

WorldCrafts Activity Ideas

Get in the Game

Many hostesses find that a game enlivens their parties and gives them focus. Depending on the tone and theme of your party and the number of attendees, you may find one of these to be ideal for your group:

- **To emphasize the crafts:** Set up a display of crafts from varying countries in different areas of the room. As guests arrive, give each guest a printed list of the countries where the crafts originated. (You can find these in the WorldCrafts Event Planner.) As guests mingle, allow them to guess which crafts go to which countries and mark their guesses on their lists. The guest with the most correct answers gets to choose the craft of her choice. This game ensures every guest will get a close look at every craft!
- **For mingling:** Write a brief description (on a sheet of paper, index card, etc.) of several artisan groups or countries (you can find these in the WorldCrafts Event Planner kit, in this catalog, or online at www.WorldCraftsVillage.com), and print a copy for each guest. As guests enter, tape a description on each guest's back. Guests should read each other's backs. Then they should describe the country or artisan group that is on a person's back without actually telling the person the country or group. At the end of the party, after learning about each country's crafts and artisan group, each guest should try to guess which group is on her back. Each guest who guesses correctly may pick a craft from the country that was on her back as a prize.

Bloomers Game

This is a fun way to keep your guests listening when you have a devotion. Have a small bundle of flowers or a corsage in a peek-proof bag. As your guests listen to your presentation, tell them they are to pass this bagged gift of "bloomers." At the end of the presentation, the guest who is holding the gift will model them. Your guests may be visualizing a giant pair of underwear. They can't imagine having to model them, so they are eager to pass the gift along. Each time the word *WorldCrafts* is spoken, they are to pass the gift to the next guest. At the end of the presentation, the guest holding the bloomers is very relieved when she opens the gift and finds flowers to model instead.

(From Page Hughes, *Party with a Purpose: Creative Ways to Share the Love of Christ* [Birmingham, AL: New Hope Publishers, 2003], 114.)

Candle Awareness for Poverty

Looking for a creative way to raise poverty awareness at your WorldCrafts event?

Here's an illustrative game of how some countries have an advantage in hearing the gospel and getting the water and food they need:

1. Before the event, hide a water bottle and Bible in the room.
2. Gather:
 - more 8-inch taper candles than you will have guests.
 - an equal number of 4-inch cardboard circles.
 - Cut candle-sized circles in the middle of cardboard circles; place candles inside the circles.
 - Label the circles *Sri Lanka, Brazil, South Africa, Kazakhstan, Honduras, Madagascar, US, and Haiti*. (Repeat country names as needed. You will need more circles for the US than other countries.)
 - Using a knife, cut candles to the following lengths: Haiti—1½ inches; Brazil—leave at 8 inches; Kazakhstan—7 inches; South Africa—leave at 8 inches; Sri Lanka—4 inches; Honduras—3 inches; Madagascar—1 inch. For the US, leave the candles full length, but guests who get the US candle should have four candles instead of one.
3. As guests arrive, give them each a lit candle (or candles for the US). Explain that their candles' lengths correspond to that country's purchasing power parity, or standard of living—the goods the average citizen can purchase in a year. Explain to guests that they have until their candle or candles burn out to find the water bottle and Bible in exchange for a prize. (Guests may protest that the longer candles or multiple candles have an unfair advantage, which underscores the point of the game.)
4. Provide a WorldCrafts product for a prize to the winner(s) who find the water bottle and Bible.
5. After the winner is announced, explain that some countries clearly have an advantage in hearing the gospel or getting the water and food they need. WorldCrafts and Project HELP: Poverty are initiatives that help level the playing field for all countries, bringing more people access to the gospel and life-saving resources. Note: Depending on your event schedule, you may wish to provide candleholders where guests can temporarily place their candles to take a break from the activity to snack, peruse catalogs, and so forth.

Prayer for the World Activity for Children or Adults

Materials Needed: A world map and information about different countries around the world.

Challenge: This week at every meal pray that missionaries will go and tell others about Jesus.

