



OFFICIAL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF CLEMSON'S SUMMER DAY CAMP

WHAT'S UP NEXT

ACTIVITIES - 2

GROUPS + SWIM DAYS - 3

CAMP STAFF - 4 +5

WELCOME NIGHT INFO - 6

PAYMENT INFO - 7

SIGN IN/OUT -8

DROP OFF/PICK UP - 9

PACK LIST - 10

BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENU- 11

SNACKS - 12

POOL POLICIES - 13

RULES AND REWARDS - 14 +15

STAFF TRAINING - 16

SAFETY PROTOCOL - 17

How can I...
reach camp staff?

Email:

Campclemson@cityofclemson.org

Faith's Cell: 864-324-2515

Mama Minutes

Week 1 is right around the corner, and our leadership staff and counselors have been working hard to prepare all the wonderful activities for your campers this summer. If you are receiving this newsletter, you are enrolled in day camp for week 1 with Camp Clemson, June 3-7. Camp staff will be busy with training and setting up the camp sites Tuesday-Friday, so please be aware that response times may be slower.

Mama Bird will be bouncing back and forth between day camp/middle school programs and Faith will be the main point of contact for day camp.

Due to not having staff on hand, we are unable to process camp changes or payments until Welcome Night May 31st from 5pm-7pm. Online payments can be made @ www.clemsoncityrecreg.org 24/7. We will be checking my emails sporadically if you run into any issues.

It is always a pleasure to bring fun, safe and joyful programming to the youth of this wonderful city! If you ever have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out.

Camp Chatter

This week of camp, campers will glow and grow! Throughout the week campers will be doing fun activities such as star gazing, creating flowers, and on Friday we will have our GLOW PARTY with DJ Sha.

1) Please note the feeding schedule for Week 1. There are some items that contain pork, eggs and wheat. Please be sure to send a lunch, if your camper can not have these items. WE ARE A NUT FREE CAMP, make sure that any food packed for camper does not contain nuts.

2) Each camper should present their ID in the morning and each person at pick up should have the CAR TAG with their student ID. If you do not have your ID or cartag yet, you can pick it up on May 31st from 5-7pm at Clemson EL. If unable to pick it up before camp, you will be issued them the first day at drop off/pick up.

3) If you do NOT want your camper to participate in laser tag please email Faith at Campclemson@cityofclemson.org. Otherwise, all campers will play.

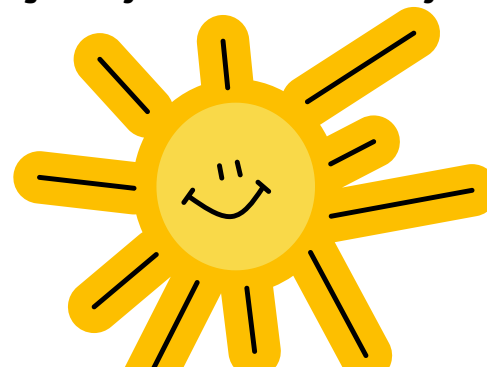
Please make sure to read carefully what the kids need to bring each day at the bottom of the activity schedule so that we can all be prepared for that day!



Mama Shark
Faith Rodriguez
Camp Director



Mama Bird
Lindsey Watley
Camp Director



ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

MONDAY

Organized Activity

AM: Rules/Groups/Balloon Not Drop

Science Activity

DIY Lava Lamp

Craft Activity

Paper Bag Lanterns

TUESDAY

Organized Activity

AM: Trashketball

Science Activity

Magic Balloon

Craft Activity

Windmill

WEDNESDAY

Organized Activity

AM: Laser Tag

Science Activity

Constellations

Craft Activity

Coffee Filter Butterflies

THURSDAY

Organized Activity

AM: Earth Day Scavenger Hunt

Science Activity

Marshmallow Building Challenge

Craft Activity

Handprint Flowers

FRIDAY

Organized Activity

 DJ SHA Glow Party

Science Activity

DIY Seed Bombs

Craft Activity

Glowing UFO



PACK ME LIST

Tuesday/Thursday: Swim Stuff (bathing suit, towel, lifejacket/goggles if needed)
No swim toys allowed

Friday: Wear NEON!

