



PARENT HANDBOOK

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OVERVIEW OF AWANA

WHAT IS AWANA?

In Woodmen Kids, we love teaching God's word in a fun and safe environment. Awana is a structured program that provides Scripture-rich experiences to help kids (3 years old through high school) know, love and serve Christ. Each week the kids participate in enriching Bible lessons, fun games and powerful scripture memorization alongside loving volunteer Ministry Partners who serve as Leaders and Club Directors.

While the overall foundation of Awana is consistent within each age group, there are some key factors that distinguish the different clubs. Our Cubbies club rotates through many more Preschool-oriented activities while our High School students spend more time praying and digging into their small group lesson.

Overall, each Awana club at Woodmen is designed to provide a scripture-rich experience that strives to meet kids where they're at and provides an opportunity for them to learn about Jesus while memorizing powerful Bible verses.

WHEN IS AWANA?

Awana at Woodmen meets Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:45pm during the school year at our Rockrimmon, Woodmen Heights, and Monument campuses.

HOW MUCH DOES AWANA COST?

The Awana registration fee is \$55 per participant to help cover the cost of entrance booklets, awards, flyers, and supplies. In addition, each participant must purchase uniforms and books separately during online registration or from our Supply Store.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY CHILD FOR AWANA?

Please visit woodmenvalley.org/awana to complete our online registration for each participant.

WHAT TIME AND WHERE DO I GO FOR AWANA?

Secretaries and Leaders are available to help check-in and accept children at their designated locations starting at 6:00pm. Please try to have all children to their classrooms before we start club promptly at 6:15pm.

Each club (age group) has a designated "drop off" location on Wednesday nights. These specific details are listed on the child's check-in tags.

AWANA CLUB LEADERSHIP

AWANA LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW

Here at Woodmen, we are blessed to have both staff and volunteers involved with our Awana program every week. Our Woodmen Kids Director oversees the entire Awana program (at all campuses) and our Elementary & Awana Coordinator runs the program at each campus along with other Woodmen Kids staff members. We also have hundreds of volunteers that serve in a variety of leadership roles within Awana.

WHAT IS A CLUB DIRECTOR?

For each club (age group) in Awana, we have (volunteer) Club Directors who oversee the leaders, kids and program every Wednesday night. These Club Directors work hard during the week to make sure each classroom has enough leaders, address behavior concerns and make sure each club runs smoothly during Awana.

Your Club Director is a great resource for you! If you have questions, concerns or would like to get more involved in your child's Awana experience, please talk with your child's Club Director!

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

There are lots of people excited to come alongside your family in your Awana experience! We want to provide the best experience possible, so it's important to know who to contact in case of questions or concerns.

For general questions about Awana or registration, please contact your campus Awana Coordinator. If you have questions specific to your child's club experience, please contact their Club Director. See all contact info on page 11.

GENERAL CLUB INFO



SNOW POLICY

We do not follow D20 or any other school district's closures for Awana. We will make our own determination by 3pm on the day of Awana and the announcement will be posted on our website (woodmenvalley.org). We will also do our best to send an email and/or text.

3 COUNT - DISCIPLINE

The three-count is used to discipline a misbehaving clubber. Each clubber starts the night with a clean slate.

1 count - Leader gives child a warning

2 counts - Clubber has a discussion with the Director about the discipline problem

3 counts - Clubber spends rest of night with Director and talks to parents after club

HANDBOOK COMPLETION

In Woodmen Kids, we are passionate about helping kids dive into scripture! Awana is an exciting opportunity for kids to learn scripture in a fun and encouraging environment. While we understand the different learning levels of children, we encourage kids to complete ONE handbook per year. This helps them stay on track if they are working toward their Citation Award! Ultimately, though, our desire is that kids would really hide these scriptures in their heart so they can help guide them throughout their life!



CLUB UNIFORMS

At Awana, uniforms are an important part of our program. Not only does it provide a sense of belonging for the Leaders and kids, but it also helps us easily identify each member of our program and the group they serve or attend. We ask our clubbers AND Leaders to wear their uniforms each week at club.

In addition, we encourage all clubbers to wear tennis shoes or other running type shoes in order to safely participate during Game time.

