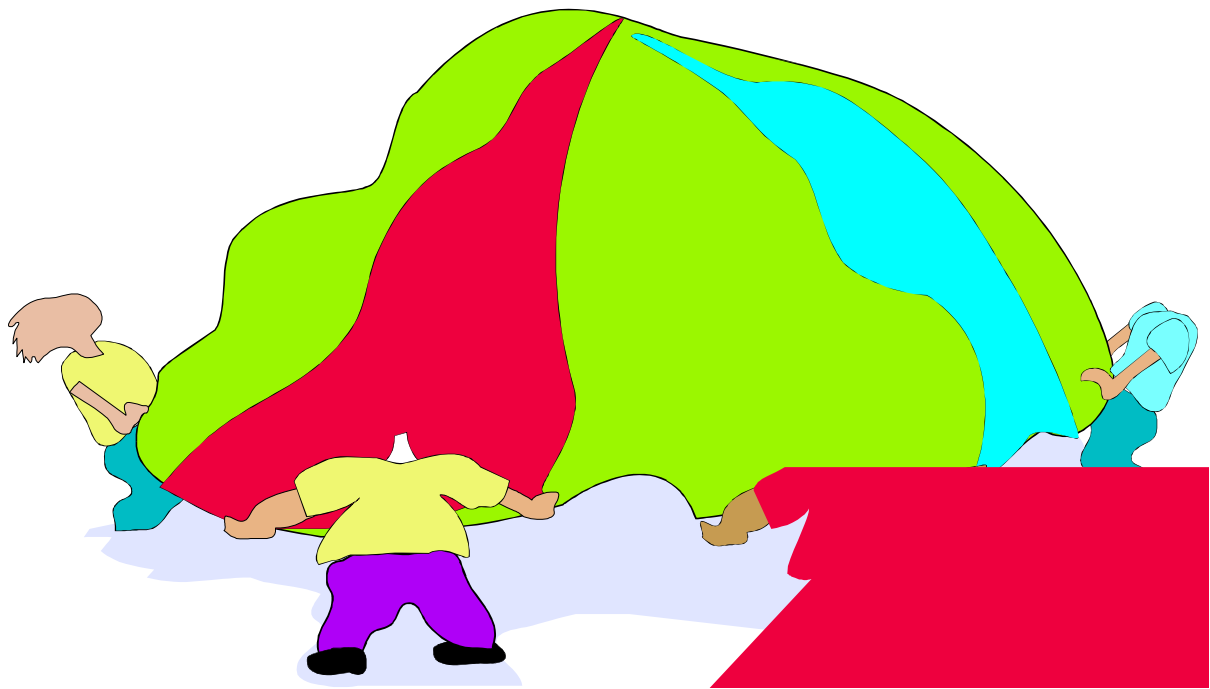


# Portrush CSSM 2002



## Adventurer Section Handbook



# Adventurer Games

Speedball

Rounders

Continuous Cricket

Shailo

Coastguards & Smugglers

Actionball

Parachute Games

- All Change
- Lifeguards
- Para-ball

Ramsay Street Rampage

Relay Games - Running

Hopping

Quoits

Vaseline Noses

Balloon races

Three legged

Dodgeball

Shark, Whale & Tuna

Bridges, Arches & Tunnels

Newspaper & Balloon races

Link Tig

Dodge Rounders

Stick in the Mud

Scorpions

Tunnelball

Murder!

Apple, Apple, Apple

Winking Game

Time Bomb

Fruit Salad

Battling Butlers



# Characteristics of 8 - 11 year olds

## **Adventurers are**

- Lively, energetic and great fun to be with
- Full of enthusiasm
- Open and honest
- Becoming increasingly independent
- Likely to form close attachments to leaders
- Eager to learn

## **They enjoy**

- participating in a range of activities
- co-operating with each other
- asking questions and discussing topics
- being creative
- sharing a joke

## **They need**

- to see that you are interested in them
- acceptance for who they are
- to see fair play in action (children of this age have a strong sense of justice)
- a positive example to follow

# Playing Games with Children

Games are for physical relaxation and enjoyment. They enable us to have fun, make friends and can help to break down shyness.

