

Awana Basic Training

Getting Started - Cubbies Club Basics



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Awana Basic Training

- Introduction
- Key Features of the Cubbies Club Ministry
- Cubbies Club Meeting



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Introduction

- Through your work in Cubbies, children will:
 - Begin to develop appropriate spiritual attitudes
 - Begin to learn about the Bible and Scripture memorization
 - Hear the gospel and begin to recognize that they are sinners in need of salvation
 - Begin to understand how to honor the Lord by being obedient
 - Experience a sense of belonging and contribution to club



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Cubbies Theme Song

We are Awana Cubbies, we're happy all day long.
 We know that Jesus loves us! That's why we sing this song.
 We hop because we're happy and we jump and shout for joy.
 For Jesus is a friend to us.
 He loves each girl and boy.




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Cubbies Leader Role

1. You must have trusted Jesus Christ as your personal savior.
2. You must be walking with the Lord.
3. You must be growing in your own relationship with the Lord.
4. Your attitude must be attractive to kids.
5. You must be in compliance with the requirements of leadership in your church.

Time Commitment ~ 3-4 hrs per week



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Cubbies Club Segments

1. Preparation
2. Coming-in time
3. Starting time and Story Time
4. Book Time
5. Play Time
6. Going Home time




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Sharing the Gospel Video

Key Features of the Cubbies Club Ministry



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Sharing the Gospel Video

Sharing the Gospel with a Clubber

Remember the main focus? The gospel!

When we think of evangelism, we often visualize a moment when a person trusts Christ as Savior. We have to remember that before spiritual fruit is harvested, soil must be prepared and biblical seed sown.

Because Cubbies are just beginning to understand spiritual concepts extending public invitations is inappropriate. The primary evangelistic role of a Cubbies leader is to prepare children to understand God's Truth and answer questions.

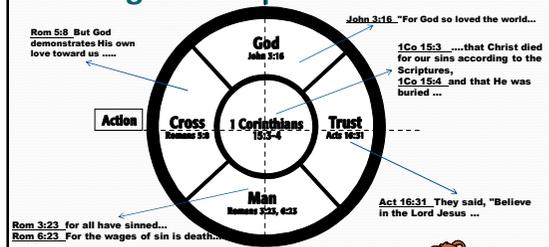


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Sharing the Gospel Video

Sharing the Gospel with a Clubber



God
John 3:16

Man
Romans 7:23, 8:23

Action
Romans 5:8

Trust
Acts 16:31

Character
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Child and Parent Nurture

- What is nurture?
 - Any thing we can do to help preschoolers develop healthy spiritual concepts.
- Parents are a very important part of not only our Cubbies, but also the success of club.
- Make it a goal to build relationships with not only our Cubbies, but also their parents.



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Total Time Teaching (TTT)

- What is TTT? A positive, creative teaching approach that stimulates concrete learning in Cubbies.
- TTT begins at home, when the parent works on the Handbook with child.
- All segments of club are built around the idea of TTT. Therefore, each week we will follow the suggested games, ideas and themes to get the most out of club nights.



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Scripture Memorization

Three reasons to memorize scripture: (Ps 119:11)

1. To please God
2. To guard us from sinning against God
3. To draw on as we witness to others

Two keys to scripture memory:

1. Review, Review, Review
2. Self-discipline



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Handbooks

- Bear Hug Brochure (entrance booklet)
 - Everyone starts here!
- A-C
 - All have sinned
 - Christ died for us
- Hopper Celebrations Handbook
- Jumper Celebrations Handbook





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Levels Learning

- Level A – Base level of work required (Weekly Bear Hug) to earn a book award at the end of the year.
- Level B – Under The Apple Tree : This optional level has a built in review, along with a parent child activity.
- Level C – Another optional level that contains additional Scripture memorization and activity targeted at character building.
- Level D – PhD Dissertation.



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Cubbies Product Progression

	Year One	Year Two
Start	Bear Hug Brochure	Bear Hug Brochure
Handbook	Jumper or Hopper Celebrations Handbook	Jumper or Hopper Celebrations Handbook
Optional Review	Under the apple tree	Under the apple tree
Optional Level	Character Builder Book One	Character Builder Book Two



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Awards

- **Trail Patch** Cubbies receive the Hopper Trail patch for completing the Hopper Trail or the Jumper Trail patch for completing the Jumper Trail.
- **Achievement Emblem** Cubbies earn these emblems by completing the 4 Lamb Paths and the 4 Elephant Walks in a particular handbook.
- **Attendance Emblems**
 - **Lion emblems** Cubbies can earn these emblems for club attendance.
 - **Zebra and Giraffe emblems** Cubbies can earn these emblems for Sunday school or church attendance.
- **Character Builders Emblem** An award for those Cubbies who complete 20 Character Builders in the supplemental books.



