

CABIN STAFF TRAINING

NWKIDS | NORTHWEST MINISTRY NETWORK



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PART 1 - CABIN STAFF TRAINING

OUR MISSION

WHY WE DO CAMP

Camp exists so kids can experience God in a life-changing way. It is a unique experience for kids to build a relationship with Jesus and with each other. We have the opportunity to invest more time with campers in one week of camp than we do the rest of the year combined. Camp plays a major role in establishing a Christian foundation through five days of intentional, Christ-centered experiences.

WHAT CAMP IS

Kids Camp is a high-energy environment where students can have fun with each other and their cabin staff. Each student will be impacted by powerful teaching, passionate worship, and personal reflection on the big ideas of each day. The goal is to see each child grow in their relationship with Jesus.

GOAL OF CABIN STAFF

Our goal as cabin staff is to create a fun and loving environment for kids to experience Jesus. We have a great team of directors who have created fun experiences for all of the kids at camp. Your job is to lead your group of kids, move from experience to experience, and help them get the most out of every opportunity.

We believe that God wants to change the lives of children at camp this summer. Our team has prayerfully created chapel services, fun activities, wild games, social mealtimes, hands-on activities for cabins, and space for personal reflection.

Above all else, remember this: camp is for the camper.

CAMP VALUES AND STRATEGIES

Our camp values determine our camp strategies. We have highlighted a few core values here to let you know *why* we do what we do. Our team works hard to create a leadership culture that puts kids and serving others first.

Core Values	Camp Strategies
Creativity	Create great themes and environments.
Fun	Spend time playing and laughing.

Personal Relationships	Create one-on-one moments and opportunities.
Safety	Follow clear guidelines and policies
Life Change	Design moments for kids to experience God and His truth.
Leadership	Empower team members to lead and express ownership.

CABIN STAFF BASICS

Consider six things you will do to change the life of a kid this week. *We want you to invest intentional time, love, words, fun, team, and spiritual awareness.* If you can keep your eye on these cabin staff basics, you and your students will have an excellent week at camp.

TIME: KIDS NEED YOU TO SPEND TIME WITH THEM.

If you spend time with kids, you are building positive relationships. These relationships are the foundation for trust and will allow you to speak into the life of your campers. Here are some basic ideas to help you spend quality time with your students:

- Write down the names of your campers on the first day of camp
- Be sure to give each camper some intentional time
- Do everything together: eat meals, clean cabins, walk, play games, share devotionals, and stand in line together
- Be interested in their lives every day of the week
- Don't let your phone distract you from what is going on

LOVE: KIDS NEED TO KNOW THAT YOU LOVE THEM UNCONDITIONALLY.

Kids desperately need adults to show them love. This attention is critical for kids to develop self-esteem and self-worth. You love kids by giving them your attention and care unconditionally. And remember that other kids are watching you care for others in your cabin. A kind gesture for one is a kind gesture for all. They may not notice all that you are doing for them, but the impact of your love is changing the way in which they view the world.

What can we do this week to show that we care for them, that we love them? How can we earn that right? Here are some ideas:

- Learn what makes each kid unique and let them know it
- Be consistent and fair with your attention and rules
- Stick with kids during the tough times of the week
- Ask them a lot of questions and share a lot of stories
- Bring it back to Jesus and them... ask what is going on
- Pray for each kid by name

WORDS: KIDS ALSO NEED TO HEAR WORDS... LOTS OF WORDS.

We have the power of words and with that an incredible responsibility. Words have the power to love or hate, to build up or tear down, to encourage or discourage. Every time you speak to a child, you are giving them vocabulary that shape how they view themselves and the world around them.

Speak life into your campers so they can see how God made them and loves them.

Think about what you need to say this week. What are a few of the most important messages you want to communicate to campers?

- Learn to speak their language.
- Weigh what you say – be specific in your choice of word
- Repeat the big ideas from chapels this week.

FUN: KIDS NEED YOU TO PRIORITIZE HAVING FUN WITH THEM.

Having fun with kids is the quickest way to develop relationships with them. We were all created to just have fun, but some of us grew out of it! Kids do fun automatically -- it is their first language!