Things to remember

- Careful preparation is very important – make sure you have everything you need for the game
- Vary the games you use – this will prevent boredom
- When selecting games to play, think about the number of children involved and their ages and ability
- If introducing a game, make sure you understand the rules and that you can explain them clearly and briefly
- Rules should be upheld to the degree necessary for discipline and enjoyment
- Change the game while children are still enjoying playing it – this will maintain interest and helps keep children enthusiastic
- Take account of weather conditions – don't keep children standing around if it is cold
- Adults should never monopolise a game for children but it is important that leaders participate as this will encourage all the children to take part
- Safety is very important. Choose your games responsibly and ensure adequate supervision.
- Be enthusiastic at all times – it's infectious!

(Adapted from 'Over 300 games for all occasions')

# Adventurer Talks – 2002

## Week One

### Theme - Parables

- Mon: Rosie Harpur  
Parable of the Unforgiving Servant Matt 18 v 23 - 35
- Tues: John Gillespie  
Parable of the Friend at Midnight Luke 11 v 5 - 8
- Thurs: David Barr  
Parable of the Talents Matt 25 v 14 - 30
- Fri: Heather Marshall  
Parable of the Wicked Tenants Luke 20 v 9 - 16

## Week Two

### Theme - Life of Paul - Following Jesus

- Mon: Following Jesus ... means a new beginning Catherine Riddell  
Saul's Journey to Damascus Acts 7: 54 - 8:1, 9: 1-25
- Tues: Following Jesus ... means knowing God's in control Simon Cherry  
Paul and Silas in Prison Acts 16: 16 - 40
- Thurs: Following Jesus ... means trusting in God Ruth McMillan  
Paul's Shipwreck - journey to Rome Acts 27
- Fri: Following Jesus ... means living for Him wherever we are David Mc  
Safe on Malta Acts 28: 1-10

## Code of Conduct for Leaders

- At all times children will be treated with respect and dignity.
- Leaders will ensure the safety of the children at all times by being vigilant and responsible when supervising children.
- Leaders will not engage in physical contact which may make a child feel uncomfortable or self-conscious.
- Where possible, leaders will counsel children of the same sex as themselves.
- Leaders will take steps to ensure they are not left alone with one child and will inform the section leader if this happens, even for a short while.
- When talking about spiritual matters with children, the pace of the conversation should be lead by the child(ren) and no one should try to force a point of view on them.
- In all their dealings with the children, leaders will strive to show them the love of God and to bring glory to Him at all times.

# Six Things that children respond to well

## **Sharing your feelings with children**

Don't be afraid to be yourself – let the children know that you sometimes have difficulties eg understanding the Bible, facing different circumstances. However, keep the emotional maturity of the child in mind and don't share more than they can cope with.

## **Demonstrating trust**

Give children opportunities to see that you trust them eg let them carry your things to the beach or help with games equipment. This helps to build up their self-esteem and you will gain their respect quickly.

## **Spend 'quality time' with children**

Make sure that you are not so busy 'organising' that you don't have time to talk to the children in your group. Building relationships is a crucial part of CSSM and we should use all the time available to get to know them better.

## **Being up to date with children's interests**

Children's interests are always changing but trying to keep up to date with popular TV programmes or music etc will give you a way of starting conversations with them. It demonstrates that you are interested in them as a person and not just as a potential 'convert'.

## **Remembering Details**

Try to remember from day to day the things children have shared with you. Most importantly, try to learn their names quickly, especially those children who are in your Digger Group.

## **Finding ways of showing you care**

Children need to feel that they are special and that you care about them. Children will judge you by your actions more than by what you say. Some children are instantly likeable, others will require more effort but we should remember that each child is special to God and we should demonstrate His love to all of them.

# Seven Things that children see right through

## **Using a strange tone of voice**

Children will see straight through you if you are not being genuine. Don't patronise them by acting in a false way.

## **Making every question a Bible question**

Don't just talk about spiritual matters with children, they need to know that you are interested in their whole life.

## **Lack of interest in children's replies**

Children need to know that their opinion matters. They need to see you think about what they say and react to it.

## **Towering above children**

The way to make children comfortable in conversation is to place yourself on or below their eye-level. When the children are sitting on the floor, sit with them – don't withdraw and sit on a chair (even though it may be more comfortable.)

## **Getting the level of sophistication wrong**

Don't patronise children by treating them in a babyish way – children nowadays grow up very quickly, listen to how they talk to each other and take note of their interests.

## **Talking to the parent over the head of the child**

Don't talk to a parent about a child as if he/she wasn't there.

Include the child in the conversation at all times.

## **Pretending you're a big kid really!**

Children enjoy having a laugh with their leaders but they don't want someone to pretend they are just like them. Children want friendship – but they prefer the genuine article.