

CADETS/GEMS THEME 2019



ADDITIONAL RESOURCE BOOKLET

Cadet/GEMS Theme: **FEED THE FIRE**

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THEME LOGO 2019



[Logo]

God clearly tells us in His Word that we should not be lukewarm, but instead we should keep our spiritual fervour serving the Lord. As God's child, we are feeding the fire and living a life of wholehearted passion and enthusiasm for our Lord.

[Colour Specifications]



Yellow [PMS 123]



Orange [PMS 158]



Red [PMS 485]

THEME POSTER 2019



Yellow [PMS 123]



Orange [PMS 158]



Red [PMS 485]



Feed
the
Fire
2019

A large graphic featuring the text "Feed the Fire 2019" in a stylized, outlined font. The word "Fire" is the largest and most prominent, with a flame graphic integrated into the letter 'i'. The words "Feed" and "the" are positioned above "Fire", and "2019" is below it. The entire graphic is set against a background of a curved line that suggests a banner or a bowl.

Revelation 3:15-16

Romans 12:11

THEME GAMES 2019

INTERVIEW

Bible Verse: Romans 12:10

You will need: no supplies needed.

Say... In God's Book, the Bible, we're instructed to be devoted to one another and to honor one another. If we are to dearly love one another, we must first get to know one another. That's what this Interview icebreaker is all about – getting to know one another better so we can love each other more.

1. Divide the girls into pairs. Try to pair girls with those who are not their closest friends so they can truly get to know new people.
2. Ask them to take three minutes to interview each other. Each interviewer needs to discover three interesting facts about her partner.
3. After three minutes, bring all the girls together and ask everyone to present the three facts about their partner to the rest of the group.

ICE CREAM ICEBREAKER

Bible Verse: John 15:17

You will need: a scoop of ice cream in small bowls for each girl and multiple ice cream toppings: bananas, strawberries, chocolate, caramel, butterscotch, sprinkles, etc.

Say... God repeatedly tells us in His Book, the Bible, that we are to love each other. Jesus said in the book of John, chapter, 15, verse 17, *"This is my command: Love each other."* Love goes beyond saying, "Hi! How are you?" in the hallways of club. Love sincerely gets to know one another more. Here's a tasty way to do just that!

1. Distribute bowls of ice cream to half of the girls. Give the other half of the girls the toppings.
2. In order for the girls with ice cream to add toppings to their ice cream they need to go to the girl(s) who has the topping(s) they want and discover one interesting fact about this person.
3. After the girls with topped ice cream are finished, the roles reverse so the remaining half of the girls can have ice cream and the other girls have the toppings.

YOU ARE SOMETHING SPECIAL

Bible Verses: Psalm 139:13-14

You will need: ten wrapped chewy candies in assorted colors and one small sandwich bag per girl.

Say... There's a song by the Gaithers entitled "You Are Something Special" that contains these true lyrics. Listen carefully: "That's why you're something special you're the only one of your kind. God gave you a body and a bright healthy mind. He had a special purpose that he wanted you to find, so he made you something special, you're the only one of your kind." We can know those words are true because God tells us in His Book, the Bible, that we are fearfully and wonderfully made. God's works are wonderful – and since you are one of His works or masterpieces, you are indeed someone who is very, very special. Let's learn some of the special things about the way God made us through this icebreaker game called You Are Something Special.

1. Distribute ten wrapped candies of assorted colors to each girl and one small sandwich bag to hold the candies.
2. The goal of the game is to get ten pieces of candy that are the same color by trading with other girls. But before you can make a trade you need to tell the other person one thing that she doesn't know about you.
3. Designate how much time will be allowed for this game. Give the signal to start, and the signal to end, regardless of whether they all have the same color or not. The game's primary goal is to get to know one another better.

NAME GAME

Bible Verse: Psalm 147:4

You will need: no supplies needed.

Say... Have you ever forgotten someone's name? I know I have. Here's just one more amazing thing about our Creator God. He never forgets a name! After He made the birds and the animals and Adam, the first man that ever lived, He brought the animals to Adam to *see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name* (Genesis 2:19). God also *determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name* (Psalm 147:4). And He knows your name, too (Isaiah 43:1). Let's play this Name Game together as we remember that God never forgets a name!

1. Ask girls to form circles of ten to twelve.
2. Have one girl begin by saying her first or last name and the name of an animal that begins with the same letter as her name.
3. The person to the girl's right needs to repeat the first person's name and animal before stating her own name and animal.
4. Play continues until the first person says the names and animals of each person in the circle!

DESERT ISLAND

Bible Verses: Matthew 22:36-39

You will need: no supplies needed.

Say... Jesus said when it comes to priorities, this is My priority for you: *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" We're going to learn more about what is special or important to each of you through this Desert Island icebreaker.*

1. Divide the girls into groups of six to eight.
2. Say... You discover that you need to live on a deserted island for one year. In addition to the essentials like toothpaste, soap, and food, you may take one piece of music, one book (which is not the Bible) and one luxury item that you can carry. (The luxury item can't be a boat, airplane, or other transportation to help you leave the island!) What would you take and why?
3. Give the girls a minute or more to develop their answers, then have them take turns sharing their answers with their small group.

WHO IS SHE?

Bible Verse: John 13:34

You will need: a pen/pencil and index card for each girl.

Say... Jesus gets very specific with us in God's Book, the Bible, about how we should love other people. He said, *"As I have loved you, so you must love one another."* One of the ways Jesus demonstrated love is by genuinely getting to know and care about the people around Him. That's something we should do, too. This icebreaker will help you get to know one another; it's your job to build on this with love and care.

1. Divide the girls into two teams.
2. Distribute a pen and index card to each girl.
3. Everyone must write five little known, obscure facts about themselves. Examples: My favorite food is broccoli, my grandfather's name is Amos, my bedroom is painted eggplant, and my favorite Saturday activity is knitting. Note: the more obscure and little known facts, the better!
4. Collect the cards into two team piles.
5. Draw one card from the opposing team's pile. Each team tries to name the person in as few clues as possible.
6. Scoring: 5 points if they get it on the first clue, 4 points if they get it on the second clue, 3 points if they get it on the third clue, 2 points if they get it on the fourth clue, 1 point if they get it on the fifth clue, 0 points if they're unable to guess it at all.

WORD GAME

Bible Verses: 2 Peter 1:5-7

You will need: no supplies needed.

If you want to increase the size of a bonfire, you add more logs to it. To increase the fire in our hearts, we need to add disciplines like prayer, reading God's Word, service, interacting with God's people, opening up and talking about God, and noticing God in the ordinary to our lives. There are other things that fuel our heart's fire, too. Just listen to the things God tells us to add to our lives in the book of 2 Peter, chapter 1, verses 5-7: *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.* Think about adding those things to your life as we play this fun add-on word game.

1. Divide the girls into groups of six to ten.
2. The first person says a word. Example: The.
3. The second person says a word. Example: girl. And so forth. For example: The girl jumped into the chocolate lake while singing about her neighbor's obnoxious parakeet.
4. It's lots of fun to add twists to the sentence to challenge the next players to find words that fit.