As Christians we should be the most joyful, positive, happy, playful, and fun people on the planet. Make an effort to avoid negativity and “boringness.” Reconnect with your fun self and set the tone for the kids in your cabin. Start having fun by following these three easy tips:

- Loosen Up - let go of a few things like ego, image, or pride and have fun! Move more, make some messes, and stop taking yourself too seriously!
- Learn what kids like - if they laugh, you are on the right track. You are connecting with a different generation of kid so pay attention to them.
- Loosen the agenda - you are at camp so live like it! This week is about experiencing Jesus in a fun and memorable way. So, make some memories, do something funny, and enjoy the ride.

TEAM: KIDS NEED TO FEEL THEY BELONG.

Everyone is looking for a place to belong; a place where they are accepted for who they are and a place that can help shape their identity. Create an environment where kids can identify with each other and identify with you. **You may be the first Christian role model that these campers have outside of the home!** Demonstrate what it looks like to follow Jesus and be a part of His team.

- Create memories by sharing experiences
- Model forgiveness and acceptance in your cabin

- Create a tradition - have morning devos or cabin chats in the evening
- Eat a meal - during meal times this week create memories
- Save a seat - always make sure there is a seat reserved for every kid in your circle this week so they feel included and feel they belong. Kids need to know that God knows us and wants to accept us into His tribe. Kids need to know and learn to TRUST GOD!

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS: KIDS NEED HELP SEEING JESUS TO EXPERIENCE LIFE CHANGE.

Cabin staff have the most contact with the kids at camp. You know best how they are processing the big ideas from the week that focus on Jesus and His love for us. Be confident and ask kids questions about the big ideas and let the Holy Spirit guide your conversations with your campers. **You are not here to babysit; you are here to help kids experience Jesus in a life-changing way.**

- Begin praying for the kids in your cabin and in your sphere of influence at camp. Prayer moves the hand of God in your life and in kids' lives.
- Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading you in conversation. Your presence is powerful, but your words can change a life.
- Be aware and boldly engage kids in spiritual discussion. There should be no fear here! Keep it simple and don't worry about having to say, "I don't know."

Reflection Questions: Cabin Staff Basics

1. What is your goal as cabin staff?
 - a. Our goal as cabin staff is to create a fun and loving environment for kids to experience Jesus.
2. How can you develop relationships with your kids at camp?
 - a. Spend time with individual kids and get to know them.
3. What does it mean to form a "tribe" with your kids at camp?
 - a. Create a place for them to feel like they belong.

CAMP BASICS

Our week of camp is built around three key environments. Each of these is designed to help kids experience God in a life-changing way. They are:

1. Morning Chapel
2. Cabin Time
3. Response Chapel

MORNING CHAPEL

WHAT TO EXPECT AT MORNING CHAPEL

Each chapel begins with fun games and music. Be sure to seat each of your kids together. A team of leaders and interns will begin to lead the campers in some games. This is our opportunity to huddle outside and briefly review the events of the day. Meet the rest of the team outside, once all of your kids are settled into the morning games.

We will return to the chapel after our morning briefing. Then we will experience worship, illustrations, and a time of teaching. The worship, drama, and teaching teams are counting on you to help keep your kids focused.

ENVIRONMENT OF MORNING CHAPEL

The service is designed to be fun and interesting from beginning to end. Many kids are not used to sitting down for such a long period of time and will need your help focusing. Take bathroom breaks before service, separate kids who are distracting others, and be on time. Setting the tone early will help you for the rest of the week.

- No bathroom breaks—go before service, on the way to lining up (emergency trips only). If a camper absolutely needs to go—please escort to and from the restrooms.
- Be aware of your campers and help them to refrain from talking and disrupting the service or others around them.
- Be on time—please help your kids to be on time, sit together, and come expecting God to work in your camper's lives!
- Help kids remember their Bibles and Camper Books to and from chapel. Set an example.

CABIN TIME (SMALL GROUPS)

WHAT TO EXPECT AT CABIN TIME

Cabin Time is an excellent opportunity to connect with the kids, help them process the big idea for the day, and make some fun memories together. Please review your Cabin Time Guide and familiarize yourself with the content. We have designed it to be simple and easy to use but you will get the most out of it with a little preparation.

This Cabin Time Guide has been collaboratively written with the camp speaker and will act as a follow up to the lesson shared in the morning chapel. Our goal is for kids to discover the big idea for themselves. The goal is to get kids to interact with you, each other, and the object lesson.

CABIN TIME BASICS

Follow these helpful tips to get started.

