

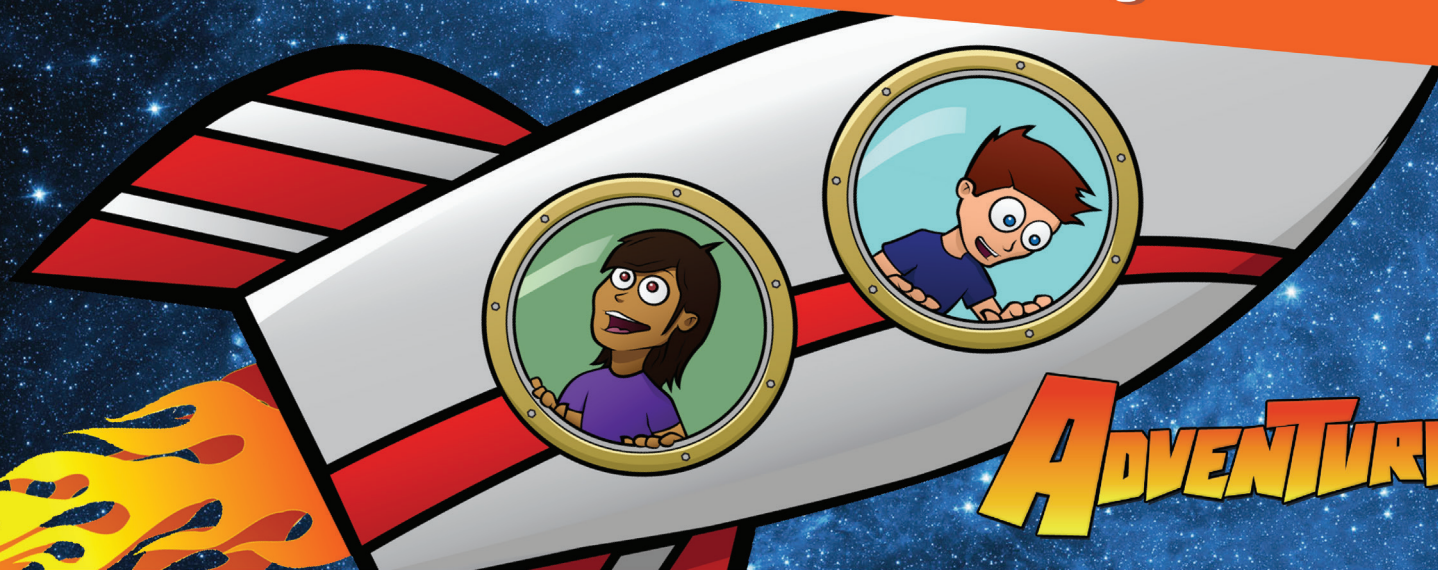


# Hiker



# ALL-IN-ONE

Knowing God's Love



# ADVENTURER

# NAVIGATOR



Leader Planbook



# All-in-One Format Introduction

## PIONEER CLUBS GOALS

To help churched and unchurched children:

- enter into a personal relationship with Jesus and develop confidence in using the Bible as a way to strengthen their relationship with Him and live in obedience to Him
- experience spiritual transformation and form strong, healthy relationships with others
- grow in all aspects of life—physical, intellectual, social, emotional and spiritual

## SO WHY DELTA?

Discipling young people is arguably the single most important ministry a church can undertake. We know that children are the church's future. But they are also our present—and the church must act today to reach them for Christ. Various studies indicate that more than 80 percent of Christian adults accepted Christ as their Savior before age 13. This is why weekly kids ministries like DELTA are so necessary. This program will help churches reach kids in congregations and communities with the gospel when they are most receptive.

So why DELTA? Delta is the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet and the capital letter resembles a triangle (**Δ**). We feel that the “three-ness” of a triangle makes a great symbol for this program. First, DELTA hopes to affect three aspects of a child—mind, heart and body. How does it work? By studying God's Word and memorizing Scripture, children begin to experience a renewing of their minds. As kids apply God's Word to their lives, their hearts are changed, leading to godly actions and behavior that serves to protect and preserve them physically, as well as spiritually.

The three points on a triangle also serve as a visual symbol for kids of the Trinity. Each represents a member of the Godhead—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Finally, Delta is a term in science to denote incremental change—in other words, transformation. And that is exactly what DELTA hopes will happen in the lives of children—a transformation brought about by trusting Jesus Christ for eternity and learning to follow Him in every aspect of life.



