



PARENT PLANNER



FIND YOUR DAYS OF SUNSHINE

CROSSROADS YMCA SUMMER 2024



WELCOME TO CAMP!

Welcome to exciting summer adventures at Camp! We are thrilled to have your family join us for what promises to be an unforgettable summer filled with friendship, accomplishment, and belonging.

At camps within the Crossroads YMCA, we believe in creating an environment where campers can thrive, learn, and make lasting memories. Our dedicated team of experienced and enthusiastic staff is committed to providing a safe and nurturing space for your child to explore, discover, and grow.

This welcome packet was created with your concerns in mind. It is our hope that you find this packet useful in answering any questions that you and your child may have, as well as fully understanding the policies and procedures at the Crossroads YMCA Summer Camps.

We are excited for camp and look forward to a fun summer full of activities with our campers. Again, welcome to Camp, and thank you for your commitment to our program. With your help, we can build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities.

PRE-CAMP CHECKLIST

- ◇ Pick Camp Weeks & Register Online or in Person
- ◇ Schedule Payment
- ◇ Complete Registration Packet*
- ◇ Download Crossroads YMCA & Playerspace Apps
- ◇ Review Important Information
- ◇ Review Camp Calendar

- ◇ Meet the Counselor Night
- ◇ Pack Your Bag
- ◇ Load Up the Car for the BEST SUMMER EVER!



Camp Questions Answered

*Cannot attend camp if Packet is not turned in.

LOCATIONS & CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions and more information contact by email to: askcamp@crymca.org

TaLisa Thomas
tthomas@crymca.org

Griffith Family YMCA
1345 N. Broad St.
Griffith, IN 46319
219 750 1082

Ternessa Burts
tburts@crymca.org

Hammond Family YMCA
Gavit School Site
1670 175th St.
Hammond, IN 46324
219 845 1507

Preschool
Christy Renn
crenn@crymca.org

School Age
Shelly Satterfield
ssatterfield@crymca.org

Hobart Family YMCA
Ridgeview School Site
3333 W. Old Ridge Road
Hobart, IN 46342
219 942 2183

Isamar Mejia
imejia@crymca.org

Schererville Family YMCA
221 US-41 A
Schererville, IN 46375
219 661 7031

School Age
Mary Beth Bapple
mbapple@crymca.org

Preschool
Christina Davidson-Kurec
cdavidson-kurec@crymca.org

Dean & Barbara
White Southlake YMCA
100 W. Burrell Dr.
Crown Point, IN 46307
219 663 5810

Allison Lopez
alopez@crymca.org

Triangle Hills
Camp & Retreat Center
3838 W. 141st Ave.
Crown Point, IN 46307
219 333 5003

Rebecca Kelly
rkelly@crymca.org

Whiting Family YMCA
1938 Clark St.
Whiting, IN 46394
219 370 5091

Sarah Johnson
Executive Director of
Camping Services
sjohnson@crymca.org
219 333 5661



DAY CAMP

Camp Philosophy

To provide a safe, fun, exciting camper driven experience through the demonstration of our 4 core values and practicing a member and camper 1st philosophy.

Check In/Check Out Info

Make Check in/out a breeze with the Playerspace App! Playerspace is a safe, secure way for camp check in and check out. With real time updating, you can control who is authorized to pick up your campers. Your account information will be emailed to you after registration. This is the only way to control who can pick-up and drop off.



For Android Devices



For Apple/iOS Devices

Hours

6:00am-6:30pm – Hobart, Schererville, Southlake

6:30am-6:30pm – Griffith, Hammond, Whiting

7:00am-5:30pm – Triangle Hills

CAMP DATES

June 3-7*

July 15-19

June 10-14

July 22-26

June 17-21

July 29-Aug 2

June 24-28

August 5-9

July 1-5**

August 12-16*

July 8-12

*Actual start and end week vary by location

**No camp on July 4



BUS ROUTES FOR TRIANGLE HILLS DAY CAMP

Bus Check In

Bus rider CHECK IN will begin at 6:30am at most branch camps. Camp Grownups check campers into their local branch camps. Buses will begin pick up at 7:00am. Campers must use the same bus route everyday of the week, but may change bus routes from week to week.

