

SPARKS 2024-2025

We are delighted to have your child in Sparks at Spring Creek Church. It is our desire that your child falls in love with Jesus and His church. We believe that God has given us a very precious gift in His Word, the Bible, and we pray that it will become a prized possession and guide for your Spark!

AWANA recognizes that spiritual development of children begins at home. Children will benefit the most if parents go over the lessons and work with them to learn their verses at home. We encourage you to read the Bible stories with your children and share excitement for each verse that they memorize. Give them many opportunities to practice, not only at home, but also when they are riding along with you in the car. Their table leader will work with them as time allows, but it is limited, and they will not learn their verses as well as they could unless they diligently work on them ahead of time.

This year, we are implementing a NEW strategy for Sparks, similar to the structure of Cubbies and T&T. All children in the same grade as your child will work on the same sections in their handbook from week to week, as shown on the schedule, instead of working at their own pace. This will allow each table leader to better engage and disciple their assigned Sparkies on a deeper level. Additionally, our Counsel Time will more closely align with their handbook content.

When you arrive, use the kiosks to check in your child and print 2 stickers. Your child wears the first one as their nametag. Retain the other sticker to use for pickup. Sparks meets upstairs in KidsCreek from 6:30-8:00pm. Doors open at 6:15pm to drop off your child. Pick up is promptly at 8:00pm. Anyone 6th grade or older may pick up Sparkies from their classrooms, as long as they have the matching sticker. If you need a replacement sticker, stop at the information desk downstairs.

Sparks schedule (Wednesdays, September 4 – April 30):

- 6:15 to 6:30 – Drop off at designated classroom
- 6:30 to 6:55 - Handbook Time
- 7:00 to 7:25 - Game Time in the Clubhouse or Activity in the Sparks Zone
- 7:30 to 7:55 - Flag Ceremony, Songs, Awards, and Counsel Time
- 8:00 – Pick up at designated classroom (when the door at the top of the stairs is opened)

Theme Nights: we have dress up nights once a month (optional, see schedule)

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

We are looking forward to having your child in Sparks this year!

Jennifer Malecki, Sparks Director jenmalecki77@gmail.com 262-408-0296 (call or text)

Janet Thompson, Sparks Secretary jmthomp63@aol.com

SPARKS ENTRANCE BOOKLET - FLIGHT 3:16: When starting the Sparks Club, children in K-2nd grade will be given the Flight 3:16 Entrance Booklet. All visitors will be given this booklet as well. This booklet helps clubbers learn the Sparks Motto, Sparks Key Verse, the AWANA Pledge, etc. Upon completion of this booklet, the clubber receives a Sparks Membership Card and is ready to start their grade level handbook. NOTE: Regardless of the grade of the child, each NEW clubber begins with the Flight 3:16 Booklet.

SPARKS HANDBOOKS AND FREQUENT FLYER BOOKS: The Sparks Club has 3 main handbooks and 3 frequent flyer books. The goal for your Spark is to finish the handbook for their grade level. To do that, Sparkies will typically complete 1 to 2 sections a week, as listed on the schedule. If they would like an additional challenge, they can simultaneously work through the extra credit sections (back half), then the book review sections (front half) in the Frequent Flyer Book. (Additional challenges are available after completing the Frequent Flyer Book - email Director Jen for details.) The recommended sequence of completion for a child that starts in Kindergarten and stays in Sparks through 2nd grade is:

- KINDERGARTEN (green handbook) – Flight 3:16, HangGlider Handbook, Extra Credit in HangGlider Frequent Flyer Book, Book Review in HangGlider Frequent Flyer Book
- FIRST GRADE (blue handbook) - WingRunner Handbook, Extra Credit in WingRunner Frequent Flyer Book, Book Review in WingRunner Frequent Flyer Book
- SECOND GRADE (red handbook) - SkyStormer Handbook, Extra Credit in SkyStormer Frequent Flyer Book, Book Review in SkyStormer Frequent Flyer Book

MEMORY VERSE REQUIREMENTS: When Sparks are reciting verses, they are required to say the reference (ex: John 3:16) as well as the verse. Their leader can give them two helps during the reciting of the verse. If they require more than two helps, they will be asked to work on the verse more before trying again.

SPARKS UNIFORM AND BOOK AWARDS: Sparks should wear their vests every week. As they complete rank sections in their handbook, they earn a patch that is sewn onto their vest. Additional sections earn them red and green jewels that are attached to a flight pin that is worn on their vest. The awards earned are issued during club time. Sparks must be wearing their vest to be issued awards. This keeps the jewels from getting lost since they are small and attached to the flight pin with a special tool. If a child forgets their vest, the awards will be held until the next week they wear their vest. Extra Credit completion earns them an additional pin, and Book Review completion earns them an additional patch.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS: During an AWANA year, blue attendance jewels are awarded for each of our 4 quarters. A clubber may miss two times or less during each quarter to receive their jewel, which are typically added to their vest in January and April.

END OF YEAR AWARDS (May 7, 2025): Awards are given for the completion of their handbook:

- First Year in Sparks - 1st Book Lanyard
- Second Year in Sparks - 2nd Book Lanyard
- Third Year in Sparks - Sparky Trophy