



Afternoon Activities

Afternoon Activity time is a wonderful way to introduce campers to the community. Day campers can reach out to their community and help, serve, and learn more about the people they live with and the community they live within. Unless pre-arranged, 3 of 4 afternoon activities are the church's responsibility to plan. Crossways will provide programming for *WaterDay* during one of the four afternoons. The afternoon activities usually run from 1 to 2:30 pm. Afternoon activity ideas are only limited by undiscovered resources.

Afternoon Activities typically fit in one of the following four categories.

Service Projects

Examples include:

- Clean up a park
- Make a craft project to give away
- Collect food and deliver it to a food pantry
- Visit a nursing home, sing songs, bring cards
- Visit shut-ins
- Do yard work for elderly members
- Weed the church garden

Field Trips

Examples include:

- Visit a museum or historical site
- Explore a park or hiking trail
- Visit a training facility
- Explore a nature center
- Head to the local fire house

Special Guests

You can also host a special guest in your church. Tap into the talent of your congregation. Many members will be excited to share their hobby, talent, or profession with the children. Look through your church's Time and Talent sheets for ideas.

Examples include:

- A farmer could bring in a baby pig or other animals and talk about raising them
- A naturalist could give a presentation
- A beekeeper could teach how honey is made
- Invite your local rescue or fire squad to do a demonstration
- Invite local storytellers or artists

Recreation

- Head to a nearby park for games and playground equipment
- Head to a nearby pool (a certified lifeguard must be present)
- Go bowling or roller-skating



Risk Management in the Afternoon

Afternoon activities mean special considerations. An activity is only successful if it is safe. As you plan your activities always keep in mind safety.

Transportation

Transportation to and from any activity is the responsibility of the church. Camp counselors can not transport any campers in the camp vehicle, nor drive a church or personal vehicle with campers in it. Discuss insurance issues with your congregation's lawyer. Will the driver retain liability? Does your church's insurance cover liability?

Permission Slips

Any activity that takes the children off of the church property needs to be specifically mentioned in your permission slips OR a separate permission slip should be provided.

Swimming

If you head to a pool or lake, then prior arrangements need to be made with the facility. Seek a letter from the facility stating that: the lifeguards hold a current lifeguard certification, the campers will receive an orientation, weather conditions will be assessed by the pool staff, the facility and equipment is in good repair, and rescue equipment is readily available and appropriate.

Risk Management Plan

Please re-visit your Congregational Coordinator Handbook-Risk Management section for more things to consider on a Field Trip.