

ALLEY Back-to-School Bash – August 24-25, 2024

Pre-Show: Spotify Playlist

Worship Songs

Before you get started, get into small groups

Raffle cards and pens – have kids fill out card as they come in

Opening

What's up, Parkview Kids?!?! Welcome to our Back-to-school bash! Are you guys as excited as I am? Great! Well, my name is (your name), and I can't wait to kick off this school year with some fun and excitement - Parkview style! Now I want to know, what is your favorite part of school and why? (Take 3-5 answers) My favorite subject was (Each LG leader fills in the blank and answers why they loved it) but I also loved LUNCH TIME! It was a time I could sit and eat my favorite snacks and talk to my friends.

Today we are going to start with a game called Lunchbox Shake-Up. To begin each round everyone has to guess which item will pop out of the lunchbox before it stops shaking- shout it out loud.

LUNCHBOX SHAKE UP- 3.5 MINUTES ALLEY - <https://deeperkidmin.com/product/lunchbox-shakeup-game/>

SLIDE: Back to school

What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think of school supplies?

If you ask most people, the first answer to come to mind is going to be - pencils! Look at any back-to-school ad, and I guarantee you, right near the top, you're going to see pencils.

Pencils are needed in every subject. You use pencils to learn letters and numbers; to learn spelling; to do math problems; and to take tests. As you get older, you will use pencils more and more to do something else - take notes. You'll take notes in every class and every subject, notes that you will need to do homework and pass a test that you will take with - what else? A pencil!

But when it comes to note taking, there's another "tool" that's even more critical than your pencil. It's not in your desk, or in your book bag. It's on the side of your head. It's your ear. When it's time to take notes, your notes will only be as good as your ears. Listen well, and you'll have good notes. Listen poorly... well, you better hope that most of the answers come from the book.

It's not surprising that many people are poor note takers. We're bad listeners outside the classroom, not just when the teacher speaks. When our friends talk to us, we don't always listen well either. Sometimes we simply tune people out, we don't care, or we get distracted and don't give other people the attention they need.

Sometimes we are only listening so we know when we can finally speak. We don't care what the other person is saying, and we're just waiting for a chance to say what we want.

God wants us to resist the urge to tune people out or ignore others. He wants us to stay alert, and to listen.

That's part of being a good friend, listening when your friends need to talk about something and paying attention to what they're saying. It's also what James told the early church they needed to do.

SLIDE: James 1:19-20

“My dear brothers and sisters, pay attention to what I say. Everyone should be quick to listen. But they should be slow to speak. They should be slow to get angry. Human anger doesn't produce the holy life God wants.”

James tells us that we need to be slow to speak, which brings us to our bottom line:

SLIDE OF BOTTOM LINE: WE NEED TO BE SLOW TO SPEAK

If you want others to listen to you, you have to be a good friend and good listener yourself. But listening isn't just about getting the chance to have your say. It's doing the right thing and being a friend to those in need.

Friends who are having hard times don't need lectures. They need listeners. They need us to hear them, to pay attention, and to let them know we understand. When we listen, we gain understanding. When we listen, we know what other people need. When we listen, we know how to pray for our friends.

Listening doesn't come naturally, but that's no excuse for doing it poorly. Ask God to help you become a good listener. Practice being quiet and listening every chance you get - with friends, with family, with teachers, with everyone. Ask questions if you don't understand. And whatever you do, don't respond without hearing what's being said.

Being a good communicator means being a good listener. Let's ask God to help us learn to listen so we can be the friends our classmates need.

Now, before we dismiss to all the FUN, let's take a minute to pray.

Dear God, Teach us to become good listeners so we can be good friends to those YOU love.

In Jesus' name, Amen

**Dismiss to activities by dividing children into 4 groups – send groups to a station to rotate.*

10 Minutes Per Station

OPTIONAL VIDEO: 10 Minute Countdown Video (to be played as a timer for each rotation)

CLOSING

**At Communion Call*

Did you all have a blast at OUR BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH? Me too! Are you ready to see who are raffle winner is? (pull a name and take a picture of the raffle winner for each service) No worries kids, today everyone is a winner. Each of you will be going home with this cute Parkview key chain that you can hang on your bag (*Campus coordinator will decide how these are passed out.*)

Closing prayer- pray over the school year

Extra Time: Spotify Dance Party Playlist Freeze dance

STATION 1: Shut the Box

Supplies: Shut the Box game with dice, round table

Set Up: Round table with Game in center

Instructions: Have kids line up in two teams, first players on each side of the table.

A round of the game consists of each player taking one turn to try to shut the box. A turn consists of a player repeatedly throwing the dice until he or she puts down all numbers. Each throw of the dice is taken as follows:

- If 7, 8 and 9 are all covered, the player decides whether to throw one die or two.
- If any of these 3 numbers are still uncovered, the player must use both dice.

The player throws the die or dice into the box and add them up. The player must then cover available numbers that add up to the total thrown. For instance, if the total is 8, the player may choose one of the following options:

- 8
- 7 & 1
- 6 & 2
- 5 & 3
- 5 & 2 & 1
- 4 & 3 & 1

Assuming that one of the options is available to be played, the player selects one, covers the selected number or numbers and proceeds to throw the dice again.

If none of the options are available because at least one number is already covered then the next person goes and rolls the die/dice again. You win by being the first person to put down all numbers 1-9

For first and second graders: do numbers 1-5

STATION 2: Pencil Bags

Supplies: Pencil bags, permanent markers, cardboard inserts (15-20 per campus), tablecloth, bible verse print out

Set-Up: Put down tablecloth, put markers and cardboard insert in center of table

Instructions: Give each kid a bag and have them insert the cardboard. Give kids time to decorate their bags. Bible verse will be on the table if kids want to copy down the verse. Have kids leave the cardboard for next group/service.



STATION 3: Lunch Bag Relay

Supplies: Lunch bag (2), lunch item pictures (2 sets of 16 per campus), floor tape for starting line, cones (10 per campus)

Set Up: Have the food items facing up and on one side of the room, and the starting line on the other side. Make sure the kids DO NOT see the challenges on the back of the food items. Set up cones between starting lines and food items.

Instructions: Have one child go at a time to run in and out of the cones and grab any food item of their choice at the end. When they get back to their team, they have to complete the challenge that is on the back of the food item. Once the challenge is completed, place the food item in the lunch bag. The next child runs to grab another food item. Once everyone has had a turn and completes their challenges, the first team that fills the bag and sits down, wins. If time allows, play again.

Hint: healthier choices make for shorter challenges give a team a lead.

STATION 4: Back-to-School Bingo

Supplies: *Bingo Cards (1 per kid), Bingo chips (1 container per Campus), Call Cards (1 set per Campus), Prize bin*

What to Do: Hand each child a Bingo Card and place Bingo chips in the center of your group. Shuffle your call cards and call them out one at a time.

If any child gets a “Bingo!” let them pick a prize.