Read Matthew 9:37–38. Explain that Jesus is describing the people who are ready to hear about Jesus as a field ready to be harvested. And Jesus wants us to pray that Christians would be willing to go and tell those who have never heard. Point to a country on the world map. Share with the children what you know about that country. Then guide children to have a quiet time and pray for that country using the following prayer list.

- Pray for the Christians in the country.
- Pray for the non-Christians in the country.
- Pray for missionaries who are serving in that country.
- Pray that Christians around the world will be willing to go and teach about Jesus.

Repeat the process with another country as time allows.

Excerpt from page 78 in *Missions Moments: Foundational Messages and Activities for Children* by Mitzi Eaker. Available at www.wmystore.com or by calling 1-800-968-7301. W057113 \$12.99

A Letter-Writing Party

Your missions or women's group can send memorable notes to missionaries or the homebound by hosting a letter-writing party. Before beginning your project, ask your pastor or missions leader for addresses of missionaries from your church or missionaries whom your church sponsors. Ask as much as you can from the missions leader about the missionary's background and current work. Each attendee should write a few lines, either noting they are praying for the recipient or offering words of encouragement. These native Indian, handcrafted notes make all correspondence extra-special. When you mail the letters, be sure to include information on the Indian craft that produced the paper.

A Missions Tree

Does your church know about the endless possibilities WorldCrafts offers?

Do your friends and family?

The purchase of unique, handcrafted art from around the world redefines hope for so many. Helping us spread the word can be as easy as decorating your Christmas tree!

One of the most fun and easy ways to display WorldCrafts for your church family and friends is through an international tree bedecked with handcrafted ornaments from around the world. Imagine, olive wood hand-carved in the Holy Land. Wire ornaments made by homeless Nigerian teenage boys. Meticulously sewn Thai angels. Your tree (or your church's tree) will never have been more unique—or more meaningful. Each ornament represents a life lifted from poverty and exposed to the gospel.

After decorating your tree or hosting a tree-decorating party, be sure to include a note in the bulletin and a display near the tree explaining the significance of each item and the artisans behind it. (You can find artisan highlights throughout this catalog and online at www.WorldCraftsVillage.com.)

Grow into Global Knowledge

Did you know that a child reaches half of his or her height by the age of three? A child's awareness of global missions begins early too! WorldCrafts toys are a great way to make missions involvement real to any child. It will help a child form values in a global direction to know that his or her treasured doll or toy was made across the world by someone who is developing a better life.

To further encourage your child's missions awareness, couple a WorldCrafts toy with educational resources such as *Fun Around the World* for elementary-aged children or *Fun Around the World for Preschoolers* for preschool-aged children, both available online at www.wmystore.com or by calling 1-800-968-7301.

A Taste of the Exotic in the Kitchen

Looking for a unique and inexpensive gift idea?

- Attach a recipe card to a Tanzanian pot holder or a magnet from Turkey. The perfect party favor!
- For the new mom or the homebound, bring over your favorite dish, its recipe, and a pair of WorldCrafts pot holders. Perfect to make any dish meaningful and memorable.
- In addition to including recipe cards with your dishes and gifts, consider including cooking shortcuts and tips—always in demand in our time-starved country!
- Remember, free printable gift cards are available online at www.WorldCraftsVillage.com.

Enrich your prayertimes for people around the world:

- For a specified length of time, such as a month or quarter, begin every meeting of your women's group or Sunday School class with prayer. Focus on a different country each week. Consider distributing handouts with information about the host country, its artisans, and missionaries. You can find information about artisans throughout this catalog and online at www.WorldCraftsVillage.com.
- Use Scripture passages to pray for WorldCrafts missions workers and artisans. Some great Scriptures include the Beatitudes in Matthew 5 and Scriptures on endurance and faith in Hebrews 10:35–39. In your daily quiet times, you will find more Scriptures that are appropriate to pray over WorldCrafts workers around the globe.
- When you plan to host a WorldCrafts event, choose one or several members of your committee to pray for the artisans and missions workers. You'll find the event itself to be infinitely more meaningful for yourself and your co-hostesses!