

Pack It

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Prepare by pre-packing S.T.U.F.F. (Sensational Things Used For Fun!) for staff to use for daily activities, special events, theme/rainy days, evening activities, etc.!

- * **PACK IT** in a day pack, milk crate, duffle bag, "belly bag or fanny pack", shopping bag, plastic shoeboxes/cannisters/storage boxes, wire "swim" baskets, grocery carts, large tubs, trunks (plastic ones are great!), buckets or baskets, extra large Ziplocks with handles!
- * **Place items in ziplock bags or others small containers.** Label each "layer" of storage so staff will know what needs to be in the "package" when it is returned.
- * Pack containers for mixed or specific age groups!
- * **Be sure to include directions/rules** - cover with contact paper or laminate them.
- * **Have a plan to check the condition of package & clean/sterilize if needed after use and to replenish materials.**

ARTS & CRAFTS - everything needed to make a project & enough materials for the group.
Beads, puzzle pins/frames, string bracelets, Sculpey clay, puppets, photo pins, friendship bracelets, etc.

NATURE - Identification books, puppets, magnifying glasses, bug boxes, nets, cards games, project materials, trivia questions

LET'S PLAY - tin cans, balls, scoops, jacks, bandanas, frisbees, Koosh Balls, Foxtail

BAG of TRICKS - cards, magic tricks, small balls, scarfs, rope, scissors, handouts

JUGGLING - scarves, Devil Sticks, tennis balls, juggling balls

BUBBLES - wands, sticks, plastic six-pack rings, liquid pre-mixed, containers for solution

PARACHUTE PLAY - parachute(s), balls (different sizes)

CARD PACK - Uno, playing cards, Skip-Bo, Old Maid, etc.

SHOW TIME - costumes, hats, fun glasses, boas, purses, shoes, jewelry, puppets

MIND GAMES - riddles, brain teasers, trivia, "Wordles", "Phunny Phrases"

DINO PLAY - plastic dinosaurs, pictures to color, crayons/markers, story/books

MUSIC - instruments, stuff to make them, songbooks, something to play music

PAPER PIZZAZZ - airplanes, hats, Origami, chains, folded paper stars, sit-upons, decorate placemats, napkin folding, different kinds of paper, fasteners

INTERNATIONAL FUN - costumes, coloring books/pages, instruments, songbooks, tapes and tape player, maps, story books, language sheets (ways to say different words), Origami paper & directions

SCIENCE FUN/MAD SCIENCE - simple experiment materials/idea books/sheets, "Bill Nye the Science Guy" book

THUMBPRINT PICTURES - paper, thumbprint books (available from bookstores), paper towels, ink pads of varying colors, thin tip markers

SCULPTURE FUN - toothpicks and styrofoam peanuts OR straws OR marshmallows

ALPHABET PINS/NAME TAGS - cardboard shapes, white glue, alphabet macaroni, markers, Mod Podge, brush, tray to keep them on (have a procedure set-up to have pinbacks glued on for them at the end of the day)

BALLOON CRAFTS (hats and animals) - long, thin balloons, direction book/sheets, hand pumps (a few) or if in an indoor location use an electric pump

WORD GAMES - crosswords, word searches, hidden pictures

GAMES - board games, small travel games, pads & pencils for Pictionary

BALLS - variety of sizes, shapes (animal balls!), materials (plastic, rubber, foam), themed

JUMP ROPE - Chinese, Double Dutch, ind. ropes, super long ones, songs to jump to

HIT 'EM - for a game of silly baseball use a variety of rackets & bats and different balls (including beach, strange shaped ones, play balls) and different stuff for bases

TAG ADVENTURE - lists of different tag games and instructions, a variety of items to use as flags and "it" indicators (something for the "it" person to hold)

ASTRONOMY - Star charts, a black umbrella with the stars on the inside (raise it & you have the night sky), identification materials, games, trivia questions, any available gimmicks for teaching the subject!

CAT'S CRADLE - strings for every 2 people, instruction book with pictures/directions

ROPE TRICKS/KNOTS - lots of rope (cotton clothesline is best), sheets w/ tricks & activities

OBSTACLE COURSE - for 2 teams (or more), cones, rackets & balls, spoons, ping pong balls, flags, rope for lines, batons, cans, jump rope, stop watches, scooters/tricycles, tape measure, plastic eggs, burlap sacks, bandanas

LANYARDS/GIMP - sample board, direction sheets, scissors, tape measure, varied hooks & chains, white glue, masking tape, rolls of gimp (or pre-cut pieces in ziplocks by project type!)

FACE PAINTING - patterns (Klutz book), paints/brushes, face crayons

CHARACTER PACK - "Who's On My Back" or "Famous Pairs" games, activities/games to do with Disney or cartoon characters, related crafts, stories

ASK YOUR STAFF FOR NEW IDEAS...INVOLVEMENT PROVIDES OWNERSHIP AND BREEDS SUCCESS...PLAN AHEAD...WORK AHEAD...BE PREPARED BEFORE THE SUMMER RUSH...GET EVERYTHING READY AND USE IT WITH STAFF DURING ORIENTATION... THINK "ICING" - WHAT CAN YOU ADD TO WHAT YOU'RE DOING THAT WILL MAKE EVERYTHING A LITTLE MORE SPECIAL, A LITTLE MORE UNIQUE FOR YOUR CAMP??