Friday: Send \$3-\$5 for Kona Ice

Everyday: Snack (bring your own snack or bring \$0.50-\$1.50 for snack cart)



SWIM DAYS TUE & THUR

GROUP K	Glow Worms W/ Lady Lion and Izzy	12:45-1:45	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 1	Glowing Geckos W/ Kit Kat and Sunflower	1:30-2:30	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 2	Twinkling Twos W/ CC and Rae	1:30-2:30	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 3	The Bright Lights W/ Stars and Banana	2:15-3:15	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 4	The Beat Masters W/ Bubbles and Candy Cane	2:15-3:15	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 5	Techno Trolls Tulip	1:30-2:30	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 6	Lava Lamps W/ LaLa and Skittles	1:30-2:30	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 7	The Lightsabers W/ Huncho and Buddy	2:15-3:15	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 8	Rave Racoons W/ Mars and Batman	2:15-3:15	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 9	Neon Ninjas W/ Watermelon Watson and Frozone	12:45-1:45	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP 10	Party People W/ Mr. E and Alligator	12:45-1:45	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Times are when campers will
be gone from the school*



Magpie
Maggie Teal
Head Counselor

2024 CAMP STAFF Week 1



Grizzly
Seth Robertson
Head Counselor



Lady Lion
Molly Possinger
Group K



Izzy
Isabelle Kapoor
Group K



Kit Kat
Katie Blondeau
Group 1



Sunflower
Kiya Harmon
Group 1



CC
Caroline Beecher
Group 2



Rae
Raeyanna Chapman
Group 2



Stars
Maddie Starkey
Group 3



Banana
Hannah Brown
Group 3



Bubbles
Kyleigh Wood
Group 4



Candy Cane
Hazel Mischel
Group 4



Tulip
Alice LaMahieu
Group 5



LaLa
Lauren Shelley
Group 6



Skittles
Hannah Mitche6
Group 5



Huncho
Sebastian Dozier
Group 7



Buddy
Isaiah Isaac
Group 7



Mars
Jennifer Marshall
Group 8



Batman
Bruce Brown
Group 8



Watermelon Watson
Natalie Rizzo
Group 9



Frozone
Daniel Johnson
Group 9

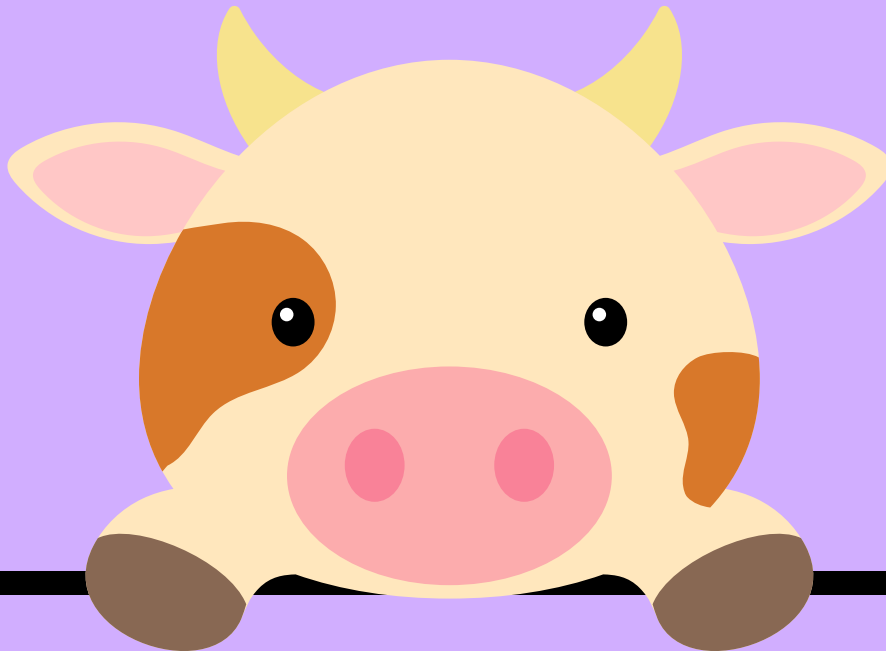


Mr. E
Ethan Richard
Group 10



Alligator
Alex Medeiros
Group 10

C.O.W



**Check back here next week to
see our counselor of the week!**





Welcome Night + Tag Tshirt Pick Up

Date: May 31st

Time: 5pm-7pm

Location: Clemson
Elementary

Who: All Camp
Clemson families!

Join us @ Clemson El to pick up t-shirts, get your parent car tag, camper IDs and celebrate the beginning of camp! Campers will be able to meet the counselors, enjoy some inflatables, complete a craft and grab a fun snack!



Family Pizza Night

Date: July 11th

Time: 6pm-7:30pm

Location: Clemson
Elementary

Who: All Camp
Clemson families!

Join us @ Clemson El to check out what we have been up to all summer, view skits prepared by the campers, clap along for camper and staff awards and celebrate an awesome summer with us!



PAYMENT INFORMATION



Online payments can be made 24/7

To make an online payment visit www.clemsoncityrec.org. You will need to sign into your portal and pay via invoices. Please see email Payments by credit card, exact cash, check or money order can be made on May 31st @ Welcome Night 5pm-7pm.

