



# Pioneer Clubs Kids for Kids Hike

## Planning Checklist

### 6 MONTHS before the Hike:

- ☐ Get permission from your church to plan the hike.
- ☐ Put the hike date on your club calendar.
- ☐ Consider selecting a committee to do the hike planning.
- ☐ Consider inviting others to hike with your group—your pastor, parents, members of the congregation, or other Pioneer Clubs.
- ☐ Contact Pioneer Clubs to let us know you are hiking. E-mail [info@pioneerclubs.org](mailto:info@pioneerclubs.org) or call 800-694- CLUB and ask for the development department.

### 4 MONTHS before the Hike:

- ☐ Determine whether your group will hike, bike, jog, or skate.
- ☐ Determine your hike's length, based on the age of the youngest children who will participate.
- ☐ Determine the time of day to hold the hike.
- ☐ Select a hike location (park, forest preserve, trail, local neighborhood, school track or gym, etc.).
- ☐ Plan your hike to include rest areas with washrooms, if possible.
- ☐ Hike the route yourself to determine if trails or sidewalks, and areas hiked through, are safe. If any of your hikers have mobility issues, be alert for potential problems along the route.
- ☐ Estimate number of children you expect to hike.
- ☐ Determine the number of adults needed (1 for every 6-8 hikers recommended; more adults if younger children), and begin enlisting their help.
- ☐ Notify police, park district officials, or school administrators, if necessary. (Check local rules.)
- ☐ Plan to carry along water (and perhaps snacks) for the hikers. Consider having a meal after the hike.
- ☐ Plan for trash disposal, if needed.
- ☐ Prepare to handle emergencies. Consider bringing cell phones or walkie-talkies.
- ☐ Determine how you'll transport hikers to and from the hike location.
- ☐ Decide how to use the Hike Day Plan on hike day.

### 1 MONTH before the Hike:

- ☐ Inform club leaders, club members, and parents of hike plans (letters, information meeting, etc.).
- ☐ Place hike announcements in the church bulletin.
- ☐ Distribute copies of the Kids for Kids Hike poster throughout your church and community.
- ☐ Write your press release. Send copies to local newspapers, TV and radio stations.
- ☐ Distribute copies of forms to hikers: permission, Sponsor Sign-Up, thank-you receipts, hiker information sheet.
- ☐ Prepare adult hiker packets, and give them to helpers.
- ☐ Arrange for someone to take photographs on hike day.
- ☐ Prepare a first aid kit for the hikers.
- ☐ Begin doing tasks listed in the Hike Day Plan "Do Ahead" sections, and assign responsibilities.

### 1 WEEK before the Hike:

- ☐ Collect all Sponsor Sign-Up forms and sponsors' money from participants.
- ☐ Assign hike groups, with at least 1 adult for every 6-8 children.
- ☐ Call all adult helpers to review responsibilities and check on supplies they are assigned to bring.

### On HIKE DAY:

- ☐ Follow your personalized Hike Day Plan.

#### IMMEDIATELY AFTER the Hike

- ☐ Download and complete the Hike Report Form.
- ☐ Write one check to Pioneer Clubs for all money collected.
- ☐ Send your completed Hike Report Form, check, and all Sponsor Sign-Up Forms to Pioneer Clubs, PO Box 788, Wheaton IL 60189-0788.
- ☐ Optional: Send a photo of your hike to post on Pioneer Clubs' Website.



# Pioneer Clubs Kids for Kids Hike

## Hiker Countdown

It's great that you're going to be part of the Kids for Kids Hike! You'll help other kids all across North America or in another country have Pioneer Clubs, just as you do. Here's what you need to do:

### 1. Get ready.

- ☐ Get a sponsor sign-up form from your leader. Fill in the hiker information. (If you get more than 10 sponsors, ask for more forms.)
- ☐ Get thank-you receipt forms from your leader. Sign your name and write the date on all the forms.
- ☐ Get a pen or pencil to take with you.
- ☐ Put the sponsor sign-up form on a clipboard (or clip it to a piece of cardboard or a book).
- ☐ Get something to hold the thank-you receipts and the money you collect. An empty coffee can or big envelope would work. (You might want to decorate your container.)