Campers who arrive late and miss the bus will remain at their branch camp; there is no refund or prorated charge. Parents are welcome to drive their campers to Triangle Hills Day Camp if they miss the bus.

Bus Schedule to Destination Camp (Leave Times)			
Route 1		Route 2	
Whiting	7:00am	Hobart**	7:00am
Hammond*	7:15am	Schererville	7:30am
Griffith	7:30am	Southlake	8:00am
Southlake	8:00am		

Bus Check Out

Buses will depart Triangle Hills Day Camp at 4:00pm. Camp Grownups check campers out their local branch camps after the designated return time. Campers must use the same bus route every day of the week, but may change bus routes from week to week. Be aware that traffic, road construction and weather can play a part in return times, though staff will work hard to ensure limited interruptions and tardiness.

Bus Schedule to Destination Camp (Return Times)			
Route 1		Route 2	
Whiting	5:00pm	Hobart**	5:00pm
Hammond*	4:45pm	Schererville	4:30pm
Griffith	4:30pm	Southlake	4:00pm
Southlake	4:00pm		

*Hammond is Gavit School Site, 1670 175th St., Hammond, IN 46324

**Hobart is Ridgeview School Site, 3333 W. Old Ridge Road, Hobart, IN 46342



WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP (AND WHAT SHOULD STAY HOME!)

The majority of our camp day is spent OUTSIDE! Please make sure to dress appropriately, and leave any unnecessary items at home.

Bring to Camp (LABEL EVERYTHING)

- Backpack
- Cool, comfortable play clothes
- Gym shoes (no sandals or open toe shoes please!)
- Swimsuit & Towel (where available)
- Healthy Lunch (See specific branch for food and lunch programs)
- 2 Healthy snacks
- Water bottle (spill proof)
- Sunscreen
- Camp t-shirt (field trip days only)
(Traveling Camps on field trip days)



Optional Items

- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Goggles

The Crossroads YMCA will not be responsible for items that are lost or stolen.

All campers should bring a refillable water bottle to camp each day. It's important for the health and safety of campers to stay hydrated. Campers are regularly reminded to refill their bottles at stations located around the camp spaces. If a camper comes without a water bottle, a \$5 fee will be added to the camper's account for a refillable water bottle provided. The bottle will be marked with their name and group.



ITEMS TO LEAVE AT HOME!

Electronics, cell phones, flip flops/open toe shoes, dressy clothes, jewelry, trading cards, toys, items of value.



WHAT TO BRING TO ADVENTURE CAMP

Field Trip Day Information

Field trips are a major part of our Adventure Camp program. We have chosen destinations that are age appropriate for our campers. Below are some guidelines that will help us ensure that all of our campers have a safe, enjoyable time on our field trips.

- Arrive on time! All campers should be signed in to camp no later than 8:00am on field trip days. Campers who arrive after buses have left on field trip days will be placed in Day Camp for that day. A \$30 missed trip surcharge will be applied.
- Wear your camp T-shirt! Campers who don't wear their shirt will be issued a new one at a \$10 cost to the account on file.
- Be prepared! Make sure you have everything you need for field trip day.
- Lunch and 2 snacks in a labeled lunch bag. (See specific branch for food and lunch program)
- Sunscreen (labeled!)
- Water bottle (labeled!)
- Dress appropriately! Only close-toed shoes please!
- All field trip destinations and any necessary waivers will be posted in the weekly newsletter. The majority of our field trips are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There may be times when the destination will change at the last minute due to circumstances beyond our control. We will try our best to make parents aware of these changes as soon as possible. We schedule field trips to return to the Crossroads YMCA no later

than 4:00pm. There may be times when the bus is late due to traffic, issues on the trip, or situations we cannot control. We hope this does not happen often, but if it does, we ask that parents be understanding about this matter.

Bus Rules

All Crossroads YMCA staff will be enforcing the rules listed below when our campers get on the bus. Please make sure that your child is well aware of what is expected of them when they step foot onto the bus during camp.

