

PARENT'S GUIDE TO ADVENTURE DAY CAMP 2023



YMCA of the East Valley

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SAVE THIS BOOK!

Welcome to the YMCA of the East Valley Adventure Day Camp season! We look forward to sharing the best day camp experience the YMCA has to offer for your child(ren) ages 5-14 years old, grades k-8). The program will be packed with fun, adventure, creativity, learning and memories.

With our camp gatherings filled with singing and dancing, crafts, games, science experiments and weekly fieldtrips, we continue today the traditions many of you experienced as campers and now send your children and grandchildren to experience. To help make the camping week memorable for your children and easier for you as parents, we have prepared the following Parent's Guide to answer all of your questions.

We look forward to meeting you at check-in or before!

Happy Day Camping,

Carlos Serrano, Casey Gaitan, & Jerry Holmes

YMCA: For a Better Us

YMCA of the East Valley Mission

The YMCA of the East Valley is an association of people of all ages, ethnic groups, and religious affiliations founded on Christian principles and dedicated to building strong kids, strong families, and strong communities through programs that develop spirit, mind, and body.

Y CAUSE

The Y is a cause-driven organization that is for youth development, for healthy living, and social responsibility. That's because a strong community can only be achieved when we invest in our kids, our health, and our neighbors.

THREE AREAS OF FOCUS

- Youth Development: Nurturing the potential of every child and teen
- Healthy Living: improving the nation's health and well-being
- Social Responsibility: giving back and providing support to our neighbors

YOUTH PROTECTION STATEMENT

The YMCA is committed to the development, health and well-being of children and youth in our care. Any form of physical, emotional, mental or sexual abuse will not be tolerated. We have instituted policies, procedures, training and supervision requirements to create an organizational culture focused on the protection of all children and youth involved in YMCA programs and activities. For more information about our Child Abuse Prevention Policy, please contact your Program Director.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

The state requires that any suspected incidents of child abuse be immediately reported to the Department of Social Services for further investigation. All employees are mandated child abuse reporters. Parents are invited to visit programs at any time. We have an open door policy. We offer positive assistance and resources regarding the prevention of child abuse through workshops, printed materials and referrals to local agencies offering assistance. See the YMCA of the East Valley Child Abuse Prevention Policy for more information.

Y CHARACTER VALUES

Character Development gives us the ability to meet our mission. Leaders are hired based on their commitment to accept and demonstrate these positive values in their own lives. By holding ourselves accountable, we build character around the YMCA values-Caring, Honest, Respect, and Responsibility. Through these values we build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

CARING: to demonstrate a sincere concern for others, for their needs, and well-being. Related values: compassion, forgiveness, generosity and kindness.

HONESTY: to tell the truth, to demonstrate reliability and trustworthiness through actions that are in keeping with my stated positions and beliefs. Related values: acceptance, empathy, self-respect and tolerance.

RESPECT: to treat others as I would want them to treat me, to value the worth of every person, including myself. Related values: commitment, courage, good health, service, and citizenship.

Responsibility: to do what is right – what I ought to do, to be accountable for my choices of behavior and actions and my promises. Related values: commitment, courage, good health, services, and citizenship.

WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE OFFERED AT CAMP?

ACTIVITIES

- Camp Song and Dance
- Swimming: Under the supervision of a Y-Guard Certified Lifeguard, campers enjoy our cool relaxing pool (**Highland: M, T, Th, F Redlands: T, Th, F.**)
- Park Play: Exploring and outdoor sports
- Games: Minute-To-Win-It, Relays, Ga Ga and more!
- Arts & Crafts: creating various pieces of work through paint, sewing, gluing, drawing and so much more. We allow positive creativity to evolve into great keepsakes.
- Field Trips: Visit facilities to learn and explore national/state parks and farms, and museums.
- Group-Building Games: Various group-building games and activities provide opportunities for campers to learn to share and work together.

WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO BRING TO CAMP?

Your child will be participating in many exciting activities while at day camp.

- Closed toe and heel shoes (tennis shoes)
- Swim attire (no bikinis)
- Beach towel
- Sunscreen, lip balm, lotion etc.
- Change of clothes for field trips with water and/or swim days
- Bag for wet clothes
- Sunglasses (optional)
- Refillable Water bottle
- Summer Camp shirt on field trips
- Medication-any they need to take during day camp (ONLY Prescription & must be turned in at check-in (in original bottles).

WHAT MY CHILD MAY NOT BRING TO CAMP?

