

Valentine's Day Youth Night

What you will need:

2 Wrapped Valentine's Day gifts

3 Wipe-off boards, dry erase markers, dry erasers or paper towels. I purchased individual wipe-off boards, but you could put a piece of cardstock in a binder sleeve for an inexpensive DIY wipe-off

Two long tables, 6 chairs, and a large piece of cardboard or divider

Enough chairs for each student

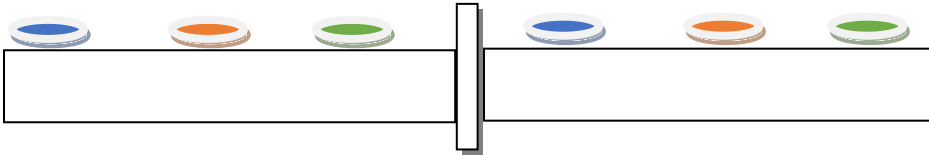
Prizes for the games

Prep:

Wrap 2 Valentine's Day gifts

Print Game questions for "How Well Do You Know Your Friends?" There are enough questions for 12 teams of 2 (24 students). If you have a larger group, you may want to have more questions ready. You can repeat questions with different teams.

Set Up 2 long tables with 3 chairs each with a divider between the tables like below



Valentine's Day Agenda

Prayer: Lord, Please grant us a change of heart that we might turn away from sin and follow Your Gospel. We ask You to fill us with a hunger for what is just. By Your grace, may our lives become more deeply rooted in prayer, self-sacrifice and a willingness to share, in order that Your Reign of justice might more fully flourish in our hearts. We ask You this, through Christ our Lord.

Announcements: (Let your group know of any upcoming youth events and announce the next youth night)

St. Valentine Story - Have the students sit in a circle. Give 2 random students a wrapped Valentine Gift. Tell them to give the gift to the person on their right when they hear the word "Valentine". When the story ends, the 2 students with the gifts will get to unwrap and keep the gift. (Alternate ending – make the gift something that can be shared and see if they share it with the rest of the group)

Every February we celebrate **Valentine's** Day by giving flowers, candy and cards to those we love. We do this in honor of Saint **Valentine**. You may be wondering, "Who is St. **Valentine**"? Time to brush up on your **Valentine's** history!

Legend has it that **Valentine** was a priest who served during third century Rome. There was an Emperor at that time by the name of Claudius II. Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those that were married. With this thought in mind, he outlawed marriage for young men in hopes of building a stronger military base. Supposedly, **Valentine**, decided this decree just was not fair and chose to marry young couples secretly. When Emperor Claudius II found out about **Valentine's** actions, he had him put to death.

Another legend has it that **Valentine** was an imprisoned man who fell in love with his jailor's daughter. Before he was put to death, he sent the first '**valentine**' himself when he wrote her a letter and signed it 'Your **Valentine**', words still used on cards today.

Perhaps we'll never know the true identity and story behind the man named St. **Valentine**, but this much is for sure...February has been the month to celebrate love for a long time, dating clear back to the Middle Ages. In fact, **Valentines** ranks second only to Christmas in number of greeting cards sent.

How Well Do You Know Your Friends?: Choose 3 sets of friends (randomly pick 3 people and they choose their best friend). Have the teams sit at the 2 tables, with friends sitting at opposite tables. Each team member will need a dry erase board, marker, and eraser.

The first 3 questions are asked about the 3 people who were randomly picked, and their friend will need to match their answer. If the friend guesses the correct answer the team will get 5 points.

The next 5 questions will be asked about the friends and the random players will have to guess their friends' answer. The second set of 5 questions are worth 10 points each. Play a practice round with the first question.

When a question is asked everyone will answer on their dry erase boards at the same time. When they are done writing, one at a time, they will reveal their answers. The winning team is the team with the most points after the 10 questions.

Do you Love your neighbor? Have each student grab a chair and set them up in a circle in the room, minus 1 chair. Have a volunteer to stand in the middle and everyone else should have a chair with no extra chairs. The person in the middle will introduce themselves and the group will say “Hi, ___(name)___! Do you love your neighbor”. The person in the middle will say, “Yes I do! Especially those who _____”. (Something like “has blue shoes, wears glasses, is an adult (they like to pull this one on me!), likes ice cream, goes to ___ school, etc.) If anyone in the circle matches that description, they will need to get up and run to a different chair. They cannot move to a chair right next to them. The person in the middle will also find a seat. Someone will be left without a chair and will become the person in the middle. This is a great game for adult volunteers to play with the students to get to know everyone better. This game can continue until parent pick-up.

How Well Do You Know Your Friends?

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Practice: If you didn't have to sleep, what would you do with the extra time?

Game 1:

1st Round:

1. What's your favorite piece of clothing you own?
2. What job would you be terrible at?
3. What is the most annoying habit that other people have?
4. If you could choose to eat dinner anywhere, where would it be?
5. Cat or Dog?

2nd Round:

1. What job do you think you'd be really good at?
2. What would be the most amazing adventure to go on?
3. What songs have you completely memorized?
4. Favorite Actor/Actress?
5. What sport would you say you are best at playing?

Choose 3 more random people who will choose a friend and repeat the game with the new player.

Game 2:

1st Round:

1. What's your favorite drink?
2. What movie would you most like to live in?
3. What do you like most about your friend – partner in this game?
4. If you could live anywhere in the United States, where would you live?
5. Beach or Mountains?

2nd Round:

1. Are you usually early or late?
2. What takes up most of your time?
3. Where is the most interesting place you've been?
4. What video game best describes your life?
5. Which Holiday is your favorite?

Repeat with 6 new people

Game 3:

1st Round:

1. What is your favorite subject in school?
2. Chocolate or vanilla?
3. What did you eat for breakfast this morning?
4. If you could meet any famous person, who would it be?
5. What is your hidden talent?

2nd Round:

1. What is the luckiest thing that has happened to you?
2. What are you most likely to become famous for?
3. Would you rather eat broccoli or beets?
4. Who would you say is your favorite teacher?
5. Do you know all the actions to Baby Shark?

Repeat with 6 new people

Game 4:

1st Round:

1. What movie would you most like to live in?
2. If you could choose to eat dinner anywhere, where would it be?
3. Cat or Dog?
4. If What would be the most amazing adventure to go on?
5. What is your hidden talent?

2nd Round:

1. What takes up most of your time?
2. Which Holiday is your favorite?
3. If you could meet any famous person, who would it be?
4. What did you eat for breakfast this morning?
5. What's your favorite piece of clothing you own?