



2021 The Prepared Camper

Getting My Camper Ready



What to Send?

Work with your child so they will know what is packed. We recommend sending older clothing, comfortable shoes, and other items that are replaceable if they get lost or ruined. Talk with your child about how to manage their belongings in a shared living environment. **A recommended packing list can be found at the end of this document.**

All clothing must be modest. Shorts and skirts should be below fingertips with hands at sides. No tight apparel, exposure of underclothing, plunging necklines, sagging and low-riding pants, spaghetti strap tank tops, two piece or immodest one-piece swim suits/trunks. A covering/shirt must be worn to and from the pool. For safety reasons, footwear is required to be worn except at designated times.

What Not to Send? Please see the packing list at the end of this document for a list of what not to bring.

What About Money for Missions?

Most camp sessions will hear daily from our missionary in residence. Campers are encouraged (if possible) to bring cash to give during missions to help support their work.

What About Money for Canteen/ Camp Store?

Most camp sessions have a daily canteen time where they can buy one food and one drink item; the majority of items are \$1 each. Two dollars a day is the recommended amount of money to bring for canteen. Please bring \$1 bills if at all possible. Some camp store items will be available for purchase at the canteen. Please send extra cash if desired for those items.

Family Grouping Information

THE ARK will be operating on the premise of family groups. In some situations, a family group is a small group within a camp session allowed to interact without social distancing measures. Each family group will be required to social distance from other family groups.

- ⇒ For camp sessions that sleep in the Block Cabins/ Cave/Conference Center, those in your housing area are defined as your family group.
- ⇒ For Hut Camp sessions, family groups will be those in the Jungle Huts or in the Thai Huts. Numbers have been limited in accordance with CDC and American Camp Association protocols.

THE ARK will be maintaining a five camper per one faculty ratio to ensure that mitigation protocols can be enforced.

Camper/Faculty Facial Coverings Protocols

We are asking that all campers pack at least 2-3 facial coverings for their stay at camp. Facial coverings are listed by the American Camp Association and CDC as: "Cloth masks,

surgical masks, bandanas, etc." The facial covering should cover the mouth and nose, and wearers should follow the guidelines for how to wear a facial covering.

It is essential that campers/faculty wear masks when indoors, in close contact with THE ARK staff/interns, or when they are using equipment which warrants the use of masks per protocols. Examples of equipment use include the climbing walls, hatchet throwing, archery, etc. The facial covering should cover the mouth and nose, and wearers should follow the guidelines for how to wear a facial covering.

Campers and faculty will not have to wear facial coverings when in their sleeping area within their own family unit.

What to Expect at THE ARK?

Food: We will have assigned eating times and areas that provide for the least amount of contact with others. All meals will be served to the campers on disposable dishes. All meals will be eaten outside unless it is raining. Campers will have assigned facilities to allow for social distancing.

Food Allergies: If your student has a food allergy, it is your responsibility to contact THE ARK Kitchen Staff no later than two weeks prior to the camp start date. We cannot accommodate all allergies. We can give you a menu for the days your student will be onsite. It is possible you will need to supplement menu items for your student.

Sickness: THE ARK has always isolated and sent campers home for a fever over 100 degrees Fahrenheit or vomiting. This will continue. If a camper is showing signs of illness, they will be brought to a camp student nurse and screened. Family groups allow for contact tracing of illness. Increased screening of a family group will take place if a camper from their group is sent home because of sickness. Protocols are in place for if there is a confirmed COVID-19 case.

Homesickness: Occasionally, campers have a hard time being away from home. It is our policy that campers are not allowed to use the phone. It is best *not* to focus on homesickness in your discussions beforehand. If a child becomes homesick, the faculty and staff/interns will work with them to help get them through their homesickness. If that's not possible, a faculty or staff member will notify a parent/guardian.

Bathing/Hygiene: Each family group will be assigned a bathroom and will not be allowed to use any others. Campers are encouraged to change their clothes, brush their teeth, and keep reasonably clean each day.

Cleaning: THE ARK staff/interns have increased cleaning frequency and disinfection to mitigate the spread of illness. Cabin and hut bathrooms are cleaned daily. Campers are asked to keep their living, eating, and playing spaces clean.



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Behavior: Campers need to be willing to practice any/all social distancing measures that faculty/staff/interns ask of them. A signed conduct agreement is required and violation of this agreement could result in a camper being sent home without a refund. Courtesy, listening, respect, good manners and a cooperative attitude are expected of all campers. Everyone must stay on the grounds and abide by the schedule unless excused by the dean. **For overnight camps, we are strongly discouraging campers from leaving for ballgames and activities.** The possession and/or use of tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs is prohibited. No food or drink (other than water) is permitted in the cabins. Physical violence, hazing, and fighting are not permitted. Campers are expected to respect each other and be good stewards of the property.

Pictures: Pictures will be available for purchase online through www.thearkcm.org. The link can be found at the top of the home page: click on Summer Camps, then Summer Camp Photos. These will not be available until AFTER your child's session is over. In an effort to protect our campers, we will only post pictures after they have left the property.

