

Uniforms & Belongings:

Campers should come to camp dressed for a full day of activities and games. We recommend play clothes and a pair of gym shoes. Campers can wear a bathing suit to camp under clothing. Flip flops or sandals are NOT recommended for anything but the pool. Your camper will receive a camp shirt. Please be sure that your camper wears their shirt on Field Trip Fridays. This will help us to easily identify your child when we are off city property. **Please be sure to write your child's name on all personal belongings (even socks!).** We accumulate a great deal of lost-and-found that usually goes unclaimed because of there not being a label.

Valuables:

Your child's day at camp promises to be filled with FUNdamentally fun activities. We have a large variety of games and equipment for campers to use and we request that your child leave all items of sentimental or monetary value at home. **We will not be held responsible for lost or stolen items.**



Weekly Schedule:

A typical camp week will include visitors, arts & crafts, swimming Monday through Thursday (only on Friday for Tiny Tracers), field trips on Fridays, games and tons of fun! A post card will be sent home with your camper on Mondays that will have the schedule so that you are prepared and better able to pack your campers bag for them.

X-tra Items to Bring:

Be sure to pack the following items in your camp bag:

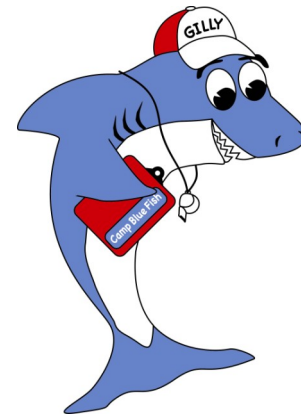
Packed Lunch (for "all day" camp) Gym Shoes Sunscreen Water Bottle Goggles Bug Spray
Bathing Suit* Towel* Anything else that they need! *Only on Fridays for Tiny Trackers.

You!

You, the parents, are very important to us and we want you to be as informed as possible on all aspects of camp. It is our hope that you will find this guide helpful and insightful. Please know that your comments/questions are always welcome!

Zzzzz's:

Rest is a very necessary ingredient for your child if he/she is to participate fully in the day-to-day activities of camp. Activities are spaced out during the day, allowing for periods of rest, low activity, and high activity games. Your child will be asked to participate in ALL activities throughout the day, which can be difficult without a good night's rest!

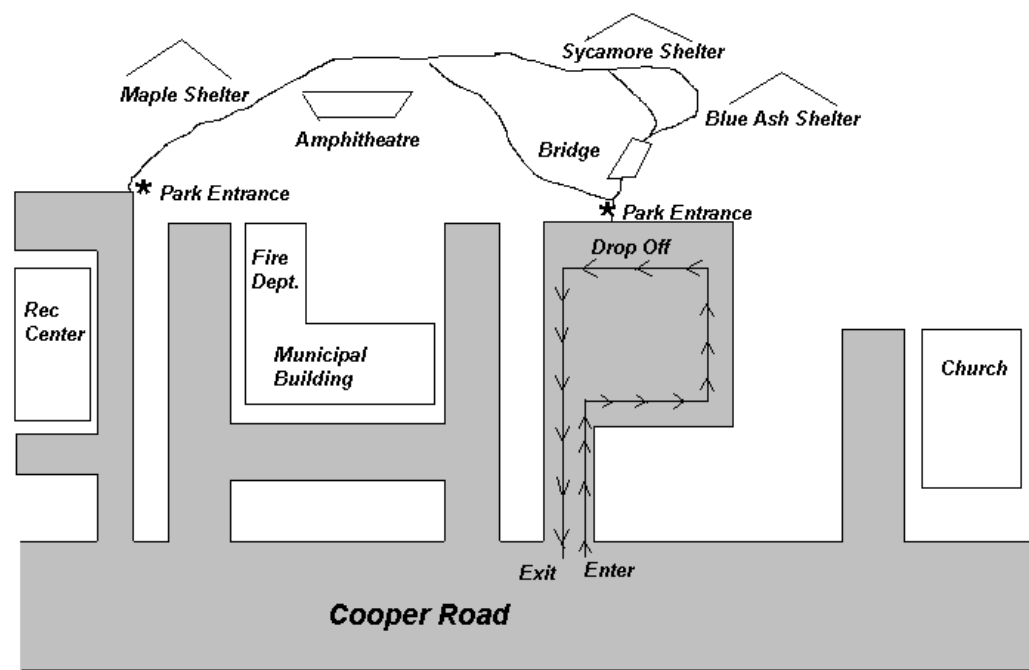


Parent & Camper Guide Book

The ABC's of Blue Ash Summer Camp

Camp Drop Off and Pick Up

We will begin camp promptly at 9AM and end at 3PM. If a counselor is not present if you arrive after 9AM, you **MUST** walk your camper to the Blue Ash Shelter (**DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CHILD UNSCORTED.**)



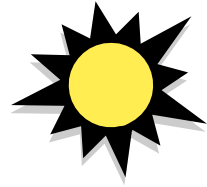
Camp Blue Fish
Blue Ash Recreation Department
4433 Cooper Road
Blue Ash, OH 45242
Reception: (513)745-8550
Camp Office: (513)745-8643



"Life with a recess™"

Arrivals & Departures:

Camp STARTS at 9am and ENDS at 3pm. Drop off and pick up can be made only 15 minutes pre - or post camp. If you have not arrived by 3:15pm, we will take your child to the Recreation Center. At that time, we will call your emergency contacts to come and pick up your child, and you will be charged \$5 every 5 minutes that the child is waiting (due at the time you or your emergency contact arrives). If your camper is being picked up by someone other than yourself, or they are arriving or departing by their own means (walking or biking), we need a permission note from you filled out in advance.



