

Dear Families - welcome to Summer Day Camp @ Great Moose Adventures 2021!

Even though life looks a bit different these days, we are confident that Great Moose Adventures has created a summer day camp experience that is safe and engaging. While it will be different than any other summer, the focus is still the same - camp is a place for kids to have fun playing, exploring and making new friends.

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, Great Moose Adventures will meet health guidelines designed in consultation with the Ontario Camping Association and the Simcoe/Muskoka District Health Unit and in alignment with provincial health guidelines for day camps. Guidelines include lower ratios and capacity, physical distancing, mandatory health screening and enhanced facility cleaning. Please read the following Parent Handbook for helpful information

1. The Program

With social distancing rules in place, camp life looks different, but still the same. Traditional camp activities such as hiking, swimming & canoeing, games, crafts, music, drama, sports, archery and camp fires will still continue - just with procedures in place which help maintain physical distancing and either avoid the sharing of equipment or involve sanitising resources between uses.

Each week we will use our 'Explode a Story' programming technique to create a theme - where we choose a story and incorporate a wide variety of activities, lessons and games that connect to the story. Using this approach, we will touch on science, math, language, art, engineering, social studies and character development in mind, body & spirit.

Swimming & Canoeing occur at Kawshe River on the following days:

- Seniors on Mondays & Wednesdays
- Middlers on Tuesdays & Thursdays
- Juniors on Fridays

*Lifejackets are mandatory for all campers - we have some available to use, but feel free to bring your own

2. The Space & Groups

- Camp will be divided into Cohorts that will remain together, with the same teachers throughout the week. Each cohort has their own designated classroom, entranceway, washroom, sink and play zone outside. Indoor seats are spaced at minimum 1 metre apart and teachers will be managing their classes and following procedures to maintain distance throughout time indoors
- Groups adhere to the following ratios: Juniors = 2 teachers:12 campers, Middlers & Seniors = 2 teachers: 16 campers
- Groups are based on age, but are flexible pending maturity and parent choice: Juniors (4&5), Middlers (6-8), Seniors (9-12) & LIT (12-15)
- We strive for a 2m personal bubble space at all times, however, it will not be possible 100% of the time. Children are not robots and managing a group of children is not a perfect science. From time to time children will approach others or simply forget these new ways of living together, but our policies, procedures and setup will minimise these occurrences and, along with parental support, also minimise the risk of any possible infections existing in camp to begin with or spreading between teachers and children. When children are not able to maintain 2 m distance, masks will be worn (see below)
- As an outdoor education centre, much of our programming will take place outside, however due to bugs, hot temperatures and rainy/stormy weather, indoor programming will occur

3. Food

- Lunches and snacks will not be offered at camp this summer, so children will have to bring these meals from home. Meals will be eaten at individual desks and no food sharing will be allowed. We will advise the week before if there are any anaphylactic food allergies in your class during your week of camp
- Water - please bring as much water as possible in clearly marked water bottles. We suggest 2 separate bottles, so that you can keep one in a cooler space until the afternoon
- Boomerang Lunches only - we kindly ask that all campers take home everything that they bring, including garbage
- Access to fridges, microwaves, dishware or cutlery will not be available - please bear this in mind when packing daily lunches
- Camp life is super active, so please provide lots of tasty, good food

4. Communication

- An email will be sent out 1 week prior to camp with a few details, including the link for your online health check confirmation, any dietary allergies within your cohort and the weekly book/theme. All other information is found in the Parent Handbook
- Parents will have an opportunity for a quick chat during the morning drop-off & afternoon pick-up, but this time should focus on the daily health assessment (see below)
- If you have any questions or would like to set up a phone meeting with a Director, please send an email to directors@greatmooseadventures or call us at 705-687-3903 to book a time

5. Procedures

Drop-off/Pick-up & Health Screening - [Camp starts at 8:30am and ends at 3:30pm](#)

Prior to dropping off children, families will need to complete a daily health assessment by using the COVID-19 school and childcare screening tool available online [here](#) (please also see the attached PDF). This should then be confirmed prior to coming to camp by completing our online form (we will include the link for this in your information email prior to camp) or confirming this verbally with a staff member at drop off.

Children will have to sanitize their hands at the check in tent prior to entering.

Parents will have to pick up and drop off their child outside and will not be able to come into the building.

For parents with younger campers or children who have not been to Great Moose Adventures (or other camps) before, please prepare them for a happy good-bye, as parents are not allowed to accompany the kids to class. We will have staff available to escort the kids to their classrooms, but if you think this is going to be an issue - please consider whether your kids are ready for camp this summer.

Drop-off, health assessment confirmation and hand sanitisation will take place at the southern front of the camp in our Registration Tent. If there is a family in front of you, please wait in your car or a suitable distance away (minimum 2m - marked with coloured tree stumps).

