



Welcome to
Wild Child Day Camp!

In this brief guide, we've included the important information you need to prepare for camp and ensure your child has an enjoyable Wild Child experience.

What you'll find here and on the following pages:

- The Wild Child Approach
- A word about our participation policies
- Campers' Guidelines for Participation
- Camper Information Forms
- Getting to camp
- What to Bring and Not Bring to Camp
- Arrival and Departure
- A Typical Day
- Attendance Procedures
- Health & Wellness
- A Final Note
- Camp Contact Information



The Wild Child Approach

Wild Camp Day Camp will include a variety of activities including hiking, forest exploration, pond discovery, plant and animal investigations, cooperative games, quiet time and arts and crafts.

Our child-led philosophy means staff will look for the opportunities to build on children's interest as they emerge, capturing their passions and providing intentional, meaningful and fun learning opportunities.

Our campers will be divided into age groups and will spend part their camp day with their camper group and with the larger group.



A word about our participation policies

Our goal is to provide a caring, respectful, supportive and safe environment for campers and staff. Our staff are trained and experienced in providing high quality care for our campers.

If a situation arises in which a camper threatens the safety or well-being of another person or themselves, or diminishes the camp experience for others, we will make every effort to correct the behaviour. Parents/guardians will be notified, and we will attempt to resolve concerns together.

Childreach reserves the right to remove the camper from camp. Should removal be required, no refund will be granted.

Please talk about the Camper Guidelines for Participation with your child.

We want every camper to feel welcome, safe, and included at Wild Child Day Camp, and to have an enjoyable camp experience.



Campers' Guidelines for Participation



As a camper at Wild Child Day Camp, I agree to:

- stay with my group and not move away to an area where I cannot see my counsellor
- show respect to all campers and counsellors, and treat them as well as I would like to be treated
- show respect to the environment and all living things that I interact with, engaging with curiosity, respect, kindness, and care
- communicate with camp staff, my parents, or a trusted adult if I need help with something or if I think someone else might need help
- help co-create guidelines with my group that will ensure we all have a fun and successful week at Wild Child Day Camp

Camper Information Forms



Participant Information forms provide us with contact information, relevant family information, and any medical and support needs your child may have. You can also use these forms to make group requests, if you'd like your child to be with a friend or sibling at camp. We are now using an online Participant Information form with a separate policy form with signed authorizations.

Please note:

- Camper information forms only need to be completed once per summer, unless information changes.
- All Participant Information forms are due by June 1.
- Policy forms are due by your child's first day of camp, and can be submitted by email or in person at camp.
- We may not be able to honour group requests made after the above dates.