Payments via CC, exact cash or check @ Clemson Elem. during drop off and pick up

Cash, check or money order can be handed to Mama Shark or leadership team during drop off or pick up. Please put the payment in an envelope with the campers name and camper number on the envelope.

Payments @ Parks & Rec Office (102 Nettles Prk Rd)

Cash, check, money order or credit card can be taken at the parks and rec offices from 8:30am-4:00pm M-F.

Week 1 Tuition Due by May 29th, 2024

PAYMENT TIMELINE & AMTS



Monday- The Monday prior to the week attending an email reminder will be sent to the email on file. Please be sure to pay the correct invoices by viewing the details prior to paying.

Wednesday- Tuition balance is due for all campers.

Thursday- Newsletter for following week and late notice will be issued.

Friday- Wait list families will be contacted if we have accounts not paid. Camper will **not** be authorized to attend if payment arrangements are not made by Fridays. If you are having financial difficulty please reach out and we will work out a payment plan.

AMOUNTS DUE

RESIDENT TUITION: \$100 PER WEEK

NON-RESIDENT TUITION: \$130 PER WEEK

DEPOSITS: \$40 REGISTRATION PER CAMPER (SHOULD BE ALREADY PAID)

CHECKING IN & SIGNING OUT SUMMER



CHECK IN:

Campers should have on their Camper ID card every morning at check in. A barcode scanner will be available with the check in counselor or at the camp office. If a child loses their ID and one is not available for check in please email Lindsey Watley @ lwatley@cityofclemson.org or text 864-958-8078 prior to drop off so we can have a temporary or reprint available.



GUARDIAN SIGN OUT:

Guardian's are issued 2 car tags that contain a unique camper barcode. This barcode coordinates with campers membership profile on our Tyler Technology platform. Any individuals who will pick up the camper MUST have the car-tag w/ scannable barcode. If an official car tag is presented for the child we will release them for pick up. If you have lost your car tags please notify Lindsey Watley as soon as possible so we can change camper numbers to ensure that no unauthorized individuals can pick them up. If for some reason you forget your tag for pick up you are required to park your vehicle and check out with camp director or assistant director only and must present your state issued license.





DAY CAMP MORNING DROP OFF

**Clemson Elementary School
(581 Berkeley Drive Clemson, SC)**

- 1) Enter the school entrance and stay right toward the lower playground. Follow the loop around until you reach the designated drop off area marketed by our Camp Clemson signage.
- 2) Camper scan in their camper ID tag with the check in individual (Mama Bird/Mama Sharkey/Magpie/Grizzly).
- 3) Camper will then place their bookbag in the designated group area and leave their ID on their backpack. The camper will bring the ID home at night.
- 4) If you arrive after 9am, please ring the doorbell with your child and your camper's ID.

