



**2019  
LOWE'S YMCA**

**SUMMER DAY CAMP  
PARENT  
HANDBOOK**

# WELCOME!

By choosing to send your camper to a YMCA Day Camp, you are choosing more than a summer day care service. YMCA of Greater Charlotte day camps are centered on improving the well-being of children. We at the Lowe's Family YMCA believe in each child's individuality and intentionally focus programs and services on three areas of development: **friendship**, **accomplishment** and **belonging**. We work to create a safe and vibrant environment that allows children to:

- Learn and master skills that nurture their passions, talents and potential
- Bond with new friends and positive staff role models to create lasting memories
- Know they belong so they feel welcome and free to express who they are

We are committed to giving you all the information you need to be prepared and have an awesome camp experience! You'll receive a "Welcome to Camp" email with detailed camp information the Friday before your child's camp begins. Please read through it thoroughly. If you do not receive an email the Friday prior to camp starting, please [email us](#).

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Please help us keep camp on schedule by dropping off and picking up your child on time. Please note that preschool camps and half-day camps do NOT have early drop-off or late pick-up.

#### Drop-off

School age Summer Camp: 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Preschool camp: 9:00 AM

#### Pick-up

Preschool Camp: 1:00 PM

Full day camp: 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

#### Driving Instructions

- Enter the Lowe's YMCA at Joe V Knox Avenue
- Pull by front door and the staff will come out to your car at drop off and come out to your car at pick up to take and bring your children to and from camp
- Exit out of Hope Park entrance onto Morrison Plantation Drive

## CONTACT US

Email us with any questions at [lowesdaycamp@ymcacharlotte.org](mailto:lowesdaycamp@ymcacharlotte.org)

Or contact our director directly:

Danielle Crimi, Family Services Director and Camp Director  
[danielle.crimi@ymcacharlotte.org](mailto:danielle.crimi@ymcacharlotte.org) | [704 716 4043](tel:7047164043)

# WHAT TO BRING / WEAR

Check the weather daily and dress your camper accordingly — the camp day will continue rain or shine! Be sure to label EVERYTHING you send to camp with your camper and check the camp's lost and found at the end of the week before items are donated.

- Children should dress comfortably in clothes that can get dirty
  - Pack a healthy lunch, water bottle and 2 snacks for morning and afternoon
  - Swimsuit and towel with sandals to walk to the pool and back from the changing area
  - Plastic bag for the wet swimsuit and towel
  - Spray sunscreen and bug spray
  - Extra change of clothes
  - Day pack or small book bag to hold all belongings that your child can comfortably carry
  - Campers will be outdoors 90% of the day so be prepared for hot weather days
  - Please dress your kids in cool clothing for hot weather days (light colors, light fabric, hat and visor)
  - We strongly recommend kids wear tennis shoes to protect their feet during camp activities
- Please label everything

# LUNCH INFORMATION

Please pack your child's lunch; however, we are a nut free facility. We aren't able to refrigerate lunches, so please pack them in a small cooler/lunch box with ice packs or frozen water bottles. Label everything! Please pack a water bottle daily with your child's name on it. Also, please pack two snacks.

# CAMP SCHEDULE

While individual camp agendas vary, here's generally what a typical day at camp looks like at the Lowe's Y:

## Full-Day Camp

7:00 AM - 8:45 AM: Drop-off car line and combined group games

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM: Morning snack and morning assembly

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Split into specific camps for activities

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Swim groups on Monday - Friday. If not swimming, campers are in their camp groups doing activities based on their specific camp / afternoon snacks in group

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM: Afternoon assembly, groups all combine

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM: Combined group games and pick-up car line

## Preschool Camp

9:00 AM: Drop-off

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM: Morning snack and morning activities

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Split into specific camps for activities

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch

## **SWIM ASSESSMENT**

Before swimming at camp, all campers are swim tested in the pool under the direct supervision of certified lifeguards and camp staff. Parents can help speed up our swim testing by having your child swim tested before camp begins. Swim tests can be given at any YMCA of Greater Charlotte branch. If you are planning to have your camper take the swim test prior to his or her session, it must be completed by close of business the Wednesday before the session begins. Certified Life Vests are available for any child not able to successfully pass our swim test.

## **SUNSCREEN APPLICATION**

Protecting skin from the sun's damaging rays is important. If you have specific questions about sunscreen application or if you have a child with a sunscreen allergy, please contact your branch camp director.

- Apply sunscreen to your child before arriving at camp — we can assist in reapplying as needed
- Send your preferred sunscreen labeled with your child's name on it

## **PARENT FAQs**

Here are some answers to our most frequently asked questions about day camp at the Lowe's YMCA.

### **Does the Y provide lunch?**

No, you must pack a nut-free lunch, two nut-free snacks and a water bottle daily.

### **Is there swimming at camp?**

Campers will swim on Monday through Friday afternoons, in separate groups between the hours of 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM. Preschool campers DO NOT swim throughout their camp week.

### **Should we put our name on our child's belongings?**

Yes! Please label ALL items you are sending with your child to camp. Check the camp's lost and found at the end of the week before items are donated.

### **Do we update pick up information or other personal information at the front desk?**

Yes, to ensure the safety of all children in our programs, we need your most current information. The quickest and easiest way is to go to your account on the website and update your information online. You can also update your information at the branch.

### **Who is caring for my camper while he/she is at camp?**

Well-trained and energetic staff! Out counselors, camp staff and lifeguards are required to complete 30 hours of pre-camp training including CPR, First Aid, AED and Child Abuse Prevention. We conduct background checks and drug screenings on all camp staff and employees. Our counselors also learn child development best practices as well as techniques to encourage all campers to be inclusive and celebrate our differences.

### **What is your counselor to camper ratio? How many campers is one staff member responsible for?**

For our Pre-School Aged Camps, our ratio is 1:8. For our School Aged Camps, our ratio is 1:10.



Lowe's YMCA  
170 Joe V. Knox Ave,  
Mooreville, NC 28117  
704 716 4000

Morrison Plantation Parkway

Hope Park

Parking Lot

Lowe's YMCA

Plantation Ridge Dr

Joe Knox Ave

**KEY** .....

- ★ Camp Entrance
- Drop-Off from 7:00-9:00 am and Pick-Up from 4:30-6:00 pm

\*Exit through parking lot and Hope Park entrance