## DELTA FOR SMALL GROUPS OF KIDS

The DELTA All-in-One format is designed especially for churches that have smaller groups of kids in their club program (2-15). This alleviates the pressure of trying to make a too-big program fit. The All-in-One format also:

- provides discipleship and outreach to children.
- runs smoothly with only a few kids and one or two leaders! Multiage-level curriculum allows grades 1-6 to meet together.
- helps kids build healthy and rewarding relationships—with each other, Christian adults and, ultimately, Jesus Christ.
- gets kids excited about learning God's Word with engaging Bible studies, meaningful Scripture memory, skits, fun skill-building activities and games.
- is convenient—hold meetings when it's best for you! Features undated meetings that fit any time frame of 1 to 1½ hours.
- is quick and easy to begin—with the essentials you need for ministry to 12 kids for an entire school year of programming!
- allows you the option of moving into our Large Group Format program if you see your club size grow substantially during the club year. You can transition any time—even in the middle of the club year! There's no need to purchase new handbooks for the kids, because the handbooks are the same in the Large Group Format—saving you time and money!

## What Does DELTA Stand For?

Each letter of DELTA stands for a very important biblical concept that we hope to instill in the lives of kids through this unique children's ministry. The letters are:

**Disciples**—God wants you to learn to follow Christ in every aspect of life—that's what it means to be a disciple. (John 8:31)

**Equipped for**—God has given you His Word in order to equip you to live like Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

**Life**—Jesus came to earth to live, die and rise from the dead in order that you might have eternal and abundant life. (John 10:10)

**Transformation and**—When you trust in Jesus and allow Him to have control of your life, He transforms (or changes) you to be more like Him. This is what God desires for you. (Romans 12:2)

**Action**—It is great to know and understand what God's Word says—but it is also important to be doers of His Word by putting what you know into action. (James 1:22)

## STRUCTURAL OPTIONS

While the DELTA All-in-One format program is designed to allow kids grades 1-6 to meet together with one or two adult leaders, you may want to try these options:

- If possible, separate Hikers (grades 1-2), Adventurers (grades 3-4) and Navigators (grades 5-6) during the Bible Exploration and Bible Award time.
- As your club grows and more volunteers become available, separate age groups during the entire meeting.
- When you have enough kids and club leaders, consider moving into the Large Group Format. This program can help you meet the age-related needs of large groups of club members more effectively. When you are ready to take this step, check out the details on our website, [www.pioneerclubs.org](http://www.pioneerclubs.org) or call one of our Ministry Consultants at 800-694-CLUB (2582).

## WAYS TO USE THE DELTA SMALL GROUP FORMAT PROGRAM

- midweek club
- after school club
- children's church
- Sunday children's ministry
- summer church camp
- any time that fits your church schedule

## DELTA SUPPLIES

We've designed the All-in-One format Bible Exploration activities to work using a standard "supply kit" of basic supplies: pens, pencils, markers, glue, tape, scissors, plain paper, construction paper, roll of paper (such as plain white shelf paper), index cards and a foam ball or beanbag. Glitter glue is a fun extra for drawing and decorating activities. Prepare a tub or basket with these supplies.

Stocking your club area with Bibles ensures that everyone will have one to use during club. Bibles with concordances will be helpful for older club members (Navigators). You may prefer to keep handbooks with Small Group supplies so they don't get misplaced.

## DELTA ESSENTIAL CLUB RESOURCES

### **All-in-One Leader Planbook**

**Used by:** Group Leaders

**Purpose:** lists supplies and extra helpers needed for group time and contains scripted Bible Exploration, Bible Memory and prayer content

### **Kids Handbook for three grade levels: Hikers (grades 1-2), Adventurers (3-4) and Navigators (5-6)**

**Used by:** each club member, Small Group Leaders, Skill Award & Games Award Coordinator(s)

**Purpose:** used during Bible Award time every week to reinforce Bible teaching and application. Also contains instructions and requirements for all Skill Awards and Games Awards.

### **DELTA emblem, lanyard and stickers**

**Earned by:** each club member

**Purpose:** The front of the DELTA emblem has been designed to serve as a name badge for everyone involved in club. For club members it is also used to display Bible Awards, Skill Awards and Games Awards earned during club. Emblems are worn on a lanyard around each child's neck. Small triangle stickers, which also color coordinate to each year's curriculum, are placed on the appropriate areas on the emblem and designate awards earned.

### **DELTA award pins**

**Earned by:** each club member at the end of the club year

**Purpose:** DELTA award pins represent the completion of all six Bible Awards, Skill Awards and Games Awards for the club year. There is one pin for each award area and the pins are worn on the lanyard or displayed by club members some other way.