**Car line
DROP OFF
times:
7:30 am**

9:00 am

***IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DROP OFF
AFTER THIS TIME JUST RING THE
DOOR BELL PLEASE.**



***PICK UP AFTER 5:30PM WILL
RESULT IN A \$1.00 PER MINUTE
LATE FEE.**

**Car line times:
4:00 pm
-
5:30pm**

***IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PICK UP
PRIOR TO 3:15 PM PLEASE RING THE
DOOR BELL.**



DAY CAMP AFTERNOON PICK UP

- 1) Pull up to the same location as drop off.
- 2) Wait for a counselor to approach your vehicle and make sure to have your tag ready to be scanned.
- 3) A staff member will scan your tag and call your camper on radio to come out.
- 4) Please wait in your vehicle until your child reaches your vehicle.

***Please note that families will be texted if the weather is to severe to have a counselor outside waiting for parents. In this case we ask that you text our camp phone and we will send the staff member outside. Please note that severe weather will cause delays in picking up your child, so plan accordingly.**

WHAT TOPACK

[Back Pack]

- Camper ID attached to bag
- Water Bottle **LABELED** w/ Camper Name
- Sunscreen & Bug Spray
- Lunch if not eating provided lunch.
- Afternoon snack (not provided)
- Closed toed shoes or sandals with a back (No Flip Flops or Slides)
- Change of Clothes in labeled bag

[Swim Days]

- Swim Suit (modest please) on swim days
- Towel on swim days
- US Coast Guard Required Life Vest (will not be provided)
- Swim shoes/flip flops
- Goggles (if needed)

[Special Activities]

See "Pack Me List" on schedule

LEAVE AT HOME:

Electronics, anything of value
that could get lost/stolen



BREAKFAST & LUNCH

AM
BRKFST
& Lunches
ARE FREE!

MONDAY

Breakfast- Pop Tart

Lunch- Chicken Sandwich, Spinach Salad, Assorted
Chips, Fresh Fruit

TUESDAY

Breakfast- Blueberry Donut Holes

Lunch- Pizza Boli, Celery Sticks, Cucumber Slices, Fresh
Fruit, Mini Krispie Treat

WEDNESDAY

Breakfast- Honey Bun

Lunch- Cheeseburger Sliders, Lettuce/Tomato, Carrot
Sticks, Fresh Fruit

THURSDAY

Breakfast- Ultimate Breakfast Round

Lunch- Ham & Cheese Croissant, Smiley Fries,
Mustard/Ketchup, Fresh Fruit

FRIDAY

Breakfast- Pancake Pup

Lunch- Turkey Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Hummus
w/Tortilla Chips, Slushy

Notes: The meals are only 2 oz of meat, if your child needs a larger portion please send a lunch box meal as well. Summer camp is very active and the campers seem to want additional food items. Menu is subject to change. I will notify via text if that is the case. **We can not provide dietary meal replacements so if your child can not eat the listed meal please send an alternative.**

SNACK & LUNCH

Afternoon snack cart

We know that life can get crazy sometimes and we just don't have time to throw in an afternoon snack. If you would like to purchase a snack off the snack cart send \$1.00 with your child and they can purchase a snack. There are \$.50 and \$1.00 options. We do not allow bills larger than \$5.00 and your child can not buy more than 3 snacks. If you would like to pay at the office we can keep a balance on your camper's account and allow them to charge it off throughout the week. To set this up just ask Mama Shark or head counselors on the first day of the week.

**PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE
A NUT FREE CAMP. PLEASE
DO NOT SEND NUT PRODUCTS
WITH YOUR CAMPER.**





Pool Policies



Information about pool time:

Basics of Swimming: Each group will swim twice per week at the Central Clemson Rec Center. On the campers first swim day, a swim test is administered by the Director, Assistant Director, or Head Counselor along with on duty lifeguard. From this test we will determine who is allowed to swim in deep water. Swim levels are designated by red, yellow, or green wristbands. If swim safety gear is required, please pack in your campers swim bag along with other water gear. If you require a life vest to be worn by your camper you MUST indicate that on your registration form.

