

Programming Activities Submissions

Best of the Best Day Camp Workshop – January 8, 2009

Name: Kathy Varassi

Organization/Camp: Crystal Lake Park District

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

- Messages and Trails, Tracking /messages and trails.
- The children can develop the activity into their own creation. Making a trail is a useful outdoor skill.
- You let others know where you are, where you are going, where you have been and you can find your way back.

Why is it unique?

The children can develop the activity into their own creation.

What are the instructions for running it?

- Using natural debris as symbols you can lay a trail. (rocks, twigs, leave...)
- Each group makes up their own tracking symbols such as –turn right-turn left- go straight ahead.
- Take so many steps-no entry-keep going-which path to take-so on and so forth... Lay the trail to find a treasure or a meeting place or make the best time. Lay your symbols on the side of the trail so they are not easily disturbed.
- Stay close to your site in case someone loses the trail.

IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED:

- Large rock with stone on top means
- A square made with twigs means
- Stones, pebbles in a circle means
- Stones or twigs made into a circle or square with/without items in center means
- Twig set on top of two stones means
- Weave a twig into leaf means
- A broken twig means
- Tie a knot in a clump of grass to mean
- Use a Y shaped twig to mean
- A pile of twigs, or stones or leaves means
- Make an arrow with twigs, stones...
- Square with twigs place stones inside. Each stone could mean a step.
- A "X" usually means no entry/don't go this way
- Usually the end of a trail is marked with a circle of stones with one stone in the center.
- ____ means hidden message near by
- ____ means turn around
- ____ means wait here
- MAKE UP YOUR OWN ____

Supplies needed?

Natural debris such as leaves, twigs, branches, rocks (stone/pebbles), grasses...
Use things that have already fallen to the ground. Imagination!!!

Name: Erin Newport
Organization: Northwest Special Recreation Association
Position: Manager of Day Camp
Address: 3000 Central Road
City/State/Zip: Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
Phone: 847-392-2848
Email: enewport@nwsra.org

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

NASCAR Day

Why is it unique?

Each group works together to create their car, decorate and name their car out boxes.

What are the instructions for running it?

The week begins with them getting their boxes, getting their group together and working together throughout the week to race on Friday against other cars.

Supplies needed?

- Cardboard boxes
- Scooters
- Paint
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue/tape

Name: Kari Brummitt

Organization: Crystal Lake Park District/Jr. High Camp

Position: Camp Director

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Obstacle Courses

Why is it unique?

The obstacle course helps build teamwork. It also gets the kids active and is a good “ice breaker”. Good introduction to meeting new people in camp.

What are the instructions for running it?

Set-up:

1. Come up with clues for each station and make them easy enough for the kids to follow.
2. Wrap Hershey bars in construction paper and tape.
3. Fill up water balloons and place in cardboard box and then write clues on plastic spoons. Bury them in the sand, in one general area with 1 spoon for each group.
4. First separate kids into groups (4 or 6 works best). Start with the Willy Wonka game Each kid gets a plastic knife and a fork with a wrapped Hershey bar. When everyone is seated a counselor explains the rules. Each kid takes a turn rolling the dice to try to get doubles. When they get doubles, they try to unwrap and eat the Hershey bar using only the plastic knife and fork. When another person rolls doubles, the other person must stop. The first team that eats their Hershey bars the fastest will get a clue from the counselor. Each team finishing eating the bars gets their clue. After the whole team is done eating.

5. The next station is digging for clues in the sand. Once the group finds their plastic spoon with the next clue on it, it will lead them to the lake. A counselor stays in the water and sits at the red and white buoys. Each child will swim to the counselor 2 times and their teammates get tagged in after they are done. When the whole team is done with their laps, they are told the next clue which sends them to the basketball hoop to make a free throw. Each child has to make a basket from the free throw line can't continue until the whole team is done. They will get there next clue after that, which leads them to the last station, which is a balloon toss. The kids partner up within their own team. The team that has the least amount of breaks is the winner.

Supplies needed?

