

# BRING THE ADVENTUROUS JOURNEY HOME

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PARENTING PATHWAY  
PRINTABLE  
SPRING/SUMMER  
2019



# ADVENTUROUS JOURNEY 2019

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We want to go on a journey with you. This journey is to work with you to develop kids who love God with all they have and as a result, they rescue and protect those around them. In its simplest form, the mission is to love God and love others (Deuteronomy 6 and Leviticus 19:18). The target of this is to have kids who are ready to graduate high school with the expressed expectation that they will go out to actively and relationally take care of those around them with confidence because of the training and previous experiences they have had. We want to inspire kids and help them to develop character qualities of living Christ likeness that will change lives.

There are milestones of Adventure at every age where children can step up to the challenge of loving others. As parents, it is our job, our duty to open the doors to allow them to accept the challenge and lean forward in faith.



**DAVE CARL**

Pastor, Children and Family Ministries

Stonebriar Community Church



# ADVENTURE AT ANY AGE

The summer represents the ideal time to stretch our kids to gain new levels of independence, try new things, and participate in new activities. It is also a great time to expose them to people and communities that are different from their own world. By being intentional about summer activities, we can help them develop new skills, higher levels of confidence, and new empathy for people around them. These are the skills that will help them along the journey to becoming more Christlike, loving Him and seeking to rescue and protect those around them.

We created this resource guide to help you identify the skills to target at each stage of development. We then provided a list of adventure suggestions (*ranging from free to low cost, age appropriate risk, and connection to family*) to help you enjoy the adventure this summer.



# EARLY CHILDHOOD

Kids Birth to Prekindergarten



Know Who  
God Is and  
That He  
Loves You

These two messages form the foundation of our ministry to this youngest group. Every time we meet with your kids, they are told “God loves you” and as the lesson begins they are told “And the Bible is true”. With these two messages as a foundation, the rest of Scripture stacks up very solidly. Without it the foundation is weak. At this age, we want them to feel safe enough to receive rescue and protection when they need care and know that the church is here for them.



## Skills to Learn at this Age

- To bravely try new things.
- Show them they are safe and you trust various caregivers.
- Learn independence through self care and self comfort.
- To be helpers at home, school, church, etc.
- Expose them to God's creation, reminding them He is Creator of all.
- To make new friends and practice basic skills such as sharing.

## Adventure Ideas for Early Childhood:

- Have a picnic
- Go on a nature walk in state parks
- Make a bug hotel
- Have a play date with new friends
- Play in the sprinkler, make mud pies and get dirty
- Grow a garden of fruits and vegetables or just sunflowers
- Make lunch such as PBJ sandwiches for a friend
- When it is too hot to be outside have a movie afternoon
- Assign age appropriate chores such as dusting, helping with the dishes, feeding the pets, etc.
- Build a blanket fort in the family room
- Watch the sunrise and sunset
- Create a superhero character and practice rescuing friends from danger
- Have a puppet show
- Make cards for family friends who are sick, having a baby, lost a family member, etc.
- Count the stars at night
- Paint the driveway with water
- Act out your favorite story with friends
- Make a stepping stone for your garden with a hand print in cement
- Look for shapes in the clouds
- Wash a car together



# ELEMENTARY

Kids Kindergarten to Fourth Grade



Know Scripture  
and Learn to Love  
God and Love  
Others

Our purpose is to reinforce for our kids WHO God is and how He loves them and, as a result, how we are free to take action and join in the adventure of living like Jesus did. We want to inspire them to understand that they GET to rescue and protect their friends and those around them. Calling our kids into the active adventure of Christianity is a great way to encourage our kids to look beyond themselves and their comfort zone, challenging them to be all that God made them to be.



## Skills to Learn at this Age

- To bravely try new things.
- To be in awe of God's creation.
- To be independent, able to self care and self direct.
- Understand they are part of a family and need to participate in its health and care.
- To be aware of others around them, looking for that person who needs a friend.
- To be helpers at home, school, church, etc.
- To expand their understanding of Scripture.