### 2. Get sponsors.

- ☐ Ask people you know: family friends, neighbors, church members, etc.
- ☐ Tell people you are raising money to help children across North America and in other countries benefit from Pioneer Clubs. Show them the information on the thank-you receipt form.
- ☐ Tell the people a little about your Pioneer Clubs group.
- ☐ Ask if they will donate a certain amount of money to sponsor you.
- ☐ When people say yes, have them print their name and address and the amount they're donating on the sponsor sign-up form.
- ☐ Collect their money when they sign up.
- ☐ Give each sponsor a thank-you receipt form, filled in with your name, date, and the donation amount—and remember to thank your sponsors.
- ☐ Turn in all the money you collect and your sponsor sign-up forms to your club leader by this date:

### 3. Get hiking!

- ☐ Make sure to turn in your signed permission slip.
- ☐ Wear shoes and clothes that are good for walking—and for the weather.
- ☐ Meet at this place: \_\_\_\_\_ at this time: \_\_\_\_\_.



# Pioneer Clubs Kids for Kids Hike

## Hike Day Plan

### Do Ahead:

- ☐ Follow the Planning Checklist to prepare for the event.
- ☐ Decide what to do in case of bad weather (reschedule, hike indoors, etc.) and how to contact participants.
- ☐ Do what's suggested in the Do Ahead sections of this Hike Day Plan and gather supplies.

### Supplies Needed:

- ☐ **ARRIVAL TIME:** container for sponsor forms and money collected, adult hiker packets; optional: copies of map of hike route for adults
- ☐ **HIKING TIME:** drinking water, first aid kit, emergency information (on permission slip for each child), adult hiker packets; optional: cell phones or walkie-talkies, snacks, route markers
- ☐ **DEVOTIONAL TIME (optional):** Kids for Kids Hike Sneaker devotional
- ☐ **APPRECIATION TIME:** Certificate of Appreciation for each hike participant; optional: confetti, noisemakers, balloons, streamers
- ☐ **REFRESHMENT TIME (optional):** your choice

### ARRIVAL TIME

**Do Ahead:** Review contents of adult hiker packets with adult helpers. Collect all permission slips. Collect all sponsor forms and money. Have extra adult packets for those who forget theirs. Gather supplies. Optional: Copy a map of the hike route.

#### On hike day:

- ☐ Collect any additional permission slips, money, or sponsor forms; optional: hand out maps.
- ☐ Assign adults and children to groups with a ratio of 1 adult for every 6 to 8 children.
- ☐ Pray together.

### HIKING TIME

**Do Ahead:** Gather supplies. Optional: Mark the route with directional signs.

#### On hike day:

- ☐ Encourage adult helpers to involve children in songs and activities suggested in the adult hiker packets.

### DEVOTIONAL TIME (optional)

**Do Ahead:** Prepare to give the devotional.

**On hike day:** Give the devotional.

### APPRECIATION TIME

**Do Ahead:** Prepare certificates for hike participants. Total the money collected and the number of sponsors. Optional: Bring festive items such as confetti, balloons, streamers, and noisemakers. Consider having special recognition for various categories of hikers (those with 10 or more sponsors, most enthusiastic hikers, those with all family members participating, loudest singers, etc.). Be sure everyone gets recognition for something. Plan other ways to recognize hikers (names in the church bulletin or newsletter, special recognition during a church service, etc.).

#### On hike day:

- ☐ Congratulate hikers on a job well done in getting sponsors and participating in the hike.
- ☐ Announce the total raised and the total number of sponsors.
- ☐ Let hikers compile amazing statistics by adding or multiplying the number of hikers, number of sponsors, distance hiked, total funds raised, and so on. Then lead the group in a big cheer, using any festive items brought.
- ☐ Hand out certificates to all participants. Announce any plans for other recognition of hikers.
- ☐ Express your appreciation to everyone for making the Kids for Kids Hike a success.

### REFRESHMENT TIME (optional)

**Do Ahead:** Decide on refreshments and where to have them. (Ideas: Fruit or ice cream at the hike, picnic lunch or cookout at a park, pancake brunch at church.) Consider decorating the area with hiking gear or flags. Gather supplies. Assign responsibilities.

#### On hike day:

- ☐ Serve the refreshments.



Join Pioneer Clubs members all across the continent in a hike to help other kids in North America and other countries be able to attend Pioneer Clubs.