BACKRUB

Do this activity after a service project!

Bible Verse: Galatians 6:2

You will need: no supplies needed.

Say... When we seek to serve those who are in need of help, are sick, or sad, we are being obedient to God's command to *carry each other's burdens* (Galatians 6:2). Sometimes serving others is very easy to do, and other times it's really hard work. Thank you for the hard work you did today to serve others. Now we're going to encourage and thank one another for being a passionate and zealous team that sought to serve God well today by helping others.

1. Ask the girls to form a circle, shoulder-to-shoulder, and turn to the left.
2. Ask everyone to take one-step in so it tightens the circle.
3. Ask girls to reach forward to the person in front of them and give them a gentle shoulder/backrub of thanks.
4. Wait three minutes, and have all the girls turn to the right and give that person a gentle shoulder/backrub of thanks.

HA! HA! HA!

Bible Verse: Ecclesiastes 3:4

You will need: no supplies needed.

Say... One of the ways to feed the fire in our hearts is by interacting with God's people. When we gather as sisters in Jesus, it's important to encourage one another to act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God, pray together, study the Bible together, play together, and yes, even laugh together. God tells us in His Book, in Ecclesiastes chapter 3, verse 4, that there's a time to weep and a time to laugh. Let's take this time to laugh!

1. Ask all the girls to lie on the ground or floor.
2. Position each to lay her head on another's tummy.
3. One of the end people will start by saying, "Ha!" The girl that has her head on her tummy goes next and says, "Ha, ha!" With each person, add one "Ha!" If there are twenty-five girls, the last girl will say "Ha" twenty-five times!

IS MRS. MUMBLE HOME?

Bible Verse: Mark 16:15

You will need: no supplies needed.

Say... One of the ways to feed the fire in our hearts is to open up and talk about God. Opening up and talking about God feeds the fire in our hearts because it shows God how much we love Him. We're going to play a game called Is Mrs. Mumble Home? Although the game is fun, remember that when it comes to talking about God, we shouldn't be mumbler. Instead we should clearly communicate God's love to those around us!

1. Ask the girls to sit on the floor in a circle.
2. Choose one person who will start by turning to the person to her right and saying, "Is Mrs. Mumble home?" To which the person replies, "Who?" Then the first person says, "Mrs. Mumble." To which the second person replies, "I don't know, let me ask my neighbor." That person then asks the person to her right and the conversation continues around the circle. Note: the girls must speak as quickly as they can without showing their teeth!
3. If there are a lot of girls in the circle, either divide them into smaller circles or have the conversation simultaneously go to the right and to the left.

STRAIGHT PATHS RELAY

Bible Verse: Hebrews 12:2

You will need: two bean bags and two cones.

Say... If you and I are going to feed the fire and have passionate hearts that are in love with God and eager to serve others, we must fix our eyes on Jesus, He is the One who fixed His eyes on the cross, died for us, and is very much alive today. Jesus is the One who writes our faith story and perfects it. If we fix our eyes on ourselves, our fires will extinguish. We must fix our eyes, our thoughts, and our love on Jesus alone. As we play the Straight Paths Relay think about how keeping your eyes fixed on Jesus will make your paths straight.

1. Divide the girls into two teams and have them line up single file.
2. Give the first person in each line a beanbag.
3. At the signal the first person places the beanbag on her head, runs up and around the cone, and hands the bean bag to the next person in line and so on. The bag cannot be held with one's

hands. If the bag drops that person needs to run back to the start line and start over. Girls will need to stand up straight and fix their eyes ahead to keep the beanbag balanced!

4. The game ends when one team completes the relay.

CIRCLE SLAPS

Bible Verses: Isaiah 40:21-22

You will need: no supplies needed.

Say... Reading God's Word, the Bible, feeds the fire in our hearts because we learn who God is and how He wants us to live. As we come to know God more and more through His Word and His Spirit, our love for Him will deepen and our awe of Him will increase. Listen to these words from Isaiah, chapter 40, verses 21-22, *Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the Heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.* Did you know that about God? What an awesome, amazing God we serve! Never stop seeking to learn more about Him. Think about that as we form a circle on the floor and play Circle Slaps.

1. Ask all the girls to lie on their stomachs in a circle with their heads facing the middle of the circle.
2. Each girl's right arm goes underneath the left arm of person to her right. The left arm should be over the right arm of the person on the left.
3. Designate a person to start by slapping the ground once with one of her hands.
4. The person to her right will do the same and so on counterclockwise. If someone decides to slap the ground twice, the direction will reverse. If a hand messes up by hesitating longer than two seconds, slaps prematurely or out of order, that hand is removed from the game.
5. Once a player has removed both of her hands, she's out of the game until the next round. Game ends when there are only two people remaining.

TOE TAPPING FUN

Bible Verse: 1 John 3:1

You will need: no supplies needed.

Say... Did you know that God loves you from the top of your head to the tips of your toes? It's true! In the book of 1 John, chapter 3, verse 1, it says, *How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.* No matter your age, the color of your hair, or the size of your jeans, you're deeply loved by God. Think about His love as we play Toe Tapping Fun.

1. Have girls find a partner and face each other, holding hands. Partners must have "equal" footwear – both wearing shoes, both wearing sandals, or both wearing socks.
2. At the signal, they must try to tap (not STOMP!) the tops of each other's toes with their own.
3. When an individual scores three "hits," it is time to switch to a new partner. If play is too rough, force partners out of play.

A PLACE TO BELONG

Bible Verses: Ephesians 3:17-19

You will need: poster paper, scissors, markers, crayons, and colored pencils.

Preparation: cut a puzzle out of poster paper. Have enough puzzle pieces for each girl in your club.

Say... When we gather each week at club, it's our prayer that you know that this is a place where you belong. This is a place where you can know and experience God's love and the love of each person here. In the Bible in the book of Ephesians, chapter 3, verses 17-19, Paul expressed a prayer that is our prayer for this club, too. The prayer is as follows: *I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.* Our prayer for this club year isn't that one or two or maybe six or eight of you grasp how much Jesus loves you. Our prayer is that together **all** of us will grasp how much God loves us! Let's think about belonging to Jesus and to one another at club in this team building activity called A Place to Belong.

1. Distribute a puzzle piece made out of poster paper to each girl.

- Using markers, crayons, and colored pencils, ask the girls to write their name on the puzzle piece (make sure they know which side of the puzzle is the “front”) and then color it with their favorite colors.
- After everyone is finished decorating their puzzle pieces, ask them to assemble the puzzle.
- After the puzzle is completed, talk about how each one of them is needed in club, and how when they are missing, a piece of the family is missing (pull one or two pieces out of the puzzle to demonstrate this). Remind them over and over again about God’s love and the love we have for one another in this place.

BUILD EACH OTHER UP

Bible Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:11

You will need: a piece of paper and a pencil for each girl and tape.