GENERAL CLUB INFO (CONTINUED)



AWARDS

In each club, we have an award system that celebrates the little milestones clubbers achieve throughout their book. At the end of the year, we present our major awards for book completion and to celebrate the hard work of all clubbers! If a child completes 10 years of work in Awana (T&T, Trek, Journey), they receive their Citation Award. This is a MAJOR accomplishment for students and can even qualify a student for college scholarships!

Awards can act like a progress-tracking system for a child. They can celebrate victories along the way during their discipleship journey towards learning more about God and His Word.

When a child in an Awana program earns his or her next achievement emblem or award for completed work, it is a way for them to see that they have made progress and to feel celebrated. This doesn't have to mean that they are doing the work for the sake of a reward, but rather that the award helps them mark the work they have done. Outwardly visible prizes, like emblems or stickers, cannot compare in value to the inwardly evident work of discipleship a child engages in, but they can help a child have a visible sense of progress.

Kids are concrete thinkers, so by giving them something tangible for the work that they have done investing in their spiritual growth, we help them see the invisible. Though we can't expect them to make this connection every time, we can encourage them in this direction as we give awards and celebrate the invisible reality behind the visible reward.

ROTATIONS

In each club, groups rotate together through various activities. Leaders are responsible for shepherding kids through each activity while the person in charge leads the activity. Each age rotates as following:

Cubbies - Snack & Handbook verses, Games, Story, Music, Craft

Sparks & T&T - Handbook/Small Group, Games, Large Group

Trek & Journey - Bible Study & Handbook, Games, LIT Time (leader in training)

PARENT REQUIREMENTS

WHAT IS PARENT NIGHT?

During the beginning of the Awana year, we invite parents to attend Parent Night (see Club Calendar for specific date). This is an important opportunity for you to experience club with your child, learn about your role within your child's Awana experience, and understand what you can do to help your child be successful throughout the year.

Please plan to attend Parent Night!

PARENTS REQUIRED TO SERVE AT LEAST ONCE

All parents are required to serve once throughout the club year. You may be asked to serve in a different area than where your child participates. Having parent volunteers helps us to ensure our classrooms are staffed and we're able to maintain our ratios each week.

SPECIAL NIGHTS

WHAT ARE SPECIAL NIGHTS AND WHO PARTICIPATES?

Throughout the club year, we have "Special Nights" to help kids have fun and engage more with their Awana experience. These Special Nights are optional but we encourage all clubbers AND Leaders to participate in this fun time! Some examples of these nights include: Team Color Night, SOUPer Hero Night, Love Your Leader Night, etc.

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN SPECIAL NIGHTS ARE HAPPENING?

At the beginning of the club year, your child will receive a CLUB CALENDAR. Each of these special nights as well as holiday breaks and other important information is listed on these club calendars. You will also receive email reminders from your Club Director reminding you about these upcoming Special Nights.

AGE/CLUB OVERVIEW

PUGGLES (BIRTH - 2 YEARS)

The Puggles program at Woodmen is our childcare program offered to Leaders' kids who are too young to participate in Cubbies. Puggles is an opportunity for even our youngest kids to learn about Jesus!



CUBBIES (PRESCHOOL)

The Cubbies program at Woodmen celebrates the spiritual potential of preschoolers by helping them establish a basic foundation about God, Jesus and the Bible. Cubbies can hardly wait for their next club night where they rotate through games, crafts, story time, worship, snacks and reciting verses to their loving leaders and Directors. Cubbies is open to preschool-aged children 3 years old by September 1st (and potty-trained) through 5 years old (not yet in Kindergarten). Cubbies is on a two-year rotation between the AppleSeed and HoneyComb handbooks. For more information about curriculum, supplies and awards contact your campus Club Director.



SPARKS (KINDERGARTEN - 2ND GRADE)

The Sparks program at Woodmen is an exciting opportunity for children (Kindergarten through 2nd Grade) to continue their spiritual training as they learn about the people and events of the Bible. Each week, Sparks rotate through in-depth Bible teaching, fun games and an opportunity to recite verses while establishing a relationship with their leaders and other clubbers. Sparks-aged kids have the opportunity to work through three different handbooks (one per year) - HangGlider, WingRunner, SkyStormer as well as the extra credit Frequent Flyer cards. For more information about curriculum, supplies and awards, or contact your campus Club Director.



