



START HERE!

Welcome to *MISSION POSSIBLE KIDS* (a.k.a *MPK*), where kids aren't *just kids*—they are young “agents of change” doing TOP SECRET missions in God’s service.

Did you know that *MPK* helps:

- Grow kids spiritually in the way kids learn best, in the “doing” of God’s work
- Get parents more involved (everyone wants to be a secret agent!)
- Attract new families to your church as your kids get excited to bring friends
- Bring a heart touch and resources to people in your community that desperately need it, all coming from a very unexpected source—the children of your church
- Your kids inspire the rest of your church to get active in missions!

This guide will get you started and show you how to make your program the best it can be—for your kids, your church, and your community.

TOP SECRET Missions

Get all the mission plans you need here on our site, all designed to show elementary-aged kids how they can become “agents of change”, helping food banks, kids in hospitals, the homeless, nursing home residents, animal shelters, and much more.

You’ll notice a few common features of each TOP SECRET “mission”. Each plan is written in our classic *spy-speak*. Calling kids “agents”, leaders “agent handlers”, and service projects “TOP SECRET missions” really amps up the fun factor and keeps everyone—kids and grownups alike—happily engaged and wanting to do more in service.

Each MPK mission includes:

- *Director’s Plan*—the project overview, Bible verse, supply list, and all the behind-the-scenes preparation steps to get everything ready to go. The last step shows you how to estimate the number of lives touched to help your kids understand their impact.
- *Agent Handler’s Plan*—the week-by-week breakdown that shows leaders how to teach the lesson and work the mission. If you’re planning to meet less often, simply drop out some of the extra activities.
- *Templates*—easy-to-print worksheets, gift tags, cards, and game sheets
- *Photos*—sample photos to show the kids the people (or animals) your project may help. Just drop them in PowerPoint and you’re good to go.

Each hour-long meeting begins with spy music playing at agent check-in to get everyone in secret agent mode (choose your own favorite instrumental spy theme). “Calling all agents! Calling all agents!” from the Director is everyone’s cue to get seated and pay attention. You’ll be amazed how quickly agents hop to!

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Here's the general flow of *MPK* meetings:

Week 1: Review the success of last month's mission using your *Mission Tracker* (see P. 3), create excitement during the lesson component of the new mission for the month, and get a start on the work, games, or other activities.

Week 2&3: Most of the hands-on work is done now.

Week 4: Finishing up, reflection, and announcing agent promotions (more on this below).

Then, there's **Spy Games**, spy-themed team-building activities included in the *MPK Launch Kit*. Use them any time you have extra time. Your agents will want to play them again and again.

Planning Your Mission Calendar

Kick off the first meeting of each year with **Agent Training** and end the year with a party to celebrate all that agents have done in God's service. Most groups opt for a food bank collection every Thanksgiving as well (with *MPK* mission plans and methods this can be one of your most impactful missions all year). Then, fill in other months with any of the other great *MPK* missions you'll find on our site. Check back in with us often, as we continue to add new missions for your kids throughout the year.

Supplies

Gather project supplies on your own. All projects require basic school supplies that you likely already have in Children's Ministry—crayons, markers, pencils, glue or glue stick, and scissors. You will need paper and cardstock to make copies as directed.

The other supplies needed vary by project. These are usually simple, inexpensive craft or office supply items, such as pipe cleaners, Scotch tape, sharp scissors for adult use, etc.

To reduce your supply budget for some missions, we recommend that you set out a collection box to gather inexpensive items you might need in larger amounts so that your kids can make a bigger impact than your budget alone might allow. For instance, to collect food or boxes of crayons. Or, because we're big on teaching kids about repurposing or "upcycling", many of our projects gather items commonly found at home that are no longer in use, such as old t-shirts, partially used sticker sheets, or old eyeglasses. Congregations love to help kids in mission in this way.

Mission Stars for a Job Well Done

Agents start out as "special agents" and soon earn Mission Star credits for successfully completing missions. The more they are involved at *MPK*, the faster they achieve agent promotions to higher ranks like "Special Agent 1st Class" or "Commander". Promotions are announced at the end of the last meeting each month, cheering each agent on for their dedication to God's service!

At its simplest, just keep track of attendance in the Promotion Start Chart, a worksheet in Excel for your own records to know when it's time to promote an agent (see the how-to's in the Promotion Star Chart SAMPLE document in the 'Attendance & Promotions folder'). Or, you might create a poster version displaying star stickers so agents can see their progress. Either way,

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be sure to grant Promotion Certificates to each agent that promotes. (For a complete list of ranks, see the Promotion Ranks document).

Mission Tracker

A big part of why *MPK* works is over time kids begin to understand that working together they can make a HUGE impact in **Lives Touched**. The Mission Tracker helps you do that.

The Mission Tracker can take any form you like, as long as it enables agents to see their progress in a visual way.

Got a creative bent? Create a human-sized magnifying glass (or show one in PowerPoint) where the stem fills in more and more each month reflecting the Lives Touched (by 50's and up to 500 Lives Touched—though a group of 50 agents could easily surpass that). Update the changing total in the circle of the magnifying glass each month. Unveil last month's progress at the first meeting of each new month during Agent Briefing.

Inside Your Launch Kit

Here you'll find everything else you need to run an action-packed *MPK* program:

- *Logos and forms*—the *MPK* logo (.jpg and .eps),
- *Promotion Star Chart to track agent promotions*—a step-by-step guide to using the Promotion Star Chart, Promotion Certificates, and rank info
- *Spy Games*—team-building activities to use all yearlong
- *MPK Coloring Pages*—your agents can choose their favorite Spy5 alter-ego

All Systems Go!

Your kids are going to have a blast in *MPK*. But more importantly, you are instilling in them selflessness, compassion, and an understanding of what it truly means to be called to serve. You are forever changing their lives so that they can change others.

Good luck on your mission!



MISSION: SOCK PALS FOR A CHILDREN'S SHELTER

Bible Reference: John 13:5

Mission Profile

Did you know that socks are one of the most needed items at shelters? They never have enough for the homeless and neglected people they serve. In this one-week mission, your agents will tackle this need by bringing in new socks for kids, then get creative to make “Sock Pals” to go along with them—a fun way to make a difference for kids in an area crisis shelter.

Thinking Big

By involving your entire church in the socks drive, you’re showing your agents how to “think big”. The more people that help, the bigger impact we can all make. Challenge agents to think about who they might ask to help—neighbors, family members, family friends. The size of your collection will dictate whether this is a three- or four-week mission.

The Plan...

- Welcome visitors and new agents.
- Reinforce the *MISSION POSSIBLE KIDS* purpose—that kids can change the world—that we are called by God to serve others—emphasize our can-do attitude, “think big” mindset, and use spy speak to add fun!
- Agents make Sock Pals for kids at the local shelter.
- Reflect on and pray for a successful mission.

Good luck on your mission!

Gather Supplies

General Supplies:

- PowerPoint (using photos provided or from local food bank)
- (Week 4) Spy Game of choice from *MPK Spy Games* portfolio

Sock Pals (Weeks 1-3):

- White card stock Sock Pals Large (one page per pair of socks) and Sock Pals Small (one page per two pairs of preschool sized-socks), copied using template provided
- Children’s socks, bright or pastel prints, ranging from preschool size to larger elementary-aged children’s sizes—donated by agents or other collection drive. *Minimum needed:* 2 pairs per agent for a 2- or 3-week mission, more for 4-week mission
- Yarn in red, brown, black & yellow
- Ribbons, washi tape, sequins, bric-a-brac, googly eyes & miscellaneous decorating materials
- Crayons, markers, scissors, glue
- Stapler (if needed to make large socks fit the Sock Pal more snugly)

Prepare for the Month

Beforehand, select a children's shelter as your recipient and request digital photos for your PowerPoint. If you haven't already, launch your sock drive, promoting your request in all ways available to you and setting up a collection bin. You'll need *at least* two pairs of new, colored or patterned kids' socks for each agent.