Say... God tells us in His Book, the Bible, in 1 Thessalonians, chapter 5, verse 11 that you and I are to *encourage one another and build each other up*. Do you see PASSION in the girls around you? Do you notice that Katie is praying more, that Jenny is doing a great job memorizing Scripture, that Jasmine cheerfully cleans up after club, that Gerri is always including others, that Lacy often invites new people to club, and that Abby is always seeing God in the ordinary? When we see people feeding the fire in their hearts, it’s important to not only notice that, but to encourage them to keep it up! We’re going to do that for one another in our Build Each Other Up teambuilding activity.

- Distribute a piece of paper and pencil to each girl. Ask them to number their paper from one to five.
- Distribute tape and ask them to help each other tape the pieces of paper to one another’s backs.
- Instruct every girl to write one compliment or way that she’s noticed other girls feeding the fire on their pieces of paper.
- Do not stop until each person has five things written on her back.
- When finished, allow the girls to read what others wrote and encourage them to talk freely – not behind their backs – but face to face whenever they see good things in each other.

BALLOON BLOWING SOCCER

Bible Verse: Ephesians 4:14

You will need: inflated balloons, one table, and eight chairs are needed for every eight girls.

Say... One of the things that will put out our fires and toss us back and forth like waves, is when we believe and follow after teachings that are not in God’s Word, the Bible. It’s critical to understand that God’s Word – from the first book of Genesis to the last book of Revelation – is true. Not part of it, not most of it, but all of God’s Word is true. When you hear people talk about the things they believe, don’t just automatically think it’s true. Feed the fire by studying God’s Word and checking out for yourself if it’s truth or if you’re being blown around like a wave tossed in the wind. Think about that as we play Balloon Blowing Relay.

- Divide the girls into teams of eight and ask them to sit by a rectangular table – half of them on one side of the table, and the other half seated on the opposite side of the table.
- All of the girls must sit on their hands throughout play.
- Label one end of the table Goal A (the short end where no one is seated) and choose a side of the table of girls to be Team A. Label the opposite end of the table Goal B (the opposite short end where no one is seated) and the remaining girls to be Team B.
- Place one or two inflated balloons in the middle of each table. The goal is for the girls to blow the balloons through their team’s goal to win a point.
- Counselors will be needed to track points, retrieve balloons, and make sure girls stay seated on their hands. First team to five points wins.

PIN THE PRIZE

Bible Verses: Philippians 3:12-14

You will need: a prize (small gift, dollar bill, or candy bar), small pieces of paper, pens or pencils, masking tape, and a blindfold.

In preparation: tape the prize to a blank wall.

Say... When Paul, a godly man who penned much of the New Testament of the Bible, talked about our walk with Jesus, he compared it to athletes in training. We must press on, setting our eyes on the goal of knowing Jesus, and winning the prize – the reward of spending forever life with Him in Heaven. As you run your race with Jesus,

feed the fire and be a runner with PASSION – Praying constantly, And Studying God’s Word, Serving others, Interacting with God’s people, Opening up and talking about God, and Noticing God in the ordinary. As we think about our forever race with God, let’s play this fun game called Pin the Prize.

1. Give each person a small piece of paper, a pen or pencil, and a piece of masking tape.
2. Each girl writes her name on the piece of paper.
3. Have the girls stand single file, 8-10 feet away from the blank wall with the prize taped to it.
4. One by one, blindfold each girl, have her put one arm behind her back, spin her three times, and face her toward the wall with the prize. Her goal is to tape her name as close to the prize as she can. She must keep one hand behind her back, and she may not feel for the prize.
5. Whoever “pins” her name nearest the prize wins it.

CRAZY MINIATURE GOLF

Bible Verses: Matthew 25:14-30

You will need: ping-pong balls, tees, paper cups, nails, brooms, mop handles, and obstacles (bricks, boxes, trees, old tires, etc.) and a large area outside to set up this crazy golf game!

In preparation: Set up a three to nine-hole golf course in a large outdoor area. Use paper cups as the golf holes by laying them on their sides and nailing them to the ground. Place unique obstacles like boxes and lawn chairs throughout the course.

Say... In the Bible, the book of Matthew has a story about a man who gave three servants different amounts of money according to their abilities. They were to use the money wisely while he was gone, and no one could use the excuse that he was overwhelmed and couldn’t do it, because the man gave each person what he could handle. When he returned he was delighted to see that the men with five talents and two talents each doubled their money. But the man who had one talent was lazy and afraid so he dug a hole in the ground and buried his money. He didn’t gain anything for his master. God has given each one of you abilities to use to serve Him well. Are you like the men who doubled what they had been given because you are passionately and zealously serving God by serving others? Or are you like the man who dug a hole and buried his money? Don’t buy into the lie that you’re not equipped to serve God well. He gave you exactly what you need to serve the people He wants you to serve! Think about that truth as we try to get our ping-pong balls in the holes during this Crazy Miniature Golf game.

1. Walk the girls through the course so they understand how to play and where the holes are located.
2. Give each girl a ping-pong ball and a broom or mop handle (these are their golf clubs!).
3. The girls can play the course without keeping score, or they can track how many strokes it takes to get their ping-pong balls in each hole.

ZANY BOWLING

Bible Verses: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

You will need: ten plastic milk or juice bottles and one volleyball for each bowling lane.

Say... At the close of Paul’s letter to the people of Corinth, he gave these instructions that we should continue to follow today: 1) *Be on your guard.* Keep a watch for things that may put out your fire! 2) *Stand firm in the faith.* When people take aim at your love for Jesus and try to extinguish your fire, stand firm! 3) *Be of courage; be strong.* Don’t be afraid when sadness, peer pressure, and hard stuff blast at your heart’s fire. Depend on God! 4) *Do everything in love.* Let God’s love spill into the lives of others as you zealously serve them in love. Think about standing firm as we take aim and try to topple these zany-bowling pins.

1. Create one bowling lane for every four girls. Setting this up outside is a great option!
2. Divide the girls into teams of four and have them take turns counting how many times it takes for them individually or as a team to knock down all ten “pins” or have a counselor at each lane keeping score through traditional bowling rules.

THEME CRAFTS 2019

THEME BANNER PATTERN

God's Word: *I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth* (Revelation 3:15-16).



Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord (Romans 12:11).

Devotional Thought: God clearly tell us in His Word that we should not be lukewarm, but instead should keep our spiritual fervor serving the Lord. The girl represented in this theme logo represents what God wants for our lives. We must feed the fire and live a life of radical, wholehearted passion and enthusiasm for our God!

You will need:

1 yard of white fabric for the background (felt , cotton, moiré or other fabric), 5/8 yard of raspberry fabric (for girls body and words), 1/2 yard of yellow fabric (for flame and circle), 1/2 yard of orange fabric (for flame circle), 5/8 yard of red fabric (for outer circle), 2 1/4 yards iron-on adhesive (Wonder Under or Heat'n Bond), dowel to hang it on, scissors, pattern found in the center of this *Theme Resource Book* (remember to enlarge the pattern 250%)

Theme Banner Pattern Instructions:

Please read all instructions before starting.

Prepare the background: Cut the white fabric to measure 36" x 45". Put a small hem on the two long sides and also hem the bottom. Fold back the top edge and make a casing large enough to fit your dowel through. Stitch. The bottom may be trimmed with fringe or other trim.