- Do not leave your seat while the bus is moving.
- Remain in the bus during a road emergency until the driver has given directions.
- Keep hands, arms, head, and feet inside the bus at all times.
- Do not throw anything out of the bus windows.
- Treat bus equipment as you would treat your own belongings. Never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment.
- No food, drink, candy, or gum is permitted on the bus at any time.
- Voices must be kept low at all times. The bus driver needs to be alert at all times, and loud voices may cause confusion.
- Be sure to take all belongings with you when you get off the bus. The YMCA is not responsible for lost or stolen property.
- The bus driver will have the final authority on the bus regarding rules, regulations, and policies. Campers are expected to follow these rules.

WHAT IS SPECIALTY CAMP?

All the exciting ways to belong and building friendships in camp with increased ways to build skills and achieve more with camps like STEM, ninja, jr lifeguarding, art, baking and more! 4th-9th grades**

- **Registration fee:** \$25 (must be paid up-front, non-refundable)
- **5 days a week:** pricing varies by camp
- Specialty camp will provide a what to bring list for each camp.
- Drop off by 8:00am and pick up at 4:00pm to ensure campers do not miss any part of camp.

**Grades based on 2024-2025 school grade.

Archery	Ready, Aim, Shoot! Learn everything about the bow and arrow, best practices and techniques, and all of the safety behind archery! Archery times may vary daily depending on weather. In the event of inclement weather, archery camp will move indoor to do sports specialty. Don't forget the sunscreen!	Music	During Music Camp, campers will be able to experience several different musical instruments including Piano, Guitar, Drums, Trumpet, Clarinet, Flute & More! Learning a musical instrument is not only fun but builds skills such as Math, Memory, Coordination, Language, Attention and Concentration! At the end of our week, campers will be given an opportunity to put on a show, using everything they have learned!
Artist Studio	During Artist Studio art camp we will explore a variety of media as we create various individual projects. Artists will have a chance to develop skills such as sculpting and hand building techniques with air dry clay; experiment with both watercolor and acrylic paints; create art with every day materials and more! Campers will learn new skills, have access to a variety of materials, and let their inner artist shine! Campers will end the week showcasing their work to their fellow campers. All supplies included.	Ninja Bootcamp	Each child will get the chance to experience what it's like to be a ninja! They will focus on obstacle course running, parkour, vaults, kicks and basic gymnastics skills. Each child will get the opportunity to conquer the ninja wall! At the end of the week each camper will get a certificate of completion.
Culinary	Preheat the oven, wash your hands and get ready to bake! At Culinary Specialty Camp campers will explore basic culinary techniques. They will focus on knife skills, measuring, recipe reading, kitchen math, food safety and sanitation, and staying safe in the kitchen. Each week will have a theme (example Recipes around the World) and explore different recipes daily. Campers will bring home their dishes at the end of each day. At the end of the week students will have made their very own cookbook to take home.	Ooey-Gooley	Ooey Gooley is a hands-on experience where young minds dive into the fascinating world of messy fun! Each week campers will embark on a new ooey-gooley adventure, exploring a variety of textures, colors, and ingredients. Get ready to dive into the science behind slime, kinetic sand, oobleck and more!
Edible Science	Welcome to Edible Science - an exciting and delectable camp that bridges the gap between science and food! This camp is a unique exploration of scientific experiments through the lens of food, offering a hands-on and palate-pleasing experience.	Specialty Camp Sampler	Get a taste of Crossroads specialty camps all in one week! Campers will have a specialty focus each day exploring the favorite/most popular activities of our Archery, Experiments and Explosions, Artist Studio, and Brick City specialty camps.
Jr Life-guarding	Junior Lifeguard is a TWO WEEK American Red Cross program taught by a YMCA certified lifeguard. Each week is \$200 and payments will be scheduled to be paid the Wednesday before each camp week. This two week-long aquatic camp focuses on building a foundation of knowledge, attitudes, and skills of future lifeguards all while still getting to enjoy favorite camp activities too. Campers, ages 11-14, will learn valuable technical lifeguarding skills to help build the confidence needed to be a leader in the water and on the pool deck. This is a 2-week program.	Sports	Dribble, pass, score! At sports specialty camp campers will spend the week learning the basics and practicing the fundamentals for a variety of sports including soccer, basketball, volleyball and more! Lace up your shoes, put on your jersey and get ready to work as a team to develop your skills!
		STEM Build City	Welcome to STEM Build City, a dynamic camp that unleashes the power of imagination and engineering through the use of various building materials. In this hands on camp, campers will have the opportunity to work with a diverse range of materials, including LEGO bricks, MagnaTiles, cardboard, and more. The focus is on fostering both individual and collaborative building skills while encouraging innovative thinking and design exploration.