Water balloons, Hershey bars, scotch tape, construction paper, permanent marker, cardboard box for water balloons and plastic knives, forks and spoons.

Name: Kari Brummitt – 2nd submission

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Carnival Day

Why is it unique?

Promotes interaction between all the different camp groups.

What are the instructions for running it?

Each camp stays at a camp Station and they rotate to each Station.

Each Station offers prizes or candy:

- Station 1: Slip and slide (tarp; garden hose)
- Station 2: Pie –in the- face.
- Station 3: Baggo game
- Station 4. Hoola Hoop contest
- Station 5: Football throw (cardboard piece; box cutter; football). Throw a football into 1 of the 3 shapes that are cut into the cardboard.
- Station 6. Ducks (bow-up-pool, water, and rubber ducks with a star on some of them). Each child picks a duck to see if they picked the duck with the star.
- Station 7. Basketball throw, try to make 2 baskets.
- Station 8: Bozo Buckets – set up buckets and the kids try to throw 1 ball into each bucket.

Supplies Needed?

Mixed candy, assorted prizes, cardboard piece, box cutter, blow-up-pool, rubber ducks, permanent marker, whipped cream, paper plates, tarp, garden hose, basketball, baggo set, poster board, hoola hoops, football, buckets, small balls (whipped cream; paper plates.)

Each camper gets to put whipped cream on a paper plate to gently smoosh it in their Counselors face.

Name: Darlene Butcher

Organization/Camp: Crystal Lake Park District

Position: Camp Director

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Mini boat regatta.

Why is it unique?

Each child uses their imagination and creativity to make a boat out of a piece of foil.

What are the instructions for running it?

Each child gets the same size piece of foil. They get about 15 minutes to make their boat, then you get a container with water in it and float the boat in the water while you drop mancala beads in the boat to see whose boat holds the most beads.

Supplies needed?

Foil, mancala beads, water, container

Name: Darlene Butcher – 2nd Submission

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Home made bowling game

Why is it unique?

We used recycled products we already had, and a ball that we already had.

What are the instructions for running it?

Set up the pins like normal bowling and each child gets two turns, until 10 frames are done.

Supplies needed?

10 – liter bottles , water food coloring . PINS – Fill each bottle with water and color water w/food coloring.

1 ball

Name: Katie Magno

Organization: Clarendon Hills Park District

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Halloween Bash

Why is it unique?

A good reason to wear costumes more than one time.

What are the instructions for running it?

- Campers come to camp in their favorite costume.
- We had a costume parade that all campers take part in.
- Each group handed out awards for each costume.
- Halloween crafts – we made pumpkins, ghosts.

Supplies needed?

- Awards for the costumes – enough for each group.
 - Whatever Halloween related craft you choose or make.
-

Name: Katie Magno – 2nd Submission

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Teddy Bear Picnic

Why is it unique?

Different take on the Teddy Bear Picnic

What are the instructions for running it?

- Staff bring a story and blanket for the group
- Head out to find a spot in the park to read the story
- While reading the story, campers are given Teddy Grahams to eat.
- After story, kids get to color-their-own Teddy Bear.
- Kids bring in a favorite animal from home and can tell others why this animal is their favorite.

Supplies needed?

- Fabric Markers
- Color your Teddy Bear (discount school supplies has the cheapest I have found.)

Name: Katie Magno – 3rd Submission

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Karen's Nature tales (630) 941-3317

Why is it unique?

Hands on look at different nature themes.

What are the instructions for running it?

- Choose from one of her themes that has.
- We have done: animal coverings, fish and insects.
- Karen brings a lot of different hand-on items that the kids can look at and touch.
- We split the campers into small groups, while one group is with Karen the other group does an art project related to the theme we choose.
- Clarendon Hills Park District Summer Campers love when Karen comes.

Supplies needed?

Money to pay Karen.

Name: Katie Magno – 4th Submission

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Winter in July or Snow Day

Why is it unique?

A unique look at winter in the Summer

What are the instructions for running it?