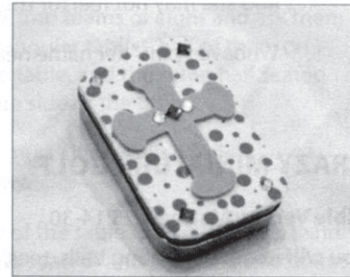
Create the design:

1. Apply the adhesive to the back of the four colored pieces following the manufacturing directions.
2. Cut pattern pieces from the pattern found in the center of this *Theme Resource Book* after you have enlarged it 250%.
3. Trace patterns to the paper side of the adhesive. Be sure to reverse the pattern pieces when tracing, and to trace the correct pieces on the correct color of fabric. Cut out all the pieces.

4. Remove the paper backing from all the banner pieces, and place them on the background fabric like it is pictured, starting with the circles. Fuse these in place.
5. Next add the flame.
6. Now add the girl's body and fuse into place. Be careful of her hair!
7. Next add the theme words and fuse to the banner.
8. After applying all the pieces add the verses. This can be cut from fabric, written by hand, or printed on your computer using the iron-on transfers that are available.
9. To finish you banner add the year (2010-2011) to the lower right corner.

MINI PRAYER BOXES

God's Word: *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God* (Philippians 4:6).



Devotional Thought: Talking and speaking to God feeds the fire in our hearts because it develops a deeper relationship between God and us. God wants us to pray anytime, anywhere, and about anything. Keep these mini prayer boxes in your desk, under your pillow, or in your backpack. Whenever someone needs prayer or tells you something really wonderful that's going on in his/her life, jot it on a piece of paper within your prayer box and use it to repeatedly give God thanks or to ask Him to meet this person's need.

You will need: empty tins with covers, glue, scissors, a variety of light colored construction paper cut smaller than the tins so the paper can squarely and neatly lay flat in the tins, and items to decorate the tins – stickers, glitter, paints, sequins, gems, beads, etc.

Mini Prayer Boxes Instructions:

1. Decorate the cover of the tin using glue, stickers, glitter, paints, sequins, gems, beads, etc. The girls should put their name somewhere on the tin.
2. Ask the girls to choose four lightly colored construction paper colors. Each color will represent one of the PARTs of prayer: P = Praise, A = Admit, R = Requests, T = Thanks or use the acronym ACTS: A = Adoration, C = Confession, T = Thanksgiving, S = Supplication.

3. On one of the precut pieces of paper the girls should write out their acronym and the color it represents.
Example:
 - a. Praise = Yellow
 - b. Admit = Pink
 - c. Requests = Light Yellow
 - d. Thanksgiving = Light Green
4. Glue the acronym/color sheet on the inside cover of the tin.
5. Place 5-7 paper squares of each color in the tin and commit to using the mini prayer boxes often in the days and weeks ahead.

BIBLE BOOKMARK

God's Word: *I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word (Psalm 119:16).*

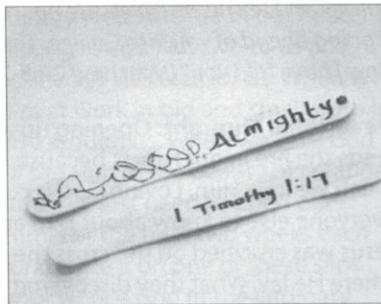
Devotional Thought:

Reading and studying God's Word, the Bible, feeds the fire in our hearts because we learn how God wants us to live. The writer of Psalm 119 (the longest chapter in the Bible) loved God's Word! We can learn so much from this Psalm about how important God's Word should be to us, too. It's important to read your Bible every day. Place one of these Bible Bookmarks in your own Bible and give the other bookmarks to family and friends. Encourage them to read their Bibles every day, too. Talk often about what you're reading and what you're learning.

You will need: tongue depressors or large craft sticks, paints, marker pens, glue, and gems.

Bible Bookmark Instructions:

1. On the front of the craft stick have the girls write a name of God.
2. On the top of the front of the craft stick have the girls glue a gem. Explain that gems are multi-faceted and beautiful, just like God! The more we learn about God the more we discover that there is more to learn!
3. On the back of the craft stick have the girls write the corresponding Scripture verse to the name of God.
4. Decorate the rest of the stick as desired.



5. Have each girl create one Bible Bookmark for herself and multiple Bible Bookmarks to give away.

NAME OF GOD	BIBLE PASSAGE
Almighty	Joel 1:15
Alpha and the Omega	Revelation 22:13
Author of Life	Acts 3:15
Bread of Life	John 6:35
Defender	Proverbs 23:11
Glory	Psalms 106:20
Creator	Ecclesiastes 12:1
God of Peace	1 Thessalonians 5:23
Jesus	Matthew 1:21
King	1 Timothy 1:17

JEANS APRON

God's Word: *Serve one another in love (Galatians 5:13b).*

Devotional

Thought:

God tells us in His Word, the Bible, that we should serve others wholeheartedly, with eagerness, and with love. Serving and loving people is how we serve and love God! Service takes place in many forms and many places – including the kitchen! Tonight (today) we're going to make aprons out of recycled jeans. As we cut and design, be thinking of the people you're going to serve when you wear this. What will you bake? What will you cook? Who will you serve? When you use it let it be a reminder that your service to others must be done with love.

You will need: recycled jeans and a one yard length of gingham ribbon as well as a 12-inch length gingham ribbon for each girl, plus felt scraps, fabric fusion/fabric glue, disappearing fabric marker, measuring tape, scissors, and easy to cut out patterns like hearts, stars, smiley faces, or cupcakes.

Jeans Apron Instructions:

1. Cut legs from jeans.
2. Cut front from jeans so only back pockets piece remains. This is the "front" of the apron.
3. Trace and cut out two easy patterns like hearts, stars, smiley faces, or cupcakes from the scrap pieces. Glue one shape to each pocket.



4. Measure and cut a 2-inch wide felt strip for the apron fringe. Fringe one edge of the strip and glue the opposite edge along the bottom of the apron.
5. Thread the one-yard ribbon length through the belt loops. Glue the edges of the ribbon to the jeans.
6. Tie the 12-inch ribbon length into a bow and glue it on the center front of the belt-looped gingham.

BUTTON BRACELETS

God's Word: *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God (Colossians 3:16).*



Devotional Thought: Interacting with God's people feeds the fire in our hearts because we're able to encourage one another to live God's way. In God's Book, the Bible, God tells us that when we get together with other Jesus followers we should wisely teach and instruct each other and joyfully sing praises to God from grateful hearts. Tonight (today) we're going to connect buttons to make beautiful bracelets. We'll each make two – one for you and one to give away. Tell your friend that it's a reminder of the beautiful things that happen when God's people connect with each other.

You will need: colorful buttons, scissors, elasticized thread cord, metal crimp tubes, and pliers.