SPECIALTY CAMP Cont.

STEM Explosions & Experiments	Science is everywhere! From pop explosions to egg drops – Explosions and Experiments is a touch of everything. During Explosions and Experiments campers will explore daily science experiments using a variety of every day items – be ready to get messy!	STEM Sampler	Get a taste of Crossroads specialty camps all in one week! Campers will have a specialty focus each day exploring the favorite/most popular activities of our Experiments and Explosions, Build City specialty camps and more.
		Theater	Lights, Camera, Action! Given a script at the beginning of the week, campers will choose roles and work together to practice their lines, develop a set, and at the end of the week perform for the camp! No previous theater experience necessary.

LEADERS IN TRAINING CAMP

Leaders in Training camps are the big kids’ best Specialty Camps. These camps are geared toward the mature camper who is looking for a deeper experience. Some of the specialty focuses include Entrepreneur U, Babysitting Certification, YCAP and Camp Counselor. There are a variety of activities based on the session mixed with traditional camp activities like swimming and arts & crafts. 7th–9th grade*

- **Registration fee:** \$25 (must be paid up-front, non-refundable)
- **5 days a week for 2 weeks:** pricing varies by camp
- Leaders in Training camp will provide a what to bring list for each camp.
- Drop off by 8:00am and pick up at 4:00pm to ensure campers do not miss any part of camp.

*Grades based on 2024–2025 school grade.

Entrepreneurship U	Entrepreneurship Camp is a dynamic and immersive program designed for budding entrepreneurs aged 12–15 who are eager to explore the world of business and innovation. Over the course of [insert duration], campers will engage in a series of hands-on activities, workshops, and challenges crafted to ignite their entrepreneurial mindset and foster essential skills for success in the modern business landscape.	Babysitting Certification	Babysitting Certification Camp is a comprehensive program designed to prepare aspiring babysitters for the responsibilities and challenges of childcare. Over the course of 2 weeks, campers will engage in a blend of hands-on activities, interactive workshops, role-playing scenarios, and counselor-led sessions focused on essential babysitting skills, safety protocols, child development, and more.
YCAP: Youth Community Action Program	Community Impact Camp is not your typical summer camp—it’s a unique opportunity for young individuals to connect with their communities and actively contribute to meaningful causes. Over the course of the week, campers will engage in a diverse range of volunteer activities, service projects, workshops, and reflections designed to foster empathy, leadership, and a lifelong commitment to service.	Camp Counselor	Camp Counselor Program is a dynamic and intensive training program that provides participants with a solid foundation in camp counseling, leadership development, child behavior management, safety protocols, team building, and more. Over the course of [insert duration], participants will engage in a blend of interactive workshops, hands-on activities, mentorship opportunities, and practical experiences tailored to prepare them for a successful and fulfilling role as camp counselors.



SWIMMING AT CAMP

One of many campers' favorite time of the day is swimming! Our summer camps swim as often as possible. See the schedule for your child's specific swim schedule. Camp counselors will accompany the children to the locker room and pool. Children in camp must be able to handle their own dressing needs—counselors are unable to dress children. Since campers enjoy swimming during their day, we ask parents to plan pick up times around their child's swim times, or have the child not swim that day. Some camp locations do not offer swim.

Swimming Pool Safety Policy

All campers will be swim tested every day except Preschool Camp. Preschoolers will be restricted to designated areas. After the swim test, the camper will wear a color-coded wristband to utilize the pool. This wristband is to be worn on the wrist only. Campers that do not know how to swim, or do not pass the swim test, will be fitted in a coast guard approved life jacket and will only be allowed in the shallow water. No exceptions to this rule.

Swim Test Requirements

- Swim test will begin in the deep end of the pool.
- Swim test is a non-stop test and NO holding onto the wall or lap lane allowed.
- Jump in deep water, tread water a minimum of 30 seconds, start swimming 25 yards, must put face in the water at least once during the test.

- Campers who don't pass can try again the next day, no re-testing on the same day.
- Campers who pass still have to test the following swim day.

Upon Completion, Campers will be Banded Appropriately

- Green Wristbands - To earn a green wristband, swimmers must successfully complete all requirements of the swim test. Green-banded swimmers are able to swim in the shallow and deep ends of the pool.

Swim Lesson Add On

When attending Summer Camp a camper can add on swim lessons as part of their camp experience. This gives children a chance to learn how to swim during camp or improve their swimming skills. The Add On is two swim lessons per a week. Cost is an additional \$15** per a week for members; \$20** per week for guests.

Check with your local YMCA for full details on the add on program.

Ages and times varies by location.

*Only available at Hobart, Scherererville, Southlake and Whiting. Not an option for Preschool Camp participants.

**Early bird prices only through 4/16. Prices raise to \$20 per a week for members; \$25 per week for guests starting 4/17.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

About Our Staff

We hire mature and enthusiastic staff to help us provide a quality, safe and enjoyable program for all involved. All staff are trained to work with children in Summer Camp, as well as trained in CPR, First Aid & Child Abuse Prevention. A national criminal background check and reference checks have been conducted, documented, and filed on all staff. The majority of our staff are college age and above, and have a passion for working with children.

Challenge by Choice

Crossroads YMCA camps are designed to provide opportunities for campers to be themselves, make new friends and try something new. Campers are coached to step outside their comfort zone to attempt something they've never done before. While no one is forced to participate, campers are asked to push past their typical stopping point.

Credit/Refund Policy

Due to extensive scheduling for staff, activities, and materials, we will not be able to refund any camping fees. Fees will not be refunded if a camper is sent home due to disciplinary reasons. Auto-draft payment withdrawal for any week of camp needs to be completed the Wednesday before start date of the registered week. Changes must be handled by the Tuesday before start date of the registered week by 3:00pm through the provided link.

Day Change Policy

Requests to switch the days your camper is attending must be submitted and approved by the Tuesday at 3pm the week before that camp week. Changes will be approved based on availability and are not guaranteed. Camps will email day change forms in weekly newsletters.

Enrollment Forms

Upon registration, parents/guardians will receive a packet of enrollment forms. These forms need to be filled out completely, as neatly as possible, and then turned in at the time of finalizing registration. Due within 30 days or by the first day of camp, whichever comes first. These forms will be kept confidential; only staff working with your child will have access to this information. A copy of these forms will be sent with staff when campers are out of the building. If at any time your contact information or other information changes, please inform the Camp Leader. If we do not have all forms completed, your child can't attend unless they are turned into our Summer Camp Programs.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Lunch and Snacks

Food and lunch programs are different at each Crossroads YMCA branch. Please label your camper's lunch. Children with food allergies identified will eat at the designated "allergy safe" table.

Griffith – Breakfast & lunch is provided. Send child with snacks every day.

Hammond – Breakfast & lunch is provided. Send child with snacks every day.

Hobart – Breakfast & lunch is provided. Send child with snacks every day.

Schererville – Your child should be sent with a sack lunch each day of camp or lunch is available for purchase. We will also have snacks available for purchase each day at a designated time listed in our daily schedule.

Southlake – Your child should be sent with a sack lunch each day of camp or lunch is available for purchase. We will also have snacks available for purchase each day at a designated time listed in our daily schedule.

Triangle Hills – Your child should be sent with a sack lunch each day of camp or lunch is available for purchase. We will also have snacks available for purchase each day at a designated time listed in our daily schedule.

Whiting – Breakfast & lunch is provided. Send child with snacks every day.

Outstanding Balances

All outstanding balances must be paid before any child care services will be provided.

Parent Communication

Have a question about camp but don't know where to look? The following list is where we post our most updated information:

- Weekly Camp Newsletter: Available on the Friday prior to the week of camp
- Playerspace: Camp reminders
- Facebook: Contains camp photos, Y news and any emergency information

Payment Information & Registration Deadline

All childcare payments are to be paid on the Wednesday prior to each week of camp. Payments made after the previous Wednesday will incur a \$10 late fee per week. Adventure, Specialty and Counselor in Training Camps are paid for an entire week and payments are not pro-rated or refunded due to illness, vacations, or other absences. Registration fee pays for supplies for the summer, and does not guarantee a spot in camp until the week's full payment has been made. Limited spaces are available for all camps. Any changes to camp enrollment must be made by the Tuesday prior to that week of camp to ensure refund or system credit.

