

# Youth Camp Activities

## Pre-Service Games:

### Bring Me This

This is a great crowd icebreaker with no resources needed. Simply ask the crowd to bring you an item within 10 seconds. The first one to reach your hand on the stage is the winner. Start small with a paperclip, piece of gum, etc. Grow to some harder ones like a toenail, a broken shoelace, a toothbrush. Land on the hardest and funniest ones: a beard hair from your pastor, a laptop, something that weighs at least 50 pounds that isn't a human being, etc. Get creative with your suggestions!

### Smelly Coke Chug

Ask for brave souls that are confident that NOTHING could disgust them. Middle Schoolers will rise to the occasion. Take off your sock and put it over a room temperature coke can. Rally and rouse the crowd and get a countdown ready. Right before the countdown, ask each person to pass their coke and sock combo to the person on their left. Countdown & go! Have trashcans nearby for vomit from participants or the audience!

### Impossible Shot

Tape a small bucket (painters buckets at Wal mart spray painted gold) to a difficult-to-reach place. Allow students to attempt "the impossible shot" by hitting ping pong balls in with wiffle bats, hacky-sacks while blindfolded, etc. Make the shot someone doable, but also statistically impossible. Offer MASSIVE rewards to bait them into the glory of making the shot! (But also be prepared on the off chance that a student makes it on a fluke — don't offer your car without being ready to give it away...)

### Rap Battle

Play an instrumental beat (make sure it's completely clean) off youtube and invite your hottest lyricists to the stage. Give them things like a Dr. Seuss book, strange verses from Leviticus or the genealogy of Jesus from Matthew 1, or anything that would be difficult and hilarious to rap. You can play this 1 on 1 or tournament style.

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## Recreation Activities:

### Ultimate Tug-o-War

Get a long rope that will fit at least half of your student body on both ends of the rope. In the middle, have a very large tarp with a disgusting mix of foods. We recommend mixing things like mustard, mayo, ketchup, a large amount of spaghetti noodles (with sauce if you can), and add any number of things to make it vomit-inducing disgust. Simply have the students play tug-o-war until the losing team falls into the mess you've created. You can play one on one, but if the group size allows, we recommend tournament style.

### Staff vs Student Dodgeball

Invest in a handful of rubber or foam balls (or a mix) to host a dodgeball game with. Host in a field or a gym with boundaries set. You can play when you're hit you're out, or when you catch a ball, one player can return to the game. Have a few referees to discourage cheating on both sides. Play a few rounds split into teams, but make the main event the staff vs. students. The competition will be electric as students and staff talk complete smack to each other. This easily will become a yearly tradition for you.

### Mega Water Slide

If budget allows, invest in a 20'x100' plastic sheet (10 mil thickness) on a slight decline. Have hoses and sprinklers constantly going, but make sure you are constantly using baby oil to keep up slickness. You can add jello, bubbles, soap suds, water guns on the side, etc. to flair it up. This can be an amazing activity element to use in a game, or can operate incredibly as a stand-alone activity. It's relatively cheap (estimated \$200-300) and nothing sounds cooler than "100 foot water slide".

### Kickball Chaos

This game lives up to its name: it is complete chaos. Make sure you know the rules well before attempting! This game is divided into five teams. Four teams are "at bat" and only one team is in the outfield. Each team will be at their unique home plate, playing their own game of kickball for 15 minutes. At the end of the timer, each team rotates to the right. Pick one "home base" team to rotate to the outfield. Once every team has played defense, add up all the points each team earned in each 15 minute interval. The team with the most points wins. There is not one focus team on offense for the defense. The defense is trying to get all four teams out at once.

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The field should be set up like the diagram below into four unique fields, all sharing 2nd base. Each base should be a regular kiddie pool, while 2nd base should be a larger inflatable pool that can handle a lot of people. Fill each pool with either water or Jell-o (for added fun).