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Book Awards

- **Year One Book Award** Awarded for completion of a handbook. A three-inch stuffed bear that attaches to the uniform vest with Velcro®, awarded at the year end award ceremony.
- **Year Two Book Award** Awarded for completion of both handbooks. Year One Book Award attaches to this blue ribbon award, also awarded at year end award ceremony.




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Uniforms

- Discipline
- Club Unity
- Award Achievements



Statistically, clubs with high percentage of handbook finishers and major award recipients usually have a high percentage of leaders and Cubbies in uniform.

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Discipline

- Comes from the word “disciple”, or to mold, to teach.
- Difference between **discipline** and **punishment**:

	Punishment	Discipline
Purpose	Inflicts a penalty for an offense	Training for correction and development
Focus	Past offenses or misbehavior	Correct future behavior
Leader's Attitude	Hostility, frustration or anger	Love and concern for clubber
How Cubbie Feels	Fearful, guilty or shamed	Secure


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Tools for a Disciplined Club Video 

Discipline – five count

- Use the five count for group discipline.
- The leader in charge claps hands two times and says “Calling all Cubbie Bear Buddies!” Then the leader slowly counts to five while the other leaders raise their hands.


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Cubbie Bear Buddy Levels

- **Level One** – Cubbies should be quite and attentive and do the following:
 - Sit still
 - Listen quietly while the teacher is speaking
 - Remember to raise her hand before speaking
 - Keep hands, feet and words inside his space
- **Level two** – Cubbies may talk quietly
- **Level Three** – They can be noisy, jump and play


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Cubbie Bear Buddy Levels

Club Segment	Cubbie Bear Buddy Level
Coming-In time	Two
Starting Time and Story Time	One
Book Time	Two
Play Time	Three
Going Home Time	Two

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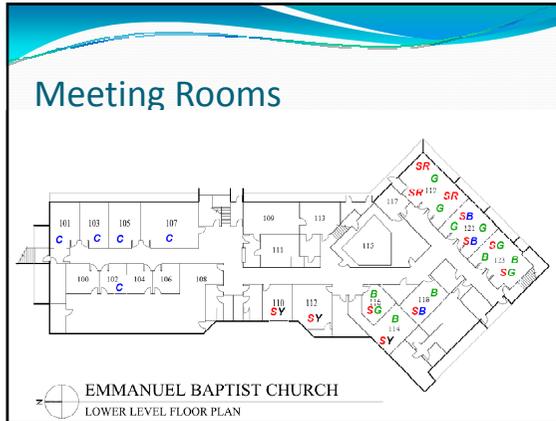
Cubbie Bear Buddy Rules

- Use these rules in Story Time
 1. Raise your hand
 2. Listen
 3. Place your hands in your lap

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Cubbies Club Meeting

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Preparation

- Pray for your Cubbies and their parents
- Read the Celebrations Handbook lesson for the week
- Read the Celebrations Lesson for that week
- Read the pertinent Bible passage
- Use the "Getting in Tune" section to tune your thoughts about the lesson
- Ask God to speak to you through His Word
- Spend time memorizing the Bear Hub verse
- Arrive at least 15 minutes before club starts

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Coming-In Time

Coming-In Time is the 10-15 minutes prior to the official start of club

- Objectives of Check-In
 - Record attendance
 - Welcome Cubbies and parents
 - Engage Cubbies in a **sensory** activity that reinforces what they learned at home and will learn in club
 - Set a positive tone for the upcoming meeting

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Coming-In Time

- What's my role in Check-In?
 - Assist with the check-in process
- Communicate with parents
 - Welcome them – be a friend
 - Let them know what activities they will be learning that evening
 - Focus the conversation on their children
 - Invite them to stay for club to see how well their children are progressing
- Gather your Cubbies at a table in a small group setting and begin to focus on the lesson aim
- Encourage Cubbies as they engage in the small group activity



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Key Verse: 1 John 4:10 – "... God ...Loved us, and sent His Son ..."