- Preview the teaching material and get comfortable with it. Remember, this is a *guide* and does not need to be read like a play-by-play manuscript.
- Gather your cabin into one or two small groups. You want everyone to be able to talk and interact with the object lesson. Find a place that is not distracting.
- Keep your group focused. Re-direct conversation and comments back to the discussion at hand.
- Know your group. Each cabin time includes games, questions, and activities. Feel free to adapt for your kids and take your time with it. We have allowed for lots of time here, so make the most of it.
- Pray with and for your kids. Don't neglect the power of prayer, even for distracted and chatty kids. Be sure that every session includes a time of prayer.

RESPONSE CHAPEL

WHAT TO EXPECT AT RESPONSE CHAPEL

We will end our day at the response chapel. This is an opportunity for kids to respond to the big idea of the day in a very personal way. Our goal is for kids to reflect and respond personally. **Your role is to help kids experience God in a life-changing way by giving them focus, space, and time at response chapel.**

The service will begin with slow music being played by the worship team. They will help create a calm and thoughtful environment. Our speaker will get up next and present a short reminder of the day's big idea. Next, a pastor from our leadership team will invite kids to personally respond to the big idea at one of our response stations. The response stations may include prayer at the stage or any number of interactive responses at stations set up around the room.

YOUR ROLE AT RESPONSE CHAPEL

Help kids focus by directing them towards a response station. Give kids space by removing distractions and helping them focus on what is going on. Give them time by encouraging them to not rush through the response time.

Here are a few more expectations we have for you at the response chapel.

PRAY WITH KIDS

At altar time, pray with your kids. After they have prayed for a time, ask them: "What can I pray for you specifically tonight?" Kids come to God in response to what the Holy Spirit is speaking to them individually, not always what that evening's topic is about.

- Don't hesitate to pray with a child
- Men pray with boys, women pray with girls
- Ask kids how you can pray for them
- Encourage kids to continue praying after you leave

PRAYER OF SALVATION

Ask if kids have ever accepted Jesus' forgiveness of their sins before. We often call this the prayer of salvation and consider it a conversion moment for people becoming Christians. If they have not accepted Jesus' forgiveness of their sins, lead them in this simple prayer: The ABC Prayer of Salvation.

A - Admit that they have a sin problem. "Jesus, I have a sin problem and need you."

"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard." Romans 3:23 / Romans 6:23

B - Believe that Jesus can forgive them of their sins. "I believe that you died for my sins."

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:13 / Romans 5:8

"For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. God gave his Son so that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but have eternal life." John 3:16 / John 14:6

C - Confess that Jesus is their leader. "I will follow You, Jesus, with the rest of my life."

"If you confess (declare) with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." **Romans 10:9-10**

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Show kids what it looks like to pray, worship, and reflect on the big idea.

INVITE KIDS TO PARTICIPATE

Be engaged during the response chapel. Invite kids to participate in the various prayer stations. Not every kid is going to be fully engaged. Help keep those who are not fully engaged focused on what is going on. Many kids will respond to Jesus by observing what is going on.

Important: Some kids will have responded during morning chapel, some may respond during cabin devotions, and others will respond during the response chapel. Each student processes things that they hear and experience differently, and will respond to them differently. The goal is that they are given the opportunity to respond.

Reflection Questions: Camp Basics

1. What is your role at morning chapel?
 - a. To stay with your kids and help them focus on the service.
2. What experience do we want kids to have at response chapel?
 - a. A personal experience with Jesus.
3. What is the best way to encourage kids to participate in the service?
 - a. To lead by example and participate yourself!

MAJOR GUIDELINES

TEAM COMMUNICATION

You have full access to the camp leadership team. They are here to support you and have been working very hard to create a great camp experience for you and your kids. Be sure to approach them with any questions or challenges that you may have.

At orientation, you will also get cell phone number for key staff members. Be sure to add them to your phone and don't be afraid to text.

You will also be asked to subscribe to a group texting service while at camp. This is the best way for us to communicate with everyone at the same time. The group will disband at the end of the week so you won't have to worry about getting spammed throughout the year.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Please remember that the campground is a “closed campus.” This means that you are not allowed to leave or invite guests without prior permission from the camp director or assistant director. Plan on being on-site for the entire week and check in with the team before making a Starbucks run.

ATTENDANCE

You and your campers are expected to be at every scheduled event on time. Your job as a cabin staff is to make sure all your kids are accounted for at all events. If a camper is missing, please notify the camp director immediately.

