

Zephyr Kids Camp

2017 Sponsor Guide

Congratulations! As a camp sponsor, you have the privilege of leading a group of kids in a week that will be the most challenging, tiring, rewarding, and fun week of your summer and possibly, of your life! Sometimes you may feel like you want to laugh, cry, and sleep all at the same time. In this packet, you'll find tips to help you enjoy your week at camp! It will be a blast!

Before Camp Preparations:

- Follow all Camp Zephyr instructions for registration, background checks, etc.
- We will be using the **Remind101 app** to communicate with leaders before, during & after camp. Please sign up to receive text alerts by both email and text message so you are sure to keep up with the latest information. Sign up for your particular session with the information below!
 - Kids Camp 1:
 - <https://www.remind.com/join/zkids1>
 - Or text @zkids1 to 81010
 - Kids Camp 2:
 - <https://www.remind.com/join/zkids2>
 - Or text @zkids2 to 81010
 - Kids Camp 3:
 - <https://www.remind.com/join/zkids3>
 - Or text @zkids3 to 81010
- Registration opens at 2:00 p.m. on the first day of camp and not before. If you are sharing a cabin with another group, please do not leave empty bunks between your campers. This allows other churches arriving later to also have the same opportunity to bunk together in the cabin as well.
- Obtain several rolls of paper towels for dorm room hand washing area and bring them with you to camp (paper towels are not provided in cabins)
- Make sure to bring drinking coolers/jugs specifically for your group. Placing them at your cabin insures your group has water conveniently available at all times. It is your responsibility to fill your own drinking coolers.
- Optional – purchase team spirit items for kids to add to the team color spirit fun

General tips:

- **Drink water!** Stay hydrated! Encourage your kids to do the same! There are hydration stations around camp for all campers.
- **Wear sunscreen!** Even if the weather is cloudy, wear sunscreen. Encourage your kids to do the same.
- **Eat meals.** Stay fueled up! Encourage your kids to do the same!
- **Park your cars!** Kids don't pay attention to cars when crossing the roads at camp.
- **Plan restroom breaks before or after worship times.** Please do not take any breaks during worship times. Entering/Exiting the Tabernacle can be a distraction for others.
- **Make group movement easy!** For example, for afternoon rotations, take everything that is needed for all sections, rather than returning to the cabin between each session. Think of blocks of time together before your group travels anywhere throughout the camp. Are your kids dressed for swimming, do you have supplies, money, bibles, etc?
- **Children may not be left alone at camp.** Kids may not be left alone in cabins, or elsewhere without sponsor supervision.
- **Have fun!** Get to know your kids! Talk with them during hang time, meal times, and walking between activities. You never know, a simple question like, "How's it going?" may be the one that ends up with them asking, "What does it mean to follow Jesus?"

Team Colors:

- Your entire church group will be given a designated team color.
- Rotation schedules are based on this color, including mealtimes and Tabernacle seating
- Typically each color group will be made up of multiple churches.
- Seating locations for color groups rotate daily during Tabernacle time. Please rotate your kids within the color section allowing church groups to sit in the front, middle, back, etc.
- Team colors will be emailed to the church leaders before camp.
- Many church groups like to add to the team color spirit by bringing bandanas, glow sticks, wrist bands, and other team spirit items for the kids.
- Keep team spirit positive (not too competitive)

Sponsor Meeting:

- Each morning at 7:30am, we meet for a sponsor meeting for 15 minutes in the Dining Hall.
- One sponsor from each church must attend, however, children should not be left in the cabin or elsewhere without sponsor supervision.
- In the sponsor meeting, we will let you know any pertinent information for the day as well as answer questions that you may have.

Nurses Station:

- The Nurses Station is located next to the Camp Store and across the breezeway from the Dining Hall.
- All medicine must be turned into the nurse at registration and administered by the nurse.
- An adult must accompany all kids to the nurse.
- The Nurses Station closes at Light's Out (time is on your schedule), so have any kids who need to take medicine before bed do so 30 minutes before Light's Out.
- The Nurse is On Call 24/7, so in the case of an emergency, knock hard on the door.

Elevate:

- On your schedule, you'll see In Dorms/Elevate each night except the last. On the last night, everyone will be in dorms at 10:15pm.
- **What is Elevate?** It's a time for the oldest kids to relax, have fun, and learn about transitioning into Youth/Student Ministry.
- **Who can go to Elevate?** Those kids who will be moving up into the Youth/Student Ministry at the end of the summer. At least one sponsor must accompany them! Do not send your kids alone!
- **When will Elevate kids return?** We will dismiss them at 10:50pm, so they should be able to be in the dorms and in bed by lights out at 11pm.
- **Where is Elevate?** Look on the TV screens in the Dining Hall and listen for announcements in the Tabernacle as to where Elevate is located. It changes each night.