A) Wristbands:

- **Red** – small, warm pool ONLY
- **Yellow** – small, warm pool or shallow end of large pool
- **Green** – deep water

Novice Level- **Red** (warm pool only, can opt to require life vest) Unsuccessful in passing yellow or opts out of test. If child's height is below 4ft height they will be required to wear a life vest in red zone.

Beginner Level- **Yellow** (No life jacket required) The Yellow Band is earned when a camper can competently and confidently swim the shallow distance of the pool without stopping to rest or the camper is at least 5 ft in height. If a child is below 5 ft tall and cannot pass the yellow swim test they will be required to be in the red zone.

Advanced Level-**Green** (No life jacket required) The Green Band is earned when a camper can competently and confidently swim the entirety of the pool (deep to shallow) without stopping to rest. Then, without resting, tread water for 30 seconds in deep water while maintaining the face out of the water. If the test is not passed they will be issued a yellow band or red band depending on height.

Camp Rules & Reward System

Camp's 3 Golden Rules

- Be safe
- Be neat
- Be kind

Reward System

We utilize and encourage the practice of praise and positive reinforcement as effective methods of behavior management. We believe that when participants receive positive and understanding interactions, they can develop good self-concept, problem-solving abilities, and self-discipline. **Our first avenue for behavior management is always positive techniques.**

Part 1: Earning Prizebox

Campers can earn tickets throughout the week when campers are showing exceptionally good behavior. Their counselor will write down their name and a ticket will go into the ticket jar in their name. At the end of the week if they have enough tickets, they will get to get prize box before they leave.



Part 2: Earning Group Spirit Points

Each week groups start with zero spirit tickets. As the week continues the groups will have multiple ways of earning spirit tickets as a team. The spirit tickets will go into their group jars to be tallied at the end of the week. Spirit points are earned by campers participating in spirit days, winning round tree competitions, being extra enthusiastic, being a good friend or a good sport, by going above and beyond to be neat and tidy and many other reasons. The group with the most points at the end of the week will earn a special surprise at the end of the week.





Warning & Write up System

***Please discuss the write up system with camper before attending.**

Our first avenue for behavior management is always positive techniques but there are cases when these techniques do not prove effective and require additional steps to resolve behavior infractions.

Please note we understand that children make mistakes and we allow for that in our write up structure. The number one goal of our policy is to keep all children in the program safe. Please review our policies below so you fully understand the system we use for behavior infractions.

1. Initially, participants will be given a quiet reprimand/verbal warning. This warning is undocumented and is often given by the counselor.
2. If behavior persists after verbal warning or if behavior constitutes immediate remediation, a warning write up will be written for the camper. This will be given to parents upon pick-up or via phone or email that day and will describe the event that occurred and the steps taken to resolve the issue. Parent are requested to sign the report as acknowledgment of communication of the issue and should reinforce any behavior modification techniques at home.
3. If behavior persists after warning write up there will be a official write up completed with Behavior Action Plan. The Behavior Action Plan will be implemented to identify specific behaviors and work with the participant and parent/guardian to develop appropriate behavior management solutions. (Write Up 1)
4. If behavior problems continue after implementation of the Behavior Action Plan the student will receive write up 2 which will result in suspension depending on violation (1-3 days).
5. If a behavior problem persists, a 3rd write up will be presented and the participant will be asked to leave the program.
6. For severe offenses, such as but not limited to: fighting/hitting, theft, vandalism, bullying, possession of weapons or drugs, severe verbal threats, sexual misconduct, or any other safety related behavior, the participant may be suspended or dismissed from the program immediately. Any of the above mentioned behaviors may result in immediate suspension or expulsion from program.
7. Participants will not be disciplined in camp for behavior that occurred outside of camp hours, even at parental requests.

