

# UNIFORMS

## TASTER NIGHT PROGRAMME

**THE BOYS'**  
**BRIGADE**  
> the adventure begins here



## TASTER NIGHT CHOCOLATE NIGHT

Everyone loves chocolate, so this themed programme is sure to be very popular.

Within this programme are opportunities to find hidden chocolates, invent your own mouth-watering creations, pray using smarties and of course... eat some chocolate!



### Arrival Activity: Chocolate Puzzle Sheets

Get Learning

Ready to Go

5 mins

Use our **Chocolate Wordsearch & 'How Many Chocolates'** puzzles to help welcome members as they arrive, ensuring they have an activity to keep them busy and engaged before you get started.



### Welcome!

Say hello to the group, welcome any new members & explain what there is to look forward to tonight. Make sure you are positive & enthusiastic with your welcome.



### Get Adventurous: Chocolate Wrapper Hunt

Get Adventurous

Preparation

15 mins

Search around your meeting space for the hidden chocolate. Can you find all 14 of the nation's favourite chocolate bars? Is your favourite chocolate one of them?

1

Download and print the **'Chocolate Wrapper Hunt'** (supplied in your pack). Alternatively, you could use real chocolate bars. The wrapper images / chocolate bars will need to be hidden around your meeting space before children arrive. This activity could be played in a few

**Team Hunt Relay:** Split into teams and give each team a copy of the sheet with all 14 bars on. A set of wrappers will need to be hidden for each team. One child from each team can go looking for a chocolate bar and return it once found, before the next team member goes. Keep going, with the first team to find all 14 bars being the winner.

Activity continued on next page ....

**I Spy:** Stick the 14 chocolate bars around your meeting space, high and low (under chairs, back of doors, inside cupboards etc). Give small groups of children the master sheet and send them out looking for the bars. Once found they can tick the chocolate bar off their sheet and carry on (not removing the chocolate from its hiding space). The first group to find all 14 bars wins.

**Individual:** Hide a number of wrappers / chocolate bars around your meeting space. On go, all children should be looking high and low for a chocolate. Set a rule that they can only find x amount each, before they have to start helping others.



## Get Creative: Chocolate Inventors

Get Creative

Preparation

20 mins

Become a chocolate inventor, like Willy Wonka, and use your creative skills to come up with a brand new chocolate bar bursting with exciting flavours.

- 1 Melt chocolate until it becomes liquid. Place a small amount of melted chocolate in a bowl for each child.
- 2 Provide the group with a mixture of ingredients such as Rice Krispies, jelly beans, sprinkles, mini marshmallows, popping candy, smarties and so on. Encourage them to add some of the ingredients into their chocolate and mix them together.
- 3 Spoon the mixture into cupcake cases and allow them to set. Whilst the exciting chocolate creations are setting, encourage the group to come up with a name for their new chocolate bar and a wrapper design. Children can use our **'Design a Chocolate Bar'** activity sheet or create their own. Once designed let each child share their product with the group and explain the new creation.



## Get into the Bible: Smarties Prayer

Get into the Bible

Preparation

10 mins

Thinking about what to pray for can sometimes be hard work. Use the smarties prayer, to help show the group how we can structure a prayer to include lots of different things.

- 1 Give each child all 8 coloured smarties. Ask them not to eat them yet. Explain that each colour can represent a different thing we can pray for.
- 2 Hand the children a copy of the 'Smarties Prayer' sheet (in your pack) and go through each colour and encourage the group to pray for each of the topics shown on the sheet. This might be in their heads, or you could encourage children to share their prayers with the group or write them down. After each topic, let the children eat that coloured smartie.
- 3 Finish by reminding the group that God is always there to listen to our prayer – whether we have chocolate or not! Encourage the children to try and find some time in the week to say another prayer.



## Drink & Biscuit

Take a few minutes out of your programme for a quick drink and biscuit or snack. This could take place at the same time as your 'Get into the Bible' activity.



## Get Active: That Sounds Like Chocolate Game

Get Active

Preparation

15 mins

Get ready for a fast-paced chocolate challenge! Race against other teams to match tasty descriptions with the right wrapper – speed, memory, and a sweet tooth will help your team win!

- 1 Download and print the **'That Sounds Like Chocolate'** leader's sheet. You'll also need the 14 wrapper images from the Chocolate Wrapper Hunt activity (supplied in your pack).
- 2 Split into two teams. Each team will need their own set of chocolate wrappers for this game. These should be placed at one end of the room, with the teams sat at the opposite end.
- 3 Before each round, one person from each team should be nominated to play. They should stand up.
- 4 A leader should read out one of the chocolate bar descriptions from the leader's sheet. Once the leader has finished the nominated child from each team can run to the chocolate wrappers and collect the chocolate bar they think is being described. The first team to return the correct chocolate bar first gains a point. Continue playing, going through all the descriptions. The team with the most points at the end wins.



## Close & Goodbye

Finish by sharing any prizes won that week, an update to your points chart and give an award for member of the week. Ask new children if they have had a good time and hand them a welcome pack to take home (or email to parents within the next 24 hours).



### TOP TIPS

Make sure you have plenty of leaders with you for your open night and they all have a role. Give each child and their parent /guardian a warm welcome. You'll need to make sure you have set up your activities in good time beforehand, so you can focus on welcoming new members as they arrive. Make sure to have a welcome pack (or similar) to give to new children, so they have something to take home with them, containing more information about your group and how to join.

