

Resident camp

... is a camping experience for girls to live in the outdoors for three or more days. Girls from different troops and/or groups sign up as individual campers and are placed in units according to their desired session. The girls and their counselors plan activities, taking advantage of the opportunities available to them.

Campers! Start planning now for a summer you will never forget. Resident camp is an experience filled with excitement, delight, laughter, and friendship. Please visit our Web site at www.girlscoutsindiana.org for more information on the various camps.

Who may attend Girl Scout camp?

Camp sessions are open to all girls entering grades 3-12 regardless of race, color, creed, or national origin. All girls who are registered Girl Scout members may attend. Girls who are no longer active in a troop or have never been members may attend camp by paying a one time fee of \$25.* For girls with a chronic illness or disability, a written statement from her physician is required and must indicate the girl can participate in routine activities without harm to herself.

*Includes Girl Scouts of the USA membership fee.

Please fill out the girl registration form in the back of this book along with the camp registration form.

Can my daughter request to go to camp with a buddy?

Resident camping is about camping with friends, both old and new. Girls may request to stay in the same unit with one girl in the same session. Please write the buddy's name in the appropriate space on the application. Requests must be mutual and only one buddy will be honored. Please mail in the two forms at the same time or we might not be able to place both girls in the same session. Because making new friends is also important, only one request per girl, per unit will be honored. Other friends can be placed in the same unit but they will not be in the same tent. Tent assignments are made before campers arrive to assure that the two buddies are placed together. We cannot make buddy requests for three or four campers. Please do not request in a circle.

Can I take my camper out of camp to play sports? Can I pick her up early?

We do appreciate all campers remaining in camp for the entire session. It is disruptive to your daughter and the other campers in her unit if you pick her up midway through her session and bring her back a day later.

How may I contact my camper? May I visit or call her?

Parents and other family members may visit the camps during their designated open house. We do not accept visitors during resident camp as seeing a mom or dad may spark homesickness in many campers. Also, because telephone calls from home tend to increase the likelihood of homesickness, we ask that you refrain from calling camp. We need to keep our phone lines available for business and emergency purposes.

What health precautions are taken? Is a physical exam required?

All campers attending camp this summer must have a medical history form that has been signed by their doctor, which means they need to have been seen by a doctor in the last 24 months. Resident Camp health history form will be included in camper's registration packet. As part of our check-in procedures, all campers must be seen at the infirmary on opening day. We will do a head and foot check and discuss any special needs with each camper. If your daughter is on medication, her counselors will administer her medication as noted on the bottle. Campers are required to turn in all medications, both prescribed and over-the-counter, in the original containers, to the health director on opening day.

What if my daughter has special needs?

At camp, we make every effort to allow all girls to enjoy our camp sessions. If you have concerns about your daughter's ability to participate in our camp, please call us before registering her for camp. For girls with a chronic illness or disability, a written statement from her physician is required and must indicate the girl can participate in routine activities without harm to herself. Routine activities include hiking at least two miles each day, living in a tent with steps, showering and changing clothes by

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herself, and walking up and down sizeable hills possibly in the dark with a buddy. If your daughter cannot do these activities without help, we can suggest other camp opportunities that she might enjoy. Unfortunately, we cannot offer one-on-one helpers for campers.

My daughter is excited about your horse session. How many lessons will she have? What might she learn about horses at camp?

Weather permitting, girls in Yearlings will go riding in the ring two times. They will also have two ground lessons. Campers in Hoofprints will be split into four riding groups. Each day, the groups will rotate through cleaning, tacking, and riding the horses. Each girl will have time to ride each day, not including opening day, closing day, and Sundays. Girls attending Ringmasters, Mini Wrangler, and Wrangler will also have time to ride each day. They will spend some of their time at the barn learning more advanced horse care and do some trail riding. Hoofprints and Yearlings will not leave the riding ring.

How often do campers swim and shower?

Weather permitting, all campers have the opportunity to swim and shower every day of their session with the exception of opening and closing days.

Will my daughter need money at camp?

No, she will not have the opportunity to purchase anything while at camp. Snacks are free every afternoon and she will receive her T-shirt at the end of the session. If, however, your daughter is in a session that will be traveling out of camp, you may send extra money along with her. We ask that your daughter does not bring an excessive amount, as her needs will be taken care of while attending camp. The money you send will be spent on anything she wants.

What if my daughter gets homesick?

Because homesickness is common at camp, especially for first time campers, our staff members are trained to provide a caring, supportive environment for your child. Homesickness usually passes in a day or two. Please do not be alarmed

if the first letter you receive from your daughter reflects her feeling of homesickness. It was probably written at a low time, and by the time you receive it your daughter is having a great time playing with her new friends. Your encouraging attitude both before and during camp will help prevent homesickness. Please remember that campers who overcome homesickness have met a real challenge and can feel a sense of pride in themselves. If a camper's homesickness should persist, the parents/guardians will be notified by the camp director. More information on homesickness will be mailed with confirmations. Campers do not have access to phones and may not bring cell phones.

What if the weather is bad?

While at camp, every counselor is in touch with the camp director who has access to a weather radio. We are aware of any storms headed our way and have procedures in place to protect our campers. Some activities may be affected by weather, and in this case refunds are not issued. Please keep in mind that there is only one phone line that does need to be kept open during inclement weather in case of emergency.

What grade does my daughter need to be in to attend camp sessions at camp?

The grades listed are the grades that your daughters should be going into in the fall. All campers must be entering third grade or higher to attend resident camp this summer.

How can I prepare my camper?

It is important for parents to talk with their camper about what to expect at camp this summer. Be sure to emphasize the good time she will have. The American Camp Association has great resources for parents available at www.campparents.org.

What is camp life like?

All campers are expected to participate in all-camp kapers, including making their bed, maintaining their living area, and rotating responsibilities in the dining hall. Each camper is also responsible for her own personal care and grooming. Campers will sleep either in a unit house with their counselors in a separate room nearby, or in platform tents with the counselors in their own tent in the unit.



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