PERSONAL BREAK

The kids are not allowed out of their cabin before 7:00am. This gives you free run of the showers and bathrooms. We also try to create a few windows each day for you to have a bit of alone time.

CABIN STAFF HANG OUT

Every night we host a time for the cabin staff to hang out. You are invited to come and enjoy some games and snacks, as long as your kids are quiet and in bed. We ask that you never leave the kids without one leader in the cabin. A limited number of interns are available to watch your kids for you while you relax with some adults for a bit.

CAMP MOM

There will be a “camp mom” to assist you with your campers. Any issues with homesickness, wet beds, or hurt feelings that you don’t feel equipped to deal with can be handled by the camp mom. You will meet her and get her cell number at orientation.

WE ARE GUESTS OF THE CAMPGROUND

Remember that we are guests at camp. Please treat the property and equipment like it is your own. The camps bend over backwards to create a positive environment for us and consider themselves a part of our team. Do your best to take great care of the facilities and let us know if anything is broken.

CABIN RULES

Here is a list of some basic cabin rules.

1. Boys and girls stay away from each other’s cabins (including doors and windows)
2. Don’t leave kids unsupervised in cabins
3. Don’t enter other groups cabins unless you are invited
4. Remind kids not to mess with each other’s stuff
5. Discourage kids from hoarding candy and soda
6. You are responsible for keeping your cabin clean
7. Respect the “lights out” schedule
8. Help your kids get lots of sleep!
9. Do your best to keep doors closed when people are changing
10. Cabin staff sleep near the doors

CODE OF CONDUCT

We ask that you abide to a simple code of conduct while at camp.

By completing this training, you agree to:

- **Not use controlled substances at camp** unless supervised by the nursing staff (alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs)
- **Follow camp guidelines** (camp schedule, closed campus, and other guidelines described at orientation)
- **Speak positive words to kids and adults** (no foul or demeaning language)
- **Follow leader-camper boundaries** (no private contact, no physical contact that would be considered inappropriate or could be misconstrued as being inappropriate, avoid cross-gender bonding)
- **Show appropriate boundaries with other cabin staff**
- **The Camp Leadership Team reserves the right to remove any cabin staff for not fully adhering to this code of conduct or for any other behavior deemed unworthy of camp**

CHILD ABUSE OR HARMFUL REPORTING

MAIN CONCEPTS

1. You are required to report an incident of child abuse to the Camp Director (this is mandatory)
 - a. This is for any abuse that has taken place at camp
 - b. And for any abuse shared with you that has taken place before camp
2. Do not ask the child leading questions
3. You will be asked to fill out an "Incident Report" form
4. The Camp Director and Northwest Ministry Network will resolve the reported abuse issue

TYPES OF ABUSE

It is important to recognize that abuse can take place in different forms. Someone is an abuser if he or she fails to nurture a child, physically injures a child, or relates sexually to a child. Neglect and emotional abuse can also be detrimental. The first step in helping abused or neglected children is learning to recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect.

Emotional abuse is any attitude, behavior, or failure to act that interferes with a child's mental health or social development. It can range from a simple verbal insult to an extreme form of punishment. Emotional abuse is almost always present when other forms of abuse are present. Emotional abuse can have the deepest effect on the mental health of a child.

Signs: apathy (not caring), depression, choosing not to play or be involved in activities, hostility, aggression

Neglect is a common type of child abuse. More children suffer from neglect than from physical and sexual abuse combined. Yet, victims of neglect often go unnoticed because neglect is an act of omission. The child may be ignored, not fed, or have medical needs that are left untreated. A single incident of neglect might not be considered child abuse, but repeated neglect is definitely abuse.

Signs: lack of supervision, not being properly dressed for weather, wearing the same clothes repeatedly, hoarding food, complaints of constant hunger, frequent illness due to poor nutrition or lack of proper medical attention.

Physical abuse is defined as any injury to a child that is a result of physical aggression. This aggression may include slapping, beating, or hitting a child, as well as shaking, biting, or kicking. Children who survive physical abuse are left with severe emotional scars. And as we all know from news accounts, not all children survive physical abuse.

Signs: welts, bruises, or burns, often in unusual places on the body such as the child's back, eyes, mouth, or thighs

Sexual abuse is any form of sexual act between an adult and a child. Adults who sexually abuse children may do so by fondling or touching private body parts. They may force a child to undress or force a child to watch them undress. Adults who sexually abuse may also force a child to watch others engage in sexual intercourse or introduce them to pornography.

