

awana parent orientation guide

Awana Parent Orientation Guide

The Awana program is a popular international youth ministry focused on engaging children in biblical learning and fostering spiritual growth through games, activities, and scripture memorization. For parents, understanding how Awana works and how you can best support your child's participation is essential. This Awana Parent Orientation Guide aims to equip you with the necessary information to ensure a successful experience for both you and your child.

What is Awana?

Awana stands for "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed" and is designed for children aged 2 to 18. The program emphasizes the importance of memorizing scripture, learning biblical truths, and developing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Awana operates in churches around the world, providing a structured environment where children can grow spiritually while having fun and making friends.

The Awana Structure

The Awana program is typically divided into age-appropriate clubs, each with its own curriculum and activities:

1. Cubbies (Ages 3-5): Introduces preschoolers to Bible stories and basic Christian principles through engaging activities.
2. Sparks (Grades K-2): Focuses on building a foundation in biblical knowledge, encouraging memorization of scripture and engaging in fun games.
3. T&T (Truth & Training) (Grades 3-6): Offers deeper biblical study and emphasizes the importance of applying biblical principles in daily life.
4. Trek (Grades 7-8): Prepares middle schoolers for high school by challenging them with deeper theological concepts and life application.
5. Journey (Grades 9-12): Focuses on high school students, guiding them to own their faith and prepare for adulthood.

Getting Started with Awana

As parents, your involvement and support are crucial for your child's successful participation in Awana. Here's how you can get started:

1. Register Your Child

The first step is to register your child for Awana. This usually involves filling out a registration form, which can be found on your church's Awana page or provided during orientation. Make sure to include:

- Your child's name, age, and grade level.
- Emergency contact information.
- Any allergies or special needs your child may have.

2. Attend Orientation

Most Awana programs offer an orientation session for parents at the beginning of the year. This session is an excellent opportunity for you to learn about the program, meet the leaders, and ask questions. Key topics discussed typically include:

- Overview of Awana's mission and values.
- Explanation of weekly schedules, events, and activities.
- Information on how parents can get involved.

3. Understand the Curriculum

Awana uses a structured curriculum designed to engage children with scripture. Familiarize yourself with the materials and resources your child will be using, including:

- Handbooks: Each club has a handbook that outlines the lessons and scripture verses your child will be working on.
- Workbooks: Additional resources for activities and quizzes that reinforce the lessons.
- Leader Guides: Resources provided to Awana leaders that detail how to teach and manage club meetings.

Supporting Your Child's Awana Journey

Your encouragement and involvement can significantly enhance your child's experience in Awana. Here are several ways to support them:

1. Engage with the Materials

Make it a habit to review your child's handbook and workbooks together. This can include:

- Reading through the lessons.
- Practicing memory verses.
- Discussing the Bible stories and their meanings.

2. Encourage Scripture Memorization

Memorizing scripture is a core part of the Awana program. Here are some tips to help your child memorize verses effectively:

- Repetition: Encourage your child to repeat the verse multiple times.
- Visual Aids: Use flashcards or colorful posters to make learning fun.
- Games: Create games around memorization to make it more interactive.

3. Attend Club Nights

Make an effort to attend Awana club nights regularly. Your presence shows your child that you value their spiritual growth. During these nights, you can:

- Observe activities and understand how lessons are taught.
- Meet other parents and build a community.
- Offer assistance to leaders if needed.

4. Participate in Special Events

Awana programs often host special events such as:

- Family Nights: Opportunities for families to join in the fun and learn together.
- Awards Ceremonies: Celebrate your child's accomplishments and encourage spiritual growth.
- Service Projects: Help instill the value of serving others and being involved in the community.

Communicating with Awana Leaders

Establishing a relationship with your child's Awana leaders can enhance your family's experience. Here's how to maintain open lines of communication:

1. Share Your Concerns

If you have any concerns regarding your child's participation or progress, don't hesitate to reach out to the leaders. They can provide insights and assistance tailored to your child's needs.

2. Volunteer

Consider volunteering in the Awana program. Whether you can help with games, snacks, or teaching, your involvement not only benefits the program but also demonstrates to your child the importance of

community service.

3. Stay Informed

Stay updated on Awana announcements, events, and changes. Subscribe to newsletters, join social media groups, or check the church bulletin for timely information.

Conclusion

The Awana Parent Orientation Guide is designed to help you navigate your child's experience in this enriching program. By understanding the structure of Awana, actively participating in your child's learning, and maintaining open communication with leaders, you can significantly contribute to their spiritual development. Embrace this opportunity to grow alongside your child and foster a lifelong faith journey together.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the Awana Parent Orientation Guide?

The Awana Parent Orientation Guide aims to inform parents about the Awana program, its goals, structure, and how they can support their children's spiritual growth within the program.

What age groups does the Awana program cater to?

Awana serves children from preschool age through high school, typically ranging from ages 2 to 18, with specific programs designed for different age brackets.

How can parents get involved in the Awana program?

Parents can get involved by volunteering as leaders or helpers, participating in events, and supporting their children with homework and scripture memorization.

What resources are included in the Awana Parent Orientation Guide?

The guide typically includes information on program structure, a calendar of events, tips for supporting children's learning, and details on the importance of scripture memorization.

How does Awana promote spiritual growth in children?

Awana promotes spiritual growth through engaging activities, scripture memorization, Bible lessons, and mentorship from leaders, all aimed at building a strong foundation in faith.

Are there specific expectations for parents in the Awana program?

Yes, parents are encouraged to regularly attend orientation sessions, support their children's participation, and reinforce learning at home through discussions and practice.

What should parents know about the Awana curriculum?

Parents should know that the Awana curriculum is designed to be engaging and age-appropriate, focusing on biblical teachings, learning scriptures, and applying faith in everyday life.

How can parents track their child's progress in Awana?

Parents can track their child's progress by reviewing achievement books, attending parent meetings, and staying in communication with Awana leaders about their child's development.

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