

Notes for *Camp Adventure*TM Partners

Summer 2007

World Headquarters
University of Northern Iowa

Building A Successful Day Camp: Your YS Staff and *Camp Adventure*TM Youth Services

The MWR Director and Youth Services Program Director can facilitate a successful *Camp Adventure*TM Youth Services summer program by planning, coordinating and contributing to the goals of the project. The following outline specifies the considerations necessary to produce a mutually beneficial youth services program.

- **Registration:** A centralized, on-going registration process is recommended. We suggest that registration occurs at the Youth Activities Center, by the YS Director and/or YS Staff. Collection of registration fees, field trip fees and camper to counselor ratios (10 to 1 maximum) should be provided to the *Camp Adventure*TM Program Director one week in advance.
- **Field Trips:** Trips and tours are a way of allowing campers to see various places and points of historical, educational and cultural interest. Typically, Wednesdays are field trip days. Camp Directors can work with YS Directors to arrange the weekly field trip sites. Possible field trip sites may be identified by the YS Director and/or YS Staff prior to our arrival.
- **Indoor/Outdoor Areas and Facilities:** A primary consideration is to provide a safe and secure environment. We also recommend that provisions are made for indoor and outdoor areas and facilities, storage spaces, arts and crafts rooms, meeting rooms and administrative space, that will adequately support the number of children estimated to participate in the program.
- **Supplies:** Supplies are one of the most critical considerations for successful and effective weekly operation of *Camp Adventure*TM activities and programs. A recommended list of supplies has been attached for your review and consideration.
- **Arts and Crafts:** Appropriate integration of different mediums of materials is important to the overall arts and crafts learning experience. We suggest that the majority of arts and crafts supplies be acquired in advance of our arrival. The *Camp Adventure*TM Camp Director will also make occasional requests for additional supplies throughout the summer.
- **Special Events and Cook Outs:** Every Friday campers look forward to the special event and lunch time cook out. The most commonly requested foods will be hamburgers, hot dogs, cold drinks, potato chips and cookies.
- **Active and Passive Sports Equipment and Games:** Scope and variations of sports and activities change from day to day, depending on the activity time, number of campers and weather. We suggest that sports equipment and games should be acquired for the summer program.
- **Camp Shirts:** Provision of camper shirts by the site is recommended. Camper shirts serve two purposes. One is to help identify and monitor campers on field trips and tours. The second is to give campers pride and a sense of belonging to the program.
- **Lunch:** Lunch and quiet time accomplishes two goals. One is to provide a rest period for the campers in order to prepare them for the remainder of the day. The second is to give the counselors a chance to rest and regroup.
- **Spirit and Recognition:** Daily and Weekly Awards and Spirit Sticks are used to motivate campers. Awards and Spirit Sticks can include candies, toys, prizes and certificates. *Camp Adventure*TM Camp Directors will request these items throughout the summer.
- **Swimming:** Swimming is an irreplaceable part of the *Camp Adventure*TM program. Swimming times serves several purposes. One is to provide a cool down period for the campers. The second is to incorporate water fun and games into the program. It is essential for pool time to be identified and scheduled prior to the start of the *Camp Adventure*TM program.
- **Camp Adventure**TM **Presents:** Presentations of clubs, skits, songs and sports that the children work on throughout the week are displayed during Friday's weekly *Camp Adventure*TM Presents. The presentation allows the parents to view what the children are doing in the camp setting. Indoor and outdoor performance stage areas should be identified and/or scheduled.