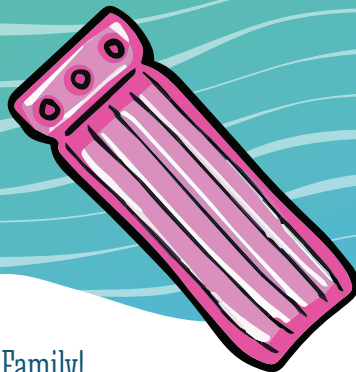


# SUMMER JAM



A Summer Celebration BIG Enough for the Whole Family!

## CREATE THE ENVIRONMENT

### PRELUDE IDEAS

#### DÉCOR

- Your décor throughout your event should be cohesive from start to finish. When thinking about your décor, think from “street to seat” and from “floor to ceiling.”
- Inspiration for your décor should come from the Summer Jam branding. Be sure to check out the “Color Palette” document located in the folder called “Logo Artwork.”
- The travel theme is inspired and consistent with the adventures we take with Tripp Daily throughout the Summer Jam script. It’s also summer and lots of families take trips in summer. We suggest using lots of suitcases, maps, globes, cameras, airplanes, destination signs, and anything else that is related to travel you have.
- Balloons are an easy way to decorate. When you see balloons, you think party and fun! They help create excitement. Have helium balloons in your décor colors and add in airplanes, clouds, or globe balloons.
- Always think through the idea of moving your décor into your After-Party once everyone is in your Summer Jam event.
- We shared some décor inspirations on our Pinboard: <https://bit.ly/3O4fdNT>

#### SOUND

- What are your guests hearing as they enter your experience? Sound makes a huge difference in a room. It can liven up a room and make it feel more inviting when entering.
- Play fun, upbeat dance tunes that the kids will recognize as they walk in and start dancing to before you even begin.
- You want your guests to be interacting with each other and other families, so make sure it’s not too loud and overwhelming.

#### GREETERS

- If you have the budget to have Summer Jam T-shirts made for your volunteers, this is a great way for families to identify who can help them.
- Matching shirts also can make your volunteers feel more like a team, that they are part of something bigger than themselves.
- Whether it’s matching T-shirts, lanyards, etc., it would be best if all volunteers were dressed similarly so they will stand out to visiting guests as a person they can go to with questions.

#### PHOTO-OP IDEAS

- Give families a photo-op to interact with as they arrive. Engage them with the theme, help them create a memory, and make it fun for all ages.
- Think of ways to incorporate the Summer Jam brand. For example, make a giant postcard for your families to stand in! On the side, write “Greetings from Summer Jam” or anything you think would be fun!

- We normally suggest having your photo-op as guests walk into your environment and available during your after-party, but for Summer Jam think through the flow of your event and the number of guests you will be hosting. You may want a few different photo-op locations.
- No matter when or where you have your photo-op we highly suggest having a volunteer or two to help manage the area. They can help with line control and can take pictures for your guests.
- Encourage families to share their pictures on your church's social media platforms.
- We shared some photo-op inspirations on our Pinboard: <https://bit.ly/3uBtrhn>

## SCREENS

- Use graphics from the Summer Jam theme to create a "Doors Open" slide or other slides that are informative as guest wait for the main production.

## AFTER-PARTY IDEAS

The After-Party is where families go after your Summer Jam event to have fun and interact as a family and with other families. The theme and experience they just experienced continues in your After-Party. The After-Party is made to complement the Summer Jam event, not compete with it. If your Summer Jam is a standalone event, this is a great way to make it a complete family outing lasting about 1 hour and 30 minutes total.

The After-Party should include some type of food and something interactive that families can do together. Think through what works best for your situation. When thinking through ideas for your After-Party, be thinking through the actual Summer Jam script and what parts of it you could extend. All those little details that connect it back to your Summer Jam event will make planning easier for you and will make the experience that much more cohesive for your guests.

Here are some questions you need to think through as you are creating your After-Party:

- When would this happen?
- Where would this happen?
- How long should it last?
- What's our budget?
- What volunteers and team members will we need to implement it?

## DÉCOR

- Your prelude décor should flow right into your after-party. When thinking through your décor, think of your environment, the number of guests, space, budget, and the time you have to get it done. You may need to have stanchions to help define spaces or make lines.
- For serving tables, use plastic tablecloths with maps as runners. Add a few stacked suitcases, a globe, and camera! Make tall "destination" signs listing the different "stations" you have with arrows pointing in their direction.
- We shared some décor inspirations on our Pinboard: <https://bit.ly/3O4fdNT>

## SOUND

- Play high-energy music as families enter.
- You want your guests to be interacting with each other and other families, so make sure it's not too loud and overwhelming.

## FOOD

- First, think through the details of your Summer Jam event.
  - What time of day is your event?
  - What is your budget?
  - Is it a snack or a meal?
  - How many people are you expecting?
  - Will you be serving food outside or inside?

- o Do you need tables and chairs to sit at?
- o How many serving stations do you need?
- o How many volunteers do you need to help prep, serve and clean-up in a timely manner?
- o Allergies?
- Summer is the perfect time for a barbecue! How about serving up hot dogs and hamburgers, a bag of chips, and a drink! Don't forget the condiments and paper goods. Make sure to have enough people to cook or grill and serve in a timely manner.
- You can't forget dessert! It's summer, so let's do snow cones, popsicles, or ice cream cones. Snow cones are an easy, special summer treat, and snow cone machines can normally be rented at your local party rental store. Popsicles are another fun summer treat that you can buy in bulk at your local big box stores.
- We shared some food inspirations on our Pinboard: <https://bit.ly/3uDr6mc>

## INTERACTIVES

It's summer and you have more time, so use that to your advantage to do something different outside that you can't normally do! Be sure to think through your environment, number of volunteers, number of guests, and your budget. Here are two ideas to get you going.

### • WATER FUN

It's summer, and it's HOT. If you have an outside environment where you can get wet, do it! Have families come dressed to get wet! Rent a dunk tank. How fun to get to try and dunk your pastor or small group leaders! Rent other various inflatable water climbers that families can have fun on together. Have an area for water balloon fights, bubble machines, and other fun water games!

### • CARNIVAL GAMES

Have numerous stations set up where different games can be played: ring toss, basket toss, face painting—there are so many to choose from! Don't feel like it has to look like a carnival. Keep with the travel theme with the feel of a carnival. This could be done inside or outside. This direction does take more volunteers. Decide if you want to give out prizes to winners and if so, what would those be and how many you need.

We shared some inspirations for the Interactives on our Pinboard: <https://bit.ly/3uDCdLY>

Also, be sure to join us Summer Jam Facebook Group for networking, ideas, strategy session videos and much more: <https://bit.ly/3Eciea6>