

Country Kids Summer Camp Handbook



This Handbook contains important information about the full-day summer camp program.
Please read it thoroughly and keep it for reference.

COUNTRY KIDS SUMMER CAMP HANDBOOK

OBJECTIVE: First and foremost, to encourage *RESPECT* amongst peers as well as adults. To encourage new experiences, new skills, and risk taking within our safe environment. And to promote interpersonal skills and team playing.

DROP OFF/PICK UP:

Graduates of Kindergarten & First grade: Drop off and pick up will be at the main building located at 107 Old State Road. A staff member will be at the front doors upstairs (upper parking lot) to meet your camper. If you are enrolled in before or after care, you will need to come inside the building.

Graduates of second grade through sixth grade: Drop off and pick up will be at Kids Club (94 Old State Rd)

4:00pm pickups: Pickup for this group will be on the front porch at the KIDS CLUB building located at 94 Old State Road. Due to limited parking at this building, parents just pull up to the porch, where the group will be waiting.

Later pick up for second grade through sixth grade: Please call us at 203-740-1441 when you are within 5 minutes of arrival. We will get your child ready, and they will be waiting on the front porch for pickup.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL/TEXT YOUR CHILD DIRECTLY FOR PICK UP!

Children will be released only to a parent and/or an authorized alternate. From time to time, if you would like someone else to pick up your child, we must have it in writing. Without this, we will not be able to release your child. An email is acceptable. Identification of the alternate pickup will be required.

If your child is signed up for 8:30am - 4:00pm, drop off can be no earlier than 8:30am and pickup no later than 4:00pm. If your child is signed up for 7:00am - 6:00pm, drop off is no earlier than 7:00am and pickup is no later than 6:00pm. To do so will result in additional fees that must be paid the same day.

LOCKERS:

We can accommodate most campers with a locker or a hook with a small storage bin above that hook. Please store an extra pair of shorts, underwear, and tee shirt in this storage area.

ATTIRE:

ALL CAMPERS MUST BE WEARING SUNSCREEN WHEN THEY ARRIVE IN THE MORNING. We will encourage campers to reapply sunscreen throughout the day.

For comfort and safety, campers should come to camp dressed appropriately. This includes shorts, tee shirts, socks, and sneakers. Sneakers are essential for gym and sports activities. Children often stub their toe when they come to camp with open toed sandals.

Kindergarten and first grade graduates should wear their bathing suits under their clothes to camp so that they are ready for their morning swim.

Campers need to pack the following everyday:

1. Two beach towels & two bathing suits.
2. Shoes or sandals appropriate for the pool area, i.e., flip flops, water shoes.
3. Sweatshirt.
4. A plastic bag large enough to hold their wet towels and bathing suit.
5. Brush or comb.
6. SUNSCREEN to be applied throughout the day

LABELING:

We require that all items are LABELED - towels, bathing suits, underwear, socks, sunscreen. EVERYTHING! We cannot be responsible for lost clothing.

SWIMMING:

We provide swimming to the campers every day in our heated saltwater pools. A certified lifeguard is always on duty whenever children are scheduled to be in the pool area. Water safety skills will be part of their instruction and if your child is new to us, they will be subjected to a swim test. If it is determined that your child will be required to wear a floatation device while in the pool, we ask that you support us. Each child is required to wear a bathing suit in the pool area and will be required to go to the pool each day. They will not, however, be forced to go into the pool if they choose not to swim.

FIELD TRIPS: Camp tee shirts must be worn on all field trips. There are no exceptions. Should your child arrive to camp on a field trip day without one, we will supply one to them at an additional cost of \$22 which must be paid upon pickup. New campers will be given their shirts the first week they come to camp.

PROVISIONS: WE ARE A NUT FREE FACILITY

Campers should come to camp each day with a morning snack and their own bottled water. Water will be replenished throughout the day. Our camp will provide an afternoon snack. If your child brings a lunch, it must be packed with an ice pack. Paper bags are not allowed.

To make your life easier, we will provide lunch options for your child for an additional fee. Lunch orders (other than Subway) may be placed each morning by 10:00am and must be paid for at the time of order. If your child will be arriving later than 10:00am, be sure to call ahead to place his/her lunch order. Fruit will be made available with each meal. We will offer the following options each day:

- MONDAY - Chicken tenders/fries- Cost \$5.00
- TUESDAY - Pizza - Cost: \$3.00 per slice (from a local pizzeria)
- WEDNESDAY - Hot Dogs, chips, pickles- Cost \$3.00 per hot dog
- THURSDAY - Pizza - Cost \$3.00 per slice (from a local pizzeria)
- FRIDAY- SUBWAY 6" sandwich, chips - \$5.00 per sandwich

NOTE: *SUBWAY MUST BE ORDERED NO LATER THAN TUESDAY AFTERNOON FOR FRIDAY LUNCH*

ILLNESS:

If your child will not be attending camp on any specific day, please notify us by email at info@countrykidschildcare.com or phone our camp office at 203-740-1441.

If your child becomes ill while at camp, you may be required to pick up as soon as possible. It is our policy that children must be symptom free for at least 24 hours. In some cases, we may need you to provide us with a doctor's note stating that your child is not contagious before they can return to camp. This may apply to not only illness, but for any undiagnosed rash your child may have.

ACTIVITIES:

Each day your child will swim, play gym games, play on playgrounds, and play board games, card games, etc. Special activities each week include cooking, arts & crafts, technology*, & science to name just a few.

Periodically, spontaneous outings are organized and may include a trip to the ice cream parlor, a movie, local playing fields, hiking, and scavenger hunts. Parents will be notified prior to your child taking these trips.

*While we prefer to have personal electronic devices left at home, we ask that they only be used during their allotted technology periods. We do not allow children to post anything social media, call/text/FaceTime with friends outside of camp, listen to music with explicit lyrics, or stream tv shows or movies. Failure to follow these rules will result in the device being turned in to the office and can be picked up by a parent at the end of the day. **WE CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST, STOLEN, OR DAMAGED DEVICES.**

DISCIPLINE POLICY:

Our first approach is to discipline proactively. We will provide positive guidance, redirection, set clear limits, and try to set up an environment to avoid conflicts. The children are always supervised.

Should a camper's actions be more serious in nature where the above techniques do not work, the camper will be removed from the situation and brought to a quiet area. The Counselor will review with the camper what happened using appropriate language and positive guidance. We will then help the camper join back in the camp activities.

At no time will our staff use abusive, neglectful, corporal, humiliating, threatening, or frightening punishments. Nor will they threaten to withhold food as a form of discipline. Physical restraint is prohibited except for the protection and safety of the campers or others.

We have a zero tolerance for bullying, and campers found guilty of this will be removed from our program. If a camper gets physical with a staff member and puts their hands on them, we will require that they get picked up immediately for the rest of the day.

RESPECT:

We will always respect and listen to your child and in return, we will expect the same from them. Please support us in this endeavor.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions or comments about our camp program, please feel free to contact us at 203-740-1441 or email us at info@countrykidschildcare.com

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for choosing our summer camp program, and we are all looking forward to a fun filled summer season!