Summer Camp T-Shirts

All traveling campers will receive one YMCA Adventure Camp Shirt that is to be worn on field trip days. Additional camp shirts are available to purchase for \$10 each. If a camper does not have their shirt on a field trip day, your camper will be issued a new one and your account will be charged \$10.



HEALTH INFORMATION

Illness and Injury at Camp










With each child's welfare in mind, parents/guardians should not send a child to camp if they have an illness or other contagious symptoms. Camp leaders may ask for a Doctor's note before returning to camp. Please notify staff immediately if your child displays symptoms of any communicable diseases or contagious conditions. In order for your child to be allowed to return to the program after being ill, your child must be fever/symptom free for at least 24 hours.

Campers are asked to participate in a wide variety of activities each day and if they are injured or ill, they may not feel up to or have the ability to take part in planned activities. If a child becomes ill or injured during camp hours, appropriate measures will be taken. Parents/guardians will be contacted and asked to pick up their child from the YMCA. In the event that we are unable to contact the parent or guardian, we will review the emergency contact information to locate one of your designees who can pick up the child.

Any injury a child receives while in the care of Y staff will be documented in writing and followed by an immediate phone call to the parent/guardian to determine whether the child should remain in Y care or leave to receive further medical treatment. Please update camp staff of any changes in contact information in the event we should have to contact you.



PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME IF:

								
Your child has a fever	Your child is vomiting	Your child has diarrhea	Your child has a sore throat	Your child is coughing	Your child has a rash	Your child has lice	Your child has an eye infection	I have been in the hospital/ER
A temperature of 100 degrees or higher/99 degrees or higher with other symptoms in the last 24 hours	One event of vomiting within the last 24 hours	One event of diarrhea within the last 24 hours	A severe sore throat especially if bright red or swelling or lesions on tonsils.	If coughing is excessive and not controlled with medication	A rash with fever or itching or blisters that are oozing with drainage	If live lice or nits within 1/8" of the scalp are present	Redness, burning, drainage, crusty matter, or swelling of eyelids	Hospital stay or ER visit

CRITERIA FOR CHILDREN RETURNING TO CAMP AFTER BEING ILL

Your child is fever free for 48 hours without the use of medication	Your child is free from vomiting for 48 hours without the use of medication	Your child is free from diarrhea for 48 hours without the use of medication	Your child has been on antibiotics for at least 48 hours if diagnosed with strep or another bacterial infection	Your child's cough is under control	Any blisters are free from drainage, fever free for 48 hours, and sometimes with permission from a health-care provider	Your child does not have live lice, has received a lice removal treatment and nits have been removed	Your child's eyes are no longer draining and has been on antibiotic drops or ointment for at least 48 hours	Has been released by medical provider
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PROGRAM POLICY

Camper Sign in/Sign out Procedures

- **ARRIVAL:** Your child must be escorted into the program space and signed in.
- **DEPARTURE:** We will only dismiss your child to adults 18 and older listed on your child's authorized pick-up list. A state-issued ID is required at pick-up. If an adult who is not on your authorized pick-up list attempts to pick up your child, they will be turned away and you will be contacted. Authorized Pick Ups must be added to the camper's Playerspace profile by parent/guardian and will show in real time, this is mandatory.
- Parents/Guardian will be asked to provide a **Picture ID**, which allows access to the Camp Staff to pick up a child. This must be presented to the staff person sitting at the check in/out table/off site locations. To avoid any confusion and frustration, **please always have your ID with you.**
- All campers are encouraged to be signed in by 8:00am, as scheduled events typically begin after this time.
- Check in is required by 8:00am (school age), 7:50am (preschool) for swim and field trips. Campers who arrive after buses have left on field trip days will be placed in Day Camp for that day. \$30 missed trip surcharge applied.

- A late fee will be charged for each occurrence that children are picked up late. Parents will be charged \$1 for every minute, per child. Late fees must be paid before next attendance. Repeated late pick-ups may result in removal from the summer camp program.

Child Abuse

The YMCA takes seriously the importance of the protection and safety of the children involved in its programs. Child abuse is a special concern of the Y, because of the organization's role in promoting the personal growth and development of children and families. The YMCA will document any incident of abuse in writing and report in accordance with relevant state or local child abuse reporting requirements and will cooperate to the extent of the law with any legal authority involved.



