

*“Back to School with
Power Hour”*

Making Power Hour Fun

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Webinar Objectives

As a result of participating, you will:

- Understand why Power Hour should be fun and engaging for your members
- Understand what high-yield learning activities are
- Be able to create your own HYLAs
- Know how to access HYLAs online



Your Learning Center Is Not



Prison-Style Study Ball Keeps Students Shackled to Desk

- Are your easily distracted kids having trouble getting motivated to write that term paper? Why not chain them to their desks until they've done what they're supposed to do? It might sound a bit extreme, but hey, if you want your kids to get into Harvard, sometimes extremes are what it takes!
- The Study Ball has a 16.5-inch chain with a programmable timer. Select the desired duration of the study session and chain the ball to the ankle. The steel manacle won't come off until the scheduled time is up. Sound like good fun? More fun than having to settle for a second-choice college, we guess. Only \$115 each!

Credit: Curiosity, http://news.cnet.com/8301-17938_105-10247106-1.html



Key Elements of Youth Development

- **Fun!**
- Safe, Positive Environment
- Supportive Relationships
- Opportunities and Expectations
- Recognition





Strategies for Infusing Fun

- Space
- Climate
- Program Structure/Schedule
- Themes
- Activities and Special Events



Be Creative With Homework


- **Egg Timer Challenge** – Members use egg timers to time how long it takes them to complete a single problem, then they attempt to beat their own record.
- **Bees** – Members hold a spelling bee to practice with weekly word lists. Can be done with geography and history facts, too.
- **Flash Cards** – Almost any fact or item that must be memorized – like states and their capitals - can be placed on a flash card for practice in groups or individually.





Be Creative With Homework

- **Beach Ball Math** – Write the numbers 1-12 all over a dollar store inflatable beach ball and play a game of “catch” with members in which they practice any math operation. Can do this in the games room with dice, too.
- **Bingo Games** – No equipment required but paper and pencils; can play using math problems or vocabulary words and their definitions.
- **On-the-Spot Fun** – Intersperse random, fun events such as drawings or trivia challenges to keep members guessing, “What’s next?”




Research has shown that youth perform better in school when they spend their non-school hours engaged in fun, but academically challenging activities.





High-Yield Learning Activities

- **FUN...FUN...and, MORE FUN! Academically beneficial** – build skills and behaviors needed for school success.
- Provide **opportunities to practice** reading, writing, verbal communication, problem solving and decision making.



High-Yield Learning Activities

- **Deliberately planned** to include a skill- or behavior-reinforcing component.
- Occur throughout the **entire** Club.
- **All staff** are responsible for developing and implementing HYLAs.





High-Yield Learning Activity Categories

- Discussions with knowledgeable adults
- Activities involving reading
- Activities involving writing
- Activities involving math and science
- Helping others
- Games utilizing cognitive skills



High-Yield Learning Activity Planning Tips

- Keep it fun
- Use a theme
- Vary activities
- Use different materials
- Are appropriate for age group
- Give examples
- Take it out of the learning center
- Use technology
- Focus on learning goals
- Involve peer leaders
- Conduct high-yield field trips





Examples of High-Yield Learning Activities

- Wordles
- Picture Puzzles
- Sudoku

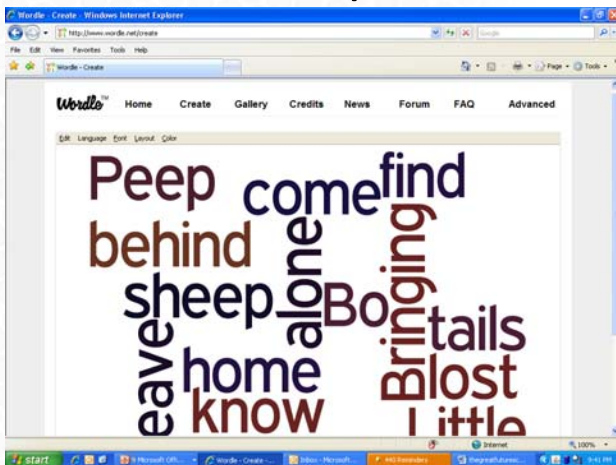


Little Bo Peep

Little Bo peep has lost her
sheep
And doesn't know where to find
them.
Leave them alone and they'll
come home,
Bringing their tails behind
them.



