



Shield Sharers

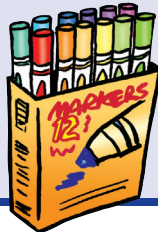
Activities to Kick Off Your Fundraiser

In the olden days, people shared their gold and silver coins to help make shields to protect and defend others. Today your club members can become Shield Sharers by giving their silver to help Pioneer Clubs® teach other children about the Lord’s strength and protection. By asking your club members to bring a quarter each week this club year, they can share in helping Pioneer Clubs’ ministry headquarters reach other kids for Christ!

Kick off your Pioneer Clubs Shield Sharers fundraiser with the following special activities that will encourage club members to understand that we all need God’s help and protection. By sharing Christ with others, club members can tell about the protection God offers those who trust in him.

Activities for grades 1-6:

- Devotional (5-8 minutes)
- Activity (8-10 minutes)
- Game (5 minutes)
- Wrap-Up (2 minutes)
- Snack (8-10 minutes)



Options for Use

- Option 1—Use all the activities as a special meeting.
- Option 2—Do the devotional and wrap-up during an all-club Opening.
- Option 3—Do activity, game and wrap-up during regular Game time.
- Option 4—Your choice!

Devotional (5-8 minutes)

Do Ahead

- Follow the instructions in Activity time to make a sample shield, inserting your name in the verse.
- Print and cut apart “Matching Pairs” sheet.
- Print a copy of the “God Is My Shield” sheet for each club member.
- Bring scissors.

Everybody needs protection from some things. Problems are a part of life. Show the “Matching Pairs” slips that you cut apart. **Here I’ve got four people or things that need protection from something and four solutions.** Hand out the slips

to volunteers and let them pair up the correct ones. Read them out loud, reading the soldier/shield pair last.

- **Raise your hand if you have ever seen a shield.**
Here’s my shield. Show the sample you made. **I based it on our Pioneer Clubs theme verse for the year, Psalm 28:7: “The Lord is my strength and shield; my heart trusts in him.” Then I made it personal.** Read your shield with your name inserted.
- **How were shields used long ago?** Have a volunteer demonstrate with your shield.
- **What was used to make shields?**
People sometimes gave metal objects they owned to be melted down to make shields. They even gave coins to be

melted down. They gave coins so the soldiers could have shields for protection.

- What did shields protect soldiers from long ago?
- Kids today don't have to worry about arrows. But what do they need protection from?

Think about our Bible verse, Psalm 28:7: "The Lord is my strength and shield; my heart trusts in him." This verse is saying that God is our protection. He guards us. When we have a problem, we can always turn to him. He wants us to pray about our problems and trust in him. He doesn't always keep bad things from happening—they're part of being human. But he is always with us to help us through.



Hand out the "God Is My Shield" sheets. Write six things you need God to be your shield against. Then cut apart the slips. We're going to use them in a game after a while. Read the ideas on the sheet aloud. Allow time. Have older kids help younger ones who can't write, as needed.

Take a minute to ask for God's protection from these things. Thank him for being your trustworthy shield. Then I'll close.



Activity (8-10 minutes)

Do Ahead

- Gather posterboard or cardboard and markers.
- Bring decorating supplies as desired (glue, glitter glue, stickers, etc.).
- Write out Psalm 28:7 on a board or easel pad, leaving a blank line in place of each "my."

Pass out posterboard or cardboard and have kids draw the outline of a shield. Have them write Psalm 28:7 in the middle, putting their name with an "s" in each blank, such as "Taylor's." (If you have non-writers, show them how to simply write "God.") Kids may decorate the shields any way they like.

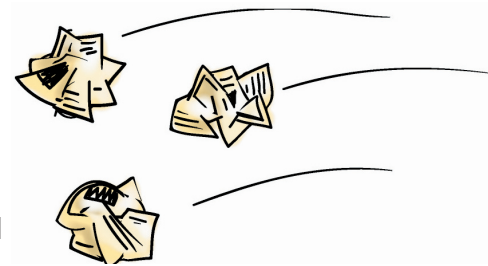
Game (5 minutes)

Shield Sharers Dodgeball

Have club members cut apart and wad up the "God is my shield" slips from the Devotional time to make "balls." Mark a center line on the floor. Have two teams stand on opposite sides of the line. Half of the members of each team carry their shields, so that the rest are without protection. Each team member with a shield pairs up with someone without a shield.

Play like dodgeball, with the shield-carrying players trying to protect themselves as well as their partners. Shield sharers must stay with partners at all times.

People throwing the "balls" should call out things they want God to protect them from (robbers, war, accidents, bullies, illness, etc.). Shield sharers call out, "God is my shield!" When either partner in a pair is hit, they both change teams. When everyone is on one team, or after one or two minutes, start another round, with different kids holding their shields.



Next we'll see how we can share shields in real life.

Wrap-Up (2 minutes)

Do Ahead

- Prepare the special Shield Sharers container.

Think about things you've needed God's protection from.

- Briefly tell us about a way God has been your shield and helped you. How has that helped you trust him?
All kids need God and his shield of protection, but many kids don't know him. The people who make our Pioneer Clubs program and books and awards are always working to help more kids know God. We can help more kids get to know God by supporting Pioneer Clubs' work in telling children just like you about him.

We're going to be "shield sharers" this year in Pioneer Clubs. Just as people long ago might have given their coins to make shields for soldiers, we're going to bring coins to put in a special container. We'll collect this money all year and then send it Pioneer Clubs headquarters to help Pioneer Clubs tell other kids how God can protect and save them.

Show the container(s) you made and let children know where they will be in the club room(s). At the start of each club meeting, invite children to put change into the container.

Pray, asking God to bless your service project.



Snack (8-10 minutes)

Do Ahead:

- Make paper templates of shields, if desired.
- Bring cheese slices, bread and table knives.

Pray. Let club members use knives to cut shield shapes out of slices of cheese. Club members put their shield shape on a piece of bread to eat. *Option:* Make smaller shapes and put them on crackers.