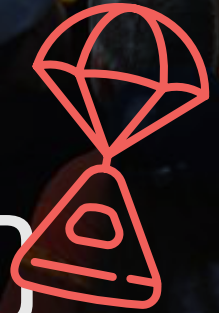




SATELLITES
SUMMER 2025



LAUNCH AND LAND

TWO SESSIONS TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR AND RETURN FROM SATELLITES

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Launch & Land, our resource to help you and your youth group to get the most out of your summer adventure at the Satellites Youth Event.

Very simply, we're providing you with ideas and guidance to run two sessions with your group. The first will help you to prepare everyone for what to expect at Satellites and explore how they can get the most out of coming along. The second session is designed to help young people to return well from the event, reflecting on what happened there, and building connections between the mountaintop experience of a festival, and the year-round journey of regular life at home, school and their faith community.

We don't really believe in one-size-fits-all resources; all young people are unique and every youth group is wonderfully different. This means that while we've made some suggestions for how to run these sessions, we strongly recommend that you customise, innovate and improvise around them. By all means run only one session – or four! You are the best person to understand what will be helpful for the teenagers in front of you, so we want you to feel like you have full permission to use as much or as little of this material as you like.

One important point before you go any further: don't try to use it all! We've intentionally provided you with more material than you need, so that you pick and choose the parts that feel most useful for your youth group. Depending on whether you're first time visitors to Satellites – or even first-time campers – you'll find that some parts are more relevant than others. Feel free to ditch the bits you don't need, use what's helpful, and add your own elements too!

Youthscape

HOPE
& GLORY



SATELLITES
SUMMER 2025

hello@wearesatellites.com
Satellites Team, 74 Bute Street,
Luton, LU1 2EY. U.K.

Words: Martin Saunders
Youthscape Youth Events is a
registered company: 16459213

SESSION ONE LAUNCH



PREPARATION

Before heading to Satellites, we think it's a really good idea to gather everyone who'll be going away together for an informal meeting. This could take a number of forms, for example:

- An evening gathering, perhaps with food and some social elements
- A joint event with other local groups that will be attending Satellites (you're likely to be camping together)
- A meeting, arranged after or during a church service

This guide will suggest a running order which could be customised for any of these formats, or another which works best for your group. You could choose to include parents in some or all of the meeting. Depending on the nature of your group, you might want to include prayer and worship (for a group that is already full of committed Christians), or you might want to dial down some of the faith-based content.

Most of all, Launch and Land is designed to encourage you to invest in both preparation and follow up. Summer events offer an amazing opportunity to build faith and experience God's presence in a unique context, but they're no substitute for the week in, week out journey of seeking God together as part of a faith community. We hope that this session enables you to set out on the right foot, to build anticipation and to answer important questions BEFORE you're in the busyness of a camping field. The second session in this series will help you to think about how to return to normality really well.

MEETING AIMS:

- 1) To ensure everyone attending Satellites feels comfortable and informed about the trip, including the expectations placed on them.
- 2) To introduce or refresh understanding of the vision and values of the event, and the approach to prayer ministry.
- 3) To answer any questions or concerns that young people or their parents may have.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Sheets, poles and other supplies to create makeshift tents (or a sleeping bag and the bag it comes in, plus a stopwatch)
- Printouts for the 'Circles of Orbit' activity
- Camping-related items for the memory game
- Small chocolate prizes
- Pens and paper
- Question box or virtual equivalent

THINK ABOUT:

- What kind of venue will be best for this?
- Who should we invite – and how?
- Does the session need to include practical elements such as demonstrating how to put up tents – or modelling prayer ministry?
- Should you eat together – and could this be a place to introduce some of your camp rules or systems?
- What are the really important issues to address, even if no-one asks about them?

What follows is a suggested running order for the session – again, you should feel free to edit, add and subtract according to your group's needs.

GAME 1: IT'S IN-TENTS

We think it's a great idea to begin with a fun activity. This game is all about preparing your group for the all-important task of putting up and taking down tents. If you're feeling brave, you could run this activity outside, with the actual tents that you're taking with you to Satellites – but this is a speed-based game, and if you have any concerns about young people tearing or otherwise damaging them, you might want to use tent-style materials...