Campfire Worship:

- On the last night of your schedule, you will notice that after Church Group Time, there is Campfire Worship before the Block Party. We have campfire worship as a transition from Church Group to block party. Typically, the last night of camp the kids are emotionally (and physically!) exhausted from all they have learned and done at camp. The message that they hear in Evening Worship tends to speak to them greatly on this last night and they need extra time to transition from serious church group time to wild and crazy Block Party time.
- If you are having a great conversation during your church group time, **you do not have to come to campfire worship.** Use the time to minister to your kids! If the time for Campfire Worship has ended and you are still having conversations with your kids, feel free to finish them; you do not have to be on time for Block Party.

- If you are late for Campfire Worship, just join in quietly as to not disturb the mood.

Waterfront Party:

- The waterfront party is just that: a party at the waterfront!
- Wear clothes that can get wet/muddy!
- To get to the waterfront, follow the trail/signs that say Waterfront.
- **What's at the waterfront party?** Kayaks, music, yard games, paintball slingshots, archery, snow cones and more! It's awesome fun!

Block Party:

- On the last night of camp, we will have a good, old-fashioned block party!
- We will have music, yard games, snacks, and one of the best firework shows you have ever seen (weather permitting!).
- When the block party is over, we will have the kids meet their leaders in color groups in designated spots. Therefore, if your kids are enjoying different activities at the Block Party, everyone can regroup before heading back to the cabins!

Inflatables/Gym Rotation:

- Inflatables are located in the Gym, which is behind the Mesquite dorms.

Hang Time Rotation:

- There is so much to do with your kids during hang time.

Snack Shack	Camp Store	Simple crafts in the Dining Hall
Gaga Ball	Tetherball	Volleyball
Basketball	Disc Golf	Talking to your kids
- Feel free to bring other activities/games to play with your students during this time!

Rec (Recreation):

- When you are not at the Waterfront Party, you will go to Rec!
- You will meet your Rec leaders (Zephyr Staffers) on Gator Field.
- Wear clothes that can get wet/muddy, and closed toed shoes.
- Everyone must participate in Rec. It helps if YOU participate with them!

Morning Small Group:

- Each morning you will have approximately 45 minutes for small group discussions. 45 days prior to camp you will be sent small group curriculum.
- Morning small group includes discussion and simple activities that help focus the kids of the topic of the day.
- Location for this small group time (morning and late night) will be assigned at Registration.

Late Night Church Group:

- After evening worship, you will have approximately 30 minutes for your Late Night Church group activities.
- You'll use this time and the provided curriculum to do activities, answer questions kids may have, and to pray.
- You will be given your location for Late Night Church Group at Registration (Morning and Late Night location will be the same).

FOB/Devo:

- FOB stands for Feet on Bunk.
- This is a time right after lunch where kids (and sponsors!) will spend approximately 30 minutes doing a devotion out of the devotional books provided to you.

- This time helps teach the kids the importance of having a devotional/quiet time.
- This can be done together as a group or each person by himself.

Salvation:

At some point, you may have a child that wants to surrender his/her life to Christ! Hallelujah!!! We are here to help! If you are uncomfortable sharing the Gospel, we can connect you with another Children's Pastor that can assist! Here is just one way to communicate Salvation by sharing the ABC's of salvation:

Admit

Admit to God that you are a sinner. All persons need salvation. Each of us has a problem the Bible calls sin. Sin is a refusal to acknowledge God's power over our lives. Everyone who does not live a life of perfect obedience to the Lord is guilty of sin. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Since none of us is perfect, all of us are sinners (Rom. 3:10-18).

The result of sin is spiritual death (Rom. 6:23). Spiritual death means eternal separation from God. By God's perfect standard we are guilty of sin and therefore subject to the punishment for sin, which is separation from God. Admitting that you are a sinner and separated from God is the first step of repentance, which is turning from sin and self and turning toward God.

Believe

Believe in Jesus Christ as God the Son and receive Jesus' gift of forgiveness from sin. God loves each of us. God offers us salvation. Although we have done nothing to deserve His love and salvation, God wants to save us. In the death of Jesus on the cross, God provided salvation for all who would repent of their sins and believe in Jesus. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Confess

Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. After you have received Jesus Christ into your life, share your decision with another person. "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved" (Rom. 10:9-10).

As always, feel free to contact us with questions. We are grateful for you and want to do whatever we can to help you prepare!

NOW YOU'RE READY FOR ZEPHYR KIDS CAMP!