

Daily Assemblies

One of the most exciting parts of *Gold Rush* is the opening and closing assembly times (called “Gold Rush Rallies”). Each day begins and ends with an

assembly of all classes and includes an array of activities (see below). The assemblies can be led by the VBS director, children’s pastor, worship leader, or a volunteer.

Assembly Activities

Welcome

Welcoming everyone to VBS is the first thing we do at *Gold Rush*. And since first impressions are so important, our “welcome” includes some humor and a quick introduction to the day’s theme.

Sing-Along Songs

Kids love to sing, and kids love song motions. That’s why we do both at *Gold Rush*. The Sing-Along Songs Music CD features fun songs that reinforce the spiritual theme of *Gold Rush*. See the Leader Music CD-ROM for lyrics and presentation images for each song. The Sing-Along Song Motions DVD provides a video of each song’s motions. Sheet music and songbooks are also available.

Nuggets of Truth

During the opening assembly, kids will hear of ways Jesus has impacted the world of science, the arts, education, and so much more. See the daily Assembly Scripts, beginning on page 15, for each day’s installment and the Assembly Resource CD-ROM for presentation images.

Missions Moment

During the opening assembly, the VBS mission project is highlighted. Collecting for a mission project provides the children with an opportunity to contribute to the needs of a ministry that spreads the gospel and helps those in need. See *Missions Moment* on page 13 for more information.

Drama

Because each day’s drama segment is part of a continuing week-long story, it is one of the most anticipated events of VBS. The dramas are presented in the closing assembly each day. For more information about the dramas, including set design and construction, and each day’s script, see the Drama section beginning on page 33.

Transition Point

Immediately following each day’s drama segment, the assembly leader reinforces a particular teaching point presented in the drama. See the daily Assembly Scripts, beginning page 15 for each day’s installment.

Cool Contests

Not only do kids love to sing, but they also love a challenge. That’s why *Gold Rush* has contests each day to keep excitement running high. Contest results are presented each day during the closing assembly. See “Cool Contests” on page 11 for more information.

Announcements

Announcements can be made toward the end of each opening and closing assembly and should include information about the next day’s contest and a reminder to bring missions money.

Prayer

At the end of the opening assembly, just before everyone is dismissed, we ask for God’s protection and blessing

on our day. At the end of the closing assembly we thank God for a good day at VBS.

Daily Assembly Scripts

For your assembly leader, a detailed program for each assembly, including all scripted segments, is provided beginning on page 15. These include the welcomes, Nuggets of Truth, Missions Moments, songs, and transition points.

Order of Program Forms

So that your assembly leader and production crew are “on the same page,” blank, reproducible “order of program” forms are provided for the opening and closing assemblies on the Assembly Resource

Miners



CD-ROM. Before each assembly, insert the songs of your choice and your notes. Then photocopy the completed form and distribute to your production crew.

Tip Corner

- Have VBS music playing before and after each assembly to enhance the atmosphere.
- Add a local project to your Missions Moment that gives the kids the opportunity to contribute something tangible to the needy, like canned goods or school supplies.
- In preparation for VBS, have some (or all) of your leaders learn the song motions.
- To add variety, don a funny hat or bring out an interesting prop as you lead a song.
- Use class signs to identify where each class should sit. Sign posts can be made and re-used each year.