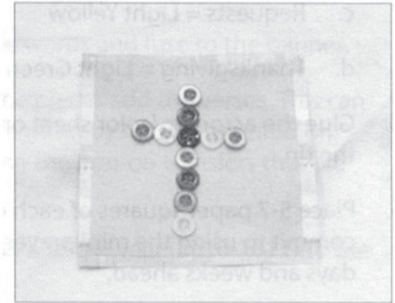
Button Bracelets Instructions:

1. Choose buttons for the bracelet. For each bracelet the buttons should all be the same type. Examples: all 2-hole buttons, all shank (with smooth faces), or all four-hole buttons.
2. Wrap the elasticized cord around the wrist twice and then cut.
3. Two-hole button bracelet: thread cord from back to front and then to the back again.
4. Four-hole button bracelet: thread cord diagonally through two holes on opposite corners.
5. Shank button bracelet: thread cord through shanks, turning every other button upside down to overlap.

6. When enough buttons have been threaded to cover the wrist, thread both ends of cord through a metal crimp tube. Squeeze crimp tube tightly with pliers.
7. Trim excess cord.

CARDS THAT TELL

God's Word: *The angel said to the woman, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you" (Matthew 28:5-7).*



Devotional Thought: Opening up and talking about God feeds the fire in our hearts because it shows God how much we love Him. Loving God is contagious – we'll want everyone else to know about Him and His love, too! After Jesus was crucified on the cross the women went to see where He lay. What they discovered was angels opening up and telling them that Jesus had risen! In turn, the women went and told others, who then told others, and so on and so on. Will you go and tell others, too? These Cards that Tell provide a beautiful way for you to open up and write to someone else about God's love.

You will need: card stock or construction paper, assorted buttons, sewing needle and thread, craft glue, scissors, and a ruler.

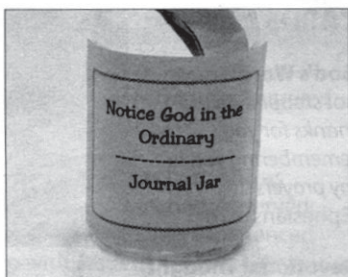
Cards that Tell Instructions:

1. Measure and cut card stock or construction paper into 4-inch squares.
2. Arrange eleven buttons (seven down, five across – the center button is the same) on each square in a cross shape.
3. Use needle to poke holes through the buttonholes on paper square.
4. Remove buttons from the paper and set aside in the same cross shape.
5. Thread needle with sewing thread. Start at center button and attach button on paper square, sewing through the poked holes. When button is secure on the paper, knot ends.
6. Repeat step five with remaining ten buttons.

- Measure and cut a 4 1/2-inch square from card stock or construction paper. Glue stitched cross square on center of larger square.
- On the back of the larger square write a note. Open up and tell this person about God's love.

NOTICE GOD IN THE ORDINARY JOURNAL JAR

God's Word: *You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart (Jeremiah 29:13).*



Devotional Thought:

Noticing God in the ordinary feeds the fire in our hearts because we see Him making Himself known to us and take note of all the tender ways He cares for us. When we seek God we will see Him at work in big and small ways in our lives and in the world around us. When we seek God with all our hearts, we'll see Him in the beauty of creation. God is at work all the time, we just need to open our eyes wide and notice Him! For the next two weeks each time you see God at work, write it on one of these slips of paper and put it in your Notice God in the Ordinary Journal Jar. Let's see how full we can make our jars by being alert and noticing God.

You will need: a quart-canning jar with lid and ring, plus the Notice God in the Ordinary Journal Jar label for each girl, cloth, raffia, glue, scissors, and strips of light, solid-colored paper.



Notice God in the Ordinary Journal Jar Instructions:

- Cut 20 strips of light, solid-colored paper.
- Glue the Notice God in the Ordinary Journal Jar label on the jar.
- Cut a 4-inch square piece of cloth for your jar.
- Put the material under the ring on top of the jar, and tie raffia around the neck of the jar.
- Over the next two weeks, each time you notice God at work in creation or in your life, write it on a slip of paper and add it to the jar.
- At the end of two weeks open the jar with your family or your friends at GEMS and delight in all the ways God has been at work!

FEED THE FIRE CANDLES

God's Word: *You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven (Matthew 5:14-16).*



Devotional Thought: You are the light of the world. When you have a fire of love for God and an eagerness to serve others in your heart, you're like a bright spotlight or raging wildfire. When you are kind to someone who needs a friend, forgive someone who was mean to you, or smile and give an encouraging word to someone who is upset, your light shines and people see Jesus in you. Let's create Feed the Fire Candles as a reminder that when we obey God's Word, the Bible, and follow Jesus' example, we light up the world.

You will need: dull pencil, permanent marker, pillar candle for each girl, watercolor brush, acrylic paints, cotton swabs, and rubbing alcohol.

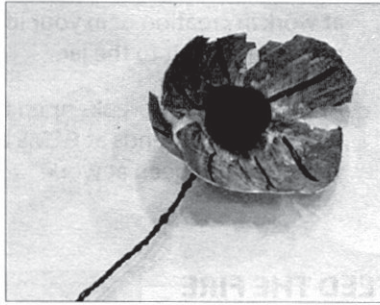
Feed the Fire Candles Instructions:

- Using a marker, draw a simple design on the candle. Examples: "Feed the Fire!", a cross, a heart, or a butterfly.
- Use the point of a dull pencil to copy over the design and etch it into the wax. Don't press too hard, and take your time. Go over the design twice to create a shallow groove that will catch paint.

- Brush paint into the grooves. For best results, dilute the paint as you work by occasionally dipping the paintbrush in water.
- Let the paint set for 5 minutes, then use a cotton swab to remove the excess paint from around the design. If paint doesn't remove easily, dip the cotton swab in rubbing alcohol. (Counselor may be needed if rubbing alcohol needs to be used.)

SPRING BANQUET FLOWERS

These make wonderful centerpieces or place one flower on each plate as a favor during a Mother-Daughter Banquet, Ladies' Tea, or another end-of-year celebration.



God's Word: *Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God (Titus 2:3-5).*

Devotional Thought: Moms, Grandmothers, GEMS counselors, and other women who are older than you have been entrusted with the work of teaching you how to live. By keeping the fire burning brightly in their lives, they are able to teach you to be good, self-controlled, pure, and kind. And some day, He will ask you to do that for girls and women who are younger than you. One of the ways we can honor and thank these women who have taught us about Jesus is by making them gifts for our (year-end event). As we create these beautiful flowers, let's give thanks to God for these women who have taught us about Him.

You will need: eggs, floral wire or pipe cleaners, white glue, tempera paints and brushes, pom-pom (optional).

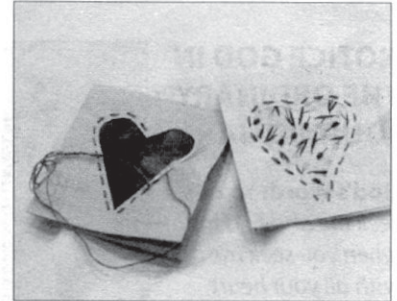
Spring Banquet Flowers Instructions:

- Crack eggs in half, wash eggshells, and let dry. Gently break off eggshell pieces to get a flower shape.
- To make the stem, roll one end of the floral wire into a spiral and glue to the base of the flower.
- Stand flowers upside down for about 30 minutes to allow glue to harden.