Split into groups (perhaps use your tent groups, if you've allocated these), and give each one the same materials with which to build a makeshift tent. You might want to use:

- Sheets
- Poles or wooden canes
- String or cord
- Chairs
- Books or other weights to hold the corners down
- Pegs if running the activity outside

The groups have five minutes to build their tent, and they must all be able to sit inside it without it falling apart. If all the tents pass this test, you may want to add additional challenges, such as seeing whether the tents are wind-resistant (a hair-dryer or fan may help here), or even water-resistant! Award prizes to the most sturdy and creative tents.

[A smaller version of this idea: run a sleeping bag-packing time trial. Use a stopwatch to time each member of the group as they attempt to stuff a sleeping bag into a sleeping bag bag(!). The fastest group member wins a prize!]

Q+A – GATHERING QUESTIONS

At some point early on in the meeting, or perhaps even before it, create an opportunity for young people to pose their questions about the trip. You can offer an anonymous option – a physical question box with slips of paper for them to write their questions on, or a digital equivalent – or you could just invite them to write any questions on a sheet which is passed around.

If you're serving food – for example a barbecue or some pizza – you could run the process of gathering questions alongside it.

ACTIVITY: CIRCLES OF ORBIT

In the attached downloads you'll find the 'Circles of Orbit' printable sheet, and also a printable list of activities to cut out. There are also some blank slips for you to add your own.

You can run this activity as a whole group, or in smaller groups if appropriate (one set of printouts per group). You might want to run this yourself, or invite one of the young people to chair the discussion.

Explain that the circles on the sheet represent your life – the centre ring is... the centre! So if we were to arrange the slips of paper to show our priorities, we'd put the absolute most important thing – the thing we love and even worship most – right in the middle ring, while less important stuff would be placed in the outer rings.

Give each person who wants to a chance to re-order the priorities to represent their own lives. After they've done so, invite a conversation about how they've arranged the list. Are they happy with it? Is there anything they would like to change, or feel like they should?

Explain that Satellites is all about exploring what life looks like when we put Jesus in the very centre circle, and why – far from making the rest of our lives boring – doing this actually helps us to make sense of all the other things in those outer circles.

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? GOD AT THE CENTRE

You might want to explain something along these lines in your own words.

Although there are lots of different themes covered at Satellites, one comes up more often than the rest, and that's the idea that life makes most sense, and is lived to its fullest potential when we put God at the centre of it.

Jesus said – in John 10 v 10 – that :

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

That's the way it is! He wants us to experience the best and most fulfilling version of life imaginable, and that's only possible when we put him first.

This doesn't mean that your whole life needs to be spent in prayer or singing worship songs! God is interested in everything we are, and everything we do – and that means that he wants to be as much a part of our sports fixtures, maths lessons and even video game battles, as he does our time in church.

SATELLITES VALUES

This section is more suitable for an established group, or one with members who are more mature in faith.

Satellites focusses on seven key discipleship values – really important ideas about how to live out Christian faith, based on what the Bible teaches us about following Jesus. They underpin the programme and teaching at the event, and they're the main things that we're hoping everyone comes away feeling excited about.

As you introduce each of the seven values to the group, invite someone to mime the title to the group – like in a game of charades. Some of the values are easier to act out than others (Prayer is pretty simple for example, Justice less so), so choose volunteers appropriately.

Once someone has guessed the first value, ask the group to suggest what they think that word means – particularly in the context of Christian faith (creativity for example has a wider meaning beyond this). Below you'll find the list of seven, with a few pointers for each to describe what we mean when we talk about it at Satellites.



PRAYER:

Connecting with God in new ways, to new depths. Cultivating prayer for lifelong and everyday faith.



WORSHIP:

We believe that God is worth our devotion. Not just in the songs that we sing, but in the way that we live our lives, individually and corporately.



FAMILY:

Inviting participation in God's magnificent, global, gifted, flawed, history-spanning family: the Church.



POWER:

True transformation – becoming like Jesus – is only possible through the power and the presence of the Holy Spirit.



EVANGELISM:

Good news is worth sharing. We want to help young people be able to talk naturally about life-changing faith with their friends.



