

YMCA DAY CAMP FAQ's



CAMP TRI-LAKES & CAMP EXTRAVAGANZA Northwest YMCA

What can my child expect at Day Camp?

Each week at Northwest YMCA campers can expect a week full of adventure! Camp is a place where they will make new friends while participating in a variety of activities like crafts, and games, all geared toward a specific theme. Campers will also learn exciting new skills such as swimming, archery and gaga ball! Our trained staff will lead the campers in character development activities, team building games, and weekly field trips.

What age does my child have to be to attend camp?

Camper can begin camp if they are entering Kindergarten to 12 years of age (**children must be 5 years before they can attend camp**). Our camp activities run from 8:30a-4:00p and the campers are very active during that time.

What are the weekly themes and field trips this summer?

Each week our day campers will attend a field trip. Some of these field trips will vary by age group.

Week		Theme	Explorers & Pioneers	Voyagers & Trailblazers
1	June 1- June 5	Texas Adventures	Urban Air Trampoline Park	Urban Air Trampoline Park
2	June 8- June 12	Animal Planet	Sea Quest	YMCA Camp Carter
3	June 15- June 19	Celebration of Nations	Epic Waters Water Park	Epic Waters Water Park
4	June 22- June 26	Storybook Week	Jellystone Park	Jellystone Park
5	June 29- July 3	Wacky Week	INFLATABLE FUN activities on site!	
6	July 6- July 10	Time Travel	Alley Cats Entertainment	Alley Cats Entertainment
7	July 13- July 27	Christmas in July	TBD	TBD
8	July 19- July 24	Full STEAM Ahead	Fort Worth Science Museum	Spark! Interactive Museum
9	July 27- July 31	Go for the Gold	Kid Mania	Kid Mania
10	Aug 3- Aug 7	Myths and Legends	INFLATABLE Fun activities on site!	
11	Aug 10- Aug 14	Make it and Take it	Bowling	Bowling

Where are the camps located, and days/hours of operation?

Camps are open 7:00a-6:00pm. Campers should be dropped off no later than 9am and picked up no earlier than 3pm.

- Northwest Camps (Camp Tri-Lakes and Camp Extravaganza) are held at two Eagle Mountain Saginaw Elementary School campus (locations pending) Monday- Thursday during weeks 1,2,3,4, 6,7,8 and 9 of the summer program.

On Fridays of those weeks, camp will be relocated to the Northwest YMCA located at 5315 Boat Club Rd. where they will be primarily outdoors (plenty of water and shade) and they will rotate through a variety of stations including archery, swimming, nature exploration, crafts and lots of water games! Weeks 5, 10 and 11 will be offered at an off-site location. That location is still pending at this time.

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What should my camper bring to camp?

First, please label everything your child brings to camp. Here are a few camp necessities: Lunch, water bottle (disposable or re-useable), backpack, swimsuit, towel (designated day), sunscreen, hat, tennis shoes, and comfy clothes they can get dirty.

What staff/ child ratio does the camp follow?

Our camp follows a ratio of 1:10 (staff/ child). During some activities and field trips the ratio is lower.

What do I do when I first arrive to camp?

Camp opens at 7:00am however; you may drop off your camper between 7am-9am. Camp will be in Pre Camp mode which means all the kids will be together in the gym participating in self-guided centers/games until it is time to break into their age appropriate groups. Parents are required to sign their camper in and out of the program each day. Campers will place their belongings in a basket under their group's name.

What are Opening Ceremonies?

Camp opens each morning and closes each afternoon with a ceremony. This time is spent previewing or reviewing the camp day. Counselors lead songs and skits as well as acknowledge positive behaviors or accomplishments in the day. Y staff attempt to model and reward character values (caring, honesty, respect, responsibility) during all camp activities.

Does the Y provide snacks?

Yes, we provide both a morning and afternoon snack. Morning snack is at 8:30am and afternoon snack is at 3:30pm. Please be sure to list any food allergies on your camper's enrollment form. Monthly snack menus will be available each month.

What should I pack for my camper's lunch?

Campers will eat lunch each day between 11am to 12pm after washing their hands. Campers will eat at designated tables in cafeteria, during Friday campers will eat outdoors at our picnic tables. Please do not send your child with items that require a microwave or refrigeration. Lunches will be inside build both at school and during Friday's outdoor camp until it is time to eat. Reminders; if your child has any allergies, list them on the enrollment paperwork.

What are THEME DAYS?

Each week is a different theme at camp and we have activities and games that correlate to the week's theme. One day a week is our camp's THEME DAY and on that day we usually have a special activity based around our weekly theme. We also encourage staff and campers to dress up on theme days. NW YMCA camps theme day will be every Thursday.

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What will my child do all day/week?

Each week, there will be an Activity Plan available for the parents to review. Here is a generic example of a week at camp.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00	Interest Centers/ Games	Interest Centers/ Games	Interest Centers/ Games	Interest Centers/ Games	Ultimate Camp Friday's @ NW YMCA outdoor camp AM Snack
8:30	AM Snack	AM Snack	8:00- AM Snack	AM Snack	AM Snack
9:00	Opening Ceremony & ALL CAMP GAME	Opening Ceremony & ALL CAMP GAME	Opening Ceremony & Break into groups and prepare to load buses.	Opening Ceremony & ALL CAMP GAME	Opening Ceremony & ALL CAMP GAME
10:00	ADVENTURE #1: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science & team-building	ADVENTURES#1: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science & team-building	9:00a- Load Bus for Field Trip	ADVENTURE #1: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science & teambuilding	ADVENTURE #1: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science, swimming, and archery.
	LUNCH	LUNCH	9:45a- Arrive at Field trip	LUNCH	LUNCH: 11:30am to 1:00pm
12:00	ADVENTURE #2: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science, & team-building	ADVENTURE #2: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science & team-building	12:00- Check in for lunch.	ADVENTURE #2: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science, & teambuilding	ADVENTURE #2: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science, swimming, and archery.
1:00			Field trip activities		
2:00	ADVENTURE #3: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science, & team-building	ADVENTURE #3: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science, & team-building	2:30- Snack	ADVENTURE #3: Groups will rotate through activities: group games, crafts, science, & teambuilding	Snow Cone Friday! & CAMP CLOSING CEREMONY
3:00	PM Snack	PM Snack	3:00p- Groups gather for check out and load bus.	PM Snack	PM Snack
3:30			4:00p- Arrive at YMCA- roll call in the gym.		
4:00	Interest centers/ clubs & gym time	Interest centers/ clubs & gym time	Interest centers/ clubs & gym time	Interest centers/ clubs & gym time	Interest areas/ indoor clubs
6:00	Check-Out	Check-Out	Check-Out	Check-Out	Check-Out

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What's the story with swimming at camp?

Campers at our Northwest Camps will have the opportunity to swim on Friday's at our Northwest YMCA pool. Those campers who wish to swim in the deeper parts of the pool will be swim tested by YMCA lifeguards each day they swim. Campers may wear a US Coast Guard Approved floatation devices if they are not strong swimmers. Campers that cannot swim and cannot reach the bottom of the shallow end of the pool will be required to wear a US Coast Guard Approved lifejacket or puddle jumper during swim time. Swimming is supervised by YMCA lifeguards at all times. Additionally, camp staff will also be in the pool area supervising.

Can my child take swim lessons at camp?

Yes, swim lessons are available for sign up through our Aquatics program. Our campers do have the opportunity to sign up for our Friday's camp swim lesson, check with camp directors for schedule.

What does my camper do on Friday's at the Northwest YMCA outdoor camp (Parkview & Lake Pointe traditional camps only)?

Our EMSISD graciously allows us to use their schools to run our day camps during the week. Unfortunately, those schools are not open on Friday therefore campers will attend the Northwest YMCA for what we call ULTIMATE CAMP FRIDAYS! Campers can sign up for adventures like: Ultimate Gaga ball, Nerf course, All Camp Sports, Creative Art, Spectacular Science activity time, Games & More Games: Chess Club & Pokémon battle, and Rally Car Derby!! Let's not forget of course our Pool & Water Play Zone and daily hiking & create a camp site.

How can I reach the camp?

Our camp has a cell phone that a staff person keeps on them at all times. If you have questions you may reach them at Parkview- (817)822-8866 & Lake Pointe-(817)822-8504.

What do I need to expect on Field Trip days?

Camp field trip days will vary by age. Please see our Camp Activity Calendar for the specific day your child will attend the weekly field trip. We ask that all campers arrive by 8:30am or earlier on these days in order to get to our destination on time. Our field trips usually take up most of the day but our goal is to return to camp by 4:00pm. Each week we will post the times of our field trip at the parent desk.

REMEMBER: All campers must wear their Field Trip T-shirt on field trip days. If you forget, you may purchase a new camp shirt for \$8.00.

What about lunches on field trip days?

Some of our field trips will include lunch but there are a few dates that the campers will need to bring a lunch to. We ask that parents send lunches in a lunchbox or closed container on those days with your child's name on it.

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Should I allow my child to bring money on field trips?

Our field trips include a variety of activities for the campers to participate in. However, we understand that some campers wish to purchase extra items at some of the field trip locations. There are some campers who may not have the money, so we ask that no money be sent to any of the of the schedule field trips. If you send money the YMCA is not responsible for their money.

How can I volunteer at camp?

WE LOVE VOLUNTEERS! Parents may volunteer to help with camp in a variety of ways. Do you have a neat talent or hobby you want to teach... great! Do you want to talk about your career with our campers...ok! Do you have some free time and want to assist on a field trip... perfect! All you need to do is talk to the Camp Director and get a Volunteer Application (also available online. Once completed, turn it in and we will notify you when you are cleared to help out. Volunteer Applications contain a Criminal History check that must be cleared before anyone is allowed to volunteer at our YMCA. This process usually takes 5-10 days.

How can I see all the fun activities at camp?

We will sue Bloomz to communicate all our participants during the summer. An email will be sent out once you register to opt into the free Bloomz app. Please follow us on Facebook as well as Instagram. We will also have a weekly newsletter available at camp each week.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthwestY>

Instagram: @ymca_northwestfw

Camp Contact Info

Please contact our camp staff if you need anything!

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