

How to be a Mishawaka Parent cheat sheet



SAVE
FOR
REFERENCE

It's okay to miss them a **little**, but remember the goal is for your child to have their own **adventure**, so **encourage** them to do so!



How to stay in touch

Everyone's absolute favorite at Camp is a good, old-fashioned **hand-written letter sent US Mail**. If you know you will be busy during your camper's stay at Mishawaka, you can pre-write some letters and stagger send them in the US Mail if possible. "Snail Mail" can take a week. So we do recommend to start sending letters early... and stop sending a week before they come home.

Things to say in a letter:

"I can't wait to hear about... (insert camper's favorite activities here)."; "I'm so excited for you to... (make new friends, see old friends, accomplish a new skill)."; "It's so boring (hot, humid, busy with work or chores, etc) at home." "The (sports team) won last night!"

Things to avoid saying in a letter:

Especially if your camper tends to get homesick, avoid saying: how much you miss them, the house feels empty without them, what they may be missing at home (unless it is boring stuff). Save mild bad news when they come home.

Camper Store & Spending Account

Prior to arriving at Camp, a deposit should be made to your camper's store account via your **CampInTouch** account. The money in the spending account can be used by your camper for purchases of clothing, postage, camp swag, and sundry items.

After the session, you will receive either an invoice or a refund... or opportunity to roll to the next summer.

We recommend \$75-100 for a 2-week session. Trips, travel fees and horseback riding options will increase this amount. Talk to your camper about your expectations of their spending.

US Mail & Packages

*Do not send candy, food or drinks.
Your camper will not get to keep these things.*

US Mail (how to address the envelope)

Camper Name
PO Box 368
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Packages (if you are **not** using USPS Mail service)

Camper Name
21525 Mishawaka Rd
Grand Rapids, MN 55777



EMail Options (more details on other page)

From Parent or Guest to Camper

Option 1: From Parent (or Guests added in your CampInTouch account), use CampInTouch to send emails using ~\$1 CampStamps. You may gift your guests some of your CampStamps. Guest examples: grandparents, siblings, and best friends from home.

Option 2: From Parent **ONLY**, use email address "campers@campmishawaka.com", with your camper's name as the subject line.

From Camper to Parent or guests (free)

From Camper to Parent or Guests, set up PRIOR to Camp arrival. Add guests (if you choose) to your CampInTouch account. Print a stack of eLetter blanks at home and send with your Camper. Fold in half and place in a folder to keep them from wrinkling too badly. Send a **dark ink pen** to write with too!

A closer look at CampStamps



Faster than Snail Mail...
and more convenient.

EMAIL

Engage, question, **share** and **show** your interest in what they care about.



Camp Stamps

- Can be used to **send emails** to your camper through your CampInTouch account or the Companion App
- Your emails are printed and distributed each day for your camper to read during rest hour
- Get your emails in by **11:00am CST** to go out that day
- Add guests in your CampInTouch account and share CampStamps with them so they can also email your Camper
- You can add a photo or a game to these emails

Mail & eLetters FROM your Camper


Required writing: Each camper writes a postcard or eLetter home in the first days of their session. Your camper is rewarded with a Pop/Soda for writing a letter home on Sundays.

USPS Mail (the kind with a stamp!)

The camp store sells stationary sets and stamps. Feel free to help your camper out by sending them with pre-addressed envelopes home.

Step By Step - eLetter blanks - FREE!

1. Before Camp session, login to your CampInTouch account, go to "Email"
2. No need to have CampStamps for this service
3. Click on the PRINT NOW for an eLetter stack
4. You can change the To: _____ line to "Mom", "Dad", "Mom & Dad", "Dog's Name", "Sibling's name" (changing the "To" line name, emails will all go to you to distribute)
5. If your camper runs out of eLetter blanks, send an email to Cheryl to request more - cheryl@campmishawaka.com



Sometimes a **Happy Camper** doesn't have time to write home. They are busy having fun or need more rest during rest period. Try not to place your happiness on receiving letters from them.

Step By Step - Buying CampStamps

1. Login to your CampInTouch Account
2. Go to Online Community/Camp Stamps Payment (this service is provided by CampMinder and not by Camp Mishawaka, so the payments go directly to CampMinder)
3. Add a debit or credit card
4. Go to Email or from there to purchase CampStamps
5. CampStamps carry over from season to season
6. You may choose to give CampStamps to Guests

Step By Step - Adding Guests

1. Login to your CampInTouch Account
2. Go to Online Community/Guest Accounts
3. Invite family or friends and choose who they can email
4. You may choose to gift CampStamps to the guest, or they can purchase their own
5. Go to My Account/ Your Account/ CampStamps and click on the Give tab

Step By Step - Sending an Email

1. Login to your CampInTouch Account
2. Go to Online Community/Email
3. You can choose (if more than one camper) which camper to send email to. You may also send the same email to multiple campers.
4. Add puzzles, games, photos

Download the Companion App

Get ready to experience Camp in a whole new way with the Companion mobile app! Connect with Mishawaka to complete forms, access daily photos, use Face Finder to get notice when your camper has a new photo, microposts, and eLetters.

Your login credentials are the same as your CampInTouch account.