Order DELTA club resources in our online store at [www.pioneerclubs.org/shop](http://www.pioneerclubs.org/shop)  
or call a Ministry Services Consultant at 800-694-CLUB (2582).





## VOLUNTEER STAFFING AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Pioneer Clubs DELTA Coordinator** provides oversight for the entire ministry. The coordinator recruits and trains needed staff; is the contact person with Pioneer Clubs headquarters; orders needed resources, emblems and award stickers; and keeps church staff informed. He or she is also the go-to person for questions or problems during club meetings.
- **Group Leaders** focus on building relationships with kids while covering Bible Exploration, Skill Awards, Games Awards and Bible Memory.
- **(Optional) Skill Award & Games Award Coordinator(s)** focus on gathering supplies and recruiting volunteers with talent or experience in particular Skill Awards to lead that award. May also lead Skill or Games Awards themselves if necessary.
- **Prayer Pals** support your Pioneer Clubs ministry by praying regularly for a specific age group of kids or individual club members. Pals are usually other church members who become involved with DELTA through prayer—after all, who can't spare the time to pray for a child! Group Leaders may call or email assigned Prayer Pal(s) to request specific prayer support for club members.

## WHAT HAPPENS IN DELTA ALL-IN-ONE FORMAT MEETINGS?

In each two-page meeting plan, find these elements for a complete club meeting:

### Welcome & Singing

This opening time includes taking prayer requests, praying as a group and singing the "Thy Word" club theme song and other songs. For song time, choose fun songs and songs that relate to the spiritual topic of the meeting.

### Bible Exploration

Bible Exploration is a relationship building time. Group Leaders build relationships with and between club members while leading Bible Exploration through discussions, activities, Bible handbook work and Bible Memory.

### Bible Memory

Each unit provides creative techniques for teaching three unit memory verses. Memory Verse Stickers, which club members put in their handbooks, encourage and reinforce memorization.

### Skill Award Time

Skill Awards, which provide fun with friends in a Christian environment as well as building life skills, cover four general categories: the arts, hobbies and projects, outdoors and activities that develop personal and social skills. Club members earn one Skill

Award in each unit. Club members work on the Skill Award for all four weeks of the unit.

The Skill Award Coordinator, if you have one, selects appropriate options from the *Kids Handbook* to complete each Skill Award and gathers supplies, such as "for every club member: 1 plastic half gallon milk container." This person will need to know how many kids or groups to gather supplies for.

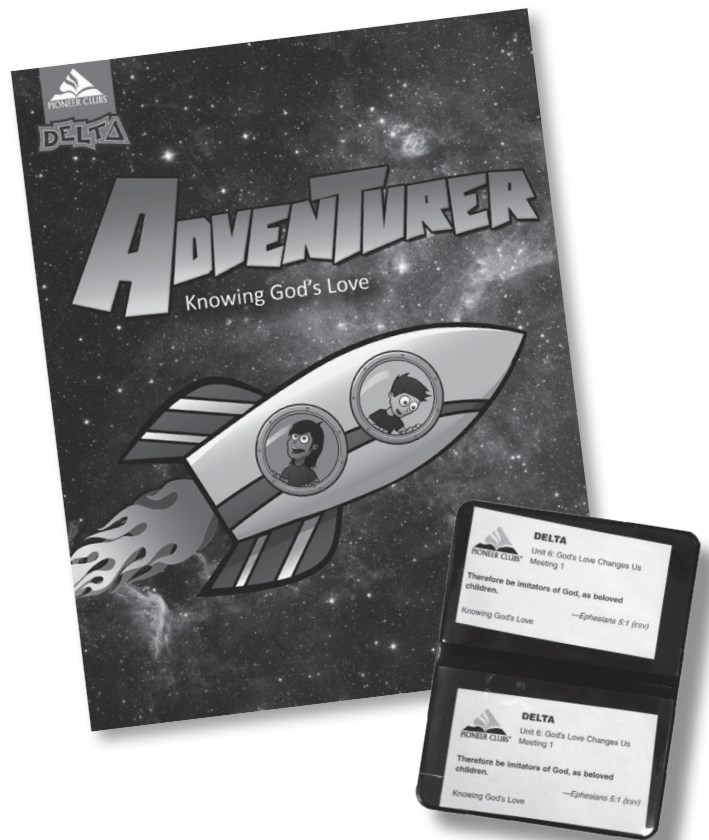
Group Leaders' responsibility during Skill Award time is to encourage the kids and help them complete their Skill Award requirements.

### Games Award Time

Games Award time gives club members a chance to develop physical skills in a setting where they're also exposed to game related values such as being a good sport. Club members work on each Games Award for all four weeks of the unit they're doing.