- Starting at the center of the egg shell and pulling the brush to the edge, paint strips of color on the flowers.
- If desired, add a pom-pom to the center of the flower.

THANK YOU CARDS

God's Word: *I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers (Ephesians 1:16).*



Devotional Thought:

Who are you thankful for? Some of the people that Paul, a missionary and teacher who wrote many books in the New Testament, was thankful for were the people in the city of Ephesus who loved Jesus. He wrote this to them, *I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers (Ephesians 1:16)*. There's two wonderful ways to say thank you to someone. One is to talk to God and tell Him how thankful you are for this person, and another is to tell that person with words – spoken or written. Tonight (Today) we're going to create beautiful thank-you cards. As you think about the person you're going to thank with this card, give thanks to God for him or her, too!

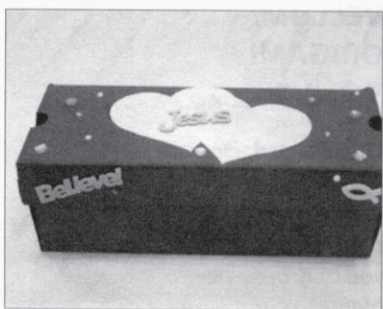
You will need: fabric scraps, cotton embroidery thread, pre-cut 3.5-inch x 5-inch cards or card stock in neutral colors, paper scissors, fabric scissors, clear tape, embroidery needle, an iron and ironing board.

Thank You Cards Instructions:

- Make a 1 ¾-inch heart shaped template out of scrap paper.
- Do this step if you're not using pre-cut 3.5-inch x 5-inch cards: Fold the card in half and center the template. Trace the template onto the card. Cut the heart shape from the card.
- Cut a roughly 2-inch square piece of fabric. If it's wrinkled, iron it.
- Working on the inside of the card, place the fabric right side up on top of the cut out heart.
- Use clear tape to attach the fabric down, making sure that it fully covers the heart cutout.
- With an embroidery needle, make a running stitch around the edge of the heart shape. When finished, tie and snip your ends inside the card and tape them down.
- Write a thank-you note inside.

TREASURE BOXES

God's Word: *But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Then he [Jesus] went down to Nazareth with them [his earthly parents, Joseph and Mary] and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart* (Luke 2:19, 51).



Devotional Thought: When Jesus was born and as He grew, his earthly mother, Mary, watched, observed, and treasured the things she learned and experienced through her relationship with Jesus in her heart. As you learn more and more of God's Word, the Bible, and your relationship with Jesus grows, it's important to treasure the things you're learning and experiencing in your heart, too. We're going to make a Treasure Box together. Use it to collect items that remind you of the things you're learning about God in GEMS, at church, and at home. Maybe you'll put different items in your box that remind you how to feed the fire. Maybe you'll add Scripture verses you memorized or things from God's creation that remind you of His beauty and care.

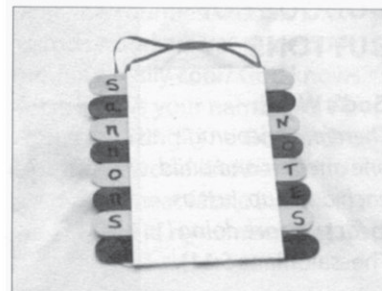
You will need: shoebox for each girl, patterned cardstock, heart template (about 5-inch wide x 5 ¾-inch long) for each girl or the first letter of each girl's name (about 4 ¼-inch side by 6-inch long), jewels, buttons, brads, chipboard flowers, scissors, pencil, black paint, paintbrushes, and glue.

Treasure Box Instructions:

1. Paint shadowboxes or shoeboxes black and let dry.
2. Have each girl pick out her favorite pattern of cardstock and trace the heart or the first letter of her name on the cardstock. Cut out the heart or letter.
3. Glue the cutout heart or letter onto the center of the shoebox lid.
4. Cover the cutout heart or letter with flowers, brads, jewels, buttons, or other fun decorations. Glue items onto the shape.
5. Fill the shoebox with treasures that you collect on nature walks, with your favorite Scripture verses, or cards and notes that you receive from friends and family members.

NOTEPAD HOLDER

God's Word: *I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago* (Psalm 77:11).



Devotional Thought: One of the ways the writer of Psalm 77 kept the fire of his love for God and the zeal to serve others was by remembering. He remembered the things that God had done for him personally and for his nation. He remembered the miracles – the things that only God could do in his life and in the world around him. One of the best ways to end the day is to remember all the good things that God did for you in that day. Gift this Notepad Holder to an elderly relative, a shut-in neighbor, or a teacher. Tell them what you've learned about remembering God's goodness and works.

You will need: one adhesive-back notepad for every three girls, eleven jumbo wooden sticks and 30-inch length of ribbon for each girl, plus wooden alphabet or foam letters that spell out the word "notes" or different first names for each girl, and acrylic paints, glue, paintbrushes, scissors, and rulers.

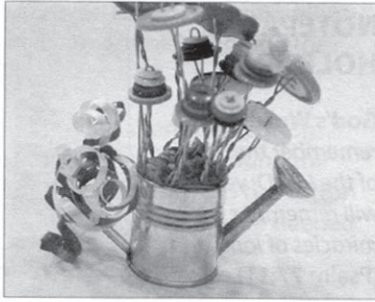
Notepad Holder Instructions:

1. Choose three complimentary paint colors. Use the first color to paint four wooden sticks, the second color to paint four wooden sticks, and the third color to paint wooden alphabet letters that spell the word "notes" or a person's first name (the person they are going to gift this notepad holder to). If using foam alphabet letters, the third paint color and wooden alphabet letters are not needed. Let paint dry.
2. Position the eight painted sticks side by side, every other color.
3. Position three unpainted sticks horizontally across the back of the painted wooden sticks – near the top, in the middle, and near the bottom. Glue the unpainted sticks onto the back of the colored sticks.
4. Glue painted wooden letters or stick foam alphabet letters across the top of the painted wooden square.
5. Divide adhesive-back notepads into thirds allowing one notepad to complete three notebook holders. Glue the back of the adhesive-back notepad to the center of the painted wooden square.
6. For hanger, measure and cut 10-inch ribbon length. Press ribbon ends on back of wooden squares.
7. Measure and cut 20-inch ribbon length. Tie ribbon into bow. Glue bow to top of hanger.

BOUQUET OF BUTTONS

God's Word:

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing (1 Thessalonians 5:11).



Devotional Thought:

Do you know someone who is discouraged, sad, or sick today? Can you think of someone who needs an encouraging card, Scripture verse, a hug, flowers, or maybe even a pull-out-the-confetti-and-noisemakers encouragement party? If you do, don't wait another day to build them up. Prayerfully ask God for the appropriate words and actions to show that you care. Gift them this Bouquet of Buttons and encourage them!