T&T (3RD-6TH GRADE)

The T&T program at Woodmen is undergoing some exciting new changes this year! Your 3rd through 6th graders will love coming to club as they grow in their faith and understanding about God while having an opportunity for discipleship from caring leaders and Directors during small group time. They will also enjoy playing games, hearing in depth Bible teachings and reciting verses. For the 2024-25 club year, all T&T kids will work through the Discovery of Grace handbook together. For more information about the curriculum changes, supplies and awards, your campus Club Director.



AGE/CLUB OVERVIEW (CONTINUED)

TREK (7TH-8TH GRADE)

The Trek program at Woodmen is an opportunity for Middle School aged students to learn in a Bible study format while developing leadership and serving skills. For more information about curriculum, supplies and awards, your campus Club Director.



JOURNEY (9TH-12TH GRADE)

The Journey program at Woodmen provides high school students with an opportunity to learn about becoming lifelong disciples through a deep study of God's Word. The program also encourages students to live with a godly perspective and a solid faith. For more information about curriculum, supplies and awards, contact your campus Club Director.

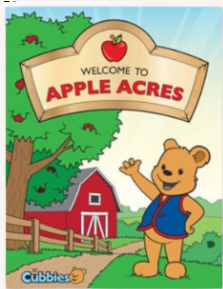


CUBBIES UNIFORMS & HANDBOOKS

CUBBIES VEST

At Awana, uniforms are an important part of our program. Not only does it provide a sense of belonging for the Leaders and kids, it helps us easily identify each member of our program and the group they serve or attend. We ask our clubbers AND Leaders to wear their uniforms each week at club (Cubbies Vest).

In addition, we encourage all clubbers to wear tennis shoes or other running type shoes in order to safely participate during Game time.



APPLE ACRES

Before starting the handbook each year, Cubbies complete the "Apple Acres" entrance booklet that gives parents and children a brief overview of the program and presents God's plan of salvation at a preschool level.

HANDBOOKS

After finishing the "Apple Acres" booklet, Cubbies work through a two-year rotation between the AppleSeed and HoneyComb handbooks. The handbook contains 26 Bear Hugs (sections) along with 4 "Special Day" sections.

Each section combines age-appropriate Scripture memory with parent-child activities to help children grasp a simple biblical truth. Children work at a schedule pace to complete 1-2 Bear Hugs per week (see Calendar for Weekly Bear Hug assignments).

There are no formal record cards for Cubbies, as this program is designed to get kids familiar with memorization before they enter the older clubs.



SPARKS UNIFORMS & HANDBOOKS

SPARKS VEST

At Awana, uniforms are an important part of our program. Not only does it provide a sense of belonging for the Leaders and kids, it helps us easily identify each member of our program and the group they serve or attend. We ask our clubbers AND Leaders to wear their uniforms each week at club (Sparks Vest).

In addition, we encourage all clubbers to wear tennis shoes or other running type shoes in order to safely participate during Game time.



HANDBOOKS

While we understand the different learning levels of children, we encourage kids to complete ONE handbook per year. This helps them stay on track if they are working toward their Citation Award! Ultimately, though, our desire is that kids would really hide these scriptures in their heart so they can help guide them throughout their life!

There are three Sparks handbooks:
HangGlider (book 1), WingRunner (book 2)
SkyStormer (book 3)

Clubbers can work through their book at their own pace, but books must be completed in order. If a child didn't finish a Sparks book in the prior year, they must start with that book before moving on to the next book.

These books are designed to be completed 1 per year, so if a child finishes before the year is over, they can do their book review, then the extra credit book.



FLIGHT 3:16 ENTRANCE BOOKLET

All new Sparkies (regardless of grade) must complete a Flight 3:16 Entrance Booklet before starting in the HangGlider book.



ESSENTIALS BOOK

Kids with special needs or learning disabilities might benefit from using an Essentials handbook. This is a condensed version of the regular handbook.

