

FUN NIGHT IDEAS

The Big Little Car Race Night

Basic Overview:

The Big Little Car Race Night is a night filled with racing events. The cars used for most of the events are matchbox or Hot Wheels cars that the children bring in from home. Due to the number of things you do on this night, there is no room for a verse time or a game time (although it is really like one big game time throughout the night). Because of that, this night is ideal as an end of the year event for after you have placed your order for your awards but before your actual award's ceremony occurs.

Choose from the various events in the pages below and have a blast. Leaders and kids really get into this night!

Additional Ideas:

Put up racing flags and even perhaps get some of the parents involved in this night as well.

Reminder Flyer:

See the flyer on the next page.

Remember, next week is...

THE **BIG** LITTLE CAR RACE NIGHT



Start your engines and don't forget to bring a matchbox or hot wheels car with you for our special race night next week. Special prizes will be given to the winners of each of the four different racing events. Feel free to bring an extra car to share with a friend. We will have some extra cars for those who do not have one. There will not be any time to say verses.



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The BIG ‘little car’ Race

Instructions sheet - for Leaders



Staffing for the Night – (this is where I need you to be)

We will be creating the following teams during opening time next week. Once we have divided up, please assist the team you are with to each of the events of the night. The teams are as follows:

- Red Team –
 - This team is made up of half of all of the 1st-3rd graders there that night and half of the 1st-3rd grade leaders. (For example if there are 50 1st-3rd graders present that night this team would be made up of 25 of children).
- Blue Team –
 - This team is made up of the other half of the 1st-3rd graders and 1st-3rd grade leaders. (For example, again if there are 50 1st-3rd graders present that night this team would be made up of the other 25 children)
- Green Team –
 - This team is made up of half of all of the 4th-6th graders there that night and half of the 4th-6th grade leaders. (For example, if there are 50 4th-6th graders present that night this team would be made up of 25 of children).
- Yellow Team –
 - This team is made up of the other half of the 4th-6th graders and 4th-6th grade leaders. (For example, again if there are 50 4th-6th graders present that night this team would be made up of the other 25 children)

Schedule for the Night:

	Station 1 <i>The Runway</i> (Room #)	Station 2 <i>The Pit Stop</i> (Room #)	Station 3 <i>The Speedway</i> (Room #)	Station 4 <i>The Cliff</i> (Room #)	Station 5 <i>Lesson Time</i> (Room #)
6:55 – 7:10	Opening Time / Explanation of race events – location: Gym				
7:10 - 7:20	Red Team	Blue Team	-----	-----	Yellow & Green
7:20 – 7:30	Blue Team	Red Team	-----	-----	Yellow & Green
7:30 – 7:40	-----	-----	Yellow Team	Green Team	Red & Blue
7:40 – 7:50	-----	-----	Green Team	Yellow Team	Red & Blue
7:50 – 8:00	Yellow Team	Green Team	Red Team	Blue Team	-----
8:00 – 8:10	Green Team	Yellow Team	Blue Team	Red Team	-----
8:10 – 8:30	Awards Time / Skit Time – Location: Gym				
8:30 -	Dismissal – Location: Room 108				

