

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR PRINCIPLES

4. Group (Committee) Work

Group/Committee activity is an essential component of the training and participation element of Christian Endeavour. Within the Group, small groups/committees should be formed to take responsibility for various aspects of the Junior CE Group.

The nature of these small groups /committees will vary according to individual requirements. Much will depend on the number and age of the children in your group, and how many Leaders you have. Ideally each group/committee should have an older Junior as a **Convener** (Refer to Award Scheme for the requirements and skills of **Group Convener**. A certificate may be earned through this.) It should also have one Junior to act as **Minute Secretary** (Refer to Award Scheme for the requirements and skills of **Minute secretary**. A certificate may be earned through this.) and perhaps another to be **Letter Writer**. (Refer to Award Scheme for the requirements and skills of **Letter Writer**. A certificate may be earned through this.)

Groups can be formed on an ad hoc basis to deal with particular tasks e.g. projects or events, or they can be ongoing, in which case regular change of personnel is recommended. Working in groups/committees encourages each member to be involved in the running of the CE Group and provides opportunity for skills to be acquired and developed for future use.

The groups/committees should meet regularly: monthly if engaged in Award Scheme, or at least, quarterly. Groups can take responsibility for various areas of the work of your Juniors. The following are four basic ideas with suggestions. You may think of others.



Programme Planning Group

Juniors meet with a Leader to plan and discuss the Programme for the next month / term. A Minute Secretary is very useful for this Group as he / she can write down in a notebook all that the Group plans to do, who is to do it, and what happened to last months plans. A chart of the Programme can be prepared and Juniors' names entered ensuring that ALL members have an opportunity to take part as they are able.

Remember that the Four Essentials should be included, so you should have a Promise/ Covenant meeting once a month and also a Group Night once a month. To your Promise night, it is good to invite an outside speaker – this is where your Letter Writer comes in. The Juniors can decide on who your Guest Speaker will be and what the content of the other two meetings will be.

Missionary Group

This group should try to create an interest in Missionary work and to encourage prayer and giving. Here are some ideas.

1. Write a letter to a Missionary who the Church supports; the Juniors have met; who is on furlough asking them to your meeting. Later letters or emails, CDs and photographs could be sent out.
2. Adopt a child overseas. Tear Fund are one agency for this. Write to him/her, send Christmas and Birthday cards and collect money to support him/her and most importantly pray for him/her.
3. Collect information about Christian Endeavour in other countries. Read it to the Juniors and keep a scrapbook.
4. Introduce a Missionary news flash in the weekly meeting.
5. Pin a World map on the wall and at the side stick photographs of Missionaries in whom the Juniors are interested, with ribbons pinned to the place where they work.
6. Collect a Missionary library of books and magazines which the Juniors could borrow. Appoint a Librarian.
7. Make a prayer list for use in chain prayer. Items can come from news flashes, magazines and prayer letters.
8. Part of the Junior's training should be in Stewardship. Think how to do this in your Group e.g. a once-a-month missionary box, "do without offering" or collect the smallest coin.
9. Arrange a Missionary party. Take imaginary trips to other lands, playing games from that land, dressing up in the local costume and eating the food of that country.
10. Choose a video/ DVD from a Missionary Society catalogue to be used on a Missionary night.
11. Write to a Missionary Agency asking for their ideas and projects for the children to do.



USEFUL ADDRESSES:

Tear Fund, 9 Canal Street, Glasgow, G4 0AD. 0141 332 3621 www.tearfund.org

WEC, Bulstrode, Gerrards Cross, Bucks, SL9 8SZ www.wec.-Int.org.uk

Baptist Missionary Society, P.O. Box 49, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 8XA www.bmsworldmission.org

YWAM, 23 Royal Exchange Square, Glasgow, G1 3AJ. 0141 221 8721 www.Ywam.net

Mission Aviation Fellowship, 29 Canal Street, Glasgow G4 0AD www.maf-uk.org

The Leprosy Mission, Suite 2, Earlsgate Lodge, Livilands, Stirling FK8 2BG www.tlm.org.uk

SOCIAL ACTIVITY GROUP



1. Plan a Social evening inviting people from the Church fellowship e.g. the minister, Church leadership, parents, Sunday School superintendent and boys and girls in the church who do not yet come to Junior CE Plan the programme thinking of suitable games, quizzes and food.
2. Provide flowers for the monthly Promise night and then give them to a sick or elderly friend.
3. Make a list of all the Juniors and their birthday dates. Include the minister and other members of the fellowship who are interested in your Group. Make Birthday cards and post or deliver them personally. (Incorporate 'Thinking of Others' Award.)
4. Plan a seasonal activity - Pancake Night, Christmas Party, Harvest Festival, Easter Egg Hunt or a Fireworks Night.
5. Plan a get-together with other groups in the area, e.g. another CE Group, a school SU group, a school for children with special needs, Senior citizens group from the Church. Arrange the programme, invitations and transport if needed.
6. Make a Group games book giving ideas for your social activities. Classify the games under headings such as Noisy, Quiet, Team Games and Quizzes.

LOOKOUT GROUP

This group **looks out** for new members, **looks after** the members it already has and **looks up** to Jesus for help and strength.



1. Write out an intimation to be read in the Sunday School and Church publicising the Christian Endeavour Meeting. This announcement should be interesting and varied in approach.
2. Make invitations and use them to invite children from Sunday School and other Church organisations. Don't forget - What? When? Where?
3. Arrange an "Open" or "Visitors" evening and invite children of Junior age.
4. Encourage all Juniors to wear their Christian Endeavour badges. Remember that CE will be judged by those wearing the badges.
5. Make a list of your Juniors and divide them into teams. Each team appoints a member who is responsible for getting in touch with a Junior when he/she misses a meeting. If the Junior is ill, he/she should tell the Leader or Minister and a get well card could be sent.
6. Arrange an attendance competition between the teams of Juniors.
7. Think of ways to encourage Juniors to come punctually and making sure the meetings start on time.
8. Pray for the Group and its members. Pray for those who are invited to come. Pray that the Juniors will approach others in the right way and that Jesus will give them the right words to say.