success.” If time allows, encourage discussion.
- Share that the “2 Keys” are Prayer and Flexibility.
- Encourage additional questions as time allows.
- Close in prayer for the group as they consider taking these new ideas back to their church.