JUSTICE:

Seeking Jesus' redemptive Kingdom on Earth, we join a physical, spiritual battle against injustice, both personal and systemic.



CREATIVITY:

Discovering how creativity can serve the renewing and repainting of the world, learning from the God who is "making all things new".

At the end of the discussion, see if anyone can remember all seven values. Award a prize if they can!

GAME 2: THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

Tenuous link ahoy... The thing about going away on a summer camp is that you get to create a whole year's worth of memories in a single week. So it's a good idea to try to strengthen our powers of memory...

You're going to play the classic tray game (sometimes known as "Kim's Game") but with a very slight camping twist. All the objects on the tray must relate to camping in some way, and you can start the game by discussing each one and its

usefulness in a camping context. Some possible ideas for objects you could use:

- Box of matches
- Batteries
- Bin liners
- (Child's) Wellington Boot
- Phone charger
- Toothbrush
- Snacks
- Peg
- Tea towel
- Spork(!)

Try to have at least twelve objects. Depending on the size of the items you choose, you'll then need a tea towel or larger sheet to cover them with. Then, either:

a) One person tries to remember all the objects on the tray. If they're successful, they win a prize. If not, someone else has a chance to guess.

b) Everyone plays – and writes down as many of the items as they can remember. The person with the most correct answers wins a prize.

HOPE & GLORY

2025 THEME: HOPE & GLORY

You might want to explain a little about this year's focus, in your own words:

"This year, the main theme of Satellites is hope. We're going to explore the hope we have in Jesus for both this life and the next, but we're also going to spend lots of time thinking about how we can be bringers of hope to the world around us. A really key verse this year is John 1 v 5: "The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it." The world can feel quite hopeless sometimes, but the great news is that we have a real, amazing hope that won't let us down."

Because this is our theme, there will be lots of opportunities to hear about hope, and get inspired to get involved in the hope-bringing work of God back at home. We want to bring reassurance and inspiration, but also challenge. We know we'll have succeeded if lots of young people are finding new ways to get stuck in as hope-bringers in their schools and communities, in the year ahead. You might want to explore a few of these ideas ahead of the event – so here are some discussion questions to consider:

1. What is hope? What kinds of things do you hope for?
2. What makes you feel hopeful... and hopeless?
3. What do you think Christian hope is? Why does it make a difference?

The aim of Satellites 2025 is to help every young person who attends to both take hold of hope for their lives and their future, and to encourage them to share that hope in practical ways. Jesus said he is the Light of the World (John 8 v12), but he also tells us that we are too (Matthew 5 v 14). We're going to anchor our time together this year in that amazing mystery!

PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER

Finally, it's important to explain that Satellites always creates lots of opportunities to receive prayer, and to pray for other people. We work really hard to make sure that this isn't scary or weird! If God is real, and we can really know him, then this is the most natural thing for us to do as his family. We've thought really carefully about how we lead this at Satellites, and so we've come up with three really simple principles which you'll hear over and over again at the event.

1. PRAYER SHOULD ALWAYS BE ACTIVE

The person praying, the person being prayed for, and God are all active participants in the prayer. This means we encourage people to focus on what they're doing – whether praying or being prayed for.

2. PRAYER IS ABOUT BEING OPEN

God might want to do more than we're expecting, so we should keep an open mind for what God might want to draw our attention to.