Examples of behaviors that constitute a write up:

*Please note that unsafe and overly disruptive behavior is not tolerated and each infraction will be looked at independently and at the discretion of the director.

- Calling of names, bullying
- Swearing
- Stealing
- Hitting, pushing, kicking, tripping, slapping, wrestling, biting, spitting, shoving (any aggressive physical contact)
- Throwing object/ self
- Vandalism
- Walking away from camp staff
- Disrespecting camp staff / defiance of staff instructions
- Crawling under bathroom stalls
- Climbing any structures not authorized by staff
- Sexually suggestive language, foul language, derogatory language



Staff and Training



Why is training so important to Camp Clemson? Because your camper deserves the BEST from their counselors and leadership staff. During our 4 days of training staff explore and learn about behavior management techniques, safety protocols, and policies and procedures for Camp Clemson. In addition staff get to know each other through team building activities so we can provide an environment of positivity and inclusions from the top down.

What safe guards are in place prior to employment?

- Background checks and reference checks performed for all employees.
- Drug tests are conducted for all new hires.
- Counselor are required to attend in person or online training prior to attending camp.

What training do staff undergo?

Part 1: Camp specific training

- Behavior management and redirection techniques.
 - Skillful discipline
 - Stop yelling get the HINT
- ADHD and Autism Spectrum Disorder techniques.
- Child welfare and protection.
 - Duty of Care 1 & 2
 - Safe touch and talk
- Cultural Competency in Youth Programs 1&2.
- Equity and Diversity.
- Bullies and Targets 1 & 2.
 - Helping Awkward Children Fit In
- Active Shooter Training with Clemson PD

Part 2: Adult, Child 1st Aid / CPR/ AED Training

- CPR, 1st Aid, AED training is provided free of cost to our staff.
- Staff are required to obtain this training prior to employment. If their training lapses they are required to be in a group with a trained counselor.



Safety Protocol



What safe guards are we taking this summer to keep camp safe?

Unfortunately in the world today, we need to have honest conversations about safety and security with our camp staff, parents and campers. Please review our policies being implemented this year and discuss with your camper prior to attending camp. If you would like to discuss this further please feel free to reach out to me at anytime.

Site safety

- All doors will remain locked with designated key holders. All visitors must buzz in, state their name and purpose and then are allowed in.
 - Please discuss with your camper NOT to let any people into the school without approval from camp leadership.
- All campers must scan in during entry and pick up and an adult must scan out during pick up. If your child DOES NOT have their ID, they can be manually confirmed in the software to ensure only campers are admitted to campus. If pick up adult does not have appropriate car tag, they will be denied access to camper / campus.
- Due to having a locked campus, staff will be outside to assist with drop off and pick up at the following times:
 - 7:30am-9:00am (morning drop off)
 - 12:15pm-12:30pm (1/2 day pick up)
 - 4:30pm-5:30pm (afternoon pick up)
 - *Any drop off or pick up outside of these times will require you to buzz in, state your name and purpose and be let in by camp staff.
- Counselors are prohibited from propping doors open.
- Counselors will sandwich their groups during rotation changes. 1 counselor will lead and the other will stay with the end of the group to ensure all campers move safely from point A to B.
- Walkies will be used to communicate any suspicious activity. Leadership staff will immediately investigate. We will request non-camp visitors to not use our designated areas during camp times.
 - We use the "If you see something, say something policy."

Camper Activity Modifications

- Violent play at camp will not be encouraged. Play fighting will be stopped and redirected to a more positive activity.
- Laser tag will occur one time per week. If you DO NOT want your child to participate please email Lindsey @ lwatley@cityofclemson.org to have us remove them from this activity. To reduce the violent aspect of this game we require all campers to use laser mode only. Staff will be trained on framing this game as "tag" only and not a "shooting game." We understand if you do not feel your child should participate and will honor this request by allowing your camper to participate in an alternate activity.
- Water gun war will be replaced with water pistons only, please. Pistons can be found at most major big box stores or even the dollar store.