- Fill a baby pool with fake snow, campers can play in the snow.
- Ice cube painting.
- Dress a snowman for winter.
- Kids bring in favorite winter hat.

Supplies needed?

- Fake snow for pool.
- Paint that you can freeze for painting.
- We need a potato masher to make the shape of the snowman. Dress with sunglasses, hula skirts, etc.

Name: Nicole
Organization: Crystal Lake Park District
Position: Extended Time Director
Address: 1 E. Crystal Lake Ave.
City/State/Zip: Crystal Lake , IL 60050
Phone: 815-459-0680

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

During the thanksgiving holiday my extended time site puts on a mock Thanksgiving feast!

Why is it unique?

This is unique because it's a fun activity, however, it shows our group as a whole and how well the children get along and, it's educational.

What are the instructions for running it?

In the days prior to the feast the children pilgrim hats or Native American head bands and vests to portray the people at the first Thanksgiving feast, to wear at our feast.

Supplies needed?

To begin we all sit at one long table (or multiple put together) covered in white paper and all together decorate the paper as our table cloth with crayons and markers . After we pass out plates , napkins and cups.

The counselor then serve the food. Because our feast is a mock Thanksgiving feast, we serve food like mac and cheese, raw veggies, cucumbers, celery, carrots etc. fruit, veggie dip, desserts etc... We bought the food by asking each child to bring \$ to buy the food.

Name: Nicole – 2nd Submission

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

One of our Extended Time favorite events is our Halloween Party.

Why is it unique?

Every year we build out of large pieces of card board a haunted house, which the kids love. We have a mummy wrap contest out of toilet paper, limbo contest and the children show off their costumes . We also have mystery boxes.

What are the instructions for running it?

We begin the party by changing into their costumes. Afterwards we munch on snacks, juice, and Halloween treats . Afterwards the children take turns going through the haunted house or putting their hands into mystery boxes. Which are labeled with things such as brains, eyes, fingers, intestines etc. Which is made out of things like noodles, grapes, carrots, jello.

Afterwards each counselor is assigned a group of children who have four rolls of toilet paper in which to wrap up their counselor. The first team to wrap their counselor with all four rolls wins! Afterwards we play the limbo and freeze dance as parents come into pickup their children.

Supplies needed?

We ask the parents/ children to bring something to share with the rest of the children . I put up a sign up sheet with things like candy, chips desserts and healthy snacks, and drinks and each child signs up to bring w item to share.

Haunted House:

- 4 large sheets of cardboard (ours was provided by maintenance. However, it could use more or less depending on size.
- Fake Spider webs to staple in the tunnels made for haunted house so when the children crawl through they are covered in Spider Webs.
- Black paint to cover cardboard to make haunted house darker..
- Have a staff and older kids participated in hiding /running the haunted house.
- A scary sounds CD to play in the haunted house. It makes the haunted house seem more than it is.
- Our haunted house is never elaborate but the kids ask for it every year.

Mummy Wrap/Limbo

- Rolls of toilet paper, depending on the size of the group.
- Limbo stick (broom stick).

Name: None

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Penny Wars

Why is it unique?

It helps to get the children thinking outside of themselves and working together toward a larger goal. It brings social awareness to the camp.

What are the instructions for running it?

Each camp competes against each other daily to have most points. Pennies and paper money are positive and will add to that group's total amount of points. Any silver change is considered negative and will subtract from the groups total amount of points. Therefore, campers will place the silver into other group's collections and place pennies into their own coin collection.

The group with the highest points at the end of each camp session (every 3 weeks) will get pizza for lunch. At the end of the camp session we donate all of the money collected to a charity. We raised \$1,404 this summer and donated it to Free the Children. They are putting it towards a clean water system in Ghana, Africa. We told the children that this is what we were raising money for at the beginning of the summer and they were really excited about raising money for the cause.

Supplies needed?

- 1 jar per group to collect coins in
- Poster board and markers to write daily totals

Name: Nicole 3rd & 4th Submissions

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

During our winter break we always do an extended time New Years party.

Why is it unique?

It is a time where we can celebrate the new years an extended time group.

What are the instructions for running it?

We make party favors such as cups which we decorate with paint and they use the cups when we do our countdown which is at noon instead of midnight.

We make a punch from 7up and cherry juice for the toast at noon.

Supplies needed?

We make party hats out of paper which we form into a cone and use string to attach them. We collect a small amount of money from each child \$2.00 to order pizza for lunch. We make a huge twister game out of a big piece of cardboard. We play limbo and freeze dance.

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Our parent project for the holidays this year was an ornament made from white clay model magic with a school picture of their child on it.

Why is it unique?

It's a project made by the child for one of their family members whether it be mom, dad, grandma, grandpa, aunt, uncle etc.

What are the instructions for running it?

Roll out model magic and use holiday cookie cutters to cut out the model magic-this is the ornament. Then have each child paint, glitter etc. the ornament.

Then let it dry for 24 hours.

Supplies needed?

Hot glue the child's picture on the ornament and a piece of yarn on the back to hang the ornament. Children can then wrap their gift with tissue paper or

Programming Activities

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Every Wednesday all the campers come together at one location and participate in Special Event Wednesday. There are about 7-8 stations set up for camps to rotate to. One of the stations includes lunch which the park district provides. Each event revolves around the week's theme. There is usually one main event that takes place and the other activities are based on that activity.

Below are some of the event themes/activities we did for 2008:

Theme: All Blown Up

Main Activity – Giant inflatable Velcro Wall and Obstacle Course (rented from Clowning Around). Other activities included fun with bubbles, balloon relays, and blow paint.

Theme: My Community

Main Activity – Camper Car Wash and Penny Wars. Campers raised money for charities of their choice. Other activities included a recycle relay and making bracelets to donate.

Theme: American Bandstand

Main Activity – DJ. Other activities included Limbo and “Hot Sponge”

Theme: Splish Splat

Main Activity – Foam Party (rented from Dance All Night). Other activities included slip in slide with shaving cream and a counselor car wash, where the campers were able to get the counselors messy with pudding and had to get them clean.

Theme: Olympics

Main Activity – Cardboard Boat Races. Other activities included a dunk tank and group games.

Theme: Survivor Skills

Activities included a compass hike, set up the tent, clothespin relay, canteen relay, and smores using marshmallow fluff instead of roasting marshmallows.

Theme: Piecing it Together

Main Activity – Campers made glass Mosaics (Ceramics For You came and did the mosaics). Other activities included team building activities.

Why is it unique?

This is a great way to break up the daily schedules of camp. It gets campers to participate in activities that are fun, messy, and will put a smile on their face.

What are the instructions for running it?

The Site Directors choose which event they want to plan and they come up with the activities and make the schedules for the camps. The Youth Recreation Supervisor books the entertainment for the main event but the camp staff will plan everything else.

Supplies needed?

Supplies are based on activities planned.

Sandra Thompson

From: Bev Woodworth [bwoodworth@worthparkdistrict.org]
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 12:32 PM
To: Sandra Thompson
Subject: daycamp activity

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity? Every Friday is bar-b-que day.

Why is it unique? The groups organize different activities to go along with the bar-b-que. Ex. Picnic in the park, pot luck(either bring dish from home or prepare with group to share. In the past we have let the teen groups along with their counselors handle all the preparations and cooking on these days. The rest of the day is focused on different activities that you would usually do at an outdoor bar-b-que or picnic.

What are the instructions for running it? Prior to that day or first thing in the morning we take orders from the kids. We offer hamburgers, cheeseburgers & hotdogs along with chips and a juice. If we see a good deal on watermelon we also offer that. As a treat we have also had sundaes for dessert.

Supplies needed? Grill (charcoal or gas) Hotdogs, hamburgers, cheese, ketchup & mustard, either individual bags of chips or large bags shared among groups. Juice pouches or boxes. To change it up we offer tacos in a bag with all the trimmings at least once during the summer. After the first bar-b-que we have a better idea how much food we need to purchase for the upcoming weeks

Beverly Woodworth
Worth Park District Youth Supervisor
bwoodworth@worthparkdistrict.org
708-448-7080 ext. 105

Counselor: _____

Lesson Plan

Week of: _____

Session: _____

	Beach: 9:30-10:45	School: Indoor Activities	Outdoor Activities	Supplies
M O N D A Y				
T U E S D A Y				
W E D N E S D A Y				
T H U R S D A Y				
F R I D A Y		Rainy Day Activities!		

Programming Activities - Best of the Best Day Camp Workshop - Jan. 8, 2009

Illinois Park and Recreation Association along with American Camp Association is putting on a Best of The Best Day camp workshop.

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Mud day

Why is it unique?

I don't know if it is, but the kids and parents love it!

What are the instructions for running it?

Get a tarp or slip-n-slide, cover it w/ mud and soapy water and set the kids free to get as dirty as they like.

Supplies needed?

Tarp, Bags of stick-free mud, water, hose, soap

Name:

Anna Soloff

Organization / Camp:

Village of Park Forest / Recreation & Parks Dept

Position:

Program Supervisor

Address:

350 Victory Dr. Park Forest, IL 60466

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

708-748-2005

Email:

asoloff@voph.com

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

Sandra Jones Thompson
Crystal Lake Park District
1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
sthompson@crystallakeparks.org
Phone: (815) 459-0680 ext: 220
Fax: (815) 477-5005

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Pond Netting with a Seine Net

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

* Call us for specifics *

Kids ♥ IT!

Why is it unique? nt. everyone goes pond netting much less w/ a seine net.

What are the instructions for running it? 2 staff demonstrate how to use the seine net safely. Then 1 staff ~~watch~~ watches campers pond net w/ D-net while the other staff + 1 camper* use the seine net. All campers stop to collect specimens from ^{seine} net.

Supplies needed? D-nets, seine net, buckets, macro invertebrates (2/pair) of River/Lake Key Golden Guide pond life book PFDS /ea. camper + staff

teach camper gets a turn

Name: Jenny Sazama or April Vaos

Organization / Camp: Lake City Forest Preserves / Eco-Adventurers camp

Position: Camp directors entering grades 3-4

Address: 2000 N. Milwaukee Ave.

City/State/Zip: Libertyville, IL 60098

Phone: (847) 968-3482 or 3368

Email: JSAZAMA@LCFPD.org
AVAOS@LCFPD.org

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

Sandra Jones Thompson
Crystal Lake Park District
1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
sthompson@crystallakeparks.org
Phone: (815) 459-0680 ext: 220
Fax: (815) 477-5005

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Every Tuesday we do a full camp activity with all age groups voted on by the kids.

Why is it unique?

The kids all participate and learn to help and work with different age groups while doing the same activity.

What are the instructions for running it?

Must be appropriate for all ages, everyone has to be allowed to participate, all staff has to participate.

Supplies needed?

depends on activity

Name:

Amanda Brandenburg

Organization / Camp:

Oak Brook Park District

Position:

Playground Camp Director

Address:

1450 Forest Gate Road

City/State/Zip:

Oak Brook IL 60523

Phone:

630 - 645 - 9534

Email:

amanda.brandenburg@yahoo.com

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Field day - using different themes
• sports • carnival
• olympics • Hawaiian

Why is it unique?

groups other camps together

What are the instructions for running it?

organization based
planned events w/ specific counselors
plan how long + where

Supplies needed?

depends on theme

Name: BEN BREUER

Organization / Camp: Buehler YMCA

Position: Teen Coordinator

Address: 1400 W Northwest Hwy

City/State/Zip: Palatine, IL 60067

Phone: 847-410-5240

Email: bbreuer@ymcachgo.org

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

Sandra Jones Thompson
Crystal Lake Park District
1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
sthompson@crystallakeparks.org
Phone: (815) 459-0680 ext: 220
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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Community Outreach Club
* go to a nursing home or have them come to you - do activities
* raise money for organizations such as PADS
childrens charities or buy and plant a tree

Why is it unique?

