

WELCOME | SUMMER 2017

Welcome to the Y Kids Camp program for 2017! We look forward to the upcoming summer to make new friends and see all those familiar, returning campers. The YMCA knows that you, as a parent/guardian, have many options available when it comes to the care of your child and we appreciate the opportunity to serve your family.

The Y Kids Camp program is committed to providing a quality summer experience for your child.

Summer camp provides many benefits such as the opportunity for growth in spirit, mind, increased confidence, emphasis on fun, physical learning and social development, the opportunity to strengthen friendships and the ability to learn through play.

Children leave the Y Kids Camp with more than just fond memories. The children take with them leadership skills that prove to be useful into adulthood. The YMCA counselors take the time to listen and make every child feel special.

Please read on for more information on how to prepare your child for camp.

Sincerely,

Adam Reardon | Child Care Coordinator

Each camper will receive a FREE drawstring bag!



DROP OFF & PICK UP PROCEDURES

- Upon arrival, please go directly to the sign in table located in the social room
- Upon pickup, please go directly to the sign in table or out in the backyard (if the campers are outside playing) and sign your child out for the day.
- All parents/guardians must accompany their child in to the Y to sign them in and out.
- Individuals signing a camper in and out must be over the age of 18, unless approved by parent/guardian.
- Campers are not to be dropped off before 5:30am and must be picked up by 6pm.
- After 6pm there is a \$5.00 charge per family for each 15 minutes you are late. The additional charge is payable to the Y at the time the child is signed out.
- Only those individuals specified on the registration form under authorization of release are able to pick up your child from camp. If the counselors are unsure of who the individual is they will request a photo id.
- If a different person will be picking up your child, please let us know ahead of time and that individual will be required to show a photo id at the time of pick up.
- If your child needs to leave early or will be missing a day of camp, please leave a message with the front desk at 815-547-5307.

MEDICAL PROCEDURE POLICY

- All Camper Information Forms must be completed before registration to reserve your child's spot at camp. Forms can be found on the Y's website or at the membership counter. Campers cannot attend camp without these forms being completed.
- We are only able to accommodate and treat minor first aid injuries in the Day Camp setting. If a camper is unable to resume participation in his or her activities, parents will be notified to pick up the camper or in the case of major/sudden illness or injury, emergency services will be utilized.
- If your child has any serious medical conditions or behavioral concerns, please discuss them with the Child Care Coordinator prior to the first day of camp.
- If your child needs to take medications during camp hours please indicate this on the Camper Information Form. Please contact the Child Care Coordinator prior to the first day of camp if you have any questions about these forms.
- If your child has an Epi-pen, please label it and give it to the day camp staff.

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR OUR BACK TO SCHOOL BASH DAYS ON AUGUST 14TH, 15TH & 16TH!

WE WILL CELEBRATE HEAD-ING BACK TO SCHOOL! KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR MORE INFORMATION!

- All medication must be labeled and given to day camp staff with a doctor's note and directions for dispensing.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES POLICY

- Y Kids Camp is partially an outdoor-based program. To ensure every child can fully participate in all outdoor and indoor activities, campers must bring suitable clothing for all types of weather. This includes sunscreen, hat and a labeled water bottle.
- Due to the nature of sunscreen allergies, Y Staff will need to be notified in writing if that exists with your child.
- It is important that campers understand the importance of sun safety. Please encourage all campers to wear a hat when participating in outdoor activities.
- Pool rules are discussed on the first day of camp and throughout the summer. Children will be swimming both at the Belvidere Park Pool and our own indoor pool.
- Children who wish to swim in the deep end will take a swim test to determine their skill level. The test is given by the Aquatics Director. If the test is not passed, the camper will not be allowed to go in the deep end.
- Children who need the assistance of a flotation device while swimming will not be allowed to take the swim test. We offer and encourage families to take part in swim lessons. Please ask the staff for more information if you are interested in this service.
- Campers will take regular water breaks throughout the day. Please ensure your child brings a water bottle. We will refill them throughout the day.

PERSONAL PROPERTY POLICY

- Please label all of your child/children's property.
- Please do not send electronics (including phones and tablets) with the campers. Campers are not allowed to utilize electronics during camp hours.
- Please do not send cash with your child/children. There is no need for money during any of our activities or field trips.
- We encourage campers not to bring toys (i.e. cars, stuffed animals, etc.) to summer camp.
- The Y is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

EMERGENCY EVENTS

- The campers will practice different emergency drills with the staff at the Y. We want to ensure that that children are prepared in case of an emergency.
- If an emergency occurs where the campers need to be removed from the building they will be relocated to the Community Building, located at 111 W. First Street. Families will be notified if the campers are relocated there.

PLEASE SHARE

We look forward to providing your child the highest quality day camp experience. Your comments and suggestions are important to us as we work to exceed your expectations. Please contact the Child Care Coordinator at any time to share your feedback. Adam can be reached at 815-547-5307 or areardon@belviderefamilyymca.org.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

It is the Y's goal to provide a safe, secure and healthy environment for all children who attend Y Kids Camp. The Y program emphasizes the six core values when working with children who attend camp:

- 1. To respect all campers at camp.**
- 2. To take responsibility for one's own actions.**
- 3. Honesty is the basis for all relationships and interactions.**
- 4. We will care for ourselves and those around us.**
- 5. To treat each other equally.**
- 6. To include all campers in camp activities.**

Counselors have a support network of supervisors to aid them in certain situations or concerns that may arise. It is our hope to keep every child at camp during the session.

The staff will use positive reinforcement as much as possible with the campers. If a disciplinary need arises, campers will be placed in either individual or group time outs. Certain behaviors may result in a write up. Continued misbehavior or severe acts of misconduct by a camper may result in immediate excusal from the program.

We will not hesitate to quickly inform parents/guardians of their camper's behavior if it disrupts the program (fighting, bullying, swearing, stealing, hitting, biting and general misbehavior). If a solution is not found the camper will be sent home and there will be no refund of camp fees.

In certain circumstances, we will be forced to withdraw children from our camp. Depending on the severity of the circumstances, notice may be waived. Refunds will not be issued in this instance. The following circumstances may warrant immediate termination:

- Any destructive, violent behavior by a child that is harmful to the child, other children, staff and/or property**
- Assault or threat of assault by parent/guardian to campers, other parents/guardians or staff**
- Parent/Guardians' use of abusive language or any inappropriate behavior towards others**
- Non-compliance with the policies and procedures of the site**
- Non-payment of fee**
- Consistent lateness picking up of a child**

Please note that depending on the situation your child may be temporarily suspended from the program and the parents will be required to find alternate arrangements.