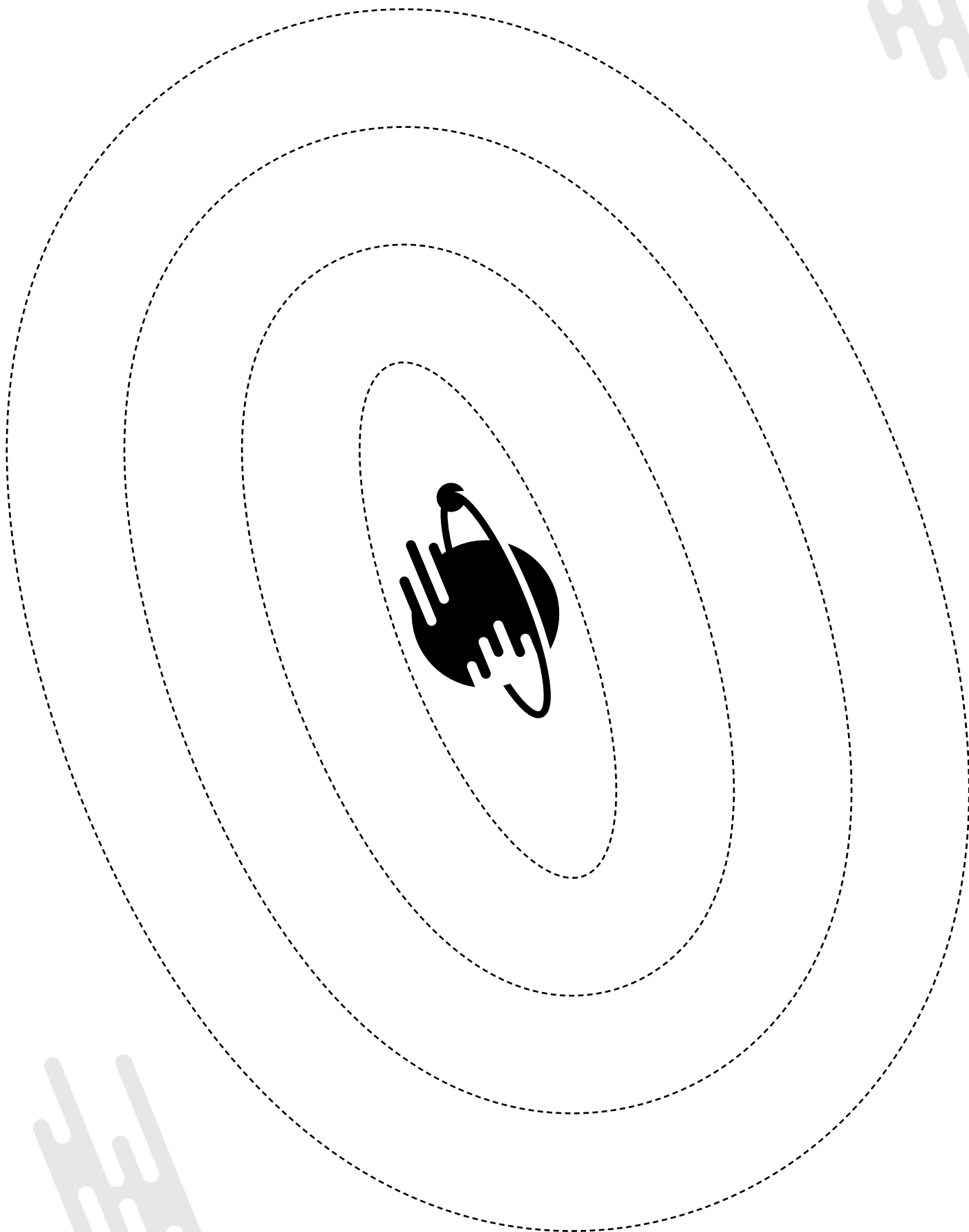
3. PRAYER MUST ALWAYS BE ENCOURAGING

Sometimes some tricky things can come up when we pray: heavy or difficult situations, times we've been hurt or times we've hurt others. If you're praying with someone, the goal is for them to leave that time of prayer encouraged and confident that God really loves them.

You might want to lead a short discussion about these three principles – and gauge how comfortable your group is feeling about prayer at Satellites. This may also raise some extra questions for your final section:

Having collected some questions from the young people (and perhaps also their parents) earlier in the meeting, take an opportunity now to address some of these. To make this more interesting, you might want to invite one or more of the young people to act as interviewer, and grill you and/or other leaders with questions. You could sit on stools, to add to the sense of you being put on the spot by the group.

If there are some subjects which you think might be important to address (like the rules around sleeping arrangements), you might want to add a few questions of your own. Try to be as quick-fire with your answers as possible, and promise to go away and find out the answers to anything you're not able to conclusively address in the meeting.