Shows children how they can contribute to their community & their world.

What are the instructions for running it?

Plan ahead let children help chose how to raise money and who to donate it too.

Supplies needed?

depends on how you are raising the money
* can have a craft fair
* bake sale

Name: Jenny Gray

Organization / Camp: Bright Horizons

Position: School Age Program Coordinator

Address: 200 Abbott Park

City/State/Zip: Abbott Park IL 60048

Phone: (847) 935-9100 ext-242

Email: schoolagepc@earlydiscoverus.com

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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Crystal Lake Park District
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Crystal Lake, IL 60014
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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

A penny carnival

Why is it unique? Both younger & older children participate in different ways

What are the instructions for running it?

The older children (9-12 yr olds) create and organize carnival games with staff, while the younger children are invited to come play the games.

Supplies needed?

Any carnival games (bozo bucket, hula hoops, balloon toss, etc.)
- pennies to play games
- prizes (either made or purchased)

Name: Tricia & Eileen

Organization / Camp: Norridge Park District

Position: Co-Director

Address: 8151 W. Lawrence

City/State/Zip: Norridge, IL 60706

Phone: (708) 453-2141

Email: tmoskal@norridgepk.com

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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Crystal Lake Park District
1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Camp obstacle course w/ various stations

Why is it unique?

b/c it allows all abilities to be included w/ modifications

What are the instructions for running it?

Station-by-station

Supplies needed?

tires, rope, etc.

Name: Jacqueline Canty

Organization / Camp: Oak Lawn Pk. Dist.

Position: Spec. Rec. Coordinator

Address: 4425 W. 110th St

City/State/Zip: Oak Lawn IL 60453

Phone: 708-857-2200

Email: JCanty@olparks.com

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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Crystal Lake Park District
1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
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www.acail.org

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Gold Rush

Why is it unique?

Fun and different activity
all ages can play

What are the instructions for running it?

on back →

Supplies needed?

rocks, spray paint, dollar store prizes
brown lunch bags

Name:

Jennifer Pawlowski

Organization / Camp:

Park District of Oak Park

Position:

Early Childhood Supervisor

Address:

218 Madison

City/State/Zip:

Oak Park, IL 60302

Phone:

708-725-2106

Email:

jenniferp@oakparkparks.com

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity? End of Summer Dance

Why is it unique?

The counselors all volunteer their time and it takes place in the evening after camp is done. All the kids get to dress up.

What are the instructions for running it?

~~All you~~ Get some music, food, & location & have fun. You can do it in the evening and run it the way you want to.

Supplies needed?

Sound system, music, pizza, pop, plates, cups, napkins

Name: Tonia Zens

Organization / Camp: Bourbonnais Township Park District

Position: Recreation Supervisor

Address: 459 N. Kennedy Drive

City/State/Zip: Bourbonnais IL 60914

Phone: (815) 933-9905 ext. 234

Email: toniaz@btpd.org

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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Programming Activities - Best of the Best Day Camp Workshop - Jan. 8, 2009

Illinois Park and Recreation Association along with American Camp Association is putting on a Best of The Best Day camp workshop.

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Back 50 Day- Pond Exploration
Camp Out overnight (in tents)

~~Talent Show~~

Why is it unique?

→ Borrow equipment from REI, learn about camping techniques;
Sleep over in tents.
→ Explore natural areas, walk through ponds

What are the instructions for running it?

Back 50 Day - Start out talking about ephemeral wetlands for parents
Explore natural ponds on site, learn about how they are formed, what animals can be found, etc...
Camp Out @ Grove - last day culminating activity, use all skills learned

Supplies needed?

→ buckets, insect keys, butterfly field guide, books, nets
→ tents, food (s'mores, hot dogs, etc.), lanterns, etc...

Name: Judy Ksiazek

Organization / Camp: X-Treme X-Plorers - The Grove (Glenview Park District)

Position: Environmental Education Supervisor

Address: 1421 Milwaukee Ave.

