



SUMMER GAMES MINUTE TO WIN IT GAMES



BLIND DIVING

Items needed:

A tub of water

A couple of Barbies (or Ken dolls) in their swim suits

Set up:

Place the tub of water on one side of the stage. Have the player stand on the other side.

Instructions:

There are few events that give fans more of a chill than the platform dive, especially when the diver begins facing away from the water. In this challenge, your task is to get two divers (Barbies) into the water. But just like the daredevils of the platform, you will stand with your back to the water and toss your divers over your shoulder. Complete this challenge in 60 seconds or less to win the gold.

Spiritual Application:

We can have faith and trust God, even when we can't see where he's leading us.

THE SECOND OLDEST SPORT

Items needed:

None

Set up:

Choose one player for this game, but pick five others to participate. Line the five other participants up facing the player.

Instructions:

Wrestling is one of the oldest sports in the world, second only to racing, and was held even at the first games in ancient Greece. Your task is to thumb wrestle your way through five opponents and win at least three matches. Score three pins in 60 seconds or less, and you win! Rotate the opponents through quickly. Have an adult standing by to count to three quickly when there's a pin. Skip the "One, two, three, four, I declare thumb war," and just cut right to the thumb wrestling. For older kids, you can up the number of pins needed to win.

Spiritual Application:

Pair this game with a lesson on wrestling against sin and temptation, or wrestling in prayer.

PARADE OF NATIONS

Items needed:

Ten national flags, including Greece, the USA, and the host country for the upcoming Olympics

Ten signs with the names of each country represented by a flag

Setup:

Line up the names of the countries on the wall or on music stands. Remember to start with Greece, end with the host nation, and do the rest in alphabetical order.

Instructions:

The parade of nations is one of the highlights of the opening ceremonies, beginning with Greece and ending with the host nation. In this challenge, your task is to match the flags with the countries they represent. Get all of the flags lined up in their proper order in 60 seconds or less, and you'll win the gold. Add a few more flags for older kids, or take away a few for younger kids.

Spiritual Application:

God loves all the people of the world.

GYM HERO

Items needed:

None

Setup:

None.

Instructions:

Everyone loves to watch the gymnasts. It's one of the few sports in which youth is a major advantage. In this challenge, you will go for the gold in the floor exercise by attempting to do twelve cartwheels in the allotted time. Complete this challenge in 60 seconds or less without getting dizzy, and you win!

For younger kids, switch to somersaults or reduce the number of reps needed to win.

Spiritual Application:

One small slip up can cost you the gold in gymnastics, but not with God. He will always pick us up when we stumble.

VOLLEY VOLLEY VOLLEY

Items needed:

Non-helium filled balloons

A low net (optional)

Setup:

Set up the net or a dividing line on stage. Choose two players for this game.

Instructions:

In the gym or on the sand, volleyball is always a fan favorite. In this challenge, two players must work together to keep a balloon aloft for 60 seconds. Stay on your side of the court, and do not let the balloon hit the ground before time runs out.

Spiritual Application:

Use this game in a lesson on teamwork, working together, finding harmony in the body of Christ.

SWIM COACH

Items needed:

A large tub of water

A wind up swimming toy

Set up:

Fill the tub with water. Mark a starting line and finish line on opposite sides of the tub.

Instructions:

Swimming is one of the most popular Olympic sports and dominates the first week of the Summer Games. In this challenge you must prepare your swimmer to complete one lap across the tub on his own power. He must start at the starting line and must reach the finish to win. You must complete this task in 60 seconds or less, or you will fail to win the gold. An option for older kids, or small tubs, is to go two laps to win the challenge. Get your swimmer from start to finish, then wind it up again to swim back to the start.

Spiritual Application:

Use this game with a lesson on water - water that heals, or water that cleanses us from sin.

SLAP SHOT

Items needed:

Broom

Empty soda cans

Garbage can

Setup:

Turn the garbage can on its side. Set the empty cans on stage, scattered in front of the garbage can.

Instructions:

Although not as popular as its winter equivalent, field hockey has been part of the games since 1928. In this challenge, your task is to clean up the playing field by launching six empty cans into the trashcan. Complete this task in 60 seconds or less, and you win.

Spiritual Application:

Use this game with a lesson on keeping your eyes on the prize.

RUBBER ARCHER

Items needed:

6 styrofoam cups
Rubber bands

Set up:

Stack the styrofoam cups on a table in a triangle.

Instructions:

Archery has long been contested at the Summer Games. In this challenge, you'll test your aim as you try to knock all six cups over with your rubber band arrows. Complete this challenge in 60 seconds or less, and you win.

Spiritual Application:

This game can be used with a lesson about David and Goliath.

PB AND PONG

Items needed:

A ping pong paddle
An open-faced peanut butter sandwich
Ping pong balls

Set up:

Spread peanut butter on a slice of bread. Set the slice, peanut butter side up, on one end of a table.

Instructions:

You've all played ping pong, but you haven't seen the sport of table tennis until you watch the masters of the sport in the Summer Games. In this challenge, you will test your aim as you attempt to hit a ping pong ball and make it stick on the open faced sandwich. Get one ball to stick in 60 seconds or less, and you win the gold.

Spiritual Application:

We need to stick with Jesus no matter what.

MINI-DECATHALON

Items needed:

A frisbee
Two small blocks
A whiffle ball
A straw

Setup:

This game will take a little bit of space. Start by marking a starting line. Ten feet from the starting line, put down a frisbee. Set the first block four feet from the frisbee and the second block four feet from the first block. Go down another four feet and set the whiffle ball. Mark a line on the ground by the whiffle ball, and five feet from the line, set the straw.

Instructions:

The decathlon is one of the most legendary of all track and field events. In this challenge, your task is to complete seven of the ten events in less than a minute. When the clock starts, you will sprint to the discuss and toss it into the crowd. Next, clear the two hurdles and make your way to the whiffle ball shot put, tossing that into the crowd as well. Then stand behind the line and long jump your way to the javelin, which you will also throw into the crowd. Finish with the long distance run back to the starting line. If you reach the finish in less than 60 seconds, you win!

You can set signs or markers on stage to denote the seven events: sprint (100m), discuss, hurdles, shot put, long jump, javelin, distance run (1500m).

For younger kids, you can take one or two of these events out.

For older kids, get creative and add in the missing events, high jump, pole vault, and medium distance run (400m).

Spiritual Application:

Run your spiritual race in such a way as to get the prize.