- Money
- No doordash, grubhub or other outside food delivery
- Weapons – including pocket knives
- Fireworks or other dangerous substances
- Pets
- Alcohol or controlled substances
- Toys
- Video games (such as Game Boy, Game Gear, etc.)
- Laptop or any other computers
- No electronics (iPads, tablets, or other music device)
- Matches or lighters
- Tobacco or similarly harmful products
- Cell phones (May be locked up with Camp Director until pick up)
- Candy or other food (only food for meal break periods)

WHERE DO I DROP OFF AND PICK UP MY CHILD FOR CAMP?

Drop off and pick up will vary at each branch location. Please check with your YMCA to know where drop off and pick up can be done throughout the day. Drop off time begins as early as 7:00am. All campers must be picked up by an authorized adult no later than 6:00pm. Any campers remaining on site will have a fee assessed (\$1.00 per minute after 6:00pm). Campers will be escorted by a staff member during pick-up hours to the front lobby. If after 30 minutes the staff has been unsuccessful in reaching the parent/guardian and the emergency contacts, the local authorities will be contacted.

Governmental Issued identification is required by authorized individuals must be 18+ years to release child from program.

CAMPER BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS AT THE YMCA OF THE EAST VALLEY

At YMCA Camp we want every camper to have the best camp experience possible; full of fun, learning and growth.

To ensure that we maintain a safe environment and each camper is free to experience camp life to its fullest, we will not tolerate any behavior that takes that opportunity away from other campers. We will be addressing all incidents such as bullying and irresponsible behavior seriously, and will train the staff to recognize and deal effectively with such behavior.

Understanding that camp is for ALL campers, any behavior deemed by the camp to be outside of the camper behavior expectations and/or unmanageable may result in any or all of the following:

1. Meeting with the Camp Coordinator, Camp Director, or Executive Director to discuss the behavior.
2. A telephone call home to the parent/guardian to discuss the behavior.
3. Being dismissed from the camp program.

As a camper, I will:

- Show respect to other campers, Camp Leaders and Directors and treat them as well as I would like to be treated and try to be a friend to all.
- Have **fun**, but not at the expense of others.
- Show respect to camp staff, and cooperate fully with their instructions.
- Respect the rights of others, and treat others with courtesy and consideration.
- Communicate in an appropriate manner, which means I must not use foul language or gestures, harsh words or tone of voice.
- Conduct myself responsibly. I understand that unwelcome teasing or other unkind behaviors are not allowed.
- Refrain from deliberately causing bodily harm to other campers or staff. I understand that pushing, kicking, hitting or fighting are not acceptable and will not be tolerated.
- Respect the property of others and camp, which includes no stealing, property damage, graffiti, or vandalism.
- Remain with the group and within the boundaries that have been set.
- Remember that physical displays of affection or of a romantic nature are not allowed under any circumstances.
- Be fully responsible for my actions and understand that irresponsible behavior will result in disciplinary action or dismissal from camp.
- Know and follow the rules of camp.
- Have lots of **fun**, learn, grow, and have a **great** time!

POSITIVE GUIDANCE AT THE YMCA OF THE EAST VALLEY

1. Guidance focuses on the expected, appropriate behavior, rather than on the negative, inappropriate behavior.
2. Guidance is a process of teaching, learning, and positive reinforcement.
3. Set developmentally appropriate guidelines for campers.
4. Verbal abuse or name calling is not permitted. Guidance will not be associated with food, rest, or toilet training.
5. Corporal (physical) punishment will never be allowed.
6. Procedure requires organized process of guidance. Limits are set to foster caring, honest, respectful, responsible, and self-sufficient campers. Positive Guidance is integrated into the overall program plan of the camper care setting.
7. Behavioral concerns of individual camper are not discussed with other parents

HOW DO WE HANDLE CAMPER DISCIPLINE?

The YMCA is an organization that is dedicated to help all individuals realize their fullest potential. Day Camp rules and policies have been carefully established to meet the emotional and physical needs of our campers.

Getting Back on Track:

Campers and Leaders work together to resolve problems and campers are guided to make appropriate choices. If the problem persists, a Coordinator/Camp Lead will discuss the issue with the camper who may then fill out a behavior contract to make a positive change to resolve the problem. If problems continue, a second contract will be filled out and will involve the Coordinator, the Camp Director and meeting with the parent/guardian. Any further issues may result in the camper's dismissal from camp (**without a refund**). Parents shall be responsible for the camper's immediate transportation home should this occur.

Reasons for the Rules:

Our standards are a result of the high expectations we must meet to provide 12-hour care for all of the campers we serve. The environment and outdoor activity schedule require that we take safety very seriously. If a child exhibits defiance, lack of respect, fighting, stealing, or any other behavior that puts either themselves or others in danger, they cannot remain as a participant in our program.

