

PARENT'S GUIDE

Camp Kern Outdoor Education Center

We are excited that your child will soon be participating in our outdoor education program. Our goal is to instill a deeper respect for the natural world as well as for other people, while having fun at the same time. Hopefully, this sheet will answer some of your questions. If you have any questions, please feel free to call anytime.

PROGRAM: Your child will be participating in a highly-organized learning experience. We teach about the outdoors by being outdoors. He or she may go on a fossil hunt, meet costumed “pioneers” from the year 1810, walk through our peaceful 200 year old Beech forest, and/or collect and study critters from our ponds.

FACILITIES: Camp Kern is accredited by the American Camping Association, having met high standards of excellence in staff, administration, program, health and safety. The facilities are completely winterized and kept in excellent condition by our maintenance staff.

SUPERVISION: The camp naturalists and chaperones combine for a ratio of about one adult leader to every 6-10 children. The children are actively involved in supervised programs the entire day. Parent Chaperones provide overnight supervision in the cabins.

FOOD: The wholesome meals, served family-style, have earned Camp Kern's kitchen an enviable reputation among camps coast to coast. Designated children act as “hoppers”, setting the tables and keeping platters full. If your child has food allergies the parent must contact the Camp Kern Kitchen Director at 513-932-3756 ext. 1516

MEDICAL: Minor health problems are taken care of by the Camp Kern staff, our teachers, or the volunteer nurse in the camp Health Center. The Bethesda Care Center is located just six miles from camp and is open 24 hours to handle any possible emergencies. Parents are immediately notified of any necessary care.

CLOTHING: It is very important that your child has clothing that will suit whatever weather may occur (see “Packing List”). We will do indoor activities if it is bitterly cold or if there is a thunderstorm, but will venture out in “normal “ amounts of wind, rain, snow or cold. Clothing that is left behind when the group leaves camp will be stored at Camp Kern for one full week.

LOCATION: Camp Kern is located six miles east of Lebanon, Ohio, on State Route 350 (about ten minutes north of King's Island, off I-71). Our phone number is 513-932-3756. Feel free to call during office hours if you have any questions (or anytime if it is an emergency).

IMPORTANT CAMP KERN INFORMATION

1. As a convenience to parents, L.T. Ball's doors will be open at 7:45 am the day of departure to drop off gear and medication. ALL gear is to be taken to the CAFETERIA and put with the correct cabin number sign. ALL SLEEPING GEAR, CLOTHING AND LUGGAGE MUST BE MARKED WITH NAME AND CABIN NUMBER. NOTE: Each Student may bring one suitcase, plus bedding.
2. Students need to be at the School by 8:30 am. Buses will leave **promptly** at 9:15 am
3. ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15th, 7:45-8:30 AM, ALL MEDICINES ARE TO BE BROUGHT TO THE SCHOOL AND GIVEN TO THE TMCS NURSE/PARAMEDIC. MEDICATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ANY EARLIER THAN FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15th, 7:45-8:30 AM. All medicines must be in a plastic baggie, labeled in the original container with the student's name, cabin number, dosage and when it is to be administered. Medication will only be given by the volunteer Nurse/Paramedic.
4. The "PARENT RELEASE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION AT SCHOOL" form MUST BE SIGNED BY A PHYSICIAN FOR ANY PRESCRIPTION OR OVER THE COUNTER MEDICINES. (A Yellow colored form is enclosed in this packet). If you have a form on file at the school, a parent may request a copy of their child's medication form. Please remember that the medicine form on file at school only covers medicine taken during the day, if a child has other medication that needs to be taken, a new form needs to be completed by a physician. Please return this form to the TMCS office.

NO FORM = NO MEDICINE GIVEN, not even a cough drop.

PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PICKING UP MEDICINE, AERSOL MACHINES, ETC. UPON RETURN FROM CAMP

5. **Students will return on February 16th to L.T. Ball School between 5:30-6:00 pm.** A One-Call Now will be placed once the buses are loaded and have left Camp Kern. Remember we send ONE Call, but it may take time for you to receive a call (Be at the school by 5:30 pm) If you plan on picking up your own child from camp, please let us know in writing so we can arrange for the correct number of buses on the return trip.
6. **NO CHILD MAY RIDE HOME WITH ANY ADULT OTHER THAN HIS OR HER OWN PARENT.**

CAMP KERN OUTDOOR EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Friday, February 15, 2019

10:30 approx	Arrive, Unload, Orientation, Cabin Move in Get to know you and team building activities
11:45 am	KP'S report/games
Noon	Lunch
1:00 pm	Adventures in Early Ohio Participants will take on various roles, from late 18 th century Shawnee leaders to early 19 th century American pioneers, as they reenact history. They will meet and have to deal with historical characters such as General Anthony Wayne, a strict school teacher in one room schoolhouse, and an ill-tempered frontiersman. Chaperones will be need to lead student groups and also participate in some of the active games.
4:45 pm	Break – Restroom and Cabin
5:15 pm	KP's report
5:30 pm	Dinner
6:45 pm	Dutch Auction or Clue Other activities
9:00 pm	Snack and Announcements, Camp Kern Staff departs
10:00 pm	Lights Out

Saturday, February 16, 2019

7:15 am	Rise & Sunshine
8:00 am	KP'S Report
8:15 am	Breakfast
9:00 am	Nature Explorations Students hunt for fossils, track animals (and each other), examine a climax forest, catch pond creatures, and thoroughly explore Camp. Through games, hikes, simulations, and hands on collecting, students will encounter the wilder side of the forests, fields, wetlands and ravines of Camp Kern.
11:00 am	Group Games – The GaGa Pit, Human Bowling, Sharks and Minnows
11:45 am	KP's report
12:00 pm	Lunch
12:45 pm	Pack-up and clean cabins – cabin inspection
1:15 pm	The Camp Kern Challenge Students will participate in a variety of person and team challenges spread throughout Camp. An emphasis will be placed on group skills, teambuilding and fun.
3:30 pm	Break – Restroom and farewell announcements
3:45 pm	Bus Loading
4:00 pm	Departure

CAMP KERN OUTDOOR EDUCATION PACKING LIST
(Based on 2 days at camp)
DON'T BE SORRY – PUT YOUR NAME ON EVERYTHING!

1 suitcase or duffel bag (cabin number and name on it)

1 bag of bedding (cabin number and name on it)

ESSENTIAL CLOTHING (in case of rain/snow)

- _____ 1 pair of warm waterproof boots – NO UGGS
- _____ Waterproof raincoat or poncho

OTHER CLOTHING

- _____ 2 pair of jeans/old pants
- _____ 1 pair of sneakers – not recommended for cold weather
- _____ 3 changes of underwear
- _____ 4 pairs of **heavy socks**
- _____ Sweater or sweatshirt
- _____ Pajamas
- _____ Laundry bag or pillowcase (Can be heavy duty plastic bag)
- _____ 1 Shirt (long-sleeved)
- _____ Camp Kern Shirt
- _____ 1 long-sleeved turtleneck or shirt

EXTRA CLOTHING (in case of cold weather)

- _____ Stocking cap/scarf
- _____ 2 pairs of gloves or mittens
- _____ Heavy Coat or several light-weight coats to be worn together
- _____ Long underwear

EQUIPMENT

- _____ Toothbrush and toothpaste
- _____ Twin fitted sheet to put on mattress (even if you bring a sleeping bag)
- _____ Sleeping bag or 1 twin fitted sheet, 1 flat sheet and blanket (cabins are heated)
- _____ Pillow
- _____ 1 washcloth and towel
- _____ Comb or brush
- _____ Deodorant
- _____ Soap and shampoo
- _____ Flashlight

EXTRAS – IF YOU WISH

- _____ Fanny pack/pencils and a notebook
- _____ Water bottle

PLEASE DO NOT BRING: SPRAY INSECT REPELLENT, SNACKS, GUM, FOOD, MONEY, HATCHETS/KNIVES, RADIOS, HEADSETS, OR ELECTRONIC GAMES.

Items left at the school, will be held for one week, after that time we will dispose of the items.