## Adventure Ideas for Elementary:

- Make a rain catcher, sun dial, or wind chimes
- Make a summer scrapbook of your adventures
- Go on nature walks in a state park
- Go geocaching
- Play in the sprinklers, make a water course and invite neighborhood friends to play
- Invite a new friend to church
- Bake goodies for a new neighbor
- Volunteer to help pack summer lunches for kids in your area
- Make a YouTube video
- Plan and cook a weekly meal for the family
- Try new adventure activities such as rope courses, bike trails, playing in the river, canoeing or kayaking
- Camp in the backyard
- Catch lightning bugs in a jar
- Go for a late night ice cream run
- Write and sing your own song
- Make your own word search
- Volunteer to water plants for a neighbor who works full time
- Make a treasure hunt for friends
- Find three toys to donate
- Have a neighborhood water balloon fight
- Visit a science or exploration museum



# PRETEEN

Kids Fifth to Sixth Grade



Love God and  
Experience  
Opportunities to  
Rescue and Protect

At this age, we want to encourage our kids to be intentional and look for those in need of rescuing and protection. By modeling Christ-likeness, we are demonstrating the important character qualities of being “Risk Intent” and Sacrifice Prone” in the name of Jesus. We want them to be so confident in their knowledge that God loves them that they naturally move toward those who are suffering so they can come to know Jesus too.



## Skills to Learn at this Age

- To develop their own approach to studying the Bible and worshiping God.
- To independently seek opportunities to help at home, school, church, etc.
- To be aware of other people and be the friend to kids who are different from themselves.
- To bravely step up to new challenges and try new adventures.
- To enjoy the opportunity to hang out and be face-to-face with friends.

## Adventure Ideas for Preteen:

- Go to a live concert
- Write a story, comic book, or movie with friends
- Swim in a local lake
- Go camping in a state park
- Learn how to start a campfire
- Create a Family Tree of your extended family
- Try a new sport such as golf, tennis, Frisbee golf, etc.
- Volunteer to pet sit and water plants for vacationing and working neighbors
- Plan a late night scavenger hunt
- Make lemonade from scratch
- Plan and cook dinner regularly for the family
- Volunteer to help at food pantry, summer kids clubs, etc.
- Write a letter to a distant relative
- Read an adventure book series together as a family (or listen to it)
- Try a new adventure activity such as trail hiking, zip lining, water slides, etc.
- Invite friends to a movie marathon
- Research and break a world record
- Create a photo-a-day summer journal and print it into a photo book at the end of the summer
- Find out how many licks it takes to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop
- Build something in the backyard





# JR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Kids Seventh to Twelfth Grade



Love God and Be Equipped and Eager to Rescue and Protect Others

Now that our kids are confident in their knowledge that God loves them and understand that they GET to step in to rescue and protect others, our purpose is to give them more intense opportunities to practice these skills. By taking on increasing levels of sacrifice and risk, they will be building confidence in their ability and learning to depend more on God and His Spirit for leading than ever before. We also want to help them understand that rebellion and sin make them less able to love God and less able to take care of others in His name. As our kids graduate High School, they can walk into the next phase of their life eager to be instruments of God's love in a lost world.



## Skills to Learn at this Age

- To be confident and rely on their love and trust in God.
- To be independent and eager to try new things.
- To be resilient and able to overcome obstacles.
- To be confident in unfamiliar situations.

## Adventure Ideas for Jr. High and High School:

- Volunteer or take a summer job at a summer camp away from home
- Participate in mission opportunities that are uncomfortable and a little scary
- Try activities with increased adventure such as rafting, high ropes course, extreme water slides
- Create a summer bucket list that includes friends and family
- Go to a drive-in movie or play put put golf
- Take a mini road trip with friends
- Go hiking and camping
- Make bead jewelry for a friend
- Invite a friend to church with you
- Ask a waiter or waitress how you can pray for them
- Volunteer to babysit or entertain a neighbor's children for an afternoon
- Cook a gourmet meal for friends or family
- Hang out for a day with one new friend
- Create a photo book of your summer adventures
- Share your testimony with a friend
- Try new forms of music, go to an outdoor concert
- Go junk hunting at Saturday morning garage sales
- Find an accountability partner or mentor
- Write a handwritten thank you note



# ENJOY YOUR ADVENTUROUS SUMMER



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We want to hear about your  
Summer!

Post pictures to:

facebook/groups/parentingpathway

or use

#adventurousjourney2019



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