T&T CLUB UNIFORMS & HANDBOOKS

T&T UNIFORM SHIRT

At Awana, uniforms are an important part of our program. Not only does it provide a sense of belonging for the Leaders and kids, it helps us easily identify each member of our program and the group they serve or attend. We ask our clubbers AND Leaders to wear their uniforms each week at club (Green T&T Jersey).

In addition, we encourage all clubbers to wear tennis shoes or other running type shoes in order to safely participate during Game time.



HANDBOOKS

While we understand the different learning levels of children, we encourage kids to complete ONE handbook per year. This helps them stay on track if they are working toward their Citation Award! Ultimately, though, our desire is that kids would really hide these scriptures in their heart so they can help guide them throughout their life!

There are four T&T handbooks:
Evidence of Grace, Agents of Grace, Grace in Action, Discovery of Grace

This year, we are encouraging clubbers to complete the Discovery of Grace book at their own pace. If a child didn't finish a T&T book in the prior year, they must start with that book before moving on to the next book.

These books are designed to be completed 1 per year, so if a child finishes before the year is over, they can do the extra credit options.



START ZONE ENTRANCE BOOKLET

All new T&T clubbers (regardless of grade) must complete a Start Zone Entrance Booklet before starting in the T&T book.



ESSENTIALS BOOK

Kids with special needs or learning disabilities might benefit from using an Essentials handbook. This is a condensed version of the regular handbook.

TREK & JOURNEY UNIFORMS & HANDBOOKS

TREK & JOURNEY UNIFORMS

At Awana, uniforms are an important part of our program. Not only does it provide a sense of belonging for the Leaders and kids, it helps us easily identify each member of our program and the group they serve or attend. We ask our clubbers AND Leaders to wear their uniforms each week at club.

In Trek & Journey, Leaders and clubbers wear the same Trek/Journey t-shirt.



HANDBOOKS

All students work through the same handbook throughout the club year. This book is a Bible Study format, designed for them to complete a short devotion/activity each day during the week. This format helps get students in the habit of creating a daily routine of time with God.

While we understand the different activities students are juggling throughout the school year, we encourage them to complete ONE handbook per year. This helps them stay on track if they are working toward their Citation Award! Ultimately, though, our desire is that kids would really hide these scriptures in their heart so they can help guide them throughout their life!

Trek handbooks (3):

His Love, His People, & His Story

Journey handbooks (4):

Disciples, Witnesses, Advocates, Identity

Students are encouraged to follow the weekly lesson schedule to stay on track with their lessons.

If a student gets behind, they can complete multiple sections at a time in order to catch up.

ESSENTIALS BOOK

Students with special needs or learning disabilities might benefit from using an Essentials handbook. This is a condensed version of the regular handbook.





VOLUNTEERS & AWANA

WHO ARE ALL THE VOLUNTEERS AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

With over 600 kids in our Awana programs, it takes A LOT of volunteers to make our programs run each week! We have a large variety of roles, providing you with an opportunity to serve in your area of interest.

Not only do we have different age groups you can serve in, we also have a variety of unique opportunities within each of these age groups! Would you like to serve alongside a group of kids, building relationships and sharing about Jesus? Then a Classroom/Group Leader (in any club) would be a great fit for you! Are you passionate about using your talent with music to lead kids in Worship? Then sign up to be a Worship Leader at Awana!

Group Leaders - serve alongside a group of kids in any club (age group)

Game Leaders - help kids learn good sportsmanship while having fun

Worship Leaders - lead kids in a time of singing and dancing

Secretaries - help us keep track of our awards and points each week

AV/Tech Leaders - help run our lights and sound system throughout the night

Large Group Teachers - help present our Bible lessons to the kids each week

Puggles - help watch over our youngest kids while their parents serve in Awana

Snack Leaders (Cubbies only) - serve snack while Leaders listen to verses

Craft Leaders (Cubbies only) - help Cubbies complete fun crafts each week

HOW CAN I SIGN UP TO BE AN AWANA LEADER?

To see a full description of each serving area or to sign up, visit woodmenvalley.org/awana.

If you have questions about volunteering in Awana, please contact your campus Awana Coordinator.