## WEEK TWO

# GLOW IN THE DARK

Light up a dark night with a glow in the dark themed programme.

Use glowsticks to light up the darkness and complete activities such as bowling, parachute games and treasure hunts in a completely different way!



## Arrival Activity: Glow Stick Jewellery

Get Creative

Preparation

5 mins

Use glow sticks to make wearable jewellery, to help light up the children as well as make the room and the activities glow. Examples could be glow stick bracelets, wristbands and glasses.



## Welcome!

Say hello to the group, welcome any new members & explain what there is to look forward to tonight. Make sure you are positive & enthusiastic with your welcome.



## Get Active: Glow Stick Noughts & Crosses

Get Active

Preparation

15 mins

Play a game of noughts and crosses in the dark, using glow sticks.

- 1 Using glow sticks and their connectors, create a nought and crosses grid. Make noughts by fixing two glow sticks together into a loop. Crosses can be made by using two glow sticks, with a little bit of tape to fix them into a cross. You'll need 3 of each shape.
- 2 Split into two teams. Place the grid at one end of the room and sit the teams at the other end. On 'go', one person from each team should race to the grid and place their nought or cross in the position they think is best. Immediately they should run back to their team and tag the next person into play. They too should race to the grid and repeat the process.
- 3 The game is won when a team has noughts or crosses in a line of three. If there hasn't been a winner after the third nought / cross then the next person to go can run to the grid and instead move one of their shapes to a new position to try and win the game.





## Get Creative: Glow Jars

Get Creative

Preparation

20 mins

Make an impressive glowing jar, ideal for leaving on the bedside table at night.

- 1 Give each child a jar. A glass jam jar (or similar) works well.
- 2 Using a long paintbrush (that can easily get inside the jar) dab little dots of the glow in the dark glue or paint around the inside of the jar. This works best as dots, rather than trying to paint shapes etc.
- 3 Allow to dry and then expose the jar to bright light before turning out the lights. The dots will glow brightly and then fade over time. How bright they shine depends largely on the glue or paint used. For this activity it pays to use a good quality glow in the dark paint / glue.



## Get into the Bible: Let Your Light Shine

Get into the Bible

Preparation

15 mins

Use two torches to explore what it means to shine brightly in dark places—one torch will light the way, and the other... not so much! Let's see what this teaches us about how we can share God's light with others.

- 1 For this activity you'll need two torches. Cover one torch's end in tape so it isn't able to let any light through. Show the group both torches. Ask the group to imagine they were about to go and walk through a dark forest. There were rumours that the forest was haunted and had wild animals in it too. Which torch would they choose to go in the forest with and why? How would they feel if they had to use the covered torch? How would their feelings change with the uncovered torch?
- 2 The torch without any tape on is clearly the better torch for guiding you through a dark situation. It would make you feel safer and more secure, knowing that you could see the way and some of the darkness was being lit up.
- 3 These two torches can also remind us about something Jesus said in the Bible. **'You should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do. Live so that they will praise your Father in Heaven.'** Matthew 5 v 16. If we let Jesus into our lives, but then keep him all to ourselves by not shining that light onto other people, we are like the covered-up torch. We'd have this impressive and powerful light inside us, but we wouldn't be sharing it with anyone. We wouldn't be using that light to help others around us.
- 4 However, if we live our lives in a way that openly shows people how much we love God, by doing good things and helping others, then we are sharing God's love with everyone and letting everyone benefit from the light that is inside us.
- 5 Finish in prayer asking God to help us shine our bright light of Jesus to all those around us.



## Drink & Biscuit

Take a few minutes out of your programme for a quick drink and biscuit or snack. This could take place at the same time as your 'Get into the Bible' activity.



## Get Active: Glow Bowling

Get Active

Preparation

15 mins

Create a homemade glow in the dark bowling alley, using just some bottles and glow sticks.

- 1 You'll need 10 water bottles, each one with a small amount of water in the bottom, to help give the pins a little bit of weight. Place 2-3 glow sticks in each water bottle, to make the pins glow and arrange them into a ten pin bowling formation.
- 2 A few metres away, place a bowling line (using tape or cones) from where children will need to bowl the balls.
- 3 Taking turns children should roll the balls, seeing how many pins they can knock over with the two balls. Can they score a strike or a spare?
- 4 Rotate the children around, letting each child have a go. You could then play a second and third round if you have time. Keep a track of the scores and see who can score the most points overall.



## Get Active: LED Balloon Parachute Games

Get Active

Preparation

10 mins

- 1 Buy some LED balloons and use these to play parachute games. LED balloons can be purchased online, as well as at some supermarkets, including brands such as Illooms and Balloominate. Inflate the balloons and then play one of the below.

**Countdown:** Place all the balloons onto the parachute. Give the group a countdown (i.e. 60 seconds) to remove all the balloons by shaking the parachute as much as they can.

**Team v Team:** Split the children into two teams. Stand around the parachute, with one team on the left-hand side and the other on the right-hand side. Place a balloon on top and everyone should start shaking the parachute. The aim is to try and get the balloon to fly off the other side of the parachute. Score a point for every time this happens. The team with the most points wins.



## Close & Goodbye

Finish by sharing any prizes won that week, an update to your points chart and give an award for member of the week. Ask new children if they have had a good time and hand them a welcome pack to take home (or email to parents within the next 24 hours).

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