City/State/Zip: Glenview, IL 60025

Phone: 224-521-2105

Email: judy.ksiazek@glenviewparks.org

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Campers challenge - We have 7 different camp sites. They each compete w/ each other at one site at different stations.
- 2 Ball - obstacle course
- sponge race - sports relay
- mummy wrap - dance off

Why is it unique?

What are the instructions for running it?

Each camp has campers who participate in each of the stations. The challenge ends with the dance off where the entire camp each performs a 30 sec. routine. Teen Camp organizes each station & keeps score.

Supplies needed?

A challenge winner is announced at the end & a spirit winner too.

Just what is needed for each station.

Name: Ailisa Kapusinski
Organization / Camp: Hoffman Estates Park District
Position: Program Manager
Address: 1085 W. Higgins Rd.
City/State/Zip: Hoffman Estates, IL 601109
Phone: 847-781-3631
Email: akapusinski@heparks.org

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

adaptive kayaking! Field Trip - called Kayak Chicago!

Why is it unique? it's an all day field trip 10am-2pm - parents are welcome to watch! It's not something you do everyday or that a lot of camps can do

What are the instructions for running it?

- Call Kayak Chicago - ask for Dave.
- get permission slips signed prior event
- show up @ Dave brings kayak stuff

Supplies needed?

- water (hot day)
- life jackets - Dave brings
- lunches

- tents or tarps for shade

Name: Kathy Kretch

Organization / Camp: NWGRA - P&VI children & teens

Position: P&VI program specialist

Address: 3000 Central Rd. Suite 205

City/State/Zip: Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Phone: (847) 392-2948 x259

Email: _____

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Sensory Time

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Sensory Time (can be done individually or in pairs)

Why is it unique?

Most of my campers have Autism or Autistic like disorders. This is a way to play games while meeting individual

What are the instructions for running it?

Sensory needs. Each camper sits at a hard surface table. The tarp is spread across the floor under tables & chairs so shaving cream does not get on floor. Put shaving cream

Supplies needed?

Tarp/Painters plastic
Shaving cream
Rolled sleeves

Name:

KATRINA KOSZCZUK

Organization / Camp:

NWSRA

Position:

Camp Coordinator/Program Specialist

Address:

3000 W. Central Rd.

City/State/Zip:

Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Phone: 847-392-2848 ext 258

Email: KKOSZCZUK@nwsra.org

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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directly on table in front of each camper. Each camper draws their favorite food, place, toy. They make a scene in the shaving cream w/ their hands. Partners can draw each others in traits.

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

All Camp Day

Why is it unique?

Its the one day where all camps come together for the day and participate in that day's activities

What are the instructions for running it?

Counselors are picked to run stations, the rest rotate with groups. Camp directors come up with theme and plan the day.

Supplies needed?

Depends on the theme + activities.

Name: Kim

Organization / Camp: Elk Grove Park District

Position: Teen + Camp Coordinator

Address: 1000 Wellington Ave

City/State/Zip: Elk Grove Village IL

Phone: 847-690-1446

Email: kcyper@elkgrovecamps.org

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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Sundae Slide

What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Why is it unique?

They get to be messy w/out getting
in trouble!

What are the instructions for running it?

Kids take turns sliding down slide!

Supplies needed?

Tarp, Veg. Oil, Choc. Syrup, Whip Cream

Name: _____

Organization / Camp: _____

Position: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Elbow tag

Why is it unique?

everyone can play & fits into most spaces. can add/change rules

What are the instructions for running it?

- ① have group get into pairs
- ② pairs link elbows
- ③ chose one pair to be the chaser's chased
- ④ chaser will chase the chased until the chased is tired or wants to give someone else a turn
- ⑤ to introduce a new person to be chased the one being chased links to a pair creating "3"

Supplies needed?

nothing

Name:

Sarah Wright

Organization / Camp:

Champaign Park District

Position:

Teen Day Camp Coord.

