

How to Play Crown the King

Objective

The objective of Crown the King is to strategically knock off the crowns of other players while protecting your own. The aim is to use the half-length pool noodle to tap or brush against the crowns of opponents, rather than delivering hard hits. Players must be quick on their feet and have good reflexes to avoid having their own crown knocked off. The last person standing with their crown intact is crowned the king and declared the winner.

Materials

- pool noodles, cut in half so they are shorter (one half noodle per player)
- [paper crowns](#) (one per player) – You can obtain these by visiting your local Burger King, making your own from construction paper, or purchasing an affordable set of paper crowns.

Instructions

1. Distribute the materials: Give each player a crown and half a pool noodle. The crowns should be placed on their heads, but loosely enough that they can be easily knocked off.
2. Set the rules: Remind the players that this is a game and emphasize that they should not hit each other with full force using the noodles. Instead, it should be more of a gentle brush or tap.
3. Start the game: When you say “go,” players should use their noodles to try to knock the crowns off of each other’s heads. Encourage them to be strategic and agile in their movements.
4. Elimination: Once a player loses their crown, they are out of the game and cannot “attack” anyone else. This adds an element of suspense and excitement as players strive to protect their own crowns while targeting their opponents’.
5. Determine the winner: The last person with a crown still on their head is declared the winner of the game. Celebrate their victory and acknowledge their skill in defending their crown.

Safety Notes

- Reiterate the importance of not hitting too hard and maintaining a safe environment.
- Emphasize the need for players to be aware of their surroundings and avoid swinging the pool noodles near objects or other players.
- Advise players to communicate with each other and establish boundaries to prevent accidental collisions or injuries.
- Stress the importance of sportsmanship and remind players to respect each other’s boundaries and play fair.
- Finally, remind players to have fun while prioritizing safety throughout the game.

Additional Tips

To add more excitement and challenge to the Crown the King youth ministry game, consider offering variations or additional rules. These variations can help accommodate larger groups or provide a different level of difficulty for players. Here are a few ideas to consider:

- **Team Play:** Divide the players into teams and have them compete against each other. This adds a competitive element to the game and encourages teamwork and communication among players.
- **Time Limit:** Set a time limit for each round of the game. This adds a sense of urgency and forces players to strategize and act quickly.
- **Obstacle Course:** Create an obstacle course using cones, ropes, or other objects. Players must navigate through the course while trying to crown the king. This adds an extra challenge and tests their agility and problem-solving skills.
- **Blindfolded Challenge:** For a more challenging version, blindfold some of the players. This forces them to rely on their other senses and enhances their communication and trust with their teammates.
- **King's Guards:** Assign a few players as "king's guards" whose role is to protect their king. They can use pool noodles to defend the king and make it more difficult for the other players to reach their goal.

Remember, these additional tips are meant to enhance the game and make it more enjoyable for everyone involved. Feel free to adapt and modify them based on the age group and skill level of the participants. Crown the King is a versatile game that can be customized to suit the needs of your youth ministry.