



Volunteers In Training

A series of games to prepare your children to be amazing volunteers at PS I Love You Ministries!

Suggestion: Introduce PS I Love You Ministries with closet tour video

Would you rather...? Game

Objective: Consider all aspects of volunteering at PS I Love You Ministries

Option 1: For a large group in tight spaces, have children sit or stand for their choice activity.

Option 2: For a more active game, have all children stand in the middle of the room then run to either the right or left side of the room to choose.

Use provided presentation slides to introduce common volunteer needs at PSILY.

Roll pajamas	or	Sort underwear
Stuff Newsletters	or	Count Diapers
Answer phones	or	Take out trash
Clean toilets	or	Sort donations
Sort toys	or	Laminate copies
Inventory shirts	or	Size socks
Sort hangars	or	Count donations
Straighten toiletries	or	Organize school supplies

Truth: For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10
God created each one of us and uniquely wired us to enjoy different tasks and activities. However He created you, you can use it to serve Him!

Soft Sorting

Objective: Sort through donations and remove any stained or torn clothing

Option 1: For large groups, with tight spaces, play as a "stage game", selecting 1 or 2 participants from each class or grade to compete.

Option 2: For a more active game if you have a large space, every child can participate with a relay game (the child runs to a station, sorts 3 items, runs back to the line and tags the next person)

Materials:

- Trash bags
- Children's clothing of both seasons (amount depends on group size, ~5 items per participant)
- Prepare "stained" clothing by drawing on clear shipping tape to appear stained or torn. Sample below
- Laundry baskets or plastic bins labeled "boy" and "girl"
- Trash can or other container for stained/torn items
- Certified Stain Finder Badges (using Avery labels 22807)

Set Up: "Stained" Clothing should be mixed in with normal clothing and placed in trash bags. Boy and Girl bins should be located nearby to organize the clothes to keep and the trash container to collect the stained and torn.

Introduce by Saying:

At the Donation Center at PS I Love You, bags of clothing are donated each day. Before clothing can be hung and put out in the Resource Center, volunteers sort through the clothing to look for any stains, rips or tears.

We need you to look very closely, we only save the very best clothing for children in foster care! Once you make sure that there are no stains or tears, items should be sorted into the bins labeled boy or girl. The team who finishes their bags first wins.

Suggestion: Play fun/loud music as they sort... that's exactly what we do at PSILY!

Truth: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

We mess up. None of us are perfect. But God has a plan! Jesus died for me, even though my heart is yucky and full of stains and imperfections. There is still a purpose for my life.

At PSILY, even if an item is stained or torn, we don't throw it away! There are other ministries in our area that can recycle material and make it into something useful.

Soft Sort Game:



Season Sorting

Objective: Sort through donations and separate clothing according to season.

Option 1: For large groups, with tight spaces, play as a “stage game”, selecting 1 or 2 participants from each class or grade to compete.

Option 2: For a more active game, if you have a large space, every child can participate with a relay game (the child runs to a station, sorts 3 items, runs back to the line and tags the next person)

Materials:

- Totes of boy and girl clothing sorted in previous activity (clothing should include both winter and summer seasons)
- Laundry baskets or plastic bins labeled “Boy Summer”, “Boy Winter”, “Girl Summer” and “Girl Winter”
- Certified Season Sorter Badges (using Avery labels 22807)

Set Up: Clothing to be sorted in tubs. Make sure teams have equal numbers of items. Summer and Winter bins for each gender should be located nearby to organize the clothes.

Introduce by Saying:

We worked really hard to make sure that we only saved nice clothing for the boys and girls in foster care! Before the clothing can be hung and put out in the Resource Center, we still have another job to do. At PS I Love You, the Resource Center is not big enough to hang everything, so volunteers sort the clothing by seasons.

The team who finishes sorting their clothes first wins.

Suggestion: Divide teams to play boys vs girls. Don't forget to play fun/loud music as they sort!

Truth: You are chosen, holy and dearly loved. Colossians 3:12

The Resource Center at PS I Love You is set up like a boutique, that's a fancy word for a small store. When we take extra steps to sort our clothes by seasons and hang clothes just like other stores, it helps to communicate love and care to each child in foster care who comes to PS I Love You. We don't want children in foster care to feel different or less than; we want them to know the truth that they are dearly loved by us, but more importantly by Jesus!

You are also dearly loved by Jesus! He died for you and wants to be the Lord and Savior of your life.

Shoe Matching

Objective: Sort through shoes to find matches.

Option 1: For large groups, with tight spaces, play as a “stage game”, selecting 1 or 2 participants from each class or grade to compete.

Option 2: For a more active game, if you have a large space, every child can participate with this large circle game. Give each child a number (ex: group of 20, #1-5, repeat 4 times, 4 kids around the circle are “#3”) Call #s as children with that # run to the circle to race and find a match to earn a point for their team.

Materials:

- Totes or laundry baskets labeled “Boy Shoes” and “Girls Shoes”
- Large rubber bands
- Hand sanitizer
- Certified Shoe Matcher Badges (using Avery labels 22807)

Set Up: Have each child take off their shoes and pile them into a big mixed up pile of unmatched shoes.

Introduce by Saying:

We worked really hard to sort and organize clothing for the boys and girls in foster care this week! At PS I Love You, we also get bags of donations of shoes. Sometimes those shoes get all mixed up. Volunteers dig through piles of shoes to make matches. Today we are going to play a game using YOUR shoes.

When you are called, race to the pile and dig until you find a match. Take a rubber band to connect the two shoes and sort them into the girl or boy basket.

Suggestion: Have hand sanitizer ready after each round. Don't forget the fun music.

Truth: Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” Matthew 16:24

When we trust Jesus as our Lord and Savior He gives us special gifts to use for Him, and special ways to follow Him in obedience. God has a special plan for each of us and a specific path for us to walk. Look at these baskets of shoes. Each pair represents a unique journey that has been walked. No matter what, the path is yours to walk; make sure you are following Him!

Certified Volunteer Badges

Once all challenges have been completed, don't forget to give each child a Certified Volunteer Badge (using Avery labels 22807). Don't forget to show your children the special video our Executive Director, Kay Kirby made to congratulate them.