Pick-up will take place at the northern front of camp by the turn around, where a designated staff member will retrieve your child. Please observe 2m social distancing with other parents and children.

Masks and Protective Equipment

Children from Grade 1 (as of September 1 2021) and up, will be required to wear masks at all times indoors and only outdoors when they can not maintain a social distance of 2m. Children must bring at least 2 clean masks to camp per day. Spare masks will be available at camp but children are expected to bring their own. Teachers will provide instruction as to safe care of masks.

Teachers will wear masks indoors at all times and outdoors if they can not maintain a distance of 2m. If teachers need to come into close proximity with a child, they will wear a mask and face shield/safety goggles.

Handwashing & Hygiene

Regular reminders to wash hands and visual checks by teachers will be made to ensure that all children are maintaining good hygiene. Learning how to cough or sneeze hygienically will also form part of health education.

'Keep it Clean' kits will be available in each classroom, which will allow teachers to maintain good hygiene with their cohorts and sanitize surfaces as they see fit, on top of an enhanced regular whole camp cleaning and sanitation schedule which takes place every 4 hours at a minimum.

Sun Care

Children must wear sunscreen and ball caps throughout the day. Please apply sunscreen at home with your children before camp everyday. We will ask the children to reapply throughout the day. All campers will be encouraged to apply their own sunscreen, so it might be best to look for easy to apply sprays for the body and sticks for the face. In the event that a child needs help to apply the sunscreen, our teachers will wear a mask and a face shield.

Tick Checks

Tick checks will be done upon returning from an outdoor program. If a tick is found embedded in a child, our teachers will safely remove the tick wearing a mask, gloves and a face shield. The tick will be kept on site and can be sent home if needed. We suggest carrying out ticks checks on your child when they get home too.

Illness at Camp

If a camper falls ill while at camp, they will be placed in the first aid tent under the supervision of a staff person and isolated from the rest of their camp group. Caregivers will be contacted to pick up their camper immediately. The caregiver will be asked to take the child to a COVID-19 assessment centre to be tested.

Those who test negative for COVID-19 can return to camp if all three of the following criteria are met:

- They do not have a fever (without taking medication)
- It has been at least 24 hours since symptoms started improving
- They have not been in close contact with a person who currently has COVID-19

Those who test positive for COVID-19 must be excluded from the program for 10 days after the onset of symptoms and clearance has been received from the local public health unit.

Those who choose not to get tested for COVID-19 must begin a self isolation period for a period of 10 days and they may then return to camp if they meet the three criteria listed above.

6. Camper Code of Conduct

- All campers must follow the above described physical distance to the best of their ability, including during indoor classroom time, during outdoor adventures and in regards to other campers personal belongings.
- Any continuous purposeful touching or breaking of procedure is grounds for removal from camp
- Self-screening - if any camper is feeling unwell at camp or at home, they must let an adult know as soon as possible
- Campers are expected to adhere to the GMA Rules of Respect - Respect Nature, Staff, Yourself, Other Campers and GMA Property

7. Camp Gear - what to bring & what can you buy?

Clothing, Gear & Equipment

Please follow the list to the best of your abilities. All items will be stored in the campers personal space and can stay at camp for the whole week. Teachers will encourage campers to look after their belongings, hang-up any wet/damp gear and take home dirty or soiled belongings. Please label everything:

- water bottle (2)
- hat
- sunscreen
- bathing suit & towel
- indoor shoes - flip flops are ok
- shoes with closed toes
- rain jacket & pants
- long sleeved t-shirt & pants
- extra shorts, socks and t-shirt
- extra underwear
- sweater/hoody
- plastic bag for wet clothes
- pencil case with a variety of age appropriate crayons, markers, pens, pencils, erasers, scissors & a glue stick

Here is a list of items that you do not need: cell phones, cameras, video games, junk food or candy, new or good clothing

Here is a list of optional items: books, magazines, notebooks and a small stash of personal toys for your own space

Camp Gear for Sale - available in the Registration Tent. Please talk to a Director or your Teacher:

- Ball Caps = \$20
- T-Shirts = \$20
- Water Bottles = \$20
- Sunglasses = \$10

Payments are available through Cash or E-transfer (directors@greatmooseadventures.com)

8. Payments & Cancellations

- Full payment must be received to confirm your booking - \$275/full week or \$220/short 4 day week (no HST)
- No refunds for cancellation after June 1st
- Before June 1st, refunds will be issued, minus an administration fee of \$50
- If camp is cancelled due to a Government/Ministry of Health mandated closure - full payment will be refunded

Payment Options

- Interac email transfers to directors@greatmooseadventures.com
- Credit Card with a 2.9% administration fee - [click here](#)
- Send a cheque to 'Great Moose Adventures Inc' (1368 Housey's Rapids Road, Gravenhurst, P1P 1R3)

If you have any questions about the information provided in the handbook please don't hesitate to contact us. We look forward to a wonderful summer ahead.

