



Vision:

The craft time is designed for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the children. Much time and effort goes into this part of VBS because it is such a great opportunity to share with the children as they make their crafts.

There are a few things that need to be considered for each day's crafts:

- Timing – Can it be made in 25-30 minutes? If it takes much longer, the craft will not be finished. Much shorter, and the children will stand there idle (and children don't stay idle for long). Timing is a challenge. It is important to actually practice assembling the crafts you will use, determine the time it takes to make them, and if they are too easy or too difficult for the age of the children that will be making them. It is a good idea to have some children of the same age, try to make the craft before your planned outreach, to see if they are able to do the craft.
- What crafts will you use? Will you have enough time to order what you will need?
- Cost – We don't want the children to make "throw away" crafts. They must be something nice enough that they will want to keep, so as to remind them of the time that they heard about Jesus. Cost will always depend on the budget.
- Helpers – The craft helpers must be willing to share the Gospel with the children! These people will, in a real way, be doing a Bible study during craft time, so it is important if you use youth to help, that they be mature in Christ. We provide training in how to share the 5 Gospel colors (see below). This sharing time during crafts has proved very fruitful in helping the children understand the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love.
- When using the 5 Gospel colors as a tool to communicate the Gospel message, be very careful with the black color. Some may think black represents the color of a person. It's important to use examples such as the black cover of a Bible or black like the darkness of a room. Explain that black or white does not refer to skin color. In reaching out to the community, we find ourselves in a "politically correct" atmosphere, thus we need to be sensitive.

You will find much more that may help in organizing crafts in this section.

Volunteer Responsibilities:

1. Enthusiastically greet the children, letting them know how glad you are that they are here today. When the children are in front of you, greet each child by name and introduce yourself. Explain to the children, in detail, how to do the craft.
2. Have fun, share with each of the children, and enjoy. Ask questions.
3. Each day the craft will in some way have the Gospel colors included. (Gold/Yellow: *heaven*, Black: *sin*, Red: *the shed blood of Jesus*, White: *clean heart*, Green: *growing in Jesus*.) It is **imperative** that you take this opportunity to continually share the Gospel message during craft time.
4. Craft time is used to present “The Wordless Book” Gospel message. We want the children to hear the Gospel at VBS, as many times as possible. If you feel you might have a problem sharing the Gospel colors message, you may want to help in a different area of VBS.
5. Please let (*Director’s name*) know, in advance if possible, if you will not be available to help on any given day. (*telephone #*).
6. There will be one or two “organizing” evenings for those helping with crafts at VBS. We’ll inform you of the time.

We would like everyone, if possible, to arrive at the park each day by (*time*) for prayer.

During the beginning and ending session, please feel free to sit among the children. This will help with “control issues”.

Sample Schedule for each day

7:30am	Set-up
8:00	Prayer (<i>please arrive at the park in time for prayer</i>)
	Registration begins / Set-up continued
9:00 - 9:25	Opening
9:30 - 10:00	Activity Groups / by age
10:05 - 10:35	Activity Groups / by age
10:40 - 11:10	Activity Groups / by age
11:15 - 12:00	Closing
12:00pm	Break-down 1:00pm - <i>leave Park</i>

Please let (*Director’s name*), (*telephone #*) know, in advance if possible, if you will not be available to help on any given day.