### The KIDS for KIDS Hike

- ☐ provides a meaningful service opportunity for kids
- ☐ supports the ministry of Pioneer Clubs
- ☐ increases the visibility of your church's Pioneer Clubs
- ☐ helps provide the means to reach many more children with the good news that Jesus loves them

For more information on this special event or how you can sponsor a hiker, contact:

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Hike Coordinator Phone number

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Church

Pioneer Clubs ([www.pioneerclubs.org](http://www.pioneerclubs.org)) is a church-sponsored mid-week club program for boys and girls age two through grade 6. This Christ-centered program focuses on spiritual and personal development while emphasizing evangelism and discipleship.

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# Pioneer Clubs Kids for Kids Hike

## Ideas for Adult Hiker Packets

Create a packet for the adults who will lead groups of hikers during the Kids for Kids Hike. Include the following information:

### Hike Day Procedures

- ☐ When and where to meet
- ☐ Schedule for the hike
- ☐ What to do if a hiker is injured
- ☐ How to handle emergencies

### Hiking Songs

Suggest that adults lead their groups in singing the Pioneer Clubs theme song, “Thy Word” (in leader’s plan books and club members’ handbooks), and other songs the children know well.

### Hiking Games

Hikers may enjoy doing some of these activities while they hike:

- ☐ **Alphabet Hike**—As they hike, hikers look for nature objects that begin with the letters of the alphabet. See how many the group can find. The leader could keep a master list.
- ☐ **Touch and Feel**—Hikers walk along silently in follow-the-leader fashion, mimicking the person in front of them. The leader, using different parts of the body (palms, backs of hands, forearms, cheeks, etc.), feels different tree barks, rocks, moss, soil, leaves, and so on.
- ☐ **Head of the Line**—Hikers walk in single file. The hiker at the head of the line points to a natural object (tree, flower, bird, etc.) and asks a question about it. Whoever answers the question correctly goes to the front of the line and gets to ask a question.

### Hike Awards

While participating in the Kids for Kids Hike, club members can also be fulfilling a requirement or an extra credit option in the following awards:

- ☐ Trailblazers: Cycling, Hiking, Missions, Money Management
- ☐ Pathfinders: Hiker, Outdoor Skills
- ☐ Voyagers: Exploring, Outdoors
- ☐ Delta: Hiker, Wilderness Skills, Money Management, Cycling
- ☐ BOLT: Trail Hikes, Money Matters, Outdoor Fun

If you do your hike at a special location, such as a zoo or demonstration farm, consider other activity awards related to that topic, such as Animals (Voyager), Critters (Pathfinder) and Environment or Nature (Trailblazer).



# Pioneer Clubs Kids for Kids Hike

## Press Release

Fill in the following form with what your Pioneer Clubs will do during the Kids for Kids Hike. You may want to add more information about your church's club program, such as:

- ☐ how long your church has had Pioneer Clubs
- ☐ how many kids participate in your club program
- ☐ club age-groups
- ☐ quotes from kids, leaders, or parents on what they like about club

At least two to three weeks before your hike, send the completed press release to your:

- ☐ local newspapers, TV stations, and radio stations
- ☐ your denominational magazine
- ☐ your church newsletter editor

Most news providers prefer electronic submissions, so consider sending this as the text of an e-mail. If you send your press release by regular mail, double-space your text as shown when you print it. Include a contact person's information so reporters can follow up with any questions.

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: (Hike coordinator name)  
(Hike coordinator phone number)  
(Hike coordinator e-mail address)

\_\_\_\_\_ [fill in Church name] Church will sponsor a Kids for Kids Hike on \_\_\_\_\_ [fill in date]. The \_\_\_\_\_-long hike will begin and end at [fill in place (s) and times] \_\_\_\_\_.

More than \_\_\_\_\_ hikers will participate in this special event. Funds raised by sponsored hikers will support Pioneer Clubs® programs across North America and in other countries.

Pioneer Clubs ([www.pioneerclubs.org](http://www.pioneerclubs.org)) is a church-sponsored midweek club program for boys and girls age two through sixth grade. This Christ-centered program focuses on spiritual and personal development while emphasizing evangelism and discipleship. The Pioneer Clubs program at \_\_\_\_\_ [fill in Church name] Church meets on \_\_\_\_\_ [fill in day club meets] at \_\_\_\_\_ [fill in time club meets]. For more information about Pioneer Clubs or about sponsoring a hiker, call \_\_\_\_\_ [name of club coordinator and/or hike coordinator] at \_\_\_\_\_ [contact information for club coordinator and/or hike coordinator].



