



2020: 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, Maureen, about the ministry she is doing overseas. Campers are encouraged (if possible) to bring cash to give during missions to help support that work.

What About Money for Canteen?

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.

Family Grouping Information

This year 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 reduced in accordance with CDC and American Camp Association protocols.

THE ARK will be maintaining a four camper per one faculty ratio to ensure that mitigation protocols can be enforced. Areas will be disinfected between groups and new hand washing stations have been added. THE ARK staff/interns will wear facial coverings when within 6 feet of campers. Scheduling/layout changes have been made to minimize the spread of illness.

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 important to note that fabric and disposable surgical face masks do not provide substantial filtering or protection for the wearer of the mask, rather, the face mask is essential for containing droplets expelled when the wearer is breathing, coughing, sneezing, or talking. By wearing a face mask, our campers will be doing their part in protecting other campers, faculty, and staff/interns around them.

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: This year 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.

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 & 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 being put 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 & 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.



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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 & hut bathrooms are cleaned daily. Campers are asked to keep their living, eating, and playing spaces clean.

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 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 camp 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 their parents'/guardians' 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 (see packing list updated for 2020 camp sessions).

⇒ 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?

⇒ 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.**

Camper Mail/Note Writing Station

This year we will not be **handling camper mail of any kind**. We apologize for the inconvenience; it's just not feasible this summer.

Free Summer 2020 Unseen 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. Asking questions like these may help the conversation.

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

We are in the process of creating new processes for this year. Please check our website prior to arriving for the most updated information including check-in and check-out times.

2020 Packing List for Camp Sessions

FOR ALL OVERNIGHT CAMPERS

- ☐ Hand sanitizer
- ☐ Lawn chair (bag chair labeled w/ camper's name)
- ☐ 2-3 facial coverings
- ☐ One change of clothes for each day at camp
- ☐ Jacket and rain gear or hooded sweatshirt
- ☐ Closed toe shoes for recreation time
- ☐ Shower gear
- ☐ Towel and washcloth
- ☐ Swimsuit (one-piece/modest trunks) & cover-up
- ☐ Beach towel
- ☐ Bible, pen, and notebook
- ☐ Flashlight & extra batteries
- ☐ Bedding (pillow and sleeping bag or sheets)
- ☐ Money for missions & canteen (more info will be coming on our website)
- ☐ Trash bag for dirty clothes (labeled w/ camper's name)
- ☐ Pajamas/sleepwear
- ☐ Bug spray
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Long pants (For camps riding horses or playing paintball)

EXTRA JUNGLE AND THAI HUTS GEAR

- ☐ A few more changes of *old* clothes
- ☐ Water shoes or sandals for swamp
- ☐ Flip flops or slippers for around camp
- ☐ Travel bag or backpack for shower gear
- ☐ Hat (optional)
- ☐ Reusable water bottle
- ☐ Clothes for night games (optional)

ALL CAMPERS – DO NOT BRING

- ✗ All personal electronic musical devices
- ✗ Cell phones
- ✗ Comics or books
- ✗ Electronic games
- ✗ Two-piece swimsuits
- ✗ Firearms, knives, and fireworks
- ✗ Two-way radios
- ✗ Food (Dietary needs and Wilderness-Trips excluded)
- ✗ Tobacco, drugs, alcohol

Bringing certain items could result in dismissal.

FOR DAY CAMPS

- ☐ Facial covering
- ☐ Hand sanitizer
- ☐ Lawn Chair (bag chair labeled w/ camper's name)
- ☐ Swimsuit
- ☐ Beach towel
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Bible, pen, and notebook
- ☐ Money for missions & canteen (more info coming on our website)
- ☐ Small backpack/bag to carry everything in
- ☐ Long pants (for camps riding horses or playing paintball)

WILDERNESS ADVENTURE TRIPS

- ☐ Hand sanitizer
- ☐ Lawn chair (bag chair labeled w/ camper's name)
- ☐ 2 Facial coverings (for if needed in public places)
- ☐ One change of clothes per day of trip (do not bring good clothes)
- ☐ Pajamas/sleepwear
- ☐ Shower gear and carrying bag
- ☐ Towel and washcloth
- ☐ Jacket and/or hooded sweatshirt
- ☐ *Sleeping bag (Temperature appropriate)
- ☐ *Sleeping pad
- ☐ Trash bags for dirty clothes
- ☐ Bible, notebook, and pen
- ☐ Camera (optional)
- ☐ Money for missions
- ☐ Money for fast food stops
- ☐ Flashlight with extra batteries, headlamp preferred
- ☐ Old tennis shoes or river sandals that can get wet
- ☐ Comfortable hiking shoes
- ☐ 3-4 pair synthetic hiking socks
- ☐ Swimsuit (one-piece)
- ☐ Extra layers that are long and/or warm
- ☐ Rain gear
- ☐ Hat
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Bug spray
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Hammock if desired
- ☐ Snacks (trail mix, energy bars, etc.)
- ☐ *Water bottle or canteen
- ☐ 2 handkerchiefs
- ☐ 2 empty 2-liter bottles to carry water
- ☐ *Personal cup, plate, or silverware.

You may not have all of the items on this list. The items listed with an (*) THE ARK may have extras. Please notify us BEFORE you arrive for your session to find out if we have items you'd like to borrow. Thank you.

Updated on June 11, 2020

