

OVERNIGHT EVENTS FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

THE VALUE:

- Weeks of ministry compacted into a short period of time
- Developmental milestone for a child
- Opportunity to leave behind distractions
- Space for friendships to flourish

EVENT ESSENTIALS:

- **Safe**
 - Screened volunteers
 - Healthy boundaries between genders
 - Adult supervision
- **Spiritually Rich**
 - What do I want them to leave understanding about God?
- **Seriously Fun**
 - GOAL: Relationships to be built
 - Go (relatively) big or go home

OVERNIGHTERS:

START TO FINISH:

1. **Decide the Purpose**
2. **Plan the Essentials** - Who, how many, when, where, how much?
3. **Have Sign Ups & Find Leaders** - 3-4 weeks in advance
4. **Make a Budget** - Food > Main Activity > Decorations > Games
5. **Make a Schedule** - Keep it moving

CRAFT IDEAS:

FOR BOYS:

- Duck Tape Wallets
- Marshmallow Guns
- Lego Cars
- Magnetic Slime
- Paracord Bracelets

FOR GIRLS:

- Journals
- Friendship Bracelets
- Pillow Cases
- Tie-Dye Prints
- Poptart Pillow

ALMOST FREE GAMES:

- Outdoor Free Play
- Capture the Flag
- Dodgeball
- Scavenger Hunt
- "Minute to Win It"

CAMP:

START TO FINISH:

1. **Choose a Campsite**
2. **Plan the Essentials** - Who, how many, when, how much, how are they getting there?
3. **Have Sign Ups & Find Leaders** - Approximately 3 months in advance
4. **Assign Cabins** - Offer 1 "roommate request"
5. **Communicate** - Leader / Parent meeting

THE PRACTICAL "DO'S" OF CAMP:

- Know where all your campers are at all times
- Keep your cabin (and kids) clean
- Be on time to all activities (including bedtime)
- Participate in everything with your campers

THE PRACTICAL "DONT'S" OF CAMP:

- No private interactions
- No pranks
- No flirting
- No scary stories

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