Beating the Heat:

In order to beat the heat, we have several planned “water” breaks throughout the day. These breaks include a time to drink from the water cooler, take a restroom break, and relax in the shade for a short while. Your camper is welcome to bring a water bottle to camp. Beating the heat also includes protection from the summer sun. Please teach your camper how and when to apply sunscreen!

Camp Staff:

Our camp staff is comprised of quality people who undergo a background check prior to hire. We also put our staff through a rigorous training week before camp begins, and maintain the training during our weekly staff meetings.

Discipline:

We want to make the summer day camp program a positive experience for all the children. The staff uses positive methods of guidance to redirect the child toward appropriate play and participation. It is the responsibility of the parent to inform the camp director and/or the program coordinator if their child has any behavioral, mental or physical challenges which may affect his/her daily activities. Parents will be notified of any unacceptable behavior. If it continues, or is a safety concern, the child may be suspended for a specific amount of time.



Emergencies:

Our camp staff is trained in American Red Cross CPR and First Aid and Emergency Action Procedures (EAP's) during their yearly staff training session. The EAP training teaches them how to react to all types of emergencies from Fire Drills, to Tornado Warnings, to everyday cuts and bruises. To stay “fresh”, we practice our drills weekly during our staff meetings. If YOU have an emergency, please contact the Recreation Center at 745-8550 and our staff will be notified to contact you.

Field Trip Fridays:

We may go on field trips to places that your child might already be familiar with (or the field trip may come to us). Your child will get a postcard on the first day of camp that will tell you where we will be going that Friday. Campers should bring a disposable lunch and wear their camp shirt on Field Trip Fridays. Since we will not be swimming, campers do not have to bring their back packs. Transportation will be provided by Sycamore School District buses.

Group Breakdown:

Your child will be in age appropriate groups and will be in the American Camping Association's recommended camper-to-counselor ratio (Ages 4 & 5: 1-to-6 ratio; Ages 6 & 7: 1-to-8 ratio; Ages 8 & 9: 1-to-8 ratio; and Ages 10-14: 1-to-10 ratio).

Holiday Break:

For the week of the Fourth of July, the camp will be off so that you are able to celebrate Independence Day in style! We will resume camp the week following the Fourth.



Illnesses:

If your camper is not feeling well, we will notify you immediately. We will ask you to make the decision on what you would like your child to do from that point. We ask for your discretion on bringing your child to camp if he/she is ill.

Juice & Snacks:

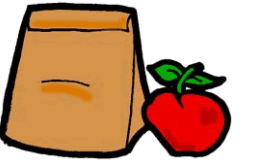
Your Tiny Tracker (ages 4 & 5) camper will receive a drink and a snack during the day to keep their little bodies energized. We generally give them something on the “simple” side (with attention to allergies).

Keepsake:

Your camper will receive a group photo at the end of the week from their counselor as a keepsake to remember camp. There will also be other opportunities during our arts & crafts sessions for your child to bring home keepsakes.

Lunches:

Since we do not have access to refrigeration, please pack your campers' lunch accordingly. On Field Trip Fridays, please pack them a “disposable” lunch. That way they do not have to carry their lunch bag for the remainder of the field trip.



Medicine:

If your child requires medicine during camp, under law, we are not able to administer it to your child (i.e. we can not take a pill out of the bottle and put it in their hand). We are only able to store the meds, remind them to take it, and assist them with opening any packaging. If your child requires medicine, please be sure to ask your counselor about a “Medicine Form” that you must fill out if your camper will need to take medicine during camp.

Nintendo & other electronics:

We want to be sure that your child has the best experience at camp by participating in our activities and making new friends. It's difficult to accomplish this goal if their attention is focused on other things that don't involve camp. Please help us by keeping your child's electronic games and any other distractions at home (iPods, books, toys, CD player, etc.). If your child carries a cell phone, we ask that it is turned off during camp time so as to not distract any of the other campers. If we find a camper that is being distracted by such items, we will be holding onto it for the remainder of the day until the conclusion of camp. Thank you for helping us reach our goal of FUN!

Observations:

Should we observe any unusual behaviors from your camper, we will notify you immediately. We understand that since they will be with us for the majority of the day, you would appreciate any feedback that you would not ordinarily receive.

Participation:

Participation = Fun! The counselors are required to participate with the campers in all activities. We feel that this will enhance the campers' experience and the counselor's too! We will also ask the campers to participate in all activities, unless a note from the parent has been provided that would require them to sit out for a time.

Questions:

If you should have any questions, concerns, suggestions, please do not hesitate to call the camp office (745-8643). We will be more than happy to assist you! Call the camp office at any time, just be sure to leave us a message if we're not there.

Rain Days:

On days of inclement weather our activities may change pending the severity. If there is light drizzle or on-and-off showers, camp will still be held outside under the shelters. If the weather is severe, such as hard rain or thunder/lightening, we will hold camp inside of the Recreation Center. Please keep this in mind during drop-off/pick-up, too! If we are “inside” due to inclement weather, the drop off/pick up will be the Recreation Center. Please feel free to call 745-8550 if you're unsure.



Special Visitor Days:

Every Wednesday is Visitor Day at Camp Blue Fish! We have arranged a wide variety of special visitors to come, educate and entertain the campers on this day. Each week will be different and just as fun!

Tiny Trackers:

A typical camp week will include visitors, field trips to the Blue Ash Police and Fire Department, swimming (**only on Friday**), games, crafts, story time, snack time and tons of fun!! A post card will be sent home with your camper on Monday that will have the schedule so that you are prepared and better able to pack your campers bag for them. Tiny Trackers receive a snack every day.