# Pioneer Clubs Kids for Kids Hike Report

Please complete this form and send it to Pioneer Clubs along with all sponsor forms and check payable to Pioneer Clubs. Thank you for all your efforts!

Church:

Name

Address

City

State/Prov

Zip/Postal Code

Hike Coordinator:

Name

Address

City

State/Prov

Zip/Postal Code

(area code) phone number

email address

When did you hike?

Number hiking:

\_\_\_\_\_ Children

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults

Who participated?

Club members(check each group that participated):

- ☐ Skippers
- ☐ Scooters
- ☐ Voyagers
- ☐ Pathfinders
- ☐ Trailblazers
- ☐ Delta Hiker
- ☐ Delta Adventurer
- ☐ Delta Navigator
- ☐ BOLT

Adults

- ☐ Club Leaders
- ☐ Parents
- ☐ Family members
- ☐ Friends
- ☐ Pastor
- ☐ Director of Children's Ministry
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you hike with other churches?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Hike distance:

Hike location:

What worked well?

- ☐ Hike songs
- ☐ Games
- ☐ Devotional
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:



## Pioneer Clubs Kids for Kids Hike

### THANKS YOU!

Thank you for sponsoring our hike. With your support, Pioneer Clubs can continue providing its club programs to children across North America and in other countries. Pioneer Clubs began in 1939 to give children and youth an opportunity to develop Christian values, learn new skills, and make friends, all in a safe and caring environment. Today this Christ-centered program continues to provide spiritual and personal development for boys and girls age two through sixth grade.

For more information about Pioneer Clubs, call: \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_

For tax purposes, indicate the amount donated here: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Hiker's name) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Church)

Pioneer Clubs • PO Box 788 • Wheaton, IL 60189-0788

[www.pioneerclubs.org](http://www.pioneerclubs.org)



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(Hiker's name) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Church)

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# SNEAKERS

## THEME:

Jesus' love never wears out

## SCRIPTURE:

Romans 8:38-39

## PREPARATION:

Bring a pair of well-worn sneakers.



Some things wear out. New sneakers, for example, don't look new for long. Hold up sneakers. One hike through a muddy field takes care of that! After a few months, the treads wear thin and maybe your toes start to poke through. Sneakers don't last forever.

Even good work doesn't last. If you wake up some Saturday morning with a burst of energy and get your room sparkling clean, you feel great. But it doesn't mean you're all set for the year, or even for a month. Before long, books come off the shelves, dust collects beneath your bed, dirty socks piles up....You have to do it all over.

Even friendships aren't always permanent. Someone moves away or gets tired of skateboarding after school and looks for another friend who wants to do something different. You have to find another buddy.

But there's one thing in the world you can count on lasting forever. You don't have to work at keeping it, the way you do to keep your room clean. It doesn't need replacing, the way sneakers do. It's Jesus' love for you.

If you've met Jesus, you might wonder how long He will stick around. Maybe you're used to a friend who goes home when he gets mad. Or maybe your big sister only puts up with you when she feels like it.

But Jesus isn't that kind of friend. When He comes into your life, He comes for keeps. The Bible says in Romans 8:38-39....Read verses.

Nothing can take Jesus' love away from you. You might forget about Him sometimes. Or you might not listen to Him when you do something wrong. But He doesn't turn His back on you. He forgives you—because He loves you.

Take a look at your shoes. Are they worn out? Will you have to buy new shoes again some day? You can expect to do some things over and over. But you don't have to keep asking Jesus to love you. Let your shoes remind you. When Jesus comes into your life, He comes to stay!

Dear Jesus, it's amazing to think that You will never stop loving us. Thank You for giving us this promise in the Bible. Help us remember every day that nothing can separate us from Your love. In Your name, Amen.

Adapted from Talks That Teach, ©1992

Pioneer Clubs PO Box 788 Wheaton IL 60189-0788

[www.pioneerclubs.org](http://www.pioneerclubs.org)

May be copied for use with Pioneer Clubs' Kids for Kids Hikes.





Date:

**Total Donation Amount:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

State/Prov

Zip/Postal Code

Phone Number

[illegible]