



DETAILED CAMP INFORMATION

Please keep as a reference

Dear Camp Concepts Camp families,

Welcome to this year's camp season! We are excited to welcome many new families into the Camp Concepts family. Information in this letter contains general information needed for all campers in our programs (Little Buds, Big Oak and Expressions) but then each camp does have some "camp specific" information particular to that camp, so please read carefully under that camp section. **We suggest printing this for future reference.**

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Executive Director: **Steve Haines** 267-261-4098

Account Services: **Linda Schloo** 215-285-2537

Logistics Coordinator: **Stefanie Schloo** 215-285-2539

campconcepts@comcast.net

accounts@campconcepts.org

stefanie.schloo24@gmail.com

▪ **Big Oak Day Camp**

Steve Haines, Director: 267-261-4098

Steve Bernardini, Asst. Director: 215-630-0456

campconcepts@comcast.net

sdbernardini@gmail.com

▪ **Little Buds Day Camp**

Ashley Carlson, Director: 215-932-5373

Jennifer Schloo, Asst. Director: 215-353-3332

littlebuds@campconcepts.org

jennifer.schloo@gmail.com

▪ **Expressions Day Camp**

Debbie Kirk, Director: 267-992-4383

expressions@campconcepts.org

GENERAL ALL CAMP INFORMATION:

- **HOURS: 9-3:30 p.m.** (Each camp has a drop off and pick-up procedure and location. Please refer to your camp specifics. **Please note:** No drop-offs prior to 8:45 a.m. unless you are in AM care. We officially begin drop off at 8:45 a.m. DO NOT DROP OFF IF STAFF ISN'T THERE TO GREET THEM. **Afternoon dismissal will begin at 3:20 p.m.** *Please review the Car Flow pattern so we can ensure the safe drop off and pick up of all campers. If you have a Little Bud and Big Oak camper, use the Little Bud line and your BO camper will be there. As with anything, it will take a few days for everyone to adjust to the system. Little Buds half day program has a noon pickup time.
- **CAR FLOW:** Follow your camp's specific drop-off and pick-up procedures.
- **EXTENDED CARE: A.M. or P.M. Care sessions are available to add to your account.** The A.M. care session begins as early as 7:00 a.m. with drop-off in the gym. P.M. care ends promptly at 5:30 p.m. Any pickups after 5:30 p.m. will incur a \$25 late fee (no exceptions). Extended care service is provided as a convenience for those who have different work schedules and responsibilities. This service can be added by the week or by the day by calling Linda. An email will be sent to those families who signed up for this service prior to the start of camp. AM and PM care are billed as separate sessions.
- **MEDICAL INFORMATION:** Please make sure you have updated current medical information in your registration. If your child has food allergies, asthma, EPI or other medical issues, make sure you complete and return the SUPPLEMENTAL PARENTAL MEDICAL AND AUTHORIZATION FORM. If you need to drop off any medications or EPI pens, please park and deliver them or hand a bag to staff at drop off. Car line needs to be kept moving and won't provide any discussion time. Feel free to email us any important information regarding your child, especially if they are being evaluated for any potential behavioral or social issues or possible IEP. Please be as specific as possible when it comes to food allergies such as: must sit at a nut free table, can only eat items from packed lunch, must have items from nut free facility.
- **ACCOUNT QUESTIONS:** If you want to add weeks, extended care or have questions, please contact Linda Schloo at 215-285-2537 or accounts@campconcepts.org. If you are thinking of adjusting your previously selected weeks of camp- be sure to contact us ASAP. Please keep in mind our cancellation/refund policy.



LITTLE BUDS- The following section is information specifically pertaining to LITTLE BUDS ages 2-5. If you do not have a Little Bud, please skip to the next section.

Ashley Carlson, Director:

215-932-5373

littlebuds@campconcepts.org

Jennifer Schloo, Asst. Director:

215-353-3332

jennifer.schloo@gmail.com

BASICS:

- **GROUPS:** Based on age at the start of camp
 - **2/3 year olds** (this group has a quiet time in the afternoon where they may nap or quietly look at books if they are not nappers but they do remain with their group. Camp is very active and developmentally they need this recharge time.
 - **4 year olds**
 - **5 year olds** (this group would be those who are entering kindergarten in the fall)
- **CAMP OPTIONS:**
 - 9 weeks (2-week minimum requirement)
 - 3 and 5 full days for all ages
 - 3 and 5 half day only for 2/3 year old group only with a noon pickup.
- **TIME:**
 - Full day is 9-3:30 p.m. Drop-off begins at 8:45 a.m.-follow car flow pattern. Remain in your car at drop-off and we will remove campers. At pick-up (which begins at 3:20 p.m.) you will need to buckle camper in their seat. Unless necessary, late drop-offs are disruptive to the morning routine. Please make every effort to arrive during car line. If you arrive late, you need to park and walk your child into the office.
 - Half day is 9-noon and your child will be walked out to the car.
- **EXTENDED CARE OPTIONS:**
 - AM CARE available as early as 7 a.m.
 - PM Care available until 5:30 p.m. Late fee of \$25 will be assessed for any pickup after 5:30 p.m. Please plan accordingly.
 - Option is available weekly or on a daily as needed basis.
 - Contact Linda Schloo if you want to add this to your account.

WHAT TO BRING/WEAR TO CAMP *(label, label, label everything you send to camp. We cannot be responsible for any items not labeled, children this age don't always recognize their own things!)*

- **Water Bottles:** Bottles are filled throughout the day and used at lunch. Please label.
- **Backpack:** Please label it with their name.
- **Change of clothes:** Accidents happen. Please put a full change of clothes in a labeled bag that we will keep at camp in case it is needed.
- **Plastic bag:** An extra plastic bag in their backpack for wet items.
- **Footwear:** sneakers, Crocs or Teva/Keen type shoes, or closed-toed sandals with a back strap are best for camp. Flip flops are an absolute NO, NO and are dangerous and are no fun at camp! If your child wears them to camp, they may not be able to participate in some activities.
- **Bathing suit/towel/sunscreen:** (please note that if you forget to pack appropriate swim wear/towel or footwear for stream stomping, your child may not be able to participate in the activity. Please remember to pack all items daily.)
 - ***Full day campers** - Bathing suit, towel & spray on (or stick) sunscreens required **daily** in the event of water play. Please apply sunscreen in the a.m. before they arrive, we will re-apply as necessary. It is totally acceptable to wear swimsuits under clothes to camp.
 - ***Half day campers** – We try to have one day of a.m. morning water play for half day campers when possible. You will be reminded via Seesaw if you should send your child in their bathing suit. (Please apply sunscreen in the a.m.)

- **2/3 Year old group only:** If your child wears diapers or pull ups, please send a package in, along with swim diapers and wet wipes, marked with your child's name to be kept at camp. We will inform you when we are running low. You may bring these on the first day of camp and we will get them into your child's bin. This group has a quiet time regardless of whether your child naps or not. They are kept very active in the morning and developmentally it is important for them to have a quiet time to recharge. Some children nap on mats so you may send in a sheet, pillow and favorite blanket in a labeled plastic bag that can stay at camp. Be sure to let your child's counselor know if there is a special blanket or snuggle item that you will want to be sure goes back and forth each day. For those who don't nap, books and other quiet items are provided for them, but they do remain with their group.

WHAT NOT TO BRING/WEAR TO CAMP

- **NO toys please!** We ask that you do not allow your child to bring any items such as toys, money, books, etc. to camp (unless we previously discussed special accommodations). We have all the meals, snacks, drinks, games, supplies, etc. that your child will need for a fun-filled day.
- **NO flip flops.** They are unsafe in the camp setting.

WATER PLAY

- Waterplay is done at least 3 times per week usually Tuesday – Thursday (weather permitting). We try and have morning waterplay on Wednesday for our 2/3 year-old group so that half day campers have a chance to participate.

DISCIPLINE

- Camp is a social gathering of kids. Whereas we have very few behavioral issues that require elevated attention and response, there are still times we need to address camper behavior. After campers are given 2 warnings to alter or redirect behavior, it may be necessary to give a "time-out". The camper will be asked to sit apart from, but in sight of, the group for the number of minutes of his/her age. After that time, it will be explained specifically what he/she did wrong and how it could have been handled better. We will not utilize yelling, verbal intimidation or spanking a child. Behaviors that may warrant a "time out" would be hitting, pushing, not following directions, bad language, disrespect towards authority, destroying property. If a child habitually needs to be placed in "time out" a note or phone call will be placed to the parent for assistance in managing the child's behavior.
- We recognize all parents have their own philosophy about discipline and whereas we do not want to contradict or go against what your family may do, we do hope you will support us as we try to make these situations a learning opportunity.