### Goodbye

During this time, you'll keep track of award requirements completed, make announcements for upcoming meetings and pray. Also, be sure to hand out awards at the end of every unit.



## ADAPTING FOR OLDER AND YOUNGER KIDS

The meeting plans will give suggestions for how to use them for older and younger kids. In addition, here are general guidelines:

- Use older kids in a “teaching” capacity when appropriate. For instance, let them demonstrate a Skill Award requirement that you’re explaining.
- Pair younger kids with older ones for more difficult activities.
- Realize that younger children can only follow one or two simple directions at a time. Let them do one thing you’ve said before giving a new direction.
- If younger children don’t understand a Bible Exploration question, give them possible answers and let them agree or disagree.
- Often the same technique can be easily modified to appeal to older or younger kids. For instance, if the plans call for kids to make thumbs-up or thumbs-down signs, younger kids may enjoy clapping and booing instead.

Consider adding a Pioneer preschool program (Skippers, for ages 2 and 3; or Scooters, for ages 4 and 5) to your DELTA program. These programs provide age-specific ministry and are a great complement to DELTA.

## AWARDS DISPLAY

The reproducible Award Record Sheet (inside back cover) will help you keep track of who has earned which awards. When your club completes a unit (4 meetings), each club member who has fully completed the requirements will have earned a Bible Award, a Skill Award and a Games Award. Children who have done so receive awards in the form of small triangle stickers that they stick on their DELTA emblems. The DELTA Coordinator should provide these award stickers to each leader. To maximize effectiveness, leaders are encouraged to distribute all awards earned at the end of each unit. Awards create a unique incentive approach for kids because:

- club members celebrate Bible knowledge and skill development by gaining recognition for their achievements.
- award work helps them to learn teamwork and cooperation.
- working together and earning awards allow them to experience peer appreciation.



## ORDERING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Shop online at [www.pioneerclubs.org/shop](http://www.pioneerclubs.org/shop) to order helpful resources for DELTA, such as:

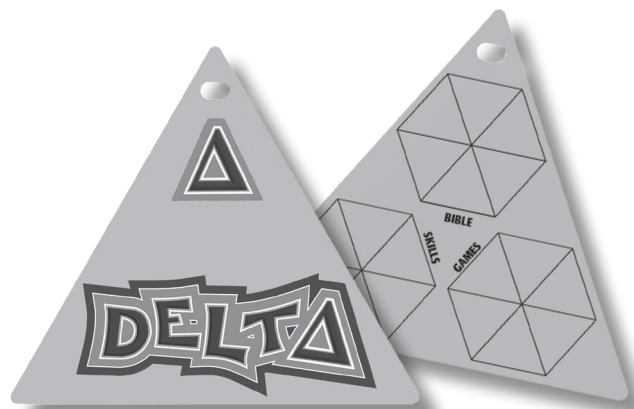
- award stickers, emblems, award pins and lanyards
- Memory Verse Stickers
- game books
- Pioneer Clubs T-shirts
- DELTA Special Events Pak (six special events to use throughout the year)
- additional copies of the Kids Handbook



## FREE E-NEWSLETTER HELPS YOU RUN DELTA EFFECTIVELY

All member churches receive a FREE monthly Pioneer Clubs Leaders eNewsletter! Each month leaders receive tips, tools, insights and inspiring stories to help make their DELTA club program a success. Ideas for special events and handy to-do lists are just a few of the valuable resources created especially for club coordinators and leaders.

Be sure to register all your club leaders with one of our ministry services staff members, so leaders can enjoy and learn from this free member benefit. You’ll be surprised at the difference it will make in your club program!



## HOW TO LEAD A CHILD TO CHRIST

One Bible Exploration in each DELTA unit includes a Salvation Challenge in the Application section. To be ready to present Jesus as Savior to club members, you need to understand that salvation is:

- receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, not merely believing a text or repeating a prayer, but entering a relationship with a loving Lord who changes our lives

Kids need to know some simple, basic facts so they can appreciate Jesus' sacrificial death and accept Him as their Savior and Lord. Depend on the work of the Holy Spirit to guide you and prepare your club members.

When club members want to talk more about salvation, be sure these points are clear:

- God loves us. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:9)
- We have done wrong and this wrong—called sin—prevents a relationship with God who is holy. (Romans 3:21; 6:23; Isaiah 53:6)
- Jesus died to pay for our sin. (1 Timothy 1:15; Hebrews 7:27; 1 John 2:2)
- To receive God's forgiveness, we must accept Jesus as our Savior. (John 3:36; Acts 13:38-39)
- When we do this, we become God's children. (John 1:12; 5:24; 10:28)
- God gives us new and fulfilling lives. (John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 2 Peter 1:3)

If a child does not indicate readiness to accept Jesus as Savior, don't push. Be aware that this may not be the time for that child to make a decision.