SPORTS TEAMS I PLAY FOR

SPORTS TEAMS I SUPPORT

MY FAVOURITE SINGER/BAND

NETFLIX

FRIENDS

VIDEO GAMES

FAMILY

EDUCATION

MONEY

JESUS

CHURCH / YOUTH GROUP

PHONE

SPORTS TEAMS I PLAY FOR

SPORTS TEAMS I SUPPORT

MY FAVOURITE SINGER/BAND

NETFLIX

FRIENDS

VIDEO GAMES

FAMILY

EDUCATION

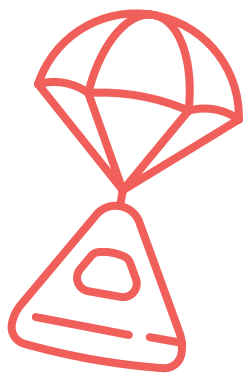
MONEY

JESUS

CHURCH / YOUTH GROUP

PHONE

SESSION TWO LAND



PREPARATION

This session is designed to be run after you return from Satellites. However... you may want to start planning it before you go away.

Our suggestion is that it's a great idea to organise a gathering for those who attended Satellites when you return from the event, but outside of your usual youth programme.

Just as with the launch event, this can take whatever shape you think is best. Examples include:

- A barbecue or other meal where you'll get a chance to share memories, photos and videos (make sure you have appropriate consents in place)
- An evening of prayer, worship, testimonies and ministry, where you put some of the learning from Satellites into practice in your local group
- An informal gathering in your usual youth venue.
- A youth-led church service, where the main focus is on hearing from the young people

We want to encourage you to invest in follow-up from the event. Young people often find that they see their faith very clearly at a big summer event, but life can quickly get in the way. Getting back to normality can be discouraging, or cloud our view of what we've just experienced. The first term after returning from an event is an especially important moment to ensure that a young person's faith remains kindled, and the very first few weeks are perhaps the most important of all. For that reason we'd recommend trying to fit your 'Land' event in before young people return to school in September, if at all possible.

MEETING AIMS:

- 1) To make sure that everyone feels comfortable about what happened on your trip – especially moments where they were asked to be vulnerable or explored spirituality
- 2) To build a bridge between what took place at Satellites and the context of your local church and group
- 3) To celebrate and remember all that happened at the event, and give young people opportunities to share their stories, feelings and experiences in a supportive environment

YOU WILL NEED:

- Post-it notes with names of famous people written on them, paper and pens for the memory game.
- Photo collage or rolling photo montage on screen (with permissions)
- Printouts or display of table for 'Here, there, here' activity
- Towels or sheets of various sizes for the 'Turn the raft' game
- Small chocolate (or other) prizes for the games
- Skittles (the sweet), bowls (large and small) and straws for the 'Skittle sort' game – but make sure the straws aren't wide enough to suck a skittle through.

THINK ABOUT:

- When and how should you publicise this?
- Who else might you invite – such as parents, former youth group members, or other members of the church?
- Should you eat together?
- What will you do / signpost young people to next?

What follows is a suggested running order for the session – once again, you should feel free to edit, add and subtract according to your group's needs.

GAME 1: MEMORY HEADS

We think it's always a great idea to begin with a fun activity – the point of this one is to introduce the concept of remembering. Ask your group to stand in a line; walk along it and stick one post-it to each of the young people's foreheads, without letting them see the famous name written on it – as if you're playing the well-known game sometimes known as 'Heads up' or similar.

They may go into autopilot, so before you send them off to circulate, explain that they have TWO objectives in this version of the game: a) to find out who they are by asking yes/no questions to the other players; b) to remember as many of the famous names they encounter as possible.

Send them off to move around and talk with each other for three minutes, making sure they both meet as many other players as possible, and asking yes/no questions about their own mystery identity. At the end of this time, give each of them a pen and paper, and challenge them in one minute to write down as many of the names they can remember as possible.

They get a point for every name on their list, plus THREE points if they manage to include the name that was on their own head. Ask them to be honest in scoring themselves, then award a small chocolate prize to the person with the most points.

If you're not a big fan of this game, you could play the youth group classic 'Empires' at this moment to make a similar point about the importance of memory.

