

QUESTIONS TO ASK CAMP DIRECTORS

1. What is **your background and experience**? How long have you owned and run the camp/program?
2. Where do **campers come from**?
3. How do you handle **homesickness**?
4. What do the first couple days of camp look like for a new camper? How do you **orientate new campers** and promote bonding in the bunk/age group?
5. What is the **daily schedule**? How much **activity choice** will my child have?
6. What is the **camper-counselor ratio**? What is the minimum age of the counselors? Where do most of the counselors come from? How are counselors selected and trained?
7. What **percentage of campers return** each year?
8. What are the **accommodations** like? (e.g., tents, cabins, are there bathrooms and showers inside the cabin, electricity, etc.) How many campers and counselors live in each cabin/tent?
9. What are the camps **visiting and communication policy**? How does the camp communicate with parents (do they post pictures daily, have a Facebook account, have a blog or newsletter)? What is the camp's policy about campers receiving packages, phone calls and e-mails?
10. What is the **electronic policy**?
11. Is there a **service** or weekly campfire (religious or value based)?
12. What are the **transportation options** to/from camp? Car, camp bus, plane? What is most popular method?
13. Is there a particular activity or discipline that your **camp specializes or excels in**?
14. How does the **camp interact with other camps**? Are there inter-camp games, socials or brother/sister camp events (how often will girls and boys see each other), tournaments?
15. How will my child experience **outdoor adventure**? How often and where do they go on trips? Are there overnight experiences as well?
16. What makes your **camp unique**? How would you describe the **overall culture, philosophy, and vibe of the camp**?
17. Are there any **special traditions** like Color War or Olympics?
18. Are there **team tryouts**?
19. What are the **meals** like at camp? Are they family-style, buffet, both? Do campers eat with their bunk or switch around within their age group? Do you handle food allergies?
20. Who are your **medical** personnel (e.g. rotating doctor, 24 hour nurses, consistent doctor on call)? What are the onsite health care facilities like? How close is the local doctor's office, hospital, dentist, etc.?