



BRING A FRIEND MEETING: CRAZY HAIR PARTY

TODAY'S KIDS...

need a sense of belonging. Joining Pioneer Clubs can provide that for your club members and their friends. A special "Bring a Friend" meeting will give club members a natural and comfortable opportunity to bring their friends to see what the fun is all about!

MEETING AIMS:

The club members and guests will:

- realize that people may not be what they expect.
- feel willing to look below the surface and accept others.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

OPENING—name tags, markers

ACTIVITY—supplies for activity of your choice

BIBLE DEVOTIONAL—Bible, can of food, label from different can, glue or tape, can opener, glass bowl

BIBLE MEMORY—none

GAME—supplies for game(s) of your choice

SONGFEST—your choice

SNACK—your choice

CLOSING—flyers for parents

PLANNING AHEAD FOR THE BRING-A-FRIEND MEETING

- Download invitations from the Creative Meeting Ideas section in the Leader Resource Center (password: kids) at www.pioneerclubs.org. Club members can fill them out in club and give them to friends.
- Explain that club members and their friends should arrive at the party already sporting their crazy hairdo's.
- Prepare a flyer for parents (see Closing).
- Recruit adult volunteers for Activity time, if needed.
- Gather supplies needed.

OPENING

10-12 minutes

Hand out name tags as children arrive.

Get Acquainted Activity Options:

Call Your Neighbor

Players form a circle with IT in the center. Give players time to determine the names of the two players on either side of them. Then IT spins around, points to a player, calls out "right" (or "left") and counts to 10. Before IT reaches 10, the one pointed to must respond with the name of the person to the right (or left). Players who miss exchange places with IT.

Mix up the circle from time to time so everyone can get to know other kids' names.

Which Answer?

Name a category, such as "favorite food" or "favorite school subject," or start a sentence, such as "Last night for dinner I ate..." Have volunteers take turns giving two answers, one correct and one incorrect, such as "spaghetti or corn dogs." The others must guess which is the correct answer. If older kids want more challenge, have them give one correct and two incorrect answers.



ACTIVITY

15-25 minutes

Activity Options:

Crazy "Do's"

→ Do Ahead:

Gather supplies to create crazy hairdos (combs, brushes, gels, colored hair sprays, rubber bands, etc.). Recruit a good-natured adult for each small group of kids, and find him or her protective clothing (raincoat or plastic bag, goggles, etc.).

Divide children into small groups. Give adult volunteers protective clothing. Let each group of kids give their adult volunteer a crazy hairdo, using any of the supplies you provided.

Option: Make it a contest, but don't tell children the categories ahead of time. That way you can make up categories during the activity so that each group can win something. *Ideas:* Best Themed "Do"; Craziest; Most Colorful.

Option: Take pictures of the teams and their creations. Have a volunteer run the film to a quick photo developer so you can hand out the prints at the end of the party.

"It's in the Bag" Skits

→ Do Ahead:

For each small group, put several crazy items into a paper bag, such as an empty candy bar wrapper, a stuffed animal, and one rain boot. Include a wig in each bag.

Divide volunteers into small groups. Give each group a bag you prepared. Give each group time to create a crazy skit that uses all the props in the bag. Then have groups present their skits to each other.

Dress-up

→ Do Ahead:

Gather lots of funny clothes and accessories in large sizes.

Let children create crazy costumes for themselves to go with their crazy hair.

Option: Take pictures of the results (see idea under Crazy "Do's").



BIBLE DEVOTIONAL

10-12 minutes

*"Labels: People may not be what you expect"**

→ Do Ahead:

Read Romans 15:7. Gather supplies. Replace the label on a can of food with a different food label. Ask a self-confident child with a particularly crazy hairdo to help you.

Give the talk:

What do you think is in this can? (Hold up can; let listeners call out what the label shows.) **When I give the signal, if you like this food, cheer, and if you don't like it, boo.** (Give a signal to start and stop.)

Those of you who booed would probably look at this label and not even bother to open the can. You know just from the label that you won't like what's inside. But let's have a look anyway. (Open can and pour contents into bowl.) What food is this? (Let listeners call out.) It looks as though there's a problem here. But the problem isn't with the food, it's with the label. Someone put the wrong label on the can.