Motto: Jesus Loves Me

Starting Time

Starting Time is a 10-minute club segment that is the official start to the club.

- Starting Time activities could include:
 - Pledge allegiance to the flag
 - Sing praise songs and the Awana Cubbies Song
 - Recite Cubbies **key verse*** and **motto***
 - Watch a puppet skit with Cubbie Bear and friends
 - Recognizing visitors, birthdays, special events
 - Pray
- Objectives of Starting Time
 - Transition from Coming-In Time to Story Time
 - Prepare the children to hear the Bible lesson in Story Time



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Story Time

Story Time is a 20-30 minute club segment that is the main segment of club. Cubbies meet as a group and listen to the Bible lesson.

- Objectives of Story Time
 - Present the gospel and other Bible truths to the children
 - Nurture understanding of the Bible truths through a Bible story
 - Review and reinforce the Bear Hug verse each week
 - Celebrate by providing an opportunity to share praises from the week.
 - Celebrate by solving really hard differential equations



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Start/Story Time - Format

Starting Time and Story Time Format	
Opening praise and singing	3-5 minutes
Puppet Skit	3-5 minutes
Transition	1-2 minutes
Bible Story	3-5 minutes
Transition	1-2 minutes
Celebration	3-5 minutes



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Starting/Story Time - Leader role

- Sit with Cubbies
- Participate in songs
- Help maintain order
- Help Cubbies focus on the right things (not "There's a Bunny!")
- If child has a question about the story or truth, take them aside to answer it.
- Use the Cubbie Bear Buddy Rules to help children enjoy the lesson.



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Book Time

Handbook time is a small group segment during which Cubbies recite Scripture, complete an activity to reinforce the Bible lesson, and discuss the lesson with their leaders.



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Book Time - objectives

- Help Cubbies memorize God's Word
- Help Cubbies understand God's Word
- Keep track of Cubbies progress and their awards
- Encourage the Cubbies to finish their handbooks

Book Time Format	
Prayer	1-2 minutes
TTT review	3-4 minutes
Bear Hug completion	10-20 minutes
Book time Activity Sheet	Remainder



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Book Time – Leader Role

- You will need:
 - Both Cubbies Handbooks
 - Pen
 - Appropriate stickers
 - Cubbie Bear
 - Luv E. Lamb
 - Ern E. Elephant
 - Special Days
 - Apples
 - Individual Cubbies record cards
 - Copies of activity sheets
 - Supplies to finish Book Time Activity Sheets



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Book Time - Three Hop Method

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 **Hop One: Repeat** verses over and over as a group – link to things that they already know about to help them build long term memories.

 **Hop Two: Recite** verses individually several times.

 **Hop Three: Reinforce** how meanings of the verses relate to your Cubbies lives by using sensory activities or experiences.



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Book Time:
Scripture Memory Standards

- Each Cubbie will need to say the verse by themselves to receive credit
- You may give one or two helps
- Encourage them to say references and verses together but only 4-year olds are required to say references.
- If there is more than one verse in a Bear Hug, Cubbies must say the verses in the order they appear because they build on one another.


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Play Time - objectives

- 15-30 minutes of pure Cubbie joy!
- Develop motor skills and thought processes and give Cubbies opportunities to try new things and new roles.
- Capitalize on Cubbies' wonder, joy, curiosity and energy and help them explore, experiment with and investigate the orldway.
- Reinforce lesson aims.


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Play Time – Leader Role

- Have fun with the Cubbies and continue TTT
- Help maintain discipline
- Take children to the restroom, if needed.
- Support the Cubbie Game Leader


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Awards

- After Play Time, before Going Home time (duh!)
- Leaders should announce and hand out the awards.
- Have parents come early and watch, if possible.



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Going Home Time

- Cubbies picking up and gathering things for home.
- Leaders reviewing lessons and verses
- Cubbies participate in making any going home activities
- Announcements
- Leaders interacting with parents



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Going Home Time – Objectives

- Summarize the evening's lesson
- Supervise Cubbies until parents come
- Help Cubbies learn responsibility by cleaning up their area and belongings
- Continue to build relationships with parents



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Going Home Time – Role

- Help make Going Home time upbeat, energetic and well organized
- Build relationships with parents
- Communicate which Bear Hug to work on during the week and make any announcements needed.



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