

# **The Awana Store**

## **Why have an Awana store?**

Trips to the store can help motivate clubbers, increase enthusiasm.

The store provides rewards for hard work. Awana dollars can be used for nightly team awards, or individual effort, or both.

The store is great for Truth & Training clubs. It can be okay for Sparks, JVs. Not recommended for Cubbies.

## **How to have a store.**

You will need tables, workers, merchandise, Awana dollars. If you have room, the store could be set up permanently. It is best to have the same workers assigned to the store every time.

Keep prices simple; organize the store by price, so that clubbers can shop according to how much they have to spend. For instance, put all the \$1 items on a table, all the \$5 items on a separate table, etc.

Merchandise from the store can also be used for contest prizes or other special recognition. This is especially good towards the end of the year when you might not want to store stuff over the summer.

Sometimes you might have a theme night in the store, when all the merchandise is similar. Puzzles, balls, plastic figures, water toys, books, etc.

Consider having the clubbers line up according to how many shares they have, and being able to choose 2-3 items from the store. This way the person with the most shares gets first choice, plus there will be items for everyone.

## **How to earn Awana dollars.**

Bring visitors, wear your uniform, arrive on-time, bring dues, pass sections, bring your Bible, bring your handbook, win game-time. Reward desirable behavior.

Commanders and Directors can carry Awana dollars to reward good behavior immediately. Leaders may distribute Awana dollars during handbook time.

For Sparks, you may want to keep a bank account so they do not lose their shares.

How much is an Awana dollar worth in real money? Less than your dues. You can buy Awana dollars in the catalog, or print your own. Some churches put Pastor's or Commanders pictures on the money.

### **When to schedule store visits.**

Before club, after club, during game time. You can have one color at a time go, or a group from each color team.

The store might be available every week, monthly, or quarterly. Right before Christmas is a good time to allow clubbers to buy gifts for family or friends. The end of the year is also good.

Consider alternate weeks for different groups, to save time and congestion. For the last store night of the year, you may have an auction.

### **Items to have in the store.**

Stuff from the Awana catalog. Bibles, books, tapes, CDs, videos, stuffed animals, hair ribbons, pencils, pens, posters, t-shirts, candy, models, games, toys, chalk, yo-yo's, rulers, key chains, book marks, sporting goods, stickers, jewelry, coloring books, shoe laces, plastic cups, flashlights, hats.

You might include Awana uniforms, Grand Prix car kits, Awana cups, and other promotional items. If adults want to sponsor children for camp, you might have camp coupons available.

You will need to store your merchandise between meetings. Save your Awana boxes that supplies come in.

### **Where to get your merchandise.**

Awana catalog, donations from members, donations from stores, garage sales, thrift stores, dollar store, odd-lots.

### **Store Ideas**

Have an adult go through the store with younger clubbers.

Multiplied shares for multiplied achievement; one share for one section passed, two shares for two sections, four shares for three sections, eight shares for four sections, 16 for five, etc. For visitors; two shares the first time you bring a visitor, four if they come back, eight the third time, 16 the 4<sup>th</sup> time.

Glue an envelope in the front of the handbook to hold shares. If you glue the flap, the envelope will say closed better.

Have bags available to carry store items home. Put edible items in plastic bags.