Signs: withdrawing, refusing to engage socially, refusing to undress for sports or other activities, exaggerated interest in sex, acting out sexually with other children, becoming seductive toward others, fear of contact such as a pat on the arm or hug, masturbation, acting out sex with dolls or toys

MANDATORY LAW

Washington state law requires the mandatory reporting of child abuse. By agreeing to serve as a cabin staff, you also agree to report any incidents of child abuse shared with you at camp. This is for the protection of the children and the protection of our summer camp ministry.

When a child shares with you, be a good listener. Resist the temptation to ask leading or prying questions. Clarifying questions may be appropriate but don't try to pull information from a child that is not forthcoming. If a child is sharing with you, do not feel like you need to shut them down. It is a big deal that they would open up to you. Listen to the child.

REPORTING

The camp director will provide you with a form to report the suspected abuse. Our staff has been trained to deal with these situations and work with the state of Washington.

CAMP DISCIPLINE

It is important to understand that discipline is an important and positive part of summer camp. At some point, you will be responsible to help kids follow the guidelines and expectations of camp. This discipline establishes boundaries, sets clear expectations, and enforces those expectations consistently. Kids may resist discipline but it causes them to thrive as campers!

Discipline is not punishment. Discipline is the act of encouraging kids to behave in a way that aligns with the values and expectations of camp. Discipline is a Godly characteristic. When disciplining a child, remember the following:

- Discipline is positive reinforcement
- Recruit help from camp staff if you encounter a difficult child
- Be consistent in your enforcement of your behavioral expectations
- Focus on the encouragement of RIGHT behavior, not the discouragement of WRONG behavior
- Help kids understand that there are consequences for the choices they make
- Do not discipline with physical contact

Lines of support are listed below. Each support position exists to empower the other. Here is the best way for you to enlist help from the next line of support:

↳The Camper

↳The Cabin Staff

↳The Camp “Mom/Dad”

↳The Camp Director

↳NWMN Children’s Director

MEDICAL

MEDICATIONS

All child medications need to be managed by the camp nurse. You will have an opportunity to check-in all camper medications at the beginning of camp. All medication must be in the original containers, placed in a plastic bag with the completed **Medication Form** detailing instructions for the use of each medication. Please make sure the medication forms are completed according to the instructions listed by parents **PRIOR** to arrival at camp. We ask that Cabin Staff keep their own medications secure during camp.

Cabin staff are responsible to help kids remember to take their meds in a timely manner. Don’t worry, the nurse will help you do this.

SICK AND HURT KIDS

- Take the ill or injured camper to the nurse.
- Don’t give any medications.
- Remain calm if camper is injured. Stay with injured camper and send somebody else to call for camp nurse. If bleeding, take action to stop bleeding and then call for help.
- Never move a camper if you suspect a broken bone, back, or neck injury.
- Do not call the ambulance until the nurse has first been contacted. If the nurse is unavailable, let the program staff (director, camp leadership team) call for an ambulance.
- Protect the scene of the accident. Make sure nobody else is in danger.
- If you are alone with a camper when injury occurs, yell for help.
- Never ignore an injury or a complaint of pain. Bring to camp nurse ASAP.

HOMESICK KIDS

- Remember that this is a genuine feeling felt by kids.
- Assure camper that it happens to other people as well
- Do not allow kids to use your phone to call home (unless pre-arranged with camp director)
- If you can’t comfort the child, recruit the camp mom right away

BED WETTING

- This happens, don’t act surprised or upset
- The camp mom will help you take care of this

- Notify her right away
- She will handle the issue quickly and discretely
- Place the wet bedding on the front porch outside of cabin privately
- Ideas to help those with a problem:
 1. Make sure each camper goes to the bathroom before bed.
 2. Limit drinks after dinner.
 3. Don't ever tease campers about this problem.

KIDS MISSIONARY CHALLENGE & GUEST MISSIONARIES

Each week we will host guest missionaries from around the world. Their goal is to teach kids how to give, pray, and go with missionaries around the world. They also want to meet you! Be sure to invite them to play with you and your cabin, talk to your kids, and get to know them personally.

GIVING WITH MISSIONARIES

We will receive an offering for a special mission's project at camp. Many kids bring money to camp for this purpose. Others bring money for snacks. We want to nurture a heart of generosity in our kids while at camp. It is a powerful experience to give your own money to someone else.

