



Dear Sparks Parents,

The 2017-18 AWANA year is here, and we are excited to partner with you in teaching your child the truths found in God's Word! Here are few things to keep in mind throughout the year.

- ❖ Club starts at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m. You will drop your child off and pick them up in the sanctuary. They should bring their vest, handbook, and Bible each week to club.
- ❖ We will be using the 3 count in Awana for any discipline issues that may arise. The goal of leaders is to teach self-discipline in a loving way. The 3 count is as follows: 1-verbal warning, 2-separating your child from the activity/group for a short time, 3-removal of your child from their group until the end of club, at which time you'll be notified.
- ❖ Each quarter, your child will earn a blue jewel for their wings, if they haven't missed more than one club night. Sickness or extenuation circumstances are excused, but please let your child's leader know through a note or by speaking with them. Vacations and sports are not excused.
- ❖ All Kindergartners and new clubbers to Sparks will complete the "Flight 3:16" booklet before starting their handbook. They can go through by section or say all of John 3:16 at one time to complete this.
- ❖ Sparkies move through their handbooks at their own pace, but sections must be completed in order. The only exceptions are the "Bring a Friend" and "Missionary" sections. The goal is to complete one handbook each year. Kids are encouraged to do their best. There are 40 sections in each Sparks' handbook. Sparks handbooks teach kids the major people and events in the Bible in chronological order.
- ❖ If your child has a friend that they can bring to club to complete their "Bring a Friend" section, that is great! However, we'll also be providing at least one alternate opportunity for your child to complete that section in their handbook. A handout will be sent home detailing this later. Your child's leader also has a list of alternative activities to help your child complete this section, if needed.
- ❖ Your child will receive 2 helps, if needed, for each section they complete. This includes knowing the scripture reference (John 3:16). If they are unable to complete a section with the 2 helps, they'll be asked to continue to study and try the following week. If there are any special circumstances that would affect your child's ability to memorize or recite scripture, please let your child's group leader know. We want to help in whatever way we can to encourage your child in their study of scripture.
- ❖ In the back of your child's handbook, you'll see what awards your child will earn throughout the year as they complete sections and also where those awards go on their uniform. Also, there is a helpful CD that includes all of the Sparks' stories and verses. Some Sparks CD's have pdf versions of each story that kids can access as well. Each CD has a "Books of the Bible" song that can help your child complete those sections. To attach emblems and patches to uniforms, just iron them on.

I look forward to seeing what God has in store for us, and what He will accomplish in the lives of our clubbers this year. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to talk to me! I am here to help and look forward to partnering with you to help your child develop their God-given potential to SEEK Him diligently, SERVE Him faithfully and SHARE Him boldly, which is what AWANA is all about!

Sincerely,
Erin Stucky, AWANA Director
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(Please turn over to see the Sparks calendar! →)