

# Themed night

## Light party

A light party is a great way to celebrate the October half term within your company. In short, a light party is a Halloween alternative and allows the opportunity to celebrate Jesus being the light of the world. See below some ideas for how you can throw a successful light party within your company and how you can teach your boys about Jesus, light and joy during the season of the year that is themed around being scared and darkness.

If you have the space and leader ratios for it, you could split up the rooms throughout your church halls and have each room be a different station:

- Games room
- Prayer room
- Craft room
- Board game/snack bar room.

Every company will be different so this may not always be the case for every company and if you would prefer you can set a format (see below) for the evening and have it all in the one hall.

*Example light party routine:*

7.00pm: Welcome

7.05pm – 7.40pm: Games

7.40pm – 8.00pm: Craft

8.00pm – 8:30pm: Pumpkin carving

8.30pm – 9.00pm: Food and devotion

See below for different ideas for crafts, games and a devotion that you can use for your light party with your company. If you have ran a light party within your company before and have any ideas please do send them to us, we would love to be able to share them with other BBNI Leaders to use in their light parties.

# CRAFT

## Light in a jar

### What you need:

- Glass jars
- Sharpies, acrylic markers or glass paints
- Stickers
- Tiny fairy lights, or an electronic tea light

### Instructions:

1. Set up the activity and cover the tables with a plastic tarp or newspaper.
2. Allow the boys to decorate their jars in whatever way they want.
3. Place the fairy lights or tea light into the jar and turn it on to illuminate the light from the jar to remind us that Jesus is the light in the darkness.

# GAME

## Glow in the dark 10 pin bowling

### What you need:

- 10 clear plastic bottles with the labels removed and the inside cleared out
- Glow sticks
- A small ball

### Instructions:

1. Prior to the boys arriving set up the bowling alley lane with some string or benches to make a passage.
2. Place the 10 bottles at the top of the lane arranged in a 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 setting and place an activated glow stick in each of them.
3. If you have access to a glow in the dark ball it would be perfect or another ball you have will do fine.
4. Turn out the lights and play bowling. You could also turn on some upbeat music to make it a fun atmosphere.

# CRAFT

## Light lanterns

### What you need:

- A4 coloured paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue sticks

### Instructions:

1. Place out the A4 sheets and the coloured markers. Encourage the boys to draw and colour these in however they want, or you could encourage them to write along the top and bottom of the page the following memory verse: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12.
2. Fold the page in half so you can still see the drawings and writing. Then using the scissors cut lines from the middle upwards, but don't cut all the way to the top leave a gap.
3. Do this along the entire of the page leaving gaps at the edge as well as the top and leave a space in between every cut.
4. Unfold the A4 page and open it up and have the page landscape, circle it round the make a cylinder shape and glue the edges together.
5. Use a spare piece of paper to make a handle for the lantern.

# GAME

## Bobbing for apples

### What you need:

- Enough apples for each person
- 2 basins filled with water and glow sticks
- Towels

### Instructions:

1. Split the boys into 2 teams.
2. Put enough apples for each team member in the basins and an amount of glow sticks.
3. Race to see which team can get all the apples out of the basin first.
4. Eat and enjoy the apples.

# COOKING CRAFT

## Decorating apples

### What you need:

- Apples
- Lollypop sticks
- Chocolate
- Sprinkles
- Marshmallows
- Paper plates
- Plastic bowls

### Instructions:

1. Prepare the table with bowls filled with sprinkles, marshmallows etc.
2. Melt the chocolate and put into bowls on the table.
3. Give the boys apples and lollypop sticks, put the apples on the lollypop sticks and let them dunk them into the chocolate.
4. Let them decorate the apple with toppings provided.
5. Place onto a paper plate to harden.
6. Enjoy.

# GAME

## Keep up the balloons

### What you need:

- Balloons
- Glowsticks
- Music

### Instructions:

1. Prepare the balloons by blowing them up and putting the glowsticks in them.
2. Tell the boys they have to work together to keep all the balloons up in the air for as long as they can.
3. Play some music, turn the lights out and throw the balloons out for them to play.

This could also just work as some time to enjoy playing with the balloons in the dark with some music playing.

# GAME

## Glowstick scavenger hunt

### What you need:

- Glowsticks

### Instructions:

1. Split the boys into teams.
2. Assign each team a coloured glowstick.
3. Hide the glowsticks around the church halls and turn out all the lights.
4. Let the boys try and find the glowsticks that is their colour or colours if you assign more than one colour per team.
5. The team at the end of the game with the most glowsticks win.

# ACTIVITY

## Pumpkin carving

### What you need:

- Pumpkins
- Pumpkin carving kits
- Newspaper
- Black bin bags
- Tea lights

### Instructions:

1. Cover the tables in newspaper and split the boys into teams.
2. Give each team a black bin bag, a pumpkin and pumpkin carving tools.
3. Give each team a set amount of time to carve and decorate their pumpkin.
4. You could give a theme or something that needs to be carved into the pumpkin to make it more of a challenge.
5. Put the tea lights into the pumpkins and turn them on. Then you can use the attached devotional to explain how Jesus is the light of the world and when we put a candle into the pumpkin the light shines out just like Jesus' light shines in the darkness.

# DEVOTION

## Jesus is the light of the world.

Let's talk about things that scare us. In the world there are a lot of scary things, can you tell me what type of things scare you?

[Get ideas from the boys]

There are lots of different things that many people are scared of and now we are going to do a quick quiz to see if you can guess what the fear is based on its name.

Arachnophobia – Spiders

Acrophobia – Heights

Hydrophobia – Water

Insectophobia – Insects

Scolionophobia – School

Anatidaephobia – Somewhere a duck is watching you

Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia – fear of long words

One more I want to ask you about is what you do you think this one is? Nyctophobia – to help you get this one I'm going to show you.

[Turn out the lights]

Who thinks they can tell me what it is? That's right it's a fear of the dark.

There are lots of things that can scare us, there are times we feel really afraid and that make us feel alone. But when we are friends with Jesus, we know that we are never alone. You know what Jesus said in the Bible? It says in John 8:12 "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

[Turn on a flash light]

You see how this little light shines in the darkness, Jesus is always with us, even in our darkest moments, when we are scared, when we are upset and when we are alone. He is there with us and shows us the way we should go and the light he gives us will help us feel better.

We use torches when we want to see where we need to go and Jesus is exactly the same, he will guide us through all of these scary moments in our lives because he wants to be our friend and if we let him in, he will always be with us, just like this light in the darkness that helps us see he will always be there to guide our ways and keep close to us.

It says in the Bible in Isaiah 41:10 – “Do not fear, for I am with you”. Did you know how many times in the Bible God tells us not to be afraid? 365. It says not to be afraid in the Bible 365 times, how many days are there in a year? That’s right 365. There is one for every day, so God always wants us to trust in him, have Jesus be our light and trust him. He will never lead us astray.

Let’s pray together to end the night:

Dear God,

Thank you so much for letting us come to BB to have lots of fun with our friends and thank you that we get to learn more about you.

Thank you for being with us when we are scared and alone. Help us to realise we don’t need to be scared but trust that you will be with us to keep us safe.

Amen.