Racing Event Ideas

- **Idea 1 – The Runway Event** - Pick out two straight lines that run side by side down the gym floor. The children will line up and go one at a time. They will kneel down and push their car. The goal is for their car to stay in between those two lines on the floor all the way down the track. The car that goes the furthest between the two lines before it veers off is the winner. I need a first, second, and third place winner.
- **Idea 2 – The Pit Stop Event** - Make a target on the floor on one end of the gym (either out of tape or drawn on a large piece of paper). The children will line up and go one at a time. They will kneel down and push their car. The goal is to push their car so that it stops as close to the center of the bull's-eye as possible. The top three closest to the center are the winners. I need a first, second, and third place winner.
- **Idea 3 – The Speedway Event** - This is a basic race down a pine wood derby car track or hot wheels race track. Play several rounds so that all of the cars race. The winners of each race make the next round and the fastest car out of all of them is the winner. I need a first, second, and third place winner.
- **Idea 4 – The Cliff Event** - Take an 8 ft. folding table and prop one of the legs up with 3-4 textbooks so that the whole table sits at an angle. The idea is to stand at the end of the table that is not propped up and roll your car up toward the propped up edge. The goal is to get your car to stop the closest to the edge without going over. Maybe they get 2-3 attempts and you mark the one who got the closest with a piece of scotch tape. I need a first, second, and third place winner.
- **Idea 5 - The Parking Garage Event** - Several small boxes (shoe box size) are set up. The top is removed from all of them, the bottom of the box is then flipped over and one side is cut off so that it looks like a garage. The kids will stand 10 -20 feet away and try to push their car inside one of the boxes. Each garage (or box) is worth a different amount of points. The one who pushes their car into the garage worth the most points wins. You may have to play extra rounds to get a winner.
- **Idea 6 - The Finish Line Event** - A strip of tape is set up as a finish line. The kids stand a ways away and push their cars at the finish line. The goal is to be the one whose car stops the closest to the finish line.
- **Idea 7 - The Car Pile Up Event** - A clear box, jar, or plastic bag full of cars is set on a table and the kids write their name and a guess as to how many cars they think are in the bag, box or jar on a piece of paper. The one who gets the closest to the right number of cars in the bag is the winner.
- **Idea 8 - Spare Tire Change Event** – This is a play off pin the tail on the donkey. In this case you are a pit crew trying to change out a tire. With a blind fold on you put the tire where you think it should go on the car. The one who pins their tire closest to the right spot on the car is the winner.
- **Idea 9 - Collision Course Event** - Stack some cups either up in a pyramid or on the ground in the pattern of bowling pins and have them roll their cars and see how many they can knock over. The winner is the one who knocks over the most.

The BIG “little car” Race

Race Night Lesson



1 Corinthians 9:24 - Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

How many of you have ever watched a race? May be it was an Olympic runner, a race car speeding around the track, a boat, a plane, or even some friends at school. No matter what race you watched, the goal of a race is always the same...to win the race. Many things go into winning a race. Hopefully you have a car tonight that has done well and will do well in the rest of the races. The Bible says that Christians are also in a race...the race of the Christian life. There are four things that we will talk about tonight that will help a runner to be successful in the Christian race.

During our lesson tonight we are going to have some little races. Here is how the race works...as we go along I will suddenly just say “someone who has two eyes...GO”, or “someone who has on white socks...GO” and the first person to stand up who has that stuff will get a piece of candy. Pay careful attention you never know when I will call these out.

- **The Picture** – In order to win the race, there are four things that a runner will need.
- **A runner needs to be fit** – (Hebrews 12:1)
 - Can you imagine looking at the starting line of an Olympic race and seeing a sumo wrestler getting ready to race? Runners spend months or years getting ready for a race. They carefully train, practice, eat the right foods, and stay away from anything that would slow them down or make them fat. They also find shorts, a shirt, and shoes that are light and don’t get in the way when they run. In building a racecar, the mechanics use the lightest things and put in the best oil and gas to make the car run best. Any racer will tell you that they want to get rid of anything that will slow them down.
 - *Bible Application:* A fit runner does two things to prepare for the race:
 - **Get rid of things that weigh you down** – (Hebrews 12:1)
“...Lay aside every weight...” – Weights are the thing that slow you down. It would be silly to try and run a race with a refrigerator sitting on your back, instead you want get rid of anything that will make you slower. Weights in the Christian life may not be bad things, but they slow down the runner in the race. Some examples of weights for a Christians may be things like activities that take up too much of our time (video games or sports), the toys and things that we have or want, or the desire to just take it easy in life.
 - **Watch out for things that may trip you up** - (Hebrews 12:1)
“...and the sin which so easily besets us...” – Sins are the things that trip us up. Have you ever worn your mom or dad’s shoes around the house? They are hard to walk in and sometimes make you trip. It would be silly to try to run a

race with your parent's shoes on or with your shoes untied, instead you want to steer clear of anything that will make you fall and make you lose a couple of steps. The Bible in a number of places talks about "falling into sin." A person who is constantly tripping will not win a race. Each Christian has their own sins that they fight against. A good runner is one who stays away from those sins that trip them up as they run their race.