PROGRAM POLICY

Electronics/toys

Please leave all electronic devices and toys at home. We will follow a schedule of predetermined activities each day and will not allow children to play with toys from home during this time. Anything brought to the Y from home must remain inside your child's backpack. **The Y and its staff will not be held responsible for any items brought from home that are lost or broken.**

Lost & Found

Lost and Found items are displayed prominently for campers in designated areas at each branch. Groups will be walked through these areas daily. Please check your camper's belongings before leaving camp. Unclaimed articles will be held at the branch for 1 week past the last day of camp. **Please label all items your camper brings!**

Photos

Photos will be taken daily during camp of each group. There will be updates on camp weekly on our Facebook page and newsletters. Our focus is always on the camper experience, we cannot guarantee pictures of every camper. Please list on registration packet if you do not wish to have your camper photographed. Photos may also be used for future marketing purposes.

Sunscreen

In an effort to prevent sunburn at camp this summer, we have established the following procedures for the safety of your child.

- All campers must apply sunscreen before they come to camp.
- All campers must carry a bottle of sunscreen in their backpack, **preferably the spray type** so that Camp staff can help any campers with hard to reach areas. **Camp staff will not apply "rub-on" sunscreen to any camper.**
- Sunscreen will be applied multiple times daily or as needed.
- Day camp staff will verify that all campers have applied sunscreen before moving into the activities as planned.



BEHAVIOR GUIDANCE POLICY

Our top priority is to provide a safe and enriching experience for all children. To do this, we must work together to develop the best plan for each individual child. In order to ensure this positive environment, we may not be able to serve children who repeatedly display disruptive behavior. Disruptive behavior is defined as verbal or physical conduct which requires constant attention from the staff including, but is not limited to: hitting, kicking, spitting, hostile verbal behavior and other behaviors which will hurt another child or staff member, and attempting to leave the camp space.

In response to these behaviors, we will not use:

- Threats or bribes
- Physical punishment, even if requested by the parent
- Deprivation of food or other basic needs
- Humiliation or isolation

In response to misbehavior, we will:

- Respect your child
- Establish clear rules
- Be consistent in enforcing rules
- Use positive language to explain desired behavior
- Speak calmly while bending down to your child's eye level
- Give clear choices
- Redirect your child to a new activity

YMCA Camp Expectations

- Speak for yourself
- Listen to others
- Use put-ups; not put-downs
- Care for others, the property, and yourself
- Be honest
- Show respect for all
- Be responsible for yourself
- Do unto others as you would have them do unto you



BEHAVIOR GUIDANCE POLICY

Our goal is to work together with the child and family, as well as the school personnel when deemed necessary, to address and modify any behavior concerns; however, if a child cannot display appropriate behavior, then he/she may be removed from the program. A child may receive up to three written behavior reports; after a third written report is received, the child may be removed from the program until a parent conference is held. The parent conference may include the parent/guardian, program director, site staff and the child. The child may be allowed to return to the program after the parent conference and a behavior guidance plan is developed. If a child receives a fourth written warning we may ask the family to make alternative child care arrangements for the remainder of the current school year or camp season. Please note that all behavior management plans are based on the individual child and situation and we reserve the right to adapt procedures accordingly.

Occasionally, despite program modifications and efforts to accommodate children, it may be determined that YMCA programs are unable to meet the needs of a child. If a child's participation poses a significant risk to the health or safety of self or others, which CANNOT be lessened by modifications in policies, practices or procedures or the provision of services, a child may be removed from the program.

Is camp the right choice for your camper?

We accept campers of all abilities at our camp. We ask that parents take into consideration a few things when deciding if our camp is the right fit for your camper.

- Campers must be able to go to the bathroom by themselves. They must be able to change by themselves if opting to swim on swim days.
- We staff a 1:15 ratio on-site and 1:10 ratio off-site. Groups can be large and not in enclosed spaces. Campers are expected to be able to stay with their group in their program space without running off.
- Sometimes the large groups are in smaller spaces that may echo. It can get very noisy in some of our camp spaces.

