Day 1 Elementary Games

Blindfolded Obstacle Course

Introduction for the Station Leader:

Good morning! I wanted to start out by telling you the overall themes for the day to understand the games. The main theme for the day is God guides us. This is shown through the Bible Story in Exodus. In Exodus, the Israelites are being led out of Egypt by Moses and God. God guides them by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. God sent His Son, Jesus, to guide us and Jesus guides us through His word. God continues to guide us today.

Back in history, as settlers were traveling out west in the hopes of a better life, the settlers were not going into the prairies and deserts blind. They were led by a guidebook or a guide, who was an experienced man who had traveled the route many times. This is the connection from the West to the overall theme.

What better way to show the concept of guidance than through an obstacle course! The twist we are putting on it is that it will be blindfolded! Don’t worry! The child won’t be going through it alone, but will be guided by someone behind them. This game is sure to be a lot of laughs!

How to Play:

 As the title suggests, this is an obstacle course. The way it is played is the group splits up into partners. One is blindfolded and one is not. Let’s call the other one the guide. They both start at the starting line. The blindfolded is in front of the guide. The object of the game is to get through the obstacle course. The guide pushes the blindfolded through the obstacle course, telling them when to lift their feet, turn right or left, and move. Each pair of partners goes through.

Supplies:

* Blindfolds
* Hula Hoops
* Tunnels (round and square)
* Chalk
* Ball

Preparation:

* Set up the obstacle course

Instructions for when the group arrives:

1. Welcome the group and introduce yourself
2. Explain the game that they will be playing today
	1. Explain the rules and demonstrate once how to play the game
3. Ask them what the theme is for the day (God guides us)
	1. They might not know or remember the theme yet so if they don’t get it, please remind them
4. Then tell them briefly how God guided the Israelites out of Egypt and how early settlers of the West were guided.
	1. Again, some groups may not have gone to Bible Story yet. Please just give a brief explanation of this.
5. Play the Game!
6. Have the group split up into partners
7. Hand out blindfolds to one of the partners
8. Have one pair begin, and then when they get to the black hula hoop, start the next pair.
9. When they have all gone through, switch which partner is blindfolded and which one is the guide
10. Go again
11. If you have time left over, mix up the partners and go again
12. Note:
	1. If you have time left over or they do not want to play anymore, here are some other options:
		1. Duck, duck, goose
		2. Draw with Chalk
		3. Circle Ball
		4. Playing with a ball
		5. Anything else

Cleanup:

* At the end of the day please:
	+ Put the blindfolds away
	+ Disassemble the obstacle course