Our goal is to encourage generosity, not guilt. Encourage your kids to give cheerfully and celebrate when they choose to do so. This is not fundraising -- it is about discipleship.

PRAYING WITH MISSIONARIES

Our missionaries will be teaching kids about different people groups, around the world, who need Jesus. Help kids reflect on the many people who need to hear about Jesus.

We will also be learning how to pray for our missionaries themselves. Get to know them and their needs as they traverse cultures to share the hope of Jesus.

GOING WITH MISSIONARIES

We will invite kids to respond to a call to foreign missions while at camp. Many of our guest missionaries were called to missions while at camp as kids themselves!

MAIL

Mail can be sent to campers and staff at the address listed below. Remind parents that it takes a few days for letters to be delivered! Every morning we will host a "mail call" and deliver letters to kids.

Kids Camp East

Full Name, NWMN Kids Camp
c/o Silver Lake Camp
10919 S Lakehurst Dr.
Medical Lake, WA 99022

Kids Camp West 1 or 2

Full Name, NWMN Kids Camp
c/o Cedar Springs Camp
4820 SR 92
Lake Stevens, WA 98258

Reflection Questions: Major Guidelines

1. Child abuse reporting is mandatory. Who do you report it to?
 - a. Camp directors.
2. Where do campers keep their medication?
 - a. With the camp nurse, turn it in on day one.
3. Whose responsibility is to discipline kids at camp?
 - a. Yours! Create clear and consistent guidelines showing kids what to do.
 - b. Don't just nag them about what not to do.
 - c. Recruit camp mom if you have an extra difficult kid.

PART 2 - WHAT TO EXPECT AT CAMP

DRESS CODE

Here are some guidelines to help everyone dress modestly at camp. Ladies: many of our guidelines are designed to help guys focus on camp. Our guiding value is modesty so let that influence how to interpret these guidelines.

- Shoes and shirts must be worn at all times at camp
- Shirts with inappropriate or provocative statements won't be allowed
 - This includes the promotion of controlled substances
 - Avoid promoting brands inappropriate for children
- Modest tops should cover your midriff and have shoulder straps
- Close toed shoes are required for all activities
- Wear modest one-piece bathing suits
 - Dark shirts can be worn over two-piece suits, if necessary
- Only wear your pajamas to bed (not around camp)
- Wear modest shorts and pants and be conscious of how they fit
- Use discretion and be open to directors asking you to dress more modestly

CABINS

Cabins at camp are awesome! This is where a lot of the action happens. Come prepared to create a fun cabin space; your campers will love it!

TENTS!

Some of our groups are placed in alternative housing. We will do our best to let you know ahead of time if this will be your group. Our team goes to great lengths to make these lodging situations as awesome as possible. In many instances, these places are much more fun than the normal cabins. We can't promise anyone a traditional cabin; come prepared for anything.

Common situations include army tents and auxiliary rooms. These are always outfitted with proper bedding, flooring, ventilation, lights, and power.

Please let us know if you are having trouble in your sleeping space. The camp facilities team works hard to make these great places for you and your campers!

DECORATING CABIN

You can decorate your cabin if you want to. It's not expected of you but is a popular thing for many cabin staff to do. Pay attention to the camp theme. A few pieces of decor can go a long way. Here is a list of supplies you might want to bring for your cabin:

- Power Strip(s)
- Fan
- Air Freshener
- Clorox Wipes
- Art supplies
- Clear Push Pins
- 3M Command Hooks/Tape
- Clothesline to dry wet towels
- Zip Locks for wet stuff
- Zip Ties
- Fishing Line
- Writing Pens – 1 per each student
- Color Pencils – big bunch per cabin
- Kleenex Box

WHAT TO BRING

Come prepared for camp! Here are some must bring, could bring, and don't bring items for camp.

