

# SHP NATURALIST CAMP

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

### HOW DO I REGISTER MY CHILD FOR THE PROGRAM?

Registration can be booked ahead by calling the office. We accept registrations right up to closing the night before. It is advised to pre-register prior to arriving to make sure you get a space. If there is a lot of interest in a program, an afternoon class may be opened from 1pm-4pm to accommodate.

### WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO BRING?

We ask that they are sent with running shoes, a snack and water bottle. They are also welcome to bring a pocket knife, bug off and sun screen. All other program supplies will be provided.

### WHAT IF MY CHILD WANTS TO RETURN TO OUR CAMPSITE?

We ask that they are sent with everything they will need. If they ask to leave to change clothing or pick up more snacks, they risk not being able to find us again as we do move through the park. If you do not want your child to be able to come and go as they need supervision - please tell them AND staff at drop off.

### CAN YOU ACCOMMODATE ANY SPECIAL NEEDS?

If your child requires 1 on 1 attention or struggles with transitions in activities, feel free to stay with them. Please note that we do not have staff available for 1 on 1 support. Our child-adult ratio is 1 adult to 12 youth. Please let staff know of any special care required prior to registration to discuss. Due to the use of tools and knives, unsafe behaviour will result in removal from the program without refund. Please let your children know where you will be during programs incase they need to find you.

### WHAT IF IT RAINS ON MY CHILD'S WORKSHOP DAY?

In cases of light rain our programs will run normally. Often rain days are more fun if prepared and warm enough!! In cases of severe weather, we will have use of the Rec Hall if applicable. If not, we will contact you to return your funds.

### WHY IS THERE AN AGE RESTRICTION?

Our programs are designed for kids ages 7-12. Due to the use of some power tools, knives, and adventures in the woods, we do not allow younger children to join. If you have an older child or sibling that is interested in joining they can be accommodated as long as they are respectful and kind to our younger participants.

### CAN I STAY WITH MY KIDS IF THEY ARE SHY?

Feel free to hang out with your children while they become comfortable. We do encourage drop offs so our participants gain a sense of independence and have a chance to bond with their peers un-influenced by adults. We encourage a team-based approach to our projects and prefer our youth to work with other youth to solve problems throughout the day.

### WHERE WILL MY CHILD BE WHILE IN WORKSHOPS?

Depending on the workshop, our time will be divided between the Rec Hall indoor space, within the trailer park, and in the forest on the Summer House Park property. We will not be leaving Summer House Park grounds other than traveling up the road to our bushcraft area.

### WHAT IS YOUR STANCE ON OUTDOOR RISKY PLAY?

While encouraging safety as our number one goal, we do allow children to take risks and assess their own abilities. Most children if given the option, will opt out of tasks that they feel are out of their scope. If you are not comfortable with thrilling and exciting forms of play that involve some uncertainty of outcome, this program may not be for you. Please note: any activity that could lead to severe injury will be interrupted. We DO encourage safe fire starting, jumping from low height, non-violent horseplay, carving sticks into tools, etc.

Also note: your children will be supervised by a licensed EMCA Paramedic and a first aid kit is on site at all times.

### WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS A MEDICAL CONDITION?

Medical conditions requiring symptom relief medications are no problem - please send your child with the medication they may require and let program staff know at drop off. Due to the nature of the setting, we do not guarantee a nut free facility but can accommodate allergies accordingly.