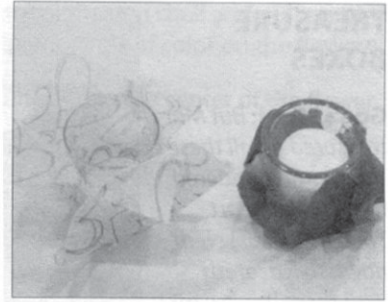
You will need: green floral wire, six to seven colorful buttons per flower, floral foam, mini watering can or other flowerpot-like container, fabric strips, rulers, scissors, and ribbon.

Bouquet of Buttons Instructions:

1. Cut about 17 pieces of green floral wire ranging from six inches to eight inches.
2. Fold each wire in half.
3. Choose six to seven buttons of various sizes. Starting with the smallest button, thread onto each wire.
4. Twist the ends of the wires to secure the buttons into place.
5. Cut the floral foam to fit inside the mini watering can or other flowerpot-like container.
6. Place foam inside of container and top with shredded fabric strips. Arrange the button flowers inside.
7. Tie ribbon around the watering can handle or around the rim of the flowerpot-like container.
8. Gift to someone who is sick, shut-in, or discouraged.

VELLUM/ ORIGAMI VOTIVES

God's Word: *Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe (Philippians 2:14-15).*



Devotional Thought: Philippians 2:14-15 lists some of the ways you can light the way to Jesus. When you choose not to complain or argue, you shine like a star in the universe and light the way to Jesus. When you are blameless and pure, and people cannot find fault in you because of your good choices, you shine brightly and light the way to Jesus! We're going to wrap votive candleholders in pretty paper and you'll see the flame shining through the paper. That's exactly what happens within you when you feed the fire. Jesus shines through you and it lights the way for others to see Jesus!

You will need: rulers, scissors, origami paper or vellum paper can be used, votive candleholders, and double-sided tape.

Vellum/Origami Votives Instructions:

1. Cut paper into a 5 1/8-inch square.
2. Place paper facedown and set a votive candleholder in the middle of the square.
3. Stick a piece of double-sided tape near each corner.
4. Fold up two opposite corners, and fasten to votive candleholder. Repeat with other corners.
5. You will have four flaps. Fold two flaps in toward each other and tape on the undersides. Fold other two flaps in and tape.
6. Use as gifts or for decorations at your year-end celebration at club.

NOTE: May want to use tea lights in the votive candleholders to ensure that the flame doesn't touch the paper. The lights will shine through the paper and look very pretty!

GET WELL TISSUE HOLDER

God's Word: The King said, *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me"* (Matthew 25:35-36, 40).



Devotional Thought: When you serve people by feeding the hungry at a soup kitchen, giving a glass of cold water to a friend, sitting next to a new girl at school, donating your clothes to a mission thrift store, visiting someone who is sick, or praying for those in prison, you're really doing that for Jesus! It's as if you're personally serving Jesus! Can you think of someone who is sick right now? We're going to make Get Well Tissue Holders and you'll put his or her initial on the heart of this holder. As you create it, pray that God will heal this person, and give thanks for the opportunity to serve Jesus by making this gift.

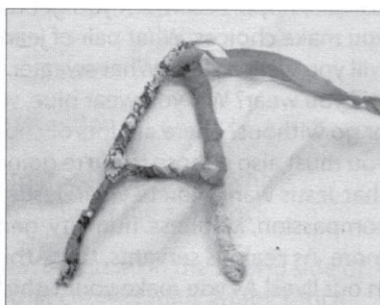
You will need: rulers, pinking shears, felt, embroidery needle and thread, pins, and tissues.

Get Well Tissue Holder Instructions:

1. Using pinking shears, cut a 6 ¼-inch by 4 ¾-inch rectangle out of felt.
2. Fold in edges to meet at center.
3. Sew ends with a running stitch.
4. Cut a small heart out of felt.
5. Embroider with an initial to hold in place.
6. Tuck tissues into the holder.
7. Gift to someone who is sick or in the hospital.

HE KNOWS MY NAME!

God's Word: This is what God says to YOU! *Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine* (Isaiah 43:1b).



Devotional Thought: Of all the countless people that have ever lived, are living today, and are yet to be born, do you want to hear something really cool? God knows your name. He loves you, He knows your name, and He says, "You are mine!" Isn't that amazing? The God and Creator of this awesome and vast world knows you personally. We're going to make a neat fabric initial of your first name. Whenever you see it, remember that God knows your name.

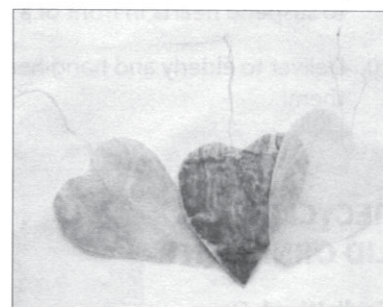
You will need: paper-wrapped floral wire, colorful fabric, scissors, rulers, tacky glue, yarn, charms, fabric flowers, artificial butterflies, gems, or other embellishments.

He Knows My Name! Instructions:

1. Form a cursive letter from a piece of paper-wrapped floral wire about 5 ½-inches tall of the letter of your first name.
2. Cut scraps of fabric into ½-inch-wide strips.
3. Dot tacky glue on one end of the fabric strip and attach it to one end of the wire letter.
4. Start wrapping! When the strip ends, either glue it to the wire and overlap the end of the next strip, or tie the old and new strip together and keep wrapping until the entire letter is covered. Add extra glue to the first and last strip of the letter to secure fabric firmly in place.
5. Once the letter is completely covered, add embellishments, and/or wrap a piece of yarn or two around parts of the letter for decoration.
6. Hang in your bedroom. Give thanks that God knows your name!

HEART SUN CATCHERS

God's Word: Someone asked Jesus, *"Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"* "The most important one," answered Jesus, *"is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these"* (Mark 12:28b-31).



Devotional Thought: The most important and greatest command God gives us can be summed up in one word: LOVE. We must wholeheartedly, passionately, and

zealously love God and love people! It's a love that guides every decision. Before you say or do something, ask the question, "Will this show love to God and love to others?" If it does, good! If it doesn't, stop. Always remember that love is the greatest thing. We're going to show love to elderly people who are shut-in and/or living in nursing homes by creating these heart sun catchers.

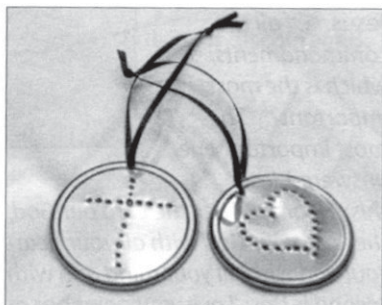
You will need: broken crayons, waxed paper, handheld pencil sharpeners, scissors, silk thread, an iron, and pins.

Heart Sun Catchers Instructions:

1. Remove the paper from the crayons.
2. Fold a 12-inch by 16-inch sheet of waxed paper in half lengthwise; unfold.
3. Using a handheld pencil sharpener, make a thin, even layer of crayon shavings across half of the waxed paper.
4. Fold other half of the waxed paper over the shavings and crimp the three open edges with a 1/2-inch fold to hold in the shavings.
5. **Counselors do this step:** Sandwich the folded waxed paper between two layers of plain brown grocery bag paper to protect the iron and the ironing surface. Set the iron to medium heat and iron lightly. Check often. Stop ironing when all the shavings have melted.
6. Let cool.
7. Cut hearts in various sizes.
8. Use a pin to create a tiny pinhole in the top, center of each heart.
9. Thread the hole with silk thread and tie. Use thread to suspend hearts in front of a sunny window.
10. Deliver to elderly and hang hearts in the window for them!

RECYCLED! TIN LID ORNAMENT

God's Word: *Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will (Romans 12:2).*



Devotional Thought: Seamstresses follow patterns to sew dresses, carpenters follow blueprints to build houses, and students follow the teacher's example to understand math problems. God tell us in His Book, the Bible, that we shouldn't follow the patterns of this world. What do you think the patterns of this world look like? *Listen to responses (may include pride, selfishness, greed, etc.).* Instead we should follow after God's will – His good, pleasing, and perfect will. What do the patterns of God look like? *Listen to responses (may include love, service, humility, etc.).* To make our Tin Lid Ornaments, we need to follow a pattern. As you create, think about your life. Is it closely following the patterns of this world or the pattern set by God?

You will need: juice concentrate or coffee-can lids with smooth edges, nails, hammers, permanent marker pens, and satin cord, yarn, or other material for hanging.

Recycled! Tin Lid Ornament Instructions:

1. Thoroughly wash and dry lids.
2. Choose a simple design and trace it on the lid with a permanent marker pen. Examples: cross, heart, rainbow, or first initials.
3. Take the nail and go around the outline of the pattern, using the hammer to punch a hole.
4. Punch a hole for your hanging cord.
5. Hang on your tree or gift to someone for Christmas.

RECYCLED! T-SHIRT PILLOW

God's Word: *Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience (Colossians 3:12).*



Devotional Thought: What's your favorite shirt to wear? *Listen to responses.* When you get dressed in the morning you make choices. What pair of jeans will you put on or will you wear a skirt? What sweater, sweatshirt, or t-shirt will you wear? Will you wear blue, white, or pink socks or go without? There are lots of choices! Each morning you must also choose if you're going to wear the things that Jesus wants you to wear. Jesus wants us to wear compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, and more. As zealous servants, these things must be evident in our lives! As you make your t-shirt pillows, talk about the attitudes God wants us to wear each day.

You will need: old t-shirts, filling, needle and thread, or craft glue.

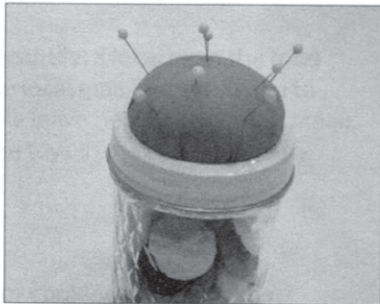
Recycled! T-shirt Pillow Instructions:

1. Ask each girl to bring in an old t-shirt that is in good condition that they no longer wear (may have out grown or accidentally shrunk). Or obtain t-shirts from a thrift-store.
2. Lay the shirt flat on a table.
3. Sew or glue the edges – the armholes and bottom of the shirt. Note: sewing is more durable, but glue makes for a quick craft.
4. Gently stuff the soft fiber filling through the neck hole until shirt is plump and looks good. Other fill options: beans, foam chunks, or old rags.
5. Glue or sew the neck hole closed.
6. Option: Add a couple of buttons or embellishments.

3. Place the band upside down on the table and layer the following items: fabric (right side to the table), cotton balls, and lid.
4. Press the lid down so the cotton balls and fabric from the pincushion on the opposite side of the band. Check to see if fabric lays nice on the pincushion side and adjust fabric as needed. Fold the fabric and hot glue it to the underside of the lid.
5. Trim away excess fabric.
6. Hot glue the cardstock over the fabric edges.
7. Line the band with a small bead of glue and insert the pincushion into it. Press firmly.
8. Add the lid to the jar and your pincushion is ready to be gifted to your favorite seamstress or caregiver.

**RECYCLED!
PINCUSHION**

God’s Word: *In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor (Acts 9:36).*



Devotional Thought: In God’s Word we learn about a very special lady named Dorcas. Dorcas was always doing good and helping the poor. She was a zealous seamstress who helped others by sewing robes and clothing. Sewing was the gift that God gave Dorcas to serve others. What gift has God given you? Here’s a hint: Your answer can’t be, “He didn’t give me a gift!” If you belong to Jesus, He’s given you a gift to serve! As we make pincushions, let’s tell each other the gift that He’s given us to serve and how we use those gifts.

You will need: fabric scraps, scissors, pencils, short canning jars with lids and bands, cotton balls or fiberfill, cardstock, and glue gun.

Recycled! Pincushion Instructions:

1. Use the lid of the jar to trace a circle from the cardstock. Cut the circle out of the cardstock.
2. Use the same lid to trace a circle on the wrong side of your fabric. Increase that circle’s radius about 1-inch and cut out the larger circle.

CRAFT RESOURCES

THE INTERNET

Craftbits – <http://www.craftbits.com>

Look up these terrific crafts: Wire Wrapped Candle, Pipe Cleaner Beaded Necklace, Wreath-Paper Star, Balloon Hair Bows, and Cinnamon Hearts.

Family Fun – <http://familyfun.go.com/arts-and-crafts/>

Check out these fun crafts: Blue-Jean Bag, Friendly Face T-Shirt, Colored Sand Vases, Personalized Flowerpot, Handprint Apron, and Water Bracelets.

Crafts Kaboose – <http://crafts.kaboose.com>

Look for these just-for-fun crafts: Water Bottle Holder, Camp Memory Box, Camp Diorama Box, Diamond Braid Lanyard Keychain, and Ball Catchers.

Family Corner – http://www.familycorner.com/dir/Family/Kids/Kids_Crafts/

Log on and look for these fun-to-make crafts: A Priceless Gift, Bandana Covered Notebook, Bubble Frame, Cardboard Tube Campfire & Marshmallows (may make cute centerpieces at a year-end *Feed the Fire!* Banquet), and Camouflaging Coffee Cans.

BOOKS

Earth Smart Crafts: Transform Toss-away Items into Fun Accessories, Gifts, Room Décor & More! (American Girl)

This book encourages girls to make fun and trendy wearables, decorations, and gifts out of old clothes, junk mail, soup cans, cereal boxes, and more.

Backcountry Betty – Crafting with Style: 40 Nature-Inspired Projects by Jennifer Worick and Kate Quinby.

This craft book is designed to bring the outdoors in! The quick, easy, and sustainable projects are made from typical things found on a nature hike: bark, pinecones, rocks, flowers, feathers, and more.

Craft Fun with Sondra by Sondra Clark.

This book contains over fifty-five arts and crafts projects that include Wacky Wind Chimes, Floppy Fashion Hats, Stained Glass Elegant Vases, Beautiful Button Cards, and more.

If you appreciate the ideas at familyfun.com, you'll treasure the creative projects included in this book. They include bulletin boards, calendars, a Butterfly Garden, Hand-painted Welcome Mat, Height Chart, and more.