MUST BRING

- Bedding (sleeping bag, pillow, blanket)
- Bible, pen or pencil
- Toiletries, insect repellent, sunscreen, chapstick
- Refillable water bottle
- Flashlight
- Phone charger
- Extension cords / power strip
- Medications (cabin staff must keep secure during week)
- One-piece swim attire and active clothes / 2 towels
- Change of clothes for 5 days & modest pajamas w/ bathrobe
- Warm jacket and/or sweatshirt
- Tennis shoes, extra pair of shoes & shower sandals
- Money for snack shack, although light snacks will be provided for cabin staff daily
- Money for camp t-shirt \$12 (optional)
- Money for missions project for KMC (optional, but cabin staff leading by example is encouraged)

COULD BRING

- Twin sheet to cover your mattress
- Power strips for your cabin
- Extra-large garbage sacks
- Extra towels
- A box fan
- Bottled water
- Cabin decorations
- Cards for your campers
- Bluetooth speaker for your cabin

DON'T BRING

- Fireworks,
- Illegal or recreational drugs, tobacco or vaping products, matches, knives, weapons, or other items of dangerous or harmful nature
- We discourage you from bringing electronics that are easily damaged or stolen or a distraction to you or other campers
- Pets
- Game consoles

SCHEDULE

We have tried to strike a balance between busy and relaxed. Too many events tire everyone out; too few events is a quick way to disengage kids or to find trouble. Keeping on time is very important. Camp is made of many moving parts. Arriving late or skipping an event messes everyone up. Learn your group’s tendencies for arriving late and make adjustments as you go.

EXAMPLE: DAILY OVERVIEW

Consider the following example of a weekly schedule. Your actual schedule will be similar but actual details will vary.

7:30am	Wake Up
7:45am	Breakfast
8:15am	Cabin Clean Up
9:00am	Chapel
11:45am	Lunch
12:15pm	Activity Rotations
5:45pm	Dinner
6:45pm	Cabin Devotions
7:30pm	Response Chapel
9:30pm	Lights Out

MEALS

Meals will be served in a cafeteria. Depending on your camp, it may be possible that you will be eating in shifts. **Be sure to show up on time, clean up your table's mess, and drink lots of water!** Contact the leadership team if you learn of any serious food allergies or needs.

ACTIVITIES

Camp is going to be packed full of activities and games such as, but not guaranteed, climbing wall, pools (lake on the East Side), bouncing pillow, laser tag, zip lines, go karts, carpet ball, putt-putt golf, and more! **Activities offered by the campgrounds are always changing so come prepared to play hard, have fun, and get messy.**

CHECK-IN AT CAMP

Follow directions to park in the general parking at camp. Find a place to unload your kid's stuff and send the **main leader** to check-in. This will be located near the entrance of camp. **The key leader will check in their entire group and double-check all of the registration documents.**

This is where you will be given cabin assignments, color team assignments, and other information. Your kids may be able to purchase camp shirts and other stuff during this check-in time, as well.

This is when you are to collect all medications from your children and turn them into the nurse. We also collect camper money to avoid theft and loss of personal money. Kids will be able to access their cash every day during their free time (when they can spend it).

MOVING INTO YOUR CABIN

Locate your cabin and unpack your stuff! We encourage cabin staff to sleep near the doors of the cabins or tents. Be sure that every child has a place to sleep. If you find that we have too many kids (too few beds), don't worry. Our team will fix this ASAP.

Because of the complex nature of cabin assignments with many churches and limited spaces, it is possible that your church may be split into different cabins or tents. We do our best to avoid this but know that this is a possibility. We appreciate your good attitude and flexibility in advance.

MOVING OUT OF YOUR CABIN

Be sure to clean everything up when you leave. There is a "lost and found" area located centrally at camp. Encourage kids to review this area before packing up for the last time. Abandoned dirty underwear can go in the garbage can.

EMERGENCY RESPONSES

Call camp director if you experience a problem or medical emergency. Contacting cabin staff is the quickest way to get emergency services on location.

You will be advised for emergency events (earthquakes, fire, dinosaurs) at your on-site orientation.

Reflection Questions: What to Expect at Camp

1. What is the core value of our camp dress code?
 - a. Modesty
 2. When should kids use your phone to call home?
 - a. Never
 - b. Contact leadership team if kids are homesick or need to contact parents
 3. Is it possible that you will be assigned to sleep in a tent or other alternative housing?
 - a. Yes
 - b. We ask you to have a good attitude about this and know that we do our best to make alternatives, like tents, fun experiences for everyone.
 4. Is it possible that your church group will be assigned to different cabins or tents?
 - a. Yes
 - b. We do our best to avoid this but it is quite possible due to the size of camp and limited housing options.
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PART 3 - WRAP UP

Camp exists so kids can experience God in a life-changing way. Thank you for taking the time to review this important material. Many specifics of your camp will be communicated at your orientation. Please contact us if you have important questions to ask before camp begins.

Thank you for investing into the lives of these kids. We can't wait to see you at camp!

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