Little Bo Peep Wordle

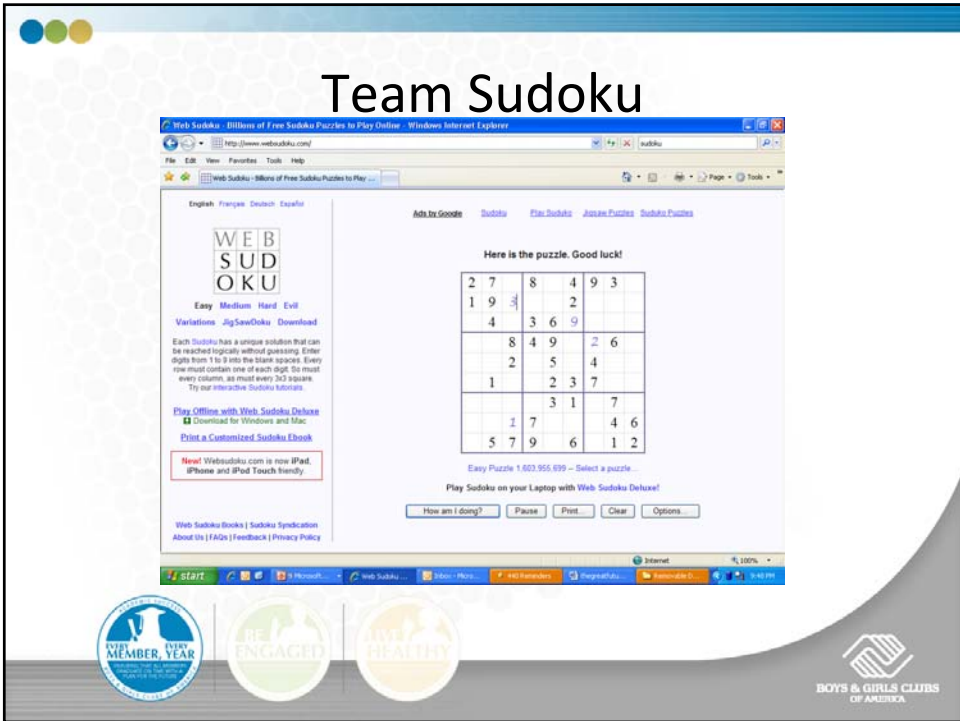
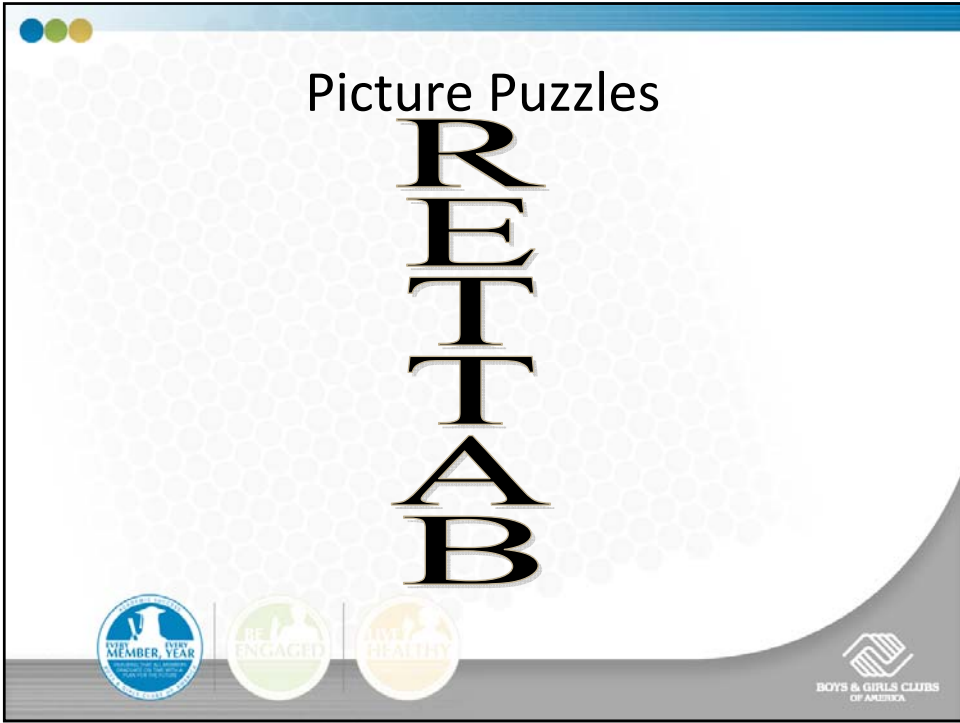


Picture Puzzles

WEAR

LONG





In Summary

- A **FUN**, high-impact Power Hour program:
- Celebrates learning!
 - Has a space, climate, activities that members enjoy.
 - Is staffed by warm, encouraging adults who demonstrate own love of learning.
 - Balances structure and consistent homework help routine with **high-yield learning activities** for variety, excitement and spontaneity.
 - Leaks learning fun into other Club areas.



Resources

- Visit Power Hour section of www.bgca.net!
- “High-Yield Learning” page features hundreds of ready-made, easy-to-use activities.

<http://www.bgca.net/programs/eduCareer/phhome.aspx>



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