

# Sierra Adventure Summer Camp 2019

## Inyo County Office of Education

Dear Campers and Parents,

Welcome to Sierra Adventure Summer Camp! Below are some important things to know before arriving.

### Dates/times:

Boy's Camp: Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

Girl's Camp: Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> - Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>

**Monday drop off is 9:00am (no earlier) and Friday pick up is 1:00pm**

### Facility:

The Sierra Adventure Center (Bernasconi) camp is located on a beautiful 91-acre site leased from LA DWP. There are playing fields, meadows, a stream, hiking paths, and our own Camp Mountain. There are separate dorms, bathrooms, and shower facilities for girls and boys. Because there are no private changing rooms, many children feel more comfortable showering in their bathing suits. We serve three tasty, well-balanced, "kid-friendly" meals a day from our dining hall on site.

### Staff:

The Camp Director is Maggie Riley, Outdoor Education and Science Specialist for the Inyo County Office of Education. The Director will be on site at all times and is the main contact for the camp. The adult instructors are all experienced outdoor educators and some are classroom teachers. They are trained to provide a safe, respectful, and fun camp experience for all children. They are first aid certified and will also be on site at all times during the week. The high school counselors are students who excel in and out of school and who also attend an extensive training. There is at least 1 instructor and 1 high school counselor for every 10 campers.

### Activities:

Students' days will be filled with fun activities and getting to know their instructors and new friends in their trail group. Students explore the surrounding area, learn about local plants and animals, create art, practice archery, collect and identify insects, read maps, and play games. On Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon, children will be bussed to Owens Valley School in Independence to go swimming at their pool with lifeguards on duty. At night we have campfire and songs as well as astronomy. Students help with dining hall, dorm, and camp chores. On Thursday, students will take a bus up to the Glacier Lodge Trailhead and hike either the North Fork or South Fork of Big Pine Creek. Students will pack their lunches and be on the trail all day with their Instructor and Counselor.

### Phone number:

Students are allowed to make calls home only in the event of an emergency or extreme homesickness. If there is a special reason you need to speak with your child during the week, please make arrangements with the Camp Director beforehand. In the event of an emergency, parents may email Maggie at [mriley@inyocoe.org](mailto:mriley@inyocoe.org) or text her at **760-920-6872**, or call the camp office phone at 760-938-2936. Messages will be checked throughout the day and those after 10pm will be checked in the morning.

Homesickness: To help your child have a fun and successful week, tell your child ahead of time that you expect them to stay at camp until Friday and that you are very proud of them for spending a week away from home. Everyone suffers from homesickness at some point and the best way to help it is to focus on the present time at camp, their friends, and how much fun they are having. Parent visits and phone calls remind them of home and often make homesickness worse.

Parent Visitation Policy: Children develop self-reliance and independence at camp which would be reduced by a parent visit, so we discourage parent visits. If there is an extraordinary reason you must visit, please contact the Camp Director. If your child is injured, ill, or very homesick, you will be contacted immediately.

Students who demonstrate responsibility will be using small whittling knives during specific activities under close supervision and with safety instruction based on Boy Scout knife safety rules. Knives will be used for carving tools and making crafts from wood and natural materials.

Directions to Camp:

Sierra Adventure Center at Bernasconi Ranch, 941 Sugar Loaf Rd, Big Pine, CA 93513. In Big Pine, turn west onto Crocker Ave. at the Shell Station. Drive about 1.5 miles up and take a right onto Sugarloaf Rd, just past the green sign for Sierra Adventure Center. Continue straight on the paved Sugarloaf Rd. and park across the street from the big red Dining Hall.

What to bring:

Please contact Maggie if you have trouble providing any of the items.

- Backpack
- 2 reusable water bottles (at least 1 quart each)
- Hat with brim
- Sunscreen
- Sleeping bag & Pillow
- Toothpaste, toothbrush
- Towel & Washcloth
- Soap & Shampoo
- Comb or brush
- Lip balm
- Sturdy shoes for hiking
- Old sneakers, teva sandals, or water shoes for swimming/wading
- Swim suit
- 5 pairs socks
- 5 shirts
- 5 changes of underwear
- 2 sweaters or sweatshirts
- 2 pairs of pants
- 2 pairs of shorts

- Sleepwear
- 1 laundry bag & plastic bags for wet clothing
- Poncho, rain jacket, or 2 large heavy duty trash bags

Optional and convenient:

- Flashlight
- Book to read during FOB time
- Camera
- Hand lotion

**Do NOT bring:**

- Snacks (they will be provided)
- Candy, gum
- Jewelry, perfume, make up, gels, hair dryer, etc.
- Any items with inappropriate words or image that anyone might find offensive
- Electronics such as iPod, **cell phone**, etc.
- Aerosol sprays (hair spray, body spray)
- Any kind of item for pranks
- Expensive clothes, shoes, or items (they will get dirty or lost!)
- Your own knife (we will provide during certain activities)

Sample Daily Schedule:

7:00am	Rise and Shine
7:30	Breakfast set up
7:45	Breakfast
8:30	Cabin cleanup/camp jobs
8:45	All camp meeting
9:00	Morning field activities
12:00pm	Lunch
12:30	Feet on Bunk time (read, nap)
1:00	Prepare for afternoon activities

1:15	Choice Activity 1
3:00	Choice Activity 2
4:30	Trail group meetings
4:45	Recreation/showers
5:45	Dinner set up
6:00	Dinner
7:00	Evening activities, campfire
9:00	Prepare for bed
9:30	Lights out

Thank you and we look forward to a fun week!

Sincerely,

Maggie Riley, Camp Director

(760) 873-3262 x 2131 (before camp), (760) 920-6872 (during camp, text only), (760) 938- 2936 (during camp)