



480 Forest Rd, Denver, PA 17517 | campconquest.org | 717-336-2541

DAY CAMP Parent Handbook

What you need to know before, during and after a week of camp.



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Welcome to Camp Conquest

Why Day Camp?

At Camp Conquest, we believe that skinned knees are essential for growing up, right along with dirt under the fingernails and pockets full of frogs, rocks and marbles.

Summer is a time to explore the wonderful outdoors with the company of friends, seeking adventure. Summer is a time to expand your world through exploration and free play. Summer is a time for swimming and eating ice cream.

That is what you find at Camp Conquest – good, clean, outdoor fun. We recruit adult volunteers who provide safety and structure. We train mature teens and college students who provide fun and energy. We teach good character and traditional moral values using stories from the Bible.

It's time to unplug and go outside. It's time to learn archery and horseback riding. It's time to jump in the pool and zoom down the waterslide. It's time to sign up for Day Camp at Camp Conquest.



Before Camp

What are some items my camper will need?

Each camper must wear **closed-toe shoes with straps around the heel** or sneakers. Sneakers are highly recommended footwear for all camp activities. Crocs/Croc-like shoes are not adequate footwear for all the activities we do at camp.

We recommend clothing that can get dirty since we spend most of our time outdoors.

Other items that campers should bring are:

- Modest swimsuit
- Beach Towel
- Sunblock
- Water bottle

Some items that maybe useful for your camper are:

- Goggles
- Bug Spray
- Sweatshirt or Raincoat
- Backpack
- Plastic Bag for wet swimsuit & towel
- Hat

Please label your camper's belongings with his/her first and last name.

Camper Policies can be found on our [website](#).

Items that must stay at home:

- Electronics
- Toys
- Cell phones
- Wheeled shoes
- Money
- Flip-flops/sandals

If these items are brought to camp, they will be held by the Day Camp Coordinator and returned to the parent/guardian at the end of the day.



Programs and Supervision

Day Camp Programs

At Camp Conquest, we offer programs within two age ranges.

- Pioneer Day Camp is for ages 7-9
- Adventure Day Camp is for ages 10-12

We offer a variety of outdoor activities the average healthy camper can enjoy. All of our activities are supervised by trained staff. Areas of increased risk, such as horses, targets sports (including rifles) and giant swing all have additional safety measures and equipment in place and are run by certified staff.

Supervision

Campers enjoy an intergenerational mix of staff and counselors. Volunteer adults from our partner churches provide maturity and structure while our well-trained teens and college students add energy and enthusiasm. Two counselors are with every group and the overall ratio is around 3 campers for one staff member. A nurse is also onsite to help with any medication or first aid issues.

Medications

Campers may not keep medication with them. All medications must be turned over to the camp nurse upon arrival (or to the bus counselor, if riding the bus). This is for the safety of everyone at camp. If your camper has medication such as an EpiPen or inhaler, one of the counselors in their group will carry it for them.



A Day at Camp

Start of the Day

Campers are greeted at Camp Conquest every morning and begin their day with songs and time with new friends. Campers are assigned to groups of 8-12 campers of the same age group with two counselors.

Swimming, group games and much more will be enjoyed daily. Creative, hands-on Bible lessons and fun camp songs teach valuable truths. Other activities may include archery, sling shot, horse-back riding, nature exploration, games and other special activities.

Sample Schedule

9:00 Opening Session

9:20 Field Games

10:00 Chapel/Small Groups

11:10 Lunch

11:50 Activities/Activity Rotation

1:40 Pool

2:30 Store

3:30 Closing

4:00 Departure



Lunch

Lunch

Lunch is provided for all Day Campers. Meals are prepared by our hard-working and wonderful volunteer kitchen staff. If you prefer to send your child with their own bagged lunch (that does not require refrigeration), that is also acceptable. Please make sure to include any food allergies or dietary restrictions on your online health form.

Sample Menu

Monday - Ham & cheese sandwich, chips, mandarin oranges, ice cream sandwich

Tuesday - Pizza, veggies (carrots, celery), rice crispy treat

Wednesday - Chicken patties, applesauce, brownie

Thursday - