

SUMMER PLUS CAMP

A Discovery Experience

At Summer Plus, we want to provide local teenagers an opportunity to have lots of fun in a Christian environment while learning or experiencing something new. The idea of being co-creators with Christ stands behind a lot of what happens at Summer Plus. Throughout each day, volunteers have multiple ways to interact with the youth.

Workshops

Adult volunteers participate in two workshops during the Summer Plus Camp day. The adult volunteer can either lead a workshop or help other adult volunteers who are leading the workshop. We encourage each volunteer to lead at least one workshop and help lead one.

For each workshop on the Commitment Form you indicated you would lead, a workshop outline will be sent for you to use in planning your workshop. If you indicated a workshop for which we do not have an outline, an outline form will be sent to you to fill out and return to us. We will take those outlines and review them for suitable content and planning. The outlines help us help you have the best experience with the teenagers. You will be contacted periodically throughout your workshop planning, to help you plan the best workshop possible.

Workshop leaders and helpers are asked to bring materials for their workshops or try to get financial contributions to help cover the cost of the workshop materials.

A summer staff person will call you the week prior to your arrival at camp to help with any last minute plans and details. This will also be a time to tell the staff person your facility needs, as well as ask any questions.

The Friday Celebration is a time for the hard work done by the teenagers throughout the week in their various workshops to be recognized and praised. During the Celebration, teens present their work by exhibiting it, demonstrating it, or performing it. This is an exciting time for the teens and volunteers to be affirmed for all that has been accomplished throughout the week. It is very important for volunteers to realize that *each workshop needs to produce something to be exhibited, performed or demonstrated at the Celebration*. Adult volunteers are asked to provide needed leadership throughout the week and work toward a Celebration where all the teenagers can participate and are a part of the festivities. The Celebration serves as a super way to put closure to the Summer Plus Week while bringing the community together to celebrate the journey!

Club Time

This is a time for teens and volunteers to experience the "Thought for the Day" in a large group setting led by the summer staff. There may be opportunity for adult volunteers to present the Thought for the Day by means of games, activities, songs, or skits that illustrate the thought. This is a good time for volunteers to get to know all of the teens in the community and share with them about God. Club Time lasts for 30 minutes, is planned, and led by the summer staff.

Each Club Time is made up of 3 elements:

Discovery Theme: the point of Club Time (the Thought for the Day)

Scripture: the text used to Biblically illustrate the point

Activity: a game, skit, or activity that illustrates the Discovery Theme

Discovery Time

This is a small group experience where teens and adults learn more about themselves and others around them. Adults will lead teens through a series of Discovery Times that focus on topics such as self-discovery, environment discovery, people discovery, and team discovery. These activities are planned by Mountain T.O.P. as part of the standard Summer Plus Program. The adult volunteers lead the actual Discovery Time.

Discovery Time lasts 30 minutes each day. Here are some examples of Discovery Time Topics:

Discovering more about oneself and learn about the importance of self awareness

Discovering more about how other people and environments can influence one's thinking in a positive or negative way

Discovering more about teamwork and how to accomplish common goals within the team

Adult volunteers will be given the Discovery Time Plans during the Sunday Night Orientation. All plans will include what to do, how to present the concepts, and the materials to use. The staff supply the materials needed for Discovery Time.

Opening, Lunch, and Closing

Opening, Closing and Lunch are other times in the schedule where adult volunteer leadership is needed. *Opening*, although short, is the time that can set a positive mood and tone for the rest of the camp day. Opening consists of three things – the welcome, announcements and one song or activity. The staff will furnish the leader of the Opening with the announcements for the day. Volunteers should bring songs and activities to be used during the Opening. On Sunday night, the MPT will decide who will lead each Opening and what activity/song will be done.

Lunch can sometimes seem chaotic because the teenagers need to release energy and speak with each other (sometimes loudly!) in an unstructured environment. This is a wonderful time for adults and teens to get to know each other and let down and have fun! Adult leadership is needed to facilitate the lunch process, to include making sure everyone receives something to eat, and keeping the lunch experience within the time allotted, including cleanup.

Closing is the end to the Summer Plus Camp day and is a short time for giving announcements and handing out items the teenagers need to take home with them. The summer staff will provide the facilitator of closing with any materials and announcements that need to be given.

Typical Summer Plus Schedule

Monday -Thursday

8:15 -8:30 MPT meeting

8:30 - 10:00 Vehicles leave to pick up children

10:00 - 10:30 Opening Circle

10:30 - 12:00 – Workshop #1

12:00 - 12:05 Bathroom

12:05 - 12:35 Lunch

12:35 - 12:55 Club time (Led by staff)

1:00 - 2:20 Workshop 2

2:25 - 2:55 Discovery Time (Small groups that are led by volunteers)

2:55 - 3:00 Closing

3:00 - Clean up and take children home

Friday

9:30 - 9:45 am

Opening Circle

10:00 - 11:15

Workshop #1 gets ready for Celebration

11:30 - 12:40 pm

Workshop #2 gets ready for Celebration

12:45 - 1:30

Lunch

2:00

The Summer Plus Celebration

Two final notes: Summer Plus volunteers can wear shorts at camp, although we do ask you to wear the longer walking shorts. Please know that you may be traveling into the county to pick up children, and take them home. You may be asked to provide transportation for Summer Plus teens.