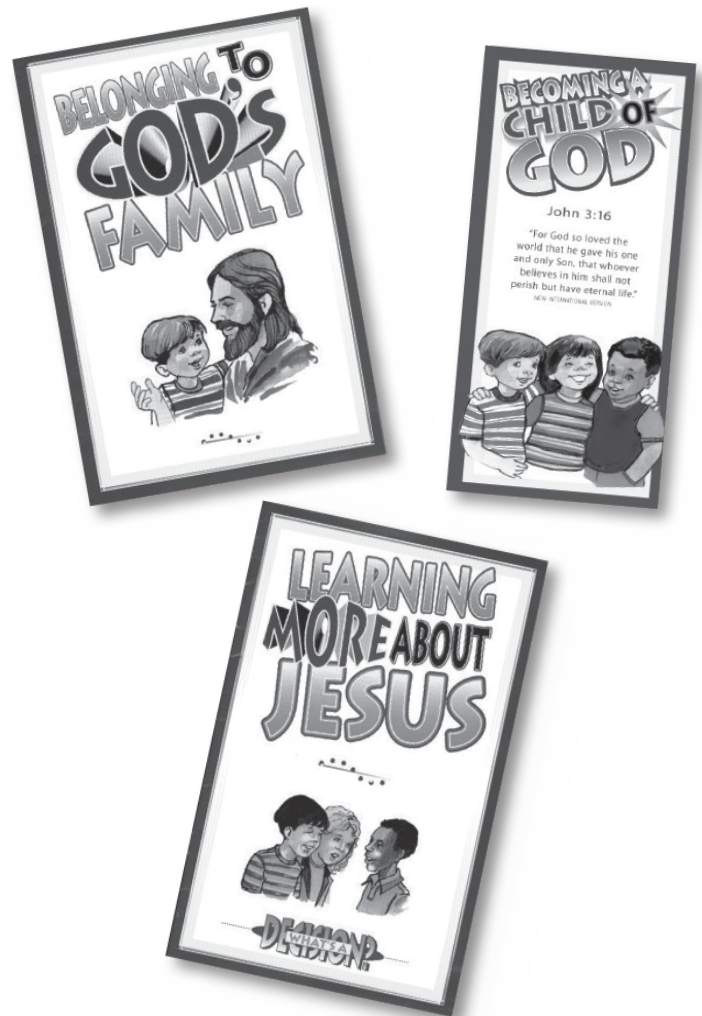
If a child has prayed to receive Jesus as Savior, review the Scripture from the Bible Exploration. Be sure the child understands what has happened and that now he or she is a member of God's family. Continue to encourage the child to grow spiritually.

## FOLLOW-UP MATERIALS

- *Becoming a Child of God*—brochure for grades 1-6 that explains the plan of salvation
- *Belonging to God's Family*—booklet for grades 1-2
- *Learning More About Jesus*—booklet for grades 3-6

See Club Room Resources at [www.pioneerclubs.org/shop](http://www.pioneerclubs.org/shop) for these booklets.

- Daily Watch books—fun devotional books for grades 3-6: *Searching God's Word* and *Adventures with God*. See Special Events and Gifts at [www.pioneerclubs.org/shop](http://www.pioneerclubs.org/shop).





## PROMOTING YOUR DELTA CLUB

### Getting Kids to DELTA

Use photos of past club events to add interest to bulletin inserts, letters, posters, banners—even press releases. Here are some suggestions for promoting club to kids at your church and in your community:

- bulletin announcements
- flyers handed out in church and posted around your neighborhood on public bulletin boards such as at the local public library, stores, schools, etc. (Get permission first.)
- incentives to encourage your church kids to invite their friends
- DELTA club postcards mailed to VBS and Sunday school participants
- press releases to local media
- announcements on your church's website
- door hangers created by you or purchased from Pioneer Clubs to announce the start of club at your church. (Get permission first.)

### Getting Families and Other Adults Involved

Communicate regularly with club families. Send home lists of the awards you're working on along with Bible memory verses to review. Or compile a club parent email list gathered at registration and email club updates to them.

Encourage participation by adults other than club parents by publicizing needs for experts in certain areas for Skill Awards.

Encourage prayer for and interest in club by continuing to promote club activities and news in your church's announcements, website, emails and newsletters.