Faith Decisions: If your child expresses a desire to accept Jesus and to be baptized, the dean will call you to discuss the decision. Baptisms typically occur on the last day of camp. It is THE ARK's policy that children under the age of 18 must have at least one parent's/guardian's permission to be baptized at THE ARK. Specific information about baptisms and times TBD.

What To Do Before Arriving?

- ⇒ If your camper is sick, has symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing in the last 14 days), or has recently been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, **please keep your camper home.**
- ⇒ Campers will need to have their temperature taken **before** arriving at check-in (the day of camp and/or each day of Day Camp). Parents/guardians, please take a picture of the temperature on the thermometer to show to the check-in staff (each day for Day Camps). Please do not come to camp if your camper's temperature is 100 degrees Fahrenheit or above.
- ⇒ Please ensure all payments are made before arriving at THE ARK.
- ⇒ Please ensure that all forms/release waivers are signed and that campers have what is on the packing list.

- ⇒ Please ensure the list of approved over the counter medications for your student is accurate in the online registration system **7 days prior to the start of the camp session.** (*Unless it's uncommon, please do not bring over the counter medicines. THE ARK has an ample supplies of OTC medications.*)
- ⇒ Please ensure that any prescription medication and dosages are up to date in our online registration system **7 days prior to the start of the camp session.**

What To Do When We Get There?

- ⇒ Check-in will be outside. Please check the website for the session specific check-in times.
- ⇒ We request that parents/sibling/etc do not exit their vehicle at all. Please say goodbye to your campers from the comfort of your climate-controlled vehicle.
- ⇒ We request that you are on time for dropping off your camper and that you follow the directions of ARK staff members upon arrival for the safest possible drop off of your camper.
- ⇒ We will be asking a series of health related questions.
- ⇒ Your camper's faculty members will accompany your camper and their belongings to the place they are staying.
- ⇒ Faculty members will help with all the heavy lifting that may be associated with moving your camper's belongings.

THE ARK Christian Ministries • 3522 N 1000 W 27
Converse, IN 46919 • phone: (765) 395-3638 • fax: (765) 395-3819
email: theark@thearkcm.org • web: www.thearkcm.org





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Please Bring With You To Check-in

Medications: THE ARK has many over the counter medications including: Tums, ibuprofen, Tylenol, Benadryl, & cough drops. Any other over the counter medication or prescription medications (in original container) will need to be sent in a zip lock bag with the camper's name marked clearly on the bag. **Medication forms need to be completed prior to arrival.**

Free Summer 2021 Unreached T-Shirt

If you registered your camper ONLINE by April 30th, he/she will receive a free THE ARK Christian Ministries t-shirt sometime during their camp session. We will be delivering the shirts to the campers.



While Your Camper is Gone

There is one very powerful thing that you can do for your child while they are gone – **pray!** Pray for your child's spiritual development and health while they are away. Pray for THE ARK staff and faculty.

When Do I Pick Them Up?

Please check our website for information regarding pick up times.

What Should I Expect After Camp

Your child will be tired after you pick him/her up. Going home is a sudden change of pace. Campers are also leaving behind friends. Don't be offended if your child isn't as happy to see you as you are to see him/her. When your child is ready to talk about the experience, listen closely and ask open-ended questions to encourage your child to share. For example, you can ask your child to tell you about his/her favorite activity, favorite person, and what his/her most difficult time was.

How can I Encourage Growth?

Whether your child made a decision to follow Christ while at THE ARK or not, your child needs to continue a growing process once at home. We encourage you to pray for and with your child. Help them find devotional material and teach them how to study the Bible so they can have a daily time with God. If your child isn't already connected with a local church, take this opportunity to find a church the whole family can attend. If there is any way THE ARK can help, please let us know.

How Do We Get There?

THE ARK Christian Ministries is located at

3522 N 1000 W 27, Converse, IN 46919

phone: (765) 395-3638 • fax: (765) 395-3819

From the Wabash Area and North:

Drive south on SR 13. Turn right on 400 N and go 2 miles. Turn left on County Line Road (1000 W/1100 E).

THE ARK is located .5 mile on the left.

From the Indianapolis Area and South:

Take I-69 to SR 18 West. Travel through Marion to Oak Hill School. Turn right onto SR 13. Turn left at 300 N and go 2 miles to the T. Turn right on County Line Road 1000. THE ARK is located .5 miles on the right.

From the Kokomo Area and West:

Take US 31 to Hwy 35/22 and travel east through Greentown. Turn left onto 1350 E (Old 513) and travel to SR 18 East. At SR 18, turn right and go about 1 mile to County Line Road (1000 W/1100E) and turn left at the car wash sign.

THE ARK is located 1.5 miles on the right.

From the Anderson Area and East:

Travel North on SR 9 to SR 26 and turn left. Turn right on SR 13 North to SR 18. Turn left on SR 18 travel to Converse. Turn right on County Line Road (1000 W/1100 E) at the car wash sign. THE ARK is located 1.5 miles on the right.

Summer Camp Sessions Check-In & Check-Out Times

Please check our website prior to arriving for the most updated information including check-in and check-out times.