- **For Week 1-3 Meeting:** Email out your request to parents for donations of NEW children's socks ahead of Week 2&3 meeting. Prepare the PowerPoint. Make copies of the week's Agent Handler's Action Plan. Make white card stock copies of Sock Pals Large and Sock Pals Small (*more than half of your collection will likely need the Large template*). Gather other supplies. Based on the size of your collection, determine if you need to purchase additional socks.
- **For Week 4 Meeting:** Prepare each agent's Mission Star Award and any Promotion Certificates that may have been earned. Gather supplies for your chosen Spy Game.

The Day of the Meeting

- **General setup for every meeting:** Hang the *MPK* banner and world map. Place usual supplies in each workspace (Agent Handler's Action Plan for the week, computer with PowerPoint, CD player/speaker if music is planned, and optional Spy Game). Set up check-in station with rosters, sign-up forms/releases for new kids.
- **Week 1-3:** Deliver all sock donations and decorating supplies to meeting rooms. Set up workstations with socks and Sock Pals, keeping each of the two size Sock Pals templates with the matching sock size.
- **Week 4:** Deliver agents' Mission Star Awards, Promotion Certificates/Stars, and next month's Communiqué to meeting area.

After the Meeting

Before delivery, do a quality control check. Be sure that each Sock Pal has a matching pair of socks securely attached and that all Sock Pals have been signed. Prepare a letter with the *MPK* logo to send along with your donation, saying something like:

“*MISSION POSSIBLE KIDS* is dedicated to empowering kids to change the world by helping others. During our most recent mission, our chapter of ____ (#) agents in ____ (city, state) made ____ (#) of Sock Pals for the kids at _____ (recipient name). We hope they enjoy our gifts.”

Email Communiqué to agent parents, announcing the next mission and any special requests.

Action Plan Summary

Beforehand:

- Announce collection for socks for children's shelters in options available (newsletters/website/bulletins).
- Set out collection bins.

Before Meetings:

- Prepare Agent Handler info.
- Print templates as needed and gather supplies.
- Prepare a PowerPoint to show photos from Mission Control and your shelter recipient.
- Email parents to remind them about sock donations.

At the Meeting(s):

- During Agent Briefing, explain the mission purpose and set agents to work.
- Agents decorate Sock Pals and attach them to pairs of new socks.
- Reflect on and pray for the recipients.

After Meetings:

- Prepare delivery letter as needed.
- Quality control checks are done and the completed Sock Pals are counted and delivered to the shelter.
- Report mission to Mission Control.

Good luck on your mission!



**TOP SECRET MISSION:
SOCK PALS FOR KIDS' SHELTER**

AGENT HANDLERS' ACTION PLAN—WEEK 1-3

Before the Meeting

- Check supplies: card stock Sock Pals Large and Sock Pals Small, scissors, decorative items (yarn, googly eyes, sequins, ribbon scraps, washi tape, etc.) glue, markers/crayons, stapler. For Weeks 2-3 (donated socks)
- Set up PowerPoint and music (if you choose to use any).

Agent Check-In

- Welcome agents to *MPK*! Sign in agents and any new recruits.

Agent Briefing

- “Calling all agents, calling all agents!” Welcome any new agents.
- Reinforce the *MISSION POSSIBLE KIDS* purpose—that kids can change the world—that God has called us to serve—emphasize our can-do attitude, “think big” mindset, and use spy speak to add fun and excitement!
- (Week 1) Introduce the mission using text box on next page-- and get agents talking
- (Week 2-3) Test agent recall: Ask agents to identify this month’s mission and mission target.
- (Week 2-3) Review Bible verse: John 13:5: “*After that, he (Jesus) poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*” (NIV)

Working the Mission

- Today agents will cut out & decorate 1 Sock Pal for shelter kids. Focus is quality, not quantity.
- Assign older agents to work with the Sock Pals Small templates if you have preschooler’s socks (it will be easier for them to cut these out), and younger agents to work with the Sock Pals Large templates (Be sure the templates are at tables with the right size socks).
- Ask agents to first cut out the template of the Sock Pals, color them with markers or crayons, then glue googly eyes, yarn for hair, and other decorative items on clothes.
- Agents sign their first name underneath the line on the Sock Pal.
- Remind agents to bring in 2-3 pairs of bright or pastel patterned socks, (In Weeks 2-3, complete the remaining steps after sock donations come in, then make more):
- Agents place one sock *inside* the other so toes/heels align, then flatten the pair out (may need to cut off connecting plastic pieces first).
- Once Sock Pal is dry, agents carefully insert the Sock Pal into the pair of socks.
- If pairs are too large for the Sock Pal, trade up to the larger Sock Pal, or staple socks on.
- Repeat until all pairs of socks have a Sock Pal!

Today's TOP SECRET MISSION

“Today we’re going to talk about what seems like a really ordinary thing that you probably all have—socks.” Ask agents to talk about different types of socks and the ones they like best.” (*tall socks, ankle socks, toe socks, colorful, patterned, solid, etc.*)

“Now in your head, count how many pairs you think you have. Raise your hand if you think you have more than 5 pairs? 10 pairs? Wow, sounds like you all have a LOT of socks!”

“Socks can seem like such an ordinary thing to many of us. This is probably because we don’t have to worry about what life would be like *WITHOUT* them. What happens when you wear shoes without socks? (*blisters, smelly feet, sweaty feet, cold feet, etc.*)”

“Socks help keep our feet warm in the cold, they protect our feet from sharp objects and from getting blisters. Socks help keep our feet clean from dirt/dust/germs. So, it is important to take good care of our feet.”

Ask an agent to read aloud John 13:5.

‘After that, he (Jesus) poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.’ (NIV)

“Feet are mentioned many times throughout the Bible. There are even verses that talk about the cleanliness of feet. In this story, Jesus is gathered with his disciples for the Last Supper and He shows his love towards his closest friends by washing their feet. It was one way He could give care and attention to others, by showing He even cared about their feet!”

“Let’s see how this connects to today’s mission (*show PowerPoint*). There are many kids in our community who don’t even have one pair of good socks. They sometimes go to shelters like _____ here in our town to give them a roof over their heads and food to eat. And you know what shelters never seem to have enough for the kids that come there? Socks! We’re going to show these kids that we care by giving gifts to care for their feet.”

Set agents to work on making Sock Pals.

GOOD LUCK ON YOUR MISSION!



**TOP SECRET MISSION:
SOCK PALS FOR KIDS' SHELTER**

AGENT HANDLERS' ACTION PLAN—WEEK 4

Before the Meeting

- Check supplies: supplies for Spy Game of choice
- Set up music (if you choose to use any).
- Write “Mission Accomplished!” on the marker board.

Agent Check-In

- Welcome agents to *MPK*! Sign in agents and any new recruits.

Agent Briefing

- “Calling all agents, calling all agents!” Welcome any new agents.
- Test agent recall: Ask agents to identify this month’s mission and mission target.
- Review Bible verse: John 13:5: “*After that, he (Jesus) poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*” (NIV)

Reflect on a Successful Mission

- Let’s talk about the mission!: “Did you enjoy making Sock Pals? What do you think the children receiving the Sock Pal might think? The kids will be thankful for not only receiving the socks but also something special with it.”
- Congratulate agents on a successful mission. “Mission accomplished!”
- Pray for those receiving your gifts, that they will be encouraged.
- Announce agent promotions.
- Announce the next TOP SECRET mission and any items needed for next meeting.
- Time allowing—Spy Games!

Huddle in circle, hands atop hands and yell ***“GO MISSION POSSIBLE KIDS!”***