

## Summer Camps

### What Questions Should Parents Ask When Choosing a Camp?

- How easily can I get my child to and from this camp?
- Does it have programs my child would enjoy?
- Is there an opportunity to learn and grow?
- What are the ages, training, and experiences of the counselors?
- Does the schedule have an appropriate balance between structured activities and down time?
- How does camp staff communicate with parents?
- Ask other parents if the drop-off and pick-up run smoothly.
- Ask the Director how the counselors encourage new friendships.

*~ Adapted from the Washington Post*

### What Questions Should I Ask a Prospective Camp Director?

The answers to these questions are important in placing your child in a camp that meets his or her needs.

- One of the most important questions to ask the Camp Director is the camp's philosophy (what is the purpose of the camp?).
- Is the camp geared towards a particular sport or is it an academic camp?
- Is it a performing arts camp or an all-round camp?
- Is competition looked on as a natural part of life, or does the camp foster a greater sense of cooperation and interdependence through noncompetitive activities?
- What is the camper-to-counselor ratio?
- What are the policies regarding supervision for field trips? For instance, are children required to wear camp T-shirts so they can be easily spotted?
- Do the counselors carry cell phones or two-way radios in the event of an emergency?
- What medical facilities are on the camp grounds?
- How are medical emergencies handled? Are there registered nurses on site?
- Are kids placed in age-appropriate groups? Are the groups same gender or gender-mixed?
- Does lunch have to be brought from home?
- Does the camp provide snacks?
- Is the tuition all-inclusive, covering meals, field trips, snacks and uniforms?
- Is there a refund policy?
- Are family discounts given for registering more than one child?

**Remember: If you don't see something, ask, and then get it in writing!!**

*~ Adapted from [www.summercamps.com](http://www.summercamps.com)*