It is not abnormal for some children to misbehave. This is a fact. In addition, when they do misbehave, it is necessary to impose corrections and redirection. This prevents continuous actions that are antisocial, wrong, and harmful or not in the spirit of the YMCA's core values of Camp. When we see that a child is misbehaving the child is individually meet with to try to determine the cause and solution of the problem. We try to remedy the problem while simultaneously making the child aware of the unacceptable nature of their behavior. They are guided to help them make appropriate positive choices. Once the child understands what he/she has done, we secure a promise from the child to not repeat the

problem behavior. Once this promise is made, we determine an appropriate disciplinary action for the camper. This action is not, under any circumstances any form of corporal punishment. It may be as mild as talking to a leader or apologizing for a behavior. If a camper continues to misbehave, we may call you for your input and assistance. Often a discussion with the parent/guardian will help change the inappropriate behavior in a positive manner.

Failure to resolve the problem:

If we determine that your child's behavior is detrimental to the camp program, we will ask that you come to camp and pick up your child immediately and at your own expense. No refund of camp fees is available in this case.

Medication information:

If your child has any medication to take while they are at camp you must give it to the representative at registration. It must be in a pharmacy bottle with child's name, medication dosage and directions on the label. This is for each child's safety. No medications are to be in backpacks, lunch pails, pockets, etc.

WHAT IS OUR PAYMENT AND REFUND POLICY?

Payment of the day camp deposit and fees can be made in cash, by check or with a credit card at the front desk at any of our YMCA branches. If parent/guardian is interested in a scheduled automatic payment they may speak to the front desk. Please be sure that you have completed your registration forms when you make your payment and that you have a receipt for your payment. Roster checks will be completed all week. If payment has yet to be received by Tuesday pick up time parent/guardian will be sent to the front desk.

To provide adequate staffing for campers, registration for Day Camp must be done the Thursday prior to Day Camp session date. **If fees are not paid by Thursday, your child may be removed from the roster and/or a \$10 late fee will be accessed to the account.**

If you cancel in writing the Friday before camp the camp session your child is scheduled for camp, you will receive a full refund except for your \$25.00 deposit and/or full payment. A written explanation must be given to the Camp Director in order to receive a refund. We will not refund any portion of your camp fee if you do not contact us the Friday prior to Camp. **The YMCA must receive full payment before your child attends Day Camp. No exceptions will be made.** Any campers with a balance will not be allowed to attend program.

Please remember that to participate, all campers must be members of the YMCA. Membership fees are in addition to the price listed for the week of camp and may be found at your local branch. A member is a child and/or parent that is a member of the YMCA of the East Valley.

WHAT IF I CANNOT AFFORD THE CAMP FEE?

It is the policy of the YMCA to avoid denying participation in any Y program to any person because of their inability to pay for the costs of that program. Therefore, if the price of attending a week at Day Camp is a bit beyond your means, you may apply for the Membership For All scholarship. Should you qualify, you may receive a financial aid adjustment from 5% to 50% off membership and program fees.

WHAT IS THE FINAL WORD?

As with any document, changes may occur. The YMCA and its staff reserve the right to make changes with regard to the program. We anticipate this will not be necessary, however life is full of changes and we can never predict what may occur days or months down the line. We appreciate your thoughtful consideration and participation.

WHAT ARE THE FIELD TRIPS THIS SUMMER? – To secure field trips with our vendors, please register your child (ren) two weeks prior to the field trip.

Theme	Branch	Dates	Field Trip	Fees
Anything Goes	HFY	June 5 – June 9	N/A	\$195/\$225
Superhero’s	H & R	June 12 – June 16	Highland Library (HFY)	\$195/\$225
I Love the 80’s	H & R	June 19 – June 23	North Etiwanda Preserve, Ranch Cucamonga	\$195/\$225
Sports Extravaganza	H & R	June 26-June 30	March Field Air Show, Riverside	\$195/\$225
Celebration of Nations	All	July 3 – July 7 (closed 7/4)	Camp Edwards, Angeles Oaks	\$195/\$225
Animal Planet	All	July 10 – July 14	Wildlands Conservancy, Oak Glen	\$195/\$225
Game Show Mania	All	July 17 – July 21	John’s Incredible Pizza	\$195/\$225
Space is the Place	All	July 24 – July 28	San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands	\$195/\$225
Moovin and Groovin	H & R	July 31 – Aug 4	N/A	\$195/\$225



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