



DEERKILL DAY CAMP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1. To provide opportunities for campers to become more independent while building self-esteem and confidence in their abilities.

- a. Campers age 6 and under will choose their own activity during designated Playground times throughout the camp day.
- b. Campers age 7 and over will select their own elective activity during a daily Club Hour.
- c. Campers age 10 and over will select a 2-week elective activity to specialize in one of a number of athletics and arts programs during our Specialty Hour.
- d. Each camper will participate in low ropes course activities in which they will be encouraged to attempt new challenges.
- e. Staff will focus on positive reinforcement in a non-competitive environment where counselors always pick the teams and activities are intrinsically rewarding.
- f. Each camper will receive a certificate of achievement for progress in those activities in which they have made the most progress.

Goal 2. To encourage each child to learn to thrive in a group environment and larger community.

- a. Each camper will be assigned to a group of children of a similar age but with diverse backgrounds. Within these groups, campers will participate in group decisions including Group Choice periods, group shows or skits, and trip agendas.
- b. Campers will participate in group lunches served family style.
- c. Campers will fulfill certain rotating group responsibilities such as line leaders, lunch clean-up and team leaders.
- d. Campers will travel together in a group to scheduled daily activities.
- e. Campers will participate in teambuilding activities at scheduled Ropes Course activity.

Goal 3. To encourage each child to challenge themselves by attempting new things and gaining new skills.

- a. Each camper will be scheduled to participate in a diverse set of age-appropriate activities not typically found in a school setting, including archery, ceramics, computers, dance, gymnastics, music, nature, photography, ropes course, theater, and woodworking.
- b. Staff will encourage each camper to participate in every planned activity for at least 15 minutes and will creatively motivate and instruct the group through fun and rewarding games.
- c. Campers will be encouraged to value activities because they are intrinsically rewarding and important for their physical, mental and social development.
- d. Each camper will receive personalized age-appropriate swim instruction by certified staff who will measure their individual progress through an assessment at the start and end of the camp session.

Goal 4. To provide each camper with a safe and secure environment and opportunities for fun.

- a. Staff will complete an intensive and thorough orientation which will emphasize the safety of the campers as a first priority and will provide resources for proper safety procedures.
- b. The Camp Nurse will always be on the grounds whenever children are present.
- c. All state and local regulations will be adhered to and staff will be properly trained with appropriate ratios and certifications.