

100 Theme Night Ideas

for your children's ministry

Are you looking for socially distanced games to play in your Awana club? Maybe your group is meeting virtually and you're wondering how to keep everyone engaged online. Even during a typical Awana year we can find ourselves searching for new activities to fill our ministry calendars. That's where theme nights come in!

We've compiled a list of 100 crowd pleasers, grouped by subject, to support you during this unique teaching year. You don't have to try one every week, but you certainly can! They're easy to arrange, and most use simple household items. Some also come with Large Group lesson suggestions.

However and wherever you meet, you can use theme nights to re-energize your group, boost participation and encourage handbook achievement. Look for the 📖 for themes that can be adapted to online gatherings. Once you have discovered your favorites, download the [Theme Night Calendar](#) or the [Theme Night Calendar template](#) to make your club night planning a cinch!

All About Missionaries

- 1. Any Country Night** – Choose a country to celebrate. This could be one where your church has missionaries, or a home country of one of your leaders. Search the Internet for a country's Independence Day, or the time of year the U.S. celebrates a heritage month, and plan your event around it. Play games and fix food from that country, talk about the culture and the land. Large Group Lesson: Share a story about a missionary in that country.
- 2. Penny Night** – Play games with pennies; start a penny drive for missionaries. Large Group Lesson: widow's offering (Mark 12:42).
- 3. Missionary Night** – Bring a map and follow a well-known missionary's route, or invite a missionary to teach the lesson. Talk about what missionaries need (a map, a suitcase, cans of food, etc.) and what they might see on their journeys. Discuss what it means to share God's Word far away and close to home. Large Group Lesson: Talk about Paul and Barnabas being the first missionaries (Acts 13:1-14:7). 📖

Characters & Costumes

- 4. Pirate Night** – Kids dress as pirates. Play games with gold-covered chocolate coins or organize a scavenger hunt. Designate a set amount of time to talk like pirates. Large Group Lesson: the Bible doesn't talk about pirates, but we do have an account of Paul's shipwreck. We also have other verses that talk about treasure (Acts 27-28 and Proverbs 2:3-5). 📖
- 5. Wise Men Night** – Kids dress up as wise men (or women) or wear a star. If you can, get samples of frankincense and myrrh so kids understand what this is. Sometimes Christian bookstores sell these in special Christmas displays. Large Group Lesson: The wise men coming to see the child Jesus (Matthew 1). Note: Mary, Joseph, and Jesus were living in a house by this time. Jesus was probably about 2 years old. The wise men did not come to the manger.