

5 Reasons Why Your Child Should Attend Summer Camp

By this time of the school year, students, parents, and teachers alike are counting down the days until summer. Kids can't wait to stay up late and not have to worry about school and tests, and parents are ready for a more relaxed evening that doesn't involve homework and strict bedtimes. But what will your kids actually be doing once school ends? Will they still be learning and thinking creatively, or will they be spending most of the summer indoors, playing video games, only interacting with others via some sort of technology? Summer camps have been a staple in the lives of kids and teenagers for years, and there are many benefits to sending your child to camp. Read on to discover just a few reasons why summer camp can be beneficial to your child.

1. Summer Camp Teaches Children to Work as a Group

Attending summer camp teaches children skills that they will use for the rest of their lives. Problem-solving and working with others are just a few of the skills that children learn at summer camp. Summer camps are filled with group activities, and many of these activities are designed to get kids out of their comfort zone and talking to others. Many children gain a great deal of confidence, even during their short stay at camp. By working and interacting with a group of people, children are also exposed to different points of view and learn to think outside the box, putting themselves in someone else's shoes. Working with others, completing challenges, and collaborating with new people in order to problem-solve are skills that will serve your child for the rest of his or her life.

2. Summer Camp Gets Children Away From Social Media

While some integration of technology in today's society is good, children need the opportunity to get outside, take a break from video games or social media, and think creatively. It is important for children to learn to interact with peers in ways other than through social media or a computer screen and headphones. By participating in summer camp activities, your child has the opportunity to interact with "real world" people and situations and will also have the ability to see beyond the screen. Your child will have the opportunity to problem-solve and simply have a conversation with others, removed from technology. By taking a break from technology, they are able to see that there is more to experience than just their immediate world around them.

3. Summer Camp Keeps Your Child's Brain Active

At summer camp, you can bet that your child's day will be filled with activities. Camp activities get your child out of his or her comfort zone and allow them to expand their mind. Whether it's problem solving or simply attempting something new, your child will experience new things and keep their brain active. Challenging activities, new experiences, and a change in scenery all help your child's brain develop and increases their creativity. By staying active and trying new things, boredom is alleviated, even during those long summer months.

4. Summer Camp Allows Children to Make New Friends

Summer camp allows your child to make new friends who have similar interests. During the school year it is easy to get stuck in the same routine of going to school and playing sports or participating in after-school activities with the same people your child is around all day at school. By sending your child to summer camp, he or she has an opportunity to branch out and make friends with someone in a different social circle. If your child attends a camp that is geared towards a specific interest or hobby, your child will have the opportunity to make friends with someone who they already know shares their same interests. Your child will have the opportunity to develop lifelong friendships and create new memories with new people.

5. Summer Camp is a Learning Experience

At camp, your child's day will be filled with activities. Whether it's learning something from interacting with a peer or learning something from a new activity, your child will gain confidence with his or her newfound knowledge. If your child has a certain skill or interest, it's often possible to find a camp that is geared towards his or her hobby. For example, Launch offers a summer camp that introduces children to computer programming concepts. With morning, afternoon, or full-day options, your child will learn about coding and computer programming, all while making new friends and gaining experience in a structured environment.

There are many reasons why your child should attend summer camp. Improving upon life skills, unplugging from social media, keeping the brain active, making new friends, and gaining new learning experiences are just a few of these reasons. In today's fast-paced world, children rarely get the time to enjoy themselves while still learning valuable lessons. Your children will thank you for allowing them to create new memories and develop new skills that will last a lifetime.