'WE KEEP THIS LOVE IN A PHOTOGRAPH'

If you've chosen to create some kind of photo or video display (make sure you've obtained relevant permissions), then make a feature of looking at it together and talking through the images. Invite group members to share what was going on for them in the photos. Some questions that could possibly prompt discussion:

- What's the group's favourite photo? Least favourite?
- What were the highlights and lowlights of your group's time together?
- What was the most fun thing you did together?
- What ISN'T there a photo of, but you wish there was?
- Who do you wish had been there?

The idea is to host a gentle, introductory discussion about the fun stuff, before we move on to thinking about the impact that the week might have had on the group's individual and collective faith journeys.

ACTIVITY: HERE AND THERE AND HERE

Print or display on screen the 'Here, there, here' table. Explain that we're going to have an honest conversation about the difference between being away together, and living out our faith, all year round in a youth group, church and everyday life.

In the table you'll see three empty columns to help you describe the way that faith is practiced by your group. There's a list of categories on the left to separate out some of the component parts of this (we've deliberately left some blank space for you to add your own categories). The first column is an honest space to reflect on what things were like before you went away. The second offers a moment to remember how these things were experienced at Satellites. Take some time to talk about both of these before moving on to the third column.

You might want to do this in a number of ways. You could lead a group discussion and fill something in on screen; you could split into groups – of 5 or 6, or even just pairs – and then get them to feedback. Or you could give every young person a copy of the table, and invite them to fill in what they really think ahead of a group discussion. What you're really asking them to explore is how different things were for them, and for the group, while you were away. Returning from events like Satellites is often quite problematic when there's a mismatch with the regular church / youth group experience.

Once you've created plenty of space to discuss the first two columns, move on to the really important one, by posing this question:

"How could we take some of the best things about being away together, and make them part of our everyday life together?"

Host a conversation with the whole group to try to 'fill in' the final column. Some questions which might help:

- What things on this list were already great before we even went away?
- What's the biggest area that we want to change?
- How can we help each other to follow Jesus in the times when we're not together?
- How could the leaders or other adult members of the church help us to practice our faith and stay close to God?

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? YEAR-ROUND FAITH

You might want to explain something along these lines in your own words.

A week of faith-building fun in the summer is great... but it's only five days out of 365! Following Jesus is something we can do all year round, and it can transform everything about our lives if we do. This is what the organisers of Satellites really care about – and they only run the week in the summer to help set everyone up for the other 360 days.

In his letter to a church in 1 Corinthians 10 v 31, Paul writes: "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." Paul is inviting the church to make God part of everything – not just their church services or their summer camps!

This might sound a bit overwhelming, but it doesn't need to. The point is that God made everything, not just the church-shaped bits of the world. He created and inspired the people who invented sport, and art, and even school – he's interested and present in every single area of our lives. So perhaps the biggest idea of all at the heart of Satellites is one that will help you to live out your faith practically, every day: the fullest version of life is found when we invite God to be as much a part of our everyday lives as our times of worship and prayer.

And Paul's encouragement on how to do that is really simple: just try to do everything in a way that would make God's heart swell with love for his children.

GAME 2: TURN THE RAFT

This classic game is designed to get young people working collaboratively, and as a tight team. It does involve getting very close – so you might want to use wisdom and discernment when you pick teams.

Explain that this game involves a very simple challenge: turning a towel or sheet over. The only twist... a group of you are standing on it as you attempt to flip it. And you can't step off... because the towel actually represents a life-raft – the only thing keeping you safe from shark infested waters (the floor).

By working together, the teams should be able to work out how to flip the raft without stepping off (with larger sheets this can be easily achieved if everyone stands at one end, turn the other half and then step across to the turned end). But as either the groups get larger or the rafts get smaller, it all becomes progressively more difficult!

Run the challenge a few times, increasing the difficulty, and award prizes as you wish. The message – if you'd like to share one – is that your group has bonded closely, and there's lots of things that you can achieve better in this state, including following Jesus!

SATELLITES VALUES IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Hopefully when you were at Satellites, you were aware of at least some of the discipleship (following Jesus) values that underpinned the event. You might want to briefly take some time now to reflect on whether/how you saw these things in action at the event – and how you can live them out in everyday life...

Before this discussion, see if anyone can remember the seven Satellites values which you discussed in the 'launch' evening. Award a prize if they can! And if not, repeat the exercise at the end of this activity.

