

Clubs on a Shoestring Budget

The national Girls Ministries department is not ignorant to the fact that some churches simply cannot afford to purchase all the bells and whistles offered in the Girls Ministries catalog. But we also know that Girls Ministries can work even when you're on a "Shoestring Budget." It would be a shame for local churches (not to mention the girls) to miss out on such a purpose-driven ministry simply because they view it as cost prohibitive.

You can have a successful Girls Ministries program with just the basics. The only items that are essential to clubs are the Sponsor Guides and the Activity and Journal Pages. If your church is on a tight budget, consider the following suggestions:

- Purchase only the Activity or Journal Pages for each girl. Each unit is sold separately for this very reason.
- Purchase only one set of Introduction Pages (Stars, Friends, and Girls Only) and let the girls take turns reading them in order to fulfill requirements.
- If you have a seamstress in your church, purchase navy material to make your own vests, sashes, or jumpers. Remember, uniforms are great to have but not essential to the success of your clubs.
- Create poster board or felt sashes and place them on the clubroom wall.
 - Try to award real sashes and badges to children who complete or stay through graduation
- If artistic, paint sashes on the wall for each child—paint badge art as they earn it.
- Use badge stickers instead of badges to reward achievement.
 - Unit badge sticker sheets are available for each club (Rainbows through Stars). Each sheet contains at least one sticker per unit and sells for less than one cloth unit badge.
 - The Stars Club Step Badges are also available in sticker form.
- Place gold star stickers on the corresponding World of Truth Stars Club stickers to denote Honor Steps completed.
- Reproducible pages can be enlarged and colored for use as posters in the clubrooms.
- Create your own memory cards for the girls. Be sure to place the corresponding unit badge stickers on them for unit identification.
- Use the Take-Home Pages in the "Reproducibles" section of each Sponsor Guide to create memory verse posters. Let the girls color and decorate them.

Improvise the suggested activities, snacks, and crafts. When possible substitute more affordable and workable ideas for your club. Remember, although Mpack Girls Clubs is an achievement program, achievement is simply a means to an end. Winning girls to Jesus Christ should be our number one purpose. Your Church is unique and even if you are on a shoe string budget, you can effectively minister to your girls through Mpack Girls Clubs! Annual Cost per Child at

http://ngm.ag.org/impact/mgcreources/pdf/coordinators/annual_cost_per_child.pdf