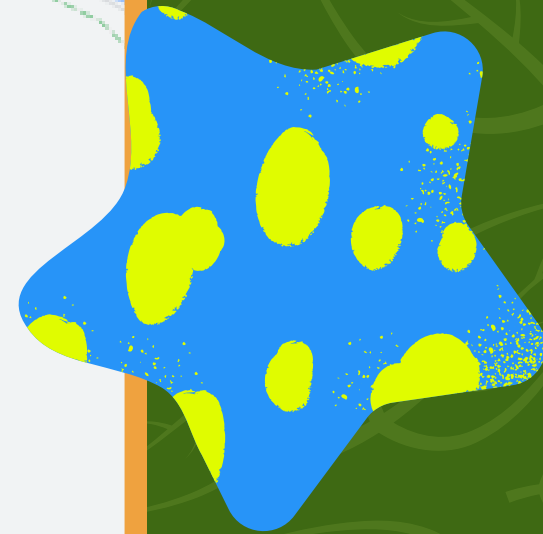
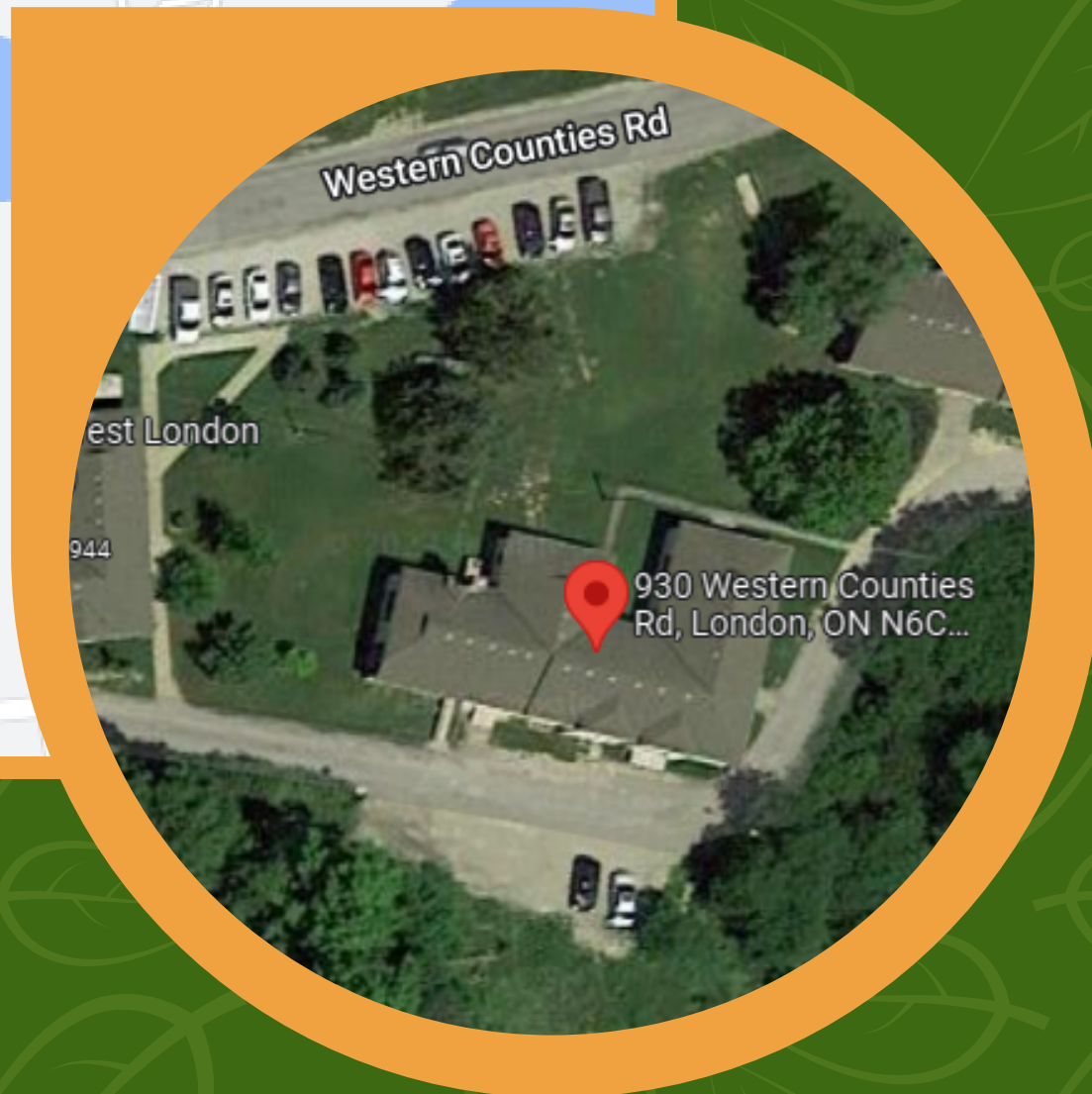
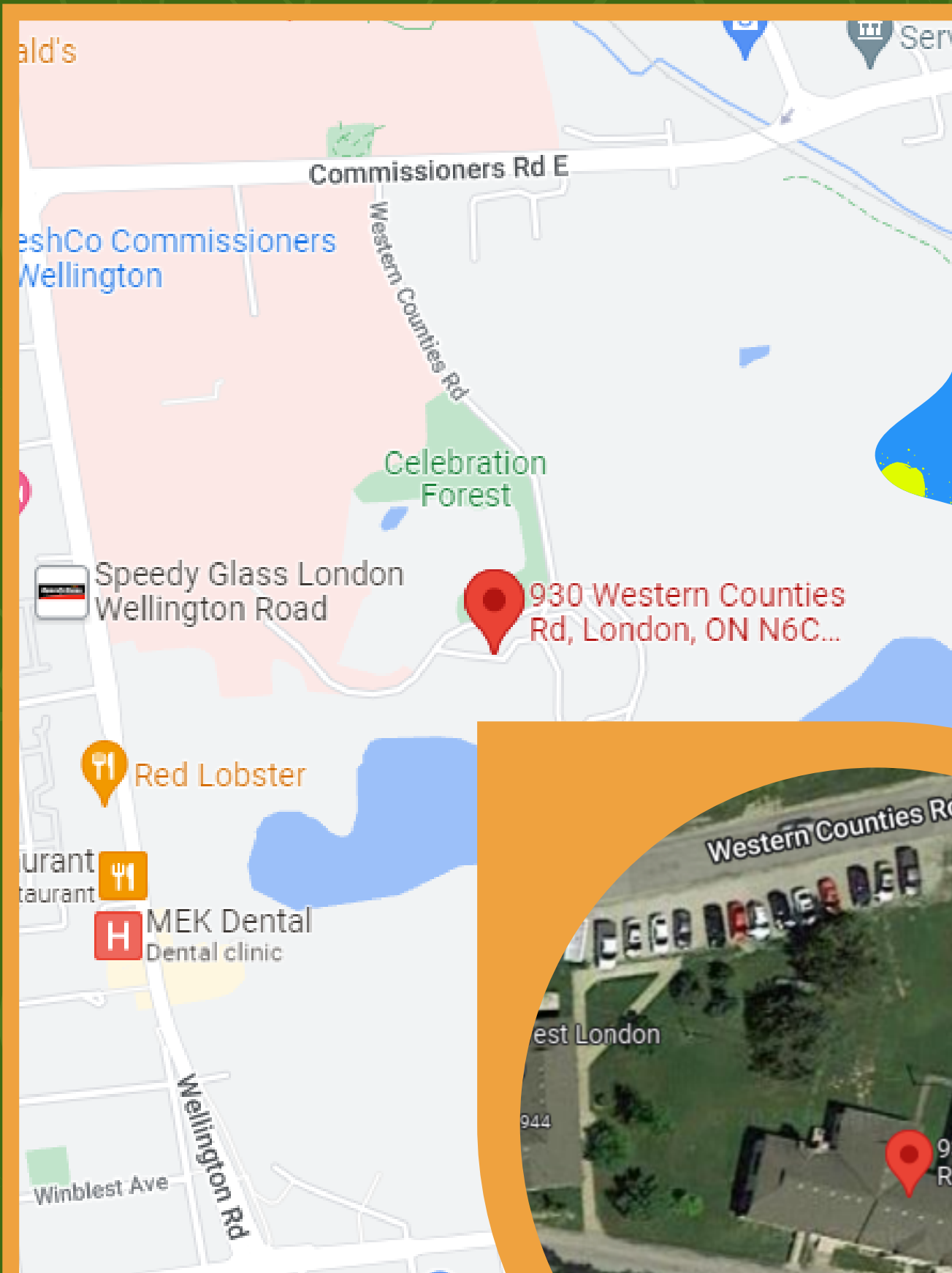
Forms can be found [here](#).