▪ **Someone who has an Expeditions shirt on... "GO"**

○ **A runner needs to be fast** – (1 Corinthians 9:24, Hebrews 12:1)

- What would you think if the gun went off and you saw one of the runners walking down the track? You would say, "Get with it! Run!" From the moment the gun sounds, the runner must go as fast as he can if he expects to win. You never see people walking or jogging down the track in the Olympics. They do their best and give it their all. They run as fast as they can and they pace themselves to make sure they run through the entire race.
- *Bible Application:* A fast runner does two things as they run the race:
 - **Runs strong** – (1 Corinthians 9:24) "...they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain." – They know that others are running the race and they do their best and give it their all to be the one that comes in first place. You don't become a pro-basketball player by wearing a uniform, you become a pro by practicing. A Christian must read their Bible and work on loving the way that they should and living like Jesus said that they should. It takes work and effort, but the Christian puts in the effort so that they can be considered a winner in the Christian race.

▪ **Someone who is _____ (7 or 10) years old... "GO"**

- **Runs steady** – (Hebrews 12:1) – "...let us run with patience the race that is set before us." It is a long race...a life-long marathon. The pace must be steady as well as strong. A Christian must be steady as they run it. You need to be daily reading God's word, weekly going to church, giving, praying and helping others. It doesn't happen overnight...it is not a sprint. It is daily doing the things that you should do to grow as a Christian. Taking one step at a time.

○ **A runner needs to be focused** – (Philippians 3:13-14, Hebrews 12:2)

- At times during a race a runner might fall, or someone may yell at them from the sidelines. Some races in history have even been lost because the person in first place looked over his shoulder to see how close the next runner behind him was. When he turned his head to look the other runner moved into first place. If a runner is going to win the race, he cannot be distracted by the other runners, or people in the sidelines or quit if he falls during the race.

▪ **Someone who is sitting in a chair... "GO"**

- *Bible Application:* A focused runner does two things as they run the race:

▪ **Someone who has an a in their name... "GO"**

- **Forgetting what is behind** - *(Philippians 3:13) "...this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before..."* -
 - Forget the failures - Christians sometimes sin, but the Bible says that a just man falls seven time and gets up yet again. Just because you sinned, don't quit. You need to get up, ask for forgiveness and get back into the race. A focused runner forgets about the failures that he had earlier in the race and continues running.
 - Forget the successes – What would you think if your were watching a race that went 4 laps around a track. After the first lap the runner who was in first place ran over to the sideline and grabbed his country's flag and started waiving it? You would say get back out there and finish! Just because you have run well so far in your Christian life, doesn't mean that you can sit and just relax the rest of the race. A focused runner forgets about the successes that he had earlier in the race and continues running.
- **Focusing on what is ahead** – *(Philippians 3:14) "...I press toward the mark..." (Hebrews 12:2) "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith"*. A winner looks ahead at the finish line and doesn't let anything on the sidelines distract him. The more you know about Jesus by reading the Bible and the more you think about your future home of heaven, the easy it is not to get distracted with the things of this world.
- **A runner needs to be familiar** - (Matthew 7:22-23)
 - Pretend that you are watching a race that is 5 laps around the track. On the last lap, someone from the stands jumps up and runs out onto the track ahead of everyone else and runs across the finish line. The judges would say that person is not the winner because they weren't one of the contestants...they weren't on the approved list of runners. You cannot win a race if you are not one of the runners.
 - *Bible Application:* A familiar runner is one that the judge knows is in the race:
 - **A runner must be known by the judge or their running is worthless** - (Matthew 7:22-23) - *Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.* I wonder how many people will get to heaven someday who went to say a catholic church, or who read their Bible, or who gave money to the poor, or who tried to be loving toward others, and the Lord will say to them, "You can't be here, I don't know you." There is a difference between knowing about someone and knowing someone. I know about President George Bush, but I don't know him and he doesn't know me. Now I know my friends and I know my children. Have you asked Jesus to save you or will God someday say to you...I'm sorry but you have to go to the lake of fire, because I don't know you, you are not on my list (the Lamb's book of Life).

- A runner must be **fit** and get rid of other things in their life that slow them down or trip them up as a Christian.
- A runner must be **fast** and do the things that they are supposed to do to grow as a Christian like reading their Bible and going to church and they do it every day.
- A runner must be **focused** and forget about what already happened in the race and keep their eyes on Jesus.
- A runner must be **familiar** to the judge or their running was worthless

Someone who can say the 4 F's... "GO"

EXPEDITIONS – Big Little Car Race Night

What is the name of your race event?

Blue and Red Team (1st-3rd Grade) winners:

1. _____

2. _____

Yellow and Green Team (4th-6th Grade) winners:

1. _____

2. _____

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