People sometimes have the wrong label put on them, too, in a way. I'll show you what I mean. (Call up the child you recruited.) Let's say that one day at school you see a new kid with this hair-do. But it's not Crazy Hair Day. And there's no costume party after school. What might you think of that kid? (Let listeners call out answers.)

When we look at someone and think, "He must be weird" or "She doesn't look very smart" or something like that, those are labels. When we think negative things about people before we've even given them a chance, that's like putting a label on them.

But then as we get to know the people, we may find out they're not like that label at all! Maybe that kid who didn't look athletic turns out to be a great addition to your team. Or maybe that kid who didn't look very friendly was just having a bad day and turns out to be really nice after all. That's like opening a can and finding out the label was wrong and what's inside is something you like (hold up bowl). It's a good discovery.

The Bible asks us to look underneath the labels for what a person is really like. (Read Romans 15:7.) God wants us to drop the labels we see and accept each other. God looks underneath all our labels and sees who we really are—and he loves each of us and accepts us.

Look around the room at the people you know and the people you don't know. Let's look for ways to find out about the real people underneath all the crazy hair and get to know them and accept them. Hopefully we'll find lots of new friends!

Dear Father, it's great to be able to come to club to learn more about you and about who we are underneath the labels. Thank you for loving and accept-

ing each of us. Help us to accept each other. In Jesus' name, amen.

* Devotional adapted from *Talks That Teach* book (catalog #2725).

BIBLE MEMORY

5-10 minutes

→ Do Ahead:

Memorize Romans 15:7.

Let children make up motions to go with various words in the verse. Practice saying the verse with the motions.

GAME

10-15 minutes

Crazy Game Options:

Hot Wig

Play *Hot Potato* with a wig instead of a potato.

Cats and Dogs

Use two wigs for the "cats" and two soft balls for the "dogs." Players stand in a circle, with four different players holding the cats and dogs. At the signal, they pass the cats around the circle in opposite directions, while the dogs are tossed across the circle, trying to hit players holding the cats. (Have players aim for feet or legs only.) Cats may reverse direction. Instead of eliminating players who are hit, simply start a new round after several have been hit.

Spray the Hair on the Head

Draw a large sketch of a person's head, minus hair, and attach it to a wall. Play like *Pin the Tail on the Donkey*, but let players shoot blasts of different colors of silly string to try to put "hair" on the person. *Option:* Make several sketches so you can switch to a fresh sketch as each one fills up with silly string.

Crazy Clothes

Players sit in a circle. While music plays, players pass a bag of crazy clothes (baggy pants, adult-size T-shirts, wild jewelry, etc.) from one to the other. When the music stops, the person holding the bag pulls out an article of clothing and puts in on. Continue as long as desired, seeing how crazy the outfits can get—to go with everyone's crazy hair.



SNACK

10-15 minutes

Pray, and enjoy the snack.

Snack Options:

Crazy Utensils

No hands allowed! Let kids figure out how to eat a variety of challenging snacks (gelatin jigglers, pizza rolls, deviled eggs, etc.) using a wide variety of crazy utensils (tongs, chopsticks, spatulas, etc.).

Hairy Crackers

Younger children will enjoy using string cheese or "squirt" cheese to put hair on round crackers.



SONGFEST

8-10 minutes

Sing fun songs that are easy to learn. End with some simple praise choruses and the club theme song, "Thy Word." Explain what the theme song means and that it comes from God's Word, the Bible. Use the CD (catalog #2746) if you want accompaniment for the theme song.



CLOSING

5-7 minutes

→ Do Ahead:

Prepare a flyer about your Pioneer Clubs program to send home with guests, inviting them to join club. Download a customizable flyer from the Creative Meeting Ideas section in the Leader Resource Center at www.pioneerclubs.org. Or order *Promoting Your Club Program* (catalog #2771) and select the reproducible flyer of your choice.

Thank everyone for coming, and invite guests to join club and attend regularly. Tell them how they can register and join. Hand out flyers. Announce your club plans for the coming weeks.

Thank your club members for sharing their club experience with their friends. Close in prayer.