
Attention Getters

Attention getters are used to draw everyone's focus to the leader, allowing him to make announcements or give directions for the next activity. First, introduce the attention getters to the boys and review the appropriate responses, such as making certain gestures and getting quiet. Then, use them as needed. Teach two or three attention getters to the boys each month and vary your use of them based on the activity.

- One Finger** The leader stands quietly and points toward heaven with his index finger. The boys respond by getting quiet and joining the leader in pointing upward.
- 5-4-3-2-1 . . . Hello** The leader starts to count backward from five as all join in and finish with an extended "H-h-e-e-l-l-o-o-o-o."
- Air Raid** The leader shouts, "Air Raid!" The boys hit the floor and put their hands on their heads.
- Arrows** The leader will need an arrow or another object that can be used as a directional pointer (such as a pencil). First, the leader points his arrow in a direction and then instructs the group to move one step in the direction he is pointing. Second, the leader points the arrow in a direction and then instructs the group to move and say the direction he is pointing. Third, the group must move in the direction of the arrow, but say the opposite direction. Fourth, the group must say the direction the arrow is pointing, but move in the opposite direction.
- Athens** The leader says, "Athens!" The boys act like they are holding a torch overhead, run in place, and chant their country's name three times.
- Attitude Check** The leader yells, "Attitude check!" The group responds by shouting, "Praise the Lord!"
- Clap Return** To get the group's attention, the leader claps out a rhythm with his hands. He continues clapping out the rhythm until the entire group quiets down and begins clapping out the rhythm along with him.
- Cowabunga, Dude!** The leader shouts, "Cowabunga!" The boys act like they are surfing and respond by shouting, "Dude!"
- Eagles . . . Are Great!** The leader shouts, "Eagles!" (or another mascot of his choosing). The group responds, "Are great!" (while doing half of a jumping jack on "are" and the second half on "great").

Hand, Hand

The leader shouts, "Hand, hand, foot, foot, hip, hip, hooray!" The boys join in with the leader as they raise one hand and then the other, and stomp one foot and then the other. Next, with hands on hips, they lean to the right and then to the left, raise their hands, and shout, "Hooray!" Then, everyone gets quiet.

Hey, Yo

The leader shouts, "Hey!" The boys respond by saying, "Yo, shhhh" (with finger on lips).

If You Can Hear Me

The leader says, "If you can hear me, clap one time. If you can hear me, clap two times. If you can hear me, clap three times. Give yourself five big claps and a round of applause." Boys should respond after each request, and then quiet down.

I See or I Hear

The leader says, "I see!" The group responds, "What do you see, _____ (name of leader)?" The leader gives an instruction: "I see everyone forming groups of four," "I see everyone giving a high five," "I see all players sitting in their assigned positions," "I hear total silence," etc.

30-Second Shake

The boys move around and shake as many hands as possible in 30 seconds. They must stop when the leader calls, "Time."