Address:

301 N. Randolph

City/State/Zip:

Champaign, IL 61820

Phone:

Email: sarah.wright@cparkdistrict.com

⑥ the person on the outside of the three that was not previously chased is now chased

⑦ the chaser could get tired, so just pick an new one

⑧ you can always make up new rules - like the chased/chaser must walk backwards, or pairs are blindfolded and when they are linked they take off the blindfold, chase

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Restoration Tag or Everybody's It

Why is it unique?

no winner, everyone is constantly involved
it doesn't end - can be a short or as long as you want

What are the instructions for running it?

every child is it trying to tag everyone else. When a child is tagged they sit down & watch their tagger. When their tagger is tagged & has to sit down, the kids tagged by that person get back up. If there is a tie of 2 children tag each other at the same time they play rock, paper, scissors.

Supplies needed?

None!

Name:

Kim Caldwell

Organization / Camp:

McHenry County Conservation District

Position:

Education Program Coordinator

Address:

6316 Harts Rd

City/State/Zip:

Ringwood, IL 60072

Phone:

815-678-2219

Email:

kcaldwell@MCCDistrict.org

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Camper Olympics

Why is it unique? It's full of events that aren't very typical: bubble blowing, pudding pie eating, etc. and are fun or messy

What are the instructions for running it? or more!

Pick 5 events that campers would enjoy. Maybe even let them decide. Countries can be represented w/ colors worn / faces painted. Groups rotate through events.

Supplies needed?

Depends on events picked.

Use your imagination!

Name: Nicole Jacobson

Organization / Camp: Waukegan Park District

Position: Recreation Specialist, Early Childhood Programs

Address: 2000 Belvidere St.

City/State/Zip: Waukegan

Phone: 847-360-4706

Email: njacobson@waukeganparks.org

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Barbecue Day
What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Why is it unique? Each group does a pot luck and prepares it for the campers to share. If they don't want to prepare a dish they have to organize an outdoor activity that is associated with a picnic type atmosphere.
What are the instructions for running it?
Each group prepares individual directions.

Supplies needed? Varies

Name: Bev Woodworth
Organization / Camp: Worth Park District
Position: 11500 S. Beloit
Address: Worth IL 60482
City/State/Zip:
Phone: 708-448-7080 ext 105
Email: bwoodworth@worthparkdistrict.org

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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Mud Olympics - Teen Camp
What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

Why is it unique?

Olympic activities with a twist.

What are the instructions for running it?

Same way relay races are run

Supplies needed?

- mud
- water
- tarps (lots)
- tug of war rope
- clothing
- anything

Name: Carla Smothers

Organization / Camp: Barrington P. D.

Position:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Email:

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~~Lip Sync~~
What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

~~lip sync~~ Lip Sync Show

Why is it unique?

every camp K-'s grade gets involved and performs for campers and parents.

What are the instructions for running it?

each camp chooses a song and creates a dance routine and performs for 2-5 minutes. must have appropriate song and dance routines.

Supplies needed?

sound system, stage area, songs/cds

Name: Sabrina Hinkens
Organization / Camp: Gurnee Park District
Position: Youth Recreation Supervisor
Address: 4374 Old Grand Ave
City/State/Zip: Gurnee, IL 60031
Phone: 847-599-3746
Email: sabrina@gurneeparkdistrict.com

Please complete this form (fill out as many forms as you can), and return it to:

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What is your camp's favorite Special Event or Activity?

End of the week Slide show

Why is it unique? Everyone at camp gets to sit down in our theatre and see pictures that the campers and counselors took through out the week.

What are the instructions for running it?

Each counselor is given a disposable camera at the beginning of the week and on Thursday they should have passed the camera around the campers and it will be developed ready to be seen on Friday

Supplies needed?

Disposable cameras

Name:

Luis Franco

Organization / Camp:

North Berwyn Park District

Position:

Camp Director

Address:

1619 Wesley Ave.

City/State/Zip:

Berwyn, IL, 60402

Phone: (708) 749-4400

Email: LFranco@NBPD4Fun.org

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