You could either discuss the whole of the list below – either in small groups or as a whole – or you could break the list into smaller parts and invite small groups to talk through a few values each before feeding back. You'll see that under each heading there are a few suggested question prompts to get everyone talking.



PRAYER:

Hopefully you got to learn about and try out praying in lots of different ways at the event – how did you experience it? What surprised you, and what did you learn? What might you put into practice in your everyday life? Might you pray differently?



WORSHIP:

This isn't just about the songs that we sing – although times of sung worship are important. How can you worship Jesus in the way you live out your everyday life?



FAMILY:

How do you feel about church after Satellites? How did it feel to meet and hear from people from different parts of the church? What are your plans for being part of church now?



POWER:

What – if any – was your experience of the Holy Spirit at Satellites? What might it look like to pray to be filled with the Spirit, and experience the gifts and fruit of the Spirit, more often?



EVANGELISM:

The good news really is good news! It's worth telling other people about. How do you feel about sharing your faith with people who don't know Jesus? Who do you want to tell, and what will you tell them?



JUSTICE:

God really cares about the wrong things in the world, and wants us to be a part of putting them right. What are the big issues and challenges of injustice that feel especially important to you? How can you be motivated by your faith to bring justice?



CREATIVITY:

God invites you to use your creative gifts and ideas for him. So how might you begin to do that more?

GAME 3: SKITTLE SORT GAME

If you feel like you need it, here's a quick, energising third game. There's no clever point behind it – just an opportunity to have fun.

Put lots of skittles (the sweet) into the large bowl. You can have as many teams as there are different colours in the packet of skittles, although don't feel the need to use all the colours unless numbers absolutely dictate - having a spare colour which no-one wants to collect adds an element of challenge.

The aim of the game is for teams to collect as many skittles of their allocated colour as possible using their straws and the power of suction.

Divide your group into equal sized teams and place an empty bowl for each team at one end of your hall/playing space. Place the bowl with all the skittles in it at the other end of the hall equally accessible to all the teams, and get your teams to line up by their empty bowls. Each young person will need their own straw - we don't recommend sharing!

If your group is small enough (anything under 12) you could allow them to go for the skittles all at the same time, and the ensuing chaos becomes part of the challenge of the game, but otherwise get your teams into lines and allow team members to go-up one at a time in a relay manner and – only using the straws – attempt to pick up their allocated skittle colour and transport it back to the teams bowl. Any skittle that falls off a straw is counted out of the game (and safely removed from under feet by a helpful leader), and the player must return to their team and allow the next player to go up and have an attempt.

After an appropriate length of time call an end to the fetching, and count up how many skittles each team has in their bowl. Subtract one for each wrong colour skittle that has been transported into the wrong bowl. Award prizes accordingly – but don't use the skittles!

SATELLITES REVISITED

As you close your time together, we'd encourage you to make space to spend some corporate time together with God. This can look however you want it to, but you might want to consider including some of the following elements:

WORSHIP

Sing some of the songs from Satellites, even if you don't have a worship band (side note: this could provide a great opportunity to launch a youth band!). You can find a Spotify playlist of all the songs from 2025 by searching for "Satellites 2025".

TALK

Have one of your leaders, or even a young person / young leader, give a short talk with the theme of 'keeping going' or similar. Some good passages for this include Romans 8 & 12, 1 Corinthians 9: 24-47 and Hebrews 12: 1-3.

PRAYER AND MINISTRY

Use the model taught at Satellites (prayer is Active, Open and Encouraging) to safely pray for one another, and invite God's spirit to work.

TESTIMONY

Make space for young people (and leaders!) to share some stories about what happened during the week. In some ways, this might be the most important and rewarding thing you do!

	WHAT IT WAS LIKE HERE BEFORE	WHAT IT WAS LIKE AT SATELLITES	WHAT IT COULD BE LIKE HERE NOW
SENSE OF TOGETHERNESS, COMMUNITY AND BELONGING			
WORSHIPPING TOGETHER			
READING AND LEARNING FROM THE BIBLE			
PRAYER TOGETHER			
TIME WITH GOD ON OUR OWN			
GOD AT THE CENTRE OF LIFE			