IEP & 504 Plans

To ensure the best possible support for your child, if they have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), 504 plan, or any other customized plan, it must be submitted before attending camp. This enables us to assess and address specific requirements. It is important to note that Crossroads YMCA camps are not specifically designed as special education programs, and not all individual needs can be fully accommodated. Feel free to contact your camp leader for any questions related to your child's needs.



FAQ

Is there a supply fee?

Yes, there is a \$25 registration fee per camp. The fee goes toward supplies that the campers use over the summer. (i.e. pencils, crafts, paper, games, etc.)

Do you have to stay in the same camp all summer?

No, Campers may move between camps as desired.

Is there a limit on camp?

Yes, enrollment is limited. Check with your specific branch for limit. All camps operate on a first come, first serve camp. Many camps sell out early.

What group is my camper in?

We sort campers based on the grade they are rising to, therefore their age on August 1, 2024 is the determining factor.





PRESCHOOL FAQ

What age does my preschool camper need to be?

Child must be 3 years old by March 1, 2024.

Does my preschooler need to be toilet trained to attend Preschool Camp?

All preschool campers must be completely toilet trained. Campers must wear underwear while attending camp programming. Pull-ups are prohibited. Read below for criteria campers must meet to be considered toilet trained.

Toilet Trained Criteria:

- Child can identify when their body needs to use the restroom.
- Child can communicate to camp grownups the need to use the restroom.
- Child can remove and add back necessary clothing with no assistance.
- Child can handle own hygiene needs, including wiping and washing hands.

When does Preschool Camp Swim?

Preschool camp swim sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays during summer camp. Preschoolers must be checked in by 7:50am to join the swim group. Campers who arrive past the above time deadline will join the non-swim group for alternate activities.

What else do I need to know about Preschool Camp Swim?

Campers must come to camp with swim attire already on under their daytime clothing. Campers are recommended to wear a swimsuit with separate top and bottom for easier toileting. Campers are expected to change out of their swim attire and into daytime clothes independently.

Tips & Tricks! Practice, Practice, Practice! Changing out of a wet swimsuit can be tricky! Place your child in the tub for splash time and then guide them through the steps to remove the wet swimsuit. Afterwards, practice putting on daytime clothes, particularly socks!



SENDING KIDS TO CAMP

At YMCA Summer Camp, we believe every child should experience a summer of imagination, wonder and adventure. As a nonprofit organization, we commit ourselves to removing financial barriers to camp through our camp scholarships.

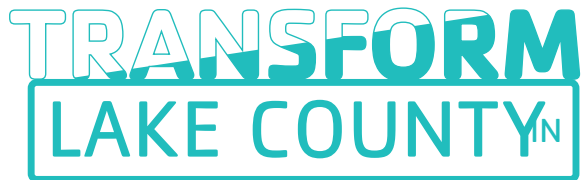
Many families each year receive a scholarship. This scholarship allows for up to 50% off a family membership. Our scholarships reduce camp fees by 25%.

Financial assistance is made available through the generosity of the YMCA Annual Campaign and other gifts and donations.

To help fund a camp scholarship please visit

give.crymca.org

or visit one of our branches to donate.



Families can apply to the Income-Based Assistance Program by going to:

crymca.org/findmyrate

Calculate what your monthly rate will be with the “Calculate My Rate” and download the Income-Based Assistance Program Form from the page. Fill out the form and turn it into your local Crossroads YMCA branch.

Fundraising Events

Stay tuned!

More information to come about Pie Your Counselor Day!





CAMPER EXPECTATIONS

- Essential eligibility criteria for participation in camp
- Campers are expected to contribute to a safe camp environment, using respectful language and appropriate physical behavior.
- Campers are expected to function in a group setting in a positive and cooperative manner that displays tolerance and respect for self and others.
- Campers are expected to follow instructions from counselors and refrain from behaviors that pose a risk to self or others.
- Campers are expected to maintain a positive attitude when participating in activities with their group.
- Be safe at all times
- Be respectful of yourself, your counselors and your fellow campers
- Stay with your counselors and listen to them at all times
- Tell your counselors right away if you are upset about something or if you need help. They are here for you!
- Be patient, tolerant and include others.
- Treat others with kindness, just as you would like to be treated.
- Leave all electronics at home.
- Be willing to try new things, and give every activity your best effort.
- **Have fun!**



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