LUNCH

- Lunch will be served in the cafeteria daily. Our staff will cut up and serve each camper healthy and "kid-friendly" items from the menu. We will make every attempt to **encourage** each child to try a fruit and/or vegetable, however, please do not expect us to put any upsetting pressure on your child. A snack will also be provided each afternoon regardless of whether they have eaten their lunch. **If you did not already include your child's food allergies or other special dietary needs on your online registration form, please email before the start of camp and make sure you complete the Parental Authorization form that will be sent. We are happy to accommodate peanut or nut allergies whereas some other food specialties may necessitate a packed lunch. We also provide a "Nut-Free" lunch table. Review the camp menu with Little Buds main lunch item indicated (may change due to availability of**

items). PBJ, fruit, veggies, chips or pretzels are offered daily along with water. Please pack your child's lunch if it does not align with your child's needs. Special lunches or items from Big Oak are not available to Little Buds. We realize all kids may have differences eating outside the home. You would only be contacted if we are concerned that your child is continually never eating anything at which time, we would suggest that you pack their lunch. While we do our best to encourage them to eat, their main nutrition will come from meals at home. Please keep in mind that we are managing lots of little eaters and won't be able to provide daily intake updates.

SOCIAL MEDIA/COMMUNICATION

- Join us on  Facebook @littlebudsdaycamp or  Instagram @littlebudsdaycamp. It is a great way to see photos and our summer fun.
- Seesaw will be used for communication. All families will be given information to sign up for the SEESAW app which is a great way for quick communication with Little Buds. We are always available by phone or email as well. **Since the car line needs to be kept moving, drop off and pick up time does not allow for updates regarding your child. Please use the Seesaw app or feel free to call or email Ashley or Jennifer.**
- Camp website is www.campconcepts.org

CONCLUSION

- The more information you can provide your child, the less anxious they will be. I suggest you visit the Little Buds section on www.campconcepts.org website and review with your child so they can see pictures from previous summers. **Remember, your apprehension about sending your child off to camp will most likely result in their apprehension about going to camp. Remain positive and enthusiastic and your child will as well! Also, if you treat camp like school and, not give your child the “option” to attend, it will make their daily transition out of the car easier.**
- It is sometimes harder for the parent to adjust to the transition of sending their little one off to camp. It is natural for there to be an adjustment period in the beginning. You can expect to see some tears, but they do settle down. As much as you may want to get out of the car in the morning for that last hug, we ask you to resist that temptation. We will certainly contact you if necessary.



BIG OAK DAY CAMP- The following section is information specifically pertaining to Big Oak, grades 1-9.

Steve Haines, Director:

267-261-4098

campconcepts@comast.net

Steve Bernardini, Asst. Director:

215-630-0456

sdbernardini@gmail.com

BASICS:

- **GROUPS:** **Co-ed groups based on the grade they will enter in the fall.**
 - Camp is a social environment, so we encourage and facilitate new friendships and bonds through the group activity experience. We are small enough that campers will end up getting to know many others in the different groups and even in the other camps in our Camp Concepts community. We typically create co-ed groups by the same school grade of campers. We do try to keep friends together but in cases where the grade gap is different, we tend NOT to push a younger camper up to an older age group just to be with a friend. Grade groupings will begin on Week 2.
- **CAMP OPTIONS:**
 - 9 weeks of camp (2-week minimum requirement)
 - 5 Full day program
- **TIME:**
 - Full day is 9-3:30 p.m. Drop-off begins at 8:45 a.m.-follow car flow pattern. Remain in your car at drop-off and we will remove campers.
- **DROP OFF:**
 - Please refer to the CAR FLOW diagram that is attached for proper drop off location. - Our regular morning drop-off begins at 8:45. Please do not drop off unless the staff is there to greet your child. Unless you have signed up for AM extended care, please do not drop off before 8:45 a.m.
- **EXTENDED CARE OPTIONS:**
 - AM CARE available as early as 7 a.m.
 - PM Care available until 5:30 p.m. Late fee of \$25 will be assessed for any pickup after 5:30 p.m. Please plan accordingly.
 - Option is available weekly or on a daily as needed basis.
 - Contact Linda Schloo if you want to add this to your account.
- **LUNCH:**
 - Lunch is provided daily however campers are free to pack their own lunch should they so choose. Menu is subject to change. If your son/daughter has certain food allergies- please make sure to indicate that on the Parental Authorization form. Nut-free table available..
- **DISMISSAL SNACK:**
 - For Big Oak campers we do offer a variety of ice cream treats and non-carbonated, sugar-free drinks at the end of the day for campers to purchase. Please discuss with your child whether you prefer them to make such purchase choices. Most snacks range from \$1-\$3. We do not sell soda. If they have a Little Bud sibling, we ask that they do not purchase items for them.
- **SWIM:**
 - Off campus swim is usually done 2-3 times per week for each group. Campers are transported off campus on a bus. Typically, we utilize Carl Sandburg Middle School pool. All swimmers are tested and although it is supervised free swim, we do offer some limited swim instruction for those who need or want additional swim guidance. Lifeguards will be on duty. We also have plenty of water-based activities and fun at our camp site including the giant waterslide, sprinklers, water games & relays, etc. It is fun and a great way to cool off. We suggest campers bring a bathing suit & towel to camp everyday. Please label all items.

- **OFF CAMPUS TRIPS:**

- **TEEN TRIPS:** As part of our teen program, off campus trips are scheduled. Trip schedules can be subject to change due to weather or reservation conflicts. Every effort will be made to adhere to the published schedule. You will be notified of any changes. Some trips do require waivers so please make sure to complete and return. All teens must have the Parental Authorization form completed and returned.
- **GENERAL TRIPS:** Occasionally various off campus trips are scheduled as part of the normal schedule or added because of weather changes. You would only be notified of the off-campus trip if an added permission slip was required. Trips may include bowling or going to the park.



WHAT TO BRING/WEAR TO CAMP *(label, label, label everything you send to camp. Every year we end up with a big Lost & Found of unclaimed items.*

- **Water Bottles:** May be brought to camp and filled throughout the day. Campers do have access to water fountains throughout the day if they aren't using a water bottle. Please label.
- **Backpack:** Please label it with their name.
- **Plastic bag:** An extra plastic bag in their backpack for wet items.
- **Clothing:** Should be safe, comfortable clothing for an active day at camp.
- **Footwear:** sneakers, Crocs or Teva/Keen type shoes, or closed-toed sandals with a back strap are best for camp. Flip flops are an absolute NO, NO and are dangerous and are no fun at camp! If your child wears them to camp, they may not be able to participate in some activities.
- **Bathing suit/towel/sunscreen:** (please note that if you forget to pack appropriate swim wear/towel or footwear, your child may not be able to participate in the activity. Please remember to pack all items daily.)

WHAT NOT TO BRING/WEAR TO CAMP

- **Cell Phones-** Always an issue but we do want parents/campers to be conscious of the fact that camp is a chance to digitally disconnect and socially connect with peers. We also cannot guarantee the safety of these devices when brought to camp. Kids often carry them in their backpacks or pockets and there are lots of water activities while at camp. Campers are **NOT** to have their phones or ear pods out during the camp day. You may get messages to your children through any of the contact numbers provided at the start of this letter. They will be given a reminder if it is seen out. A second warning will result in it being held until the end of the camp day.
- **NO toys/cards please!** We ask that you do not allow your child to bring any items such as toys, books, etc. to camp (unless we previously discussed special accommodations). If your child is in extended care, they may bring items that must stay in their backpack until extended care time.
- **NO flip flops.** They are unsafe in the camp setting.
- **Clothing/Jewelry-** Dresses/skirts should be avoided unless wearing shorts underneath. Camp is very active, and clothing should not cause any hinderances. No dangly earrings or lots of jewelry.

SOCIAL MEDIA/COMMUNICATION:

- Join us on  Facebook @bigoakdaycamp or  Instagram @bigoakdaycamp. It is a great way to see photos and our summer fun.
- Make sure to join THECAMPAPP to view schedules, menu, family forms and newsletters.
- Always feel free to contact any of the administrative staff listed under the Administrative Contact Information.
- Camp website is www.campconcepts.org



EXPRESSIONS DAY CAMP- The following section is information specifically pertaining to Expressions

Debbie Kirk, Director: 267-992-4383 expressions@campconcepts.org

BASICS:

- **GROUPS:** **Two Co-ed cluster aged divisions (Upper and Lower camps).**
 - Each group will have a group name and their own counselors in charge of them with oversight from both the director and assistant director. Camp is a social environment, and we try to encourage and facilitate new friendships and bonds.
- **CAMP OPTIONS:**
 - 8 weeks (no pre-week available) (2-week minimum requirement)
 - 5 Full day program
 - Fantastic Friday's for those involved with ESY
- **TIME:**
 - Full day is 9-3:30 p.m. Drop-off begins at 8:45 a.m.-follow car flow pattern. Remain in your car at drop-off and we will remove campers.
- **DROP OFF:**
 - Please refer to the CAR FLOW diagram for proper drop off location. Our regular morning drop-off begins at 8:45. Please do not drop off unless the staff is there to greet your child. Unless you have signed up for AM extended care, please do not drop off before 8:45 a.m.
- **EXTENDED CARE OPTIONS:**
 - AM CARE available as early as 7 a.m.
 - PM Care available until 5:30 p.m. Late fee of \$25 will be accessed for any pickup after 5:30 p.m. Please plan accordingly.
 - Option is available weekly or on a daily as needed basis.
 - Contact Linda Schloo if you want to add this to your account.
- **LUNCH:**
 - Lunch is provided daily however campers are free to pack their own lunch should they so choose. Menu is subject to change If your son/daughter has certain food allergies- please make sure to indicate that on the Parental Authorization form. We do have a nut-free zone if needed.
- **DISMISSAL SNACK:**
 - For Expression campers we do offer a variety of ice cream treats and non-carbonated, sugar free drinks at the end of the day for campers to purchase. Please discuss with your child whether you prefer them to make such purchase choices. Most snacks range from \$1-\$3. We do not sell soda. If they have a Little Bud sibling, we ask that they do not purchase items for them.
- **SWIM:**
 - Off campus swim is usually done 2-3 times per week for each group. Campers are transported off campus on a bus. Typically, we utilize the Carl Sandburg Middle School. All swimmers are tested and although it is supervised free swim, we do offer some limited swim instruction for those who need or want additional swim guidance. Lifeguards will be on duty. We also have plenty of water-based activities and fun at our camp site including the giant waterslide, sprinklers, water games & relays, etc. It is fun and a great way to cool off. We suggest campers bring a bathing suit & towel to camp everyday. Please label all items.
- **OFF CAMPUS TRIPS:**
 - Groups may travel off campus for various activities. They will be listed on their schedule.

WHAT TO BRING/WEAR TO CAMP *(label, label, label everything you send to camp. Every year we end up with a big Lost & Found of unclaimed items.*

- **Water Bottles:** May be brought to camp and filled throughout the day. Campers do have access to water fountains throughout the day if they aren't using a water bottle. Please label.
- **Backpack:** Please label it with their name.
- **Plastic bag:** An extra plastic bag in their backpack for wet items.
- **Clothing:** Should be safe, comfortable clothing for an active day at camp.
- **Footwear:** sneakers, Crocs or Teva/Keen type shoes, or closed-toed sandals with a back strap are best for camp. Flip flops are an absolute NO, NO and are dangerous and are no fun at camp! If your child wears them to camp, they may not be able to participate in some activities.
- **Bathing suit/towel/sunscreen:** (please note that if you forget to pack appropriate swim wear/towel or footwear, your child may not be able to participate in the activity. Please remember to pack all items daily.)



WHAT NOT TO BRING/WEAR TO CAMP

- **Cell Phones-** We ask that no electronics come to camp with your child. If special accommodations are needed, please contact the director.
- **NO toys/cards please!** We ask that you do not allow your child to bring any items such as toys, books, etc. to camp (unless we previously discussed special accommodations). If your child is in extended care, they may bring items that must stay in their backpack until extended care time.
- **NO flip flops.** They are unsafe in the camp setting.
- **Clothing/Jewelry-** Dresses/skirts should be avoided unless wearing shorts underneath. Camp is very active, and clothing should not cause any hinderances. No dangly earrings or lots of jewelry.

CAMPER MEDICAL CONCERNS/MEDICATIONS

- Please follow these guidelines when providing camper medication. All medications must be:
 - ♦in the original packaging with corresponding details such as:
 - ♦Prescribing doctor and phone number
 - ♦Medication name
 - ♦Child's name
 - ♦Dosage including frequency
 - ♦Accurate count of medication contained
- Medication should be given directly to the office or director to be administered during the camp day.
- Epi-pens should include campers Action Plan
- Inhalers should include an Action Plan
- Please provide updated IEP and any other important information
- Parental Authorization form should be completed and returned.

SOCIAL MEDIA/COMMUNICATION:

- Join us on  Facebook @expressionsdaycamp or  Instagram @expressionsdaycamp. It is a great way to see photos and our summer fun.
- Make sure to join CLASSDOJO to view schedules, menu and newsletters.
- Always feel free to contact any of the administrative staff listed on Administrative Contact Information.
- Camp website is www.campconcepts.org