



FAQs

How do you ensure my camper will stay hydrated throughout the day?

- Please pack a refillable water bottle for your camper EVERYDAY. Camp Leaders will ensure that campers are refilling their water bottles and staying hydrated throughout the day. We have several water stations located throughout camp where they will be able to refill.

What are your procedures regarding sunscreen?

- Camp parents are required to sunscreen their child every morning before camp. We have several sunscreen stations located throughout camp where Leaders will ensure that campers are reapplying sunscreen throughout the day, and will help our younger campers reapply.

Do I need to pack my camper a lunch every day?

- Valley Trails provides hot, nutritious lunches to all campers daily made in our camp kitchen. The menu will be provided in the Parent Newsletter emailed weekly. There will also be a “picky eater” and a vegetarian option. Campers may bring their own lunch if they would like.
 - o Please make sure to properly fill out the medical history form noting of any food allergies

Tell me more about your swim program. Are there lifeguards?

- On every Camper’s first day (regardless of which day of Camp it is), Campers will take a swim test.
- We have Lifeguards on duty at all times as well as camp Leaders monitoring the pool ensuring camper safety.

Wristband Policy

If a Camper passes their swim test, they will be given ONE green wristband, letting Leaders and Lifeguards know they are able to safely swim in the deep-end of the pool. They MUST wear the wristband at all times while swimming. If they are not wearing it, even if they passed, they CAN NOT swim in the deep-end, *no exceptions*.

If a Camper loses their green wristband, we will give them ONE replacement. If they should lose their replacement, they are no longer permitted to swim in the deep-end. Please ensure your camper is either wearing the green wristband or has it in their backpack before they get to camp.

How will my camper know what group they are in?

- Campers are placed in co-ed groups based on the grade they are going into in the fall. Campers are greeted by camp Leaders and Directors every morning and we will introduce new campers to their Leader and other campers in their group. When camp begins, we start the day with

'Opening Circle' where we will sing songs, make announcements and call each camper by name when their group is called to ensure they know where to go.

Can I visit camp during the day?

- Unfortunately no. We have found that visitors disrupt camper's schedules and their camp experiences. We post photos daily on www.valleytrails.com for you to share with your camper when they come home. Viewing the photos with your camper is a great way for you to ask them questions about their day, activities and people in the photos.

What do I do if I miss the bus?

- Not a problem, we understand if you are running late. If you miss the bus in the morning, please drive to the next stop on their bus route or you can drive them directly to camp. In the afternoon, if you miss the bus please go to the next bus stop. We encourage you to call the camp office and let them know you are running late so we can notify the Leaders on the bus.
- No camper will ever be left un-attended at a pick up/drop off location under any circumstance.

My child has a doctor's appointment at the end of the day. How do I make arrangements to pick them up?

- If you need to pick your camper up from camp early for any reason, please call the office as early as possible. This will ensure that we have the camper in the office with their belongings ready to go home when you come to pick them up.
- If your camper is at Castaic Lake, we cannot bring them back early. Please visit the camp website to check the 'Lake Schedule' of when your camper will be attending the lake program.

What does my camper need to pack every day?

- Campers will need to bring a backpack to camp every day and stored on our backpack racks. Items to be packed include:
 - o Bathing suit
 - o Towel
 - o Water bottle
 - o Lunch (if they would like their own)
 - o Hat or visor (optional, but encouraged)

I have two campers that are 3 years apart. Will they see each other throughout the day?

- Absolutely! While they may not be at an activity at the same time, there are plenty of chances for siblings to see each other during the day. They will have the chance to play together before camp begins and during lunch. There may also be times when two groups are playing soccer together or are swimming at the same time. When their groups are together, this is a great opportunity for siblings to share the camp experience.

My camper has a friend attending camp, can they be in the same group?

- Campers are placed in groups based on the grade they are going into in the fall. We are happy to put friends in the same groups as long as they will be in the same grade! On the camper

registration page, there is an option to put the name of another camper(s) you would like to be in the same group with.

Does my camper have to stay with their group? Can they choose their own activities?

- Campers must stay with their groups at all times. We carefully select group schedules to ensure that campers are having the opportunity to participate in all camp activities throughout the week. If a camper does not want to participate in an activity, they will stay with their group and have the chance to rest, talk with other campers, etc.

What is "Camper's Choice"?

- On Thursday and Friday afternoons, camp turns into "Camper's Choice" where Campers will have the opportunity to pick an activity that they would like to do. There will be several options so they will have the chance to participate in an activity that they love, haven't tried or want to practice at. Campers do not have to stay with their groups and will have the chance to participate in these activities with campers from all ages and groups.

What is Emu's Emporium?

- Formerly known as the General Store, Emu's Emporium will be opened daily before the bell rings in the morning and during lunch. Campers will have the chance to purchase snacks, drinks, Valley Trails hats, mascots, sunglasses and more. Prices range from .50 cents to \$15.00.
- If your camper brings money to camp, please make sure it is stored in a zip -lock bag with their name on it in case it gets misplaced.

What if I need to pick my camper up at camp and they normally take the bus/carpool?

- Not a problem! Please call the office ASAP and let the office staff know of the change. We will ensure that their group leader informs your camper of the change and does not get onto a bus or in the carpool line during dismissals.

My neighbor will be picking up my camper. How does this work?

- Every parent will receive camp placards with their camper's names on them via email. Whoever has this placard has the permission of the parent to pick up their camper. Placards must be shown every day to the Bus Leader, Carpool Leader, or After Camp Leader.
- If you do not have a placard to give them, please call the office and let the office staff know who is picking your camper up so we can make note of it. Please ensure the person picking your camper up has a photo I.D. on them to show a Valley Trails Leader.