Getting to camp

Wild Child Day Camp is located at 930 Western Counties Rd, with a home base in The Education Centre on the edge of the Westminster Ponds.

To reach The Ed Centre, turn at the main entrance to Parkwood Hospital off Commissioner's Road (801 Commissioners Road E) at the lights. This is Western Counties Road. Go straight up this road instead of turning right toward the hospital.

Go down a small hill and then back up. At the top of the hill, you will come to a "T" intersection and see three pale yellow buildings on your right. Turn right toward these buildings. The Ed Centre is the middle yellow building.



What to Bring to Camp

- Appropriate clothing for the weather **and** a change of clothes
- Rain gear, rain boots, and a sun hat.
- Comfortable closed-toed footwear (running shoes) appropriate for the uneven terrain of the forest. No flip flops or sandals.
- Sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Refillable water bottle.
- * Lunch, snacks and drinks. (Your campers will be active and may be hungrier than usual, so be sure to pack a large, nutritious lunch, 2 snacks and a drink.)
- A towel. Campers **will not** be swimming, but it is possible your child may get wet at a pond, during water play or mud kitchen. Towels can also be spread out for seating during lunch time.



* Please be respectful of campers with severe, life threatening allergies, and keep peanut butter and other nut products at home.

What Not to Bring to Camp

Wild Child is an unplugged environment where children will connect with nature, each other, and themselves. Please leave the following items at home as they can be a distraction; personal toys, trading cards, money, sharp objects and electronics of any kind.*

We will not be responsible for any valuables brought to the camp, and these items can be lost which leads to upset, hurt feelings and blame.



If your child uses an electronic device for communication purposes, we welcome them to bring it to camp. Please chat with our staff.



Arrival and Departure

Morning Drop Off – At The Ed Centre

- Drop off is between 8:30–9:00AM
- Please communicate any important information for the day to staff at drop off (e.g. early pick up, morning upsets, celebrations)
- Attendance sheets must be signed/initialed

Afternoon Pick Up – At The Ed Centre

- Pick up is between 4:00–4:30PM
- Staff are available to provide information about your child's day, we encourage you to check in!
- Only approved contacts can pick up a child
- Attendance sheets must be signed/initialed and **ID must be presented**



A Typical Day

8:30 – 9:15 Arrival & Attendance

9:15 – 9:30 Intentions for the Day

9:30 – 12:00 Morning Adventures

12:00 – 1:00 Lunchtime & Group Activities

1:00 – 1:15 Tidy & Pack Up

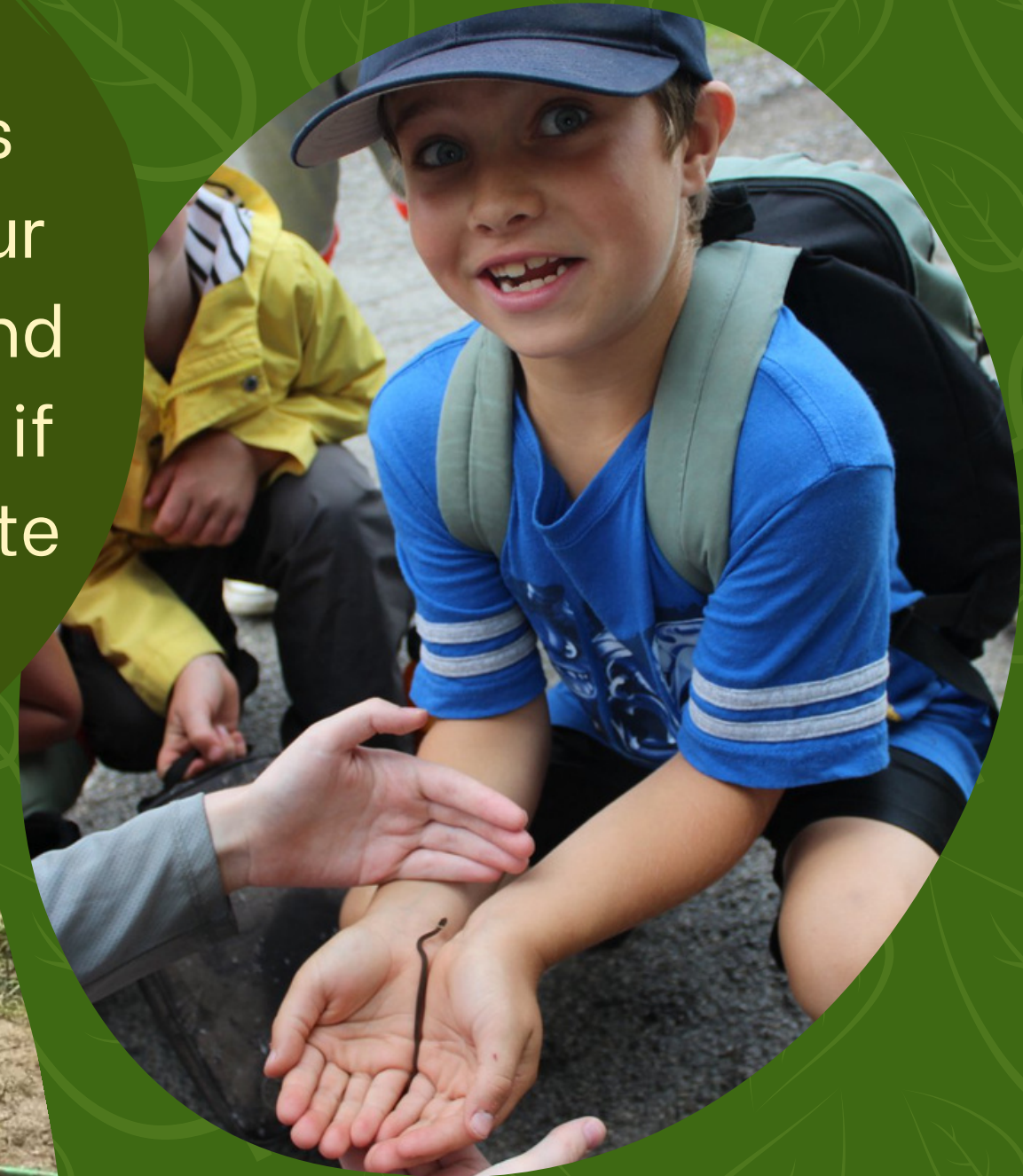
1:15 – 3:45 Afternoon Adventures

3:45 – 4:00 Reflections of the Day

4:00 – 4:30 Camper Pick-Up



Please let us know as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend on a particular day, or if you plan to drop off late or pick up early.



Attendance Procedures

Sign In/Sign Out

To ensure the safe arrival and departure of campers, we require that parents/guardians or authorized designates (over the age of 16) accompany campers to and from camp. Campers must be signed in and out every day. Only those listed as parents, guardians or authorized designates on your child's Camper Information Form are permitted to pick up your child from camp. You must send a signed note if your camper will be picked up by someone other than those listed.

Photo identification must be shown when your camper is being signed out.

Absences

If your child will be away from camp on any particular day(s), please notify us in advance or by phone on the morning of his/her absence (by 9:30AM if possible). You may also call 519-434-3644 to notify Childreach staff that your child will be absent from camp.



Cancellation Policy

All cancellation requests must be submitted by email directly to Childreach at daycamp@childreach.on.ca with subject line "*Withdrawal Request*" followed by your camper's first and last name.

Cancellations received seven days prior to the date booked are subject to a cancellation fee of 20%. No refunds will be issued for cancellations with less than one week's notice. Please note that we are unable to refund Eventbrite fees.



Late Pick Up Policy

We ask that you make every attempt to have an authorized adult pick up your child from camp between 4-4:30PM, but we recognize that exceptional circumstances may occur.

Please contact us if and when you know you are going to be late. A single late pick up will be regarded as an exceptional circumstance and/or an opportunity for education.

Our staff will not leave a child unattended for any reason, and we incur additional supervision fees after camp hours. In the case where repeated late pick ups (after 4:30pm) have occurred, a late payment of \$20 per occurrence will be required.



We ask that you ensure your child feels well, rested, and prepared for camp programming each day. If your child is feeling unwell, please keep them home and let us know.



Health & Wellness

All day camp staff hold a current Standard First Aid and CPR certificate. In the event of a minor incident, staff will provide immediate appropriate care.

The Ed Centre has a quiet area where your child can rest if they feel unwell. If your child becomes ill and unable to participate in camp programming, staff will contact the family to arrange for pick-up from camp.

In the event that your child requires emergency medical attention, we will ensure immediate, staff-accompanied transportation to the nearest hospital. If the situation warrants, we will call an ambulance. We will make every effort to contact you or your designated authorized/emergency contact(s), and will stay with your child until you arrive.

Illness Policy and COVID-19:

If your child is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or your child or family is otherwise required to self-isolate, please do not bring them to camp. If your child is experiencing symptoms of any illness (e.g. cough, sore throat, fever, gastrointestinal symptoms) that could impact the well-being of campers and staff or impact your child's camp experience, we ask that they be kept home until they are well enough to attend.

We encourage precautionary mask use, distancing, and handwashing to prevent the spread of illness in the case of minor symptoms. We encourage your child to bring masks to camp each day if you and they are more comfortable masking, particularly for close contact indoors (e.g. board games, first aid).

Lice Procedure

If lice is detected on any participant at the site, we advise parents/guardians by letter. If your child is found with head lice, they must stay away from camp until they have been treated and are completely nit/lice free.



Our COVID-19 policies may change based on the recommendations of Public Health and MLHU.

Medications at Camp

If you are sending medications to camp with your child, they must be in their original package, clearly labeled with both the child's name and the instructions for use. Staff will collect medication from parents at the beginning of the week along with the completed Medication Consent Form. The medication will be stored securely in a locked box. Medications that require immediate use, such as an asthma inhaler or Epi-pen, will remain with the child or the day camp counsellor.

Severe Allergies

If your child carries an ANA KIT or Epi-pen, please indicate this on the Camper Information Form. We will send you an Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan, so that we understand your child's needs and have an action plan should it be required. Please include a recent photo of your child with the form so that staff can easily identify your child.

A Final Note

Childhood should be fun, and we believe that children who spend time outside playing grow up happier and healthier. Our day camp is committed to child-led adventures, energetic play in the forest and intent investigations in the meadows and the ponds.

At Wild Child Day Camp, our staff are a dedicated group of young adults who are carefully selected for their skills guiding child-led play, knowledge of the natural environment, experience working at day camp and genuine interest in the growth of children. They will seek to inspire curiosity, ignite passions and cultivate creativity as children form deep connection with each other and the natural world.

Counsellors and campers will make friends, get muddy, balance on logs, climb trees, find bugs, dig holes, skin a few knees, get tired, make friends and be happy. If you or your camper have any questions about camp, please do not hesitate to call or email.

Contact Us

Contact us at Childreach at 519-434-3644 to discuss Wild Child Day Camp throughout the year, or to reach the Camp Supervisor during the summer.

Reach us by email at daycamp@childreach.on.ca

