

HERE ARE THE FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

As the time nears for camp, we know many parents begin having all these unanswered questions pop in their head about their child's upcoming experience, especially if it is their first time at camp. We would like to put your mind at ease about a lot of the questions you might have about camp. If your question is not answered below, please never hesitate to give us a call or email Britney@seekersprings.com.

Who should I contact if I have concerns? Who is in charge of camp?

Curtis Lipscomb | Executive Director Curtis@seekersprings.com

Terry Slawson | Founder/Director of Ministry Development <u>Terry@seekersprings.com</u>

Krislynne Brown | Ministry Coordinator Krislynne@seekersprings.com

Britney Wheat | Office & Outreach Coordinator Britney@seekersprings.com

What if I have a question or concern after office hours?

We are on call 24/7 during overnight camps. You can call the office anytime and leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. You may also email Britney@seekersprings.com anytime.

What if my child gets sick at camp? What if my child has medications that need to be taken at camp?

We have a licensed nurse practitioner on call during all camps. If your child gets sick or is not feeling well, the nurse or camp staff will contact you. All medicines must be turned in to the camp nurse on the first day of camp. She will oversee distribution of medicines to assure correct doses are given at the correct times. The camp nurse will be available at check-in on the first day of camp to discuss any medical needs your child may have while at camp.

What if my child gets homesick?

We understand that the first day or two at camp can be difficult for both the child and the parents, especially if it is your child's first time at camp. Homesickness usually stems from being in a new environment and being unsure of what will happen. This is usually a temporary situation and clears up as soon as your child discovers the excitement of camp activities. The best preparation for homesickness is a positive family attitude about camp, discussion about what to expect, and gentle encouragement that missing home is "ok". Please do not tell your child that if they get homesick, you will come and get them. This invariably sets the child up for failure, if they know this "out" is available to them. This preparation beforehand will usually suffice to give your child the tools needed to make the camp transition a valuable growth experience.

Is it okay if my child brings a cell phone just in case?

We highly recommend that cell phones and all electronic devices stay at home. Cell phones are expensive and can get lost or stolen. The physical camp environment is not friendly to such devices. We agree to let you know if your child is experiencing a challenge in their adjustment to camp and are willing to let them call home if we think it is necessary. You can help by talking with your child before they leave for camp, and telling them that there is always someone they can reach out to, whether it is their counselor, one of our lead staff, or even the camp director. We are all here to help!

What is canteen? And how much money will my child need?

Each day at camp we open our canteen store for campers to purchase drinks and snacks. We have candy, chips, soft drinks, etc. All items are \$2 or less. We try to limit the amount campers can purchase each day to no more than 2 snacks and 1 drink, so we typically recommend \$3-\$5 per day. We do often open canteen store twice a day for overnight camps so overnight campers may want to bring a little more. Canteen money can also be used at our camp store. Campers can purchase Seeker Springs hats, sunglasses, water bottle, etc. Camp store items can also be purchased <u>online</u> and picked up while your child is at camp.

Canteen money is not required! We do have free snacks available for campers without canteen money (usually snack crackers or granola bars).

Canteen money can be added to your child's account at anytime by logging in to your Seeker Springs account on our <u>Parent Portal</u>.

Where does mission's money go?

Missions money goes toward our Mission Camp ministry. Mission Camps are camps we hold throughout the year for children in foster care as well as underpriviledged children in our community. You can learn more about our Mission Camp ministry and how you can be a part on

our website. Parents can choose to prepay mission's money during registration or send money with campers. We also have the option of donating any remaining canteen money at the end of the week to missions. Mission's money is not required!

What type of rules and regulations do you have? How are staff trained to handle discipline situations?

We try to have as few rules as possible at camp, holding fast to the idea that if we accentuate the positive, we'll eliminate the negative. However, the absolute safety of each camper must be assured within an environment that is wholesome and Christian. Our staff are trained to deal with discipline situations. We view discipline as a teaching opportunity that is to be done out of love, not punishment. If a staff member is not able to correct and redirect then our lead staff will step in to assist. If a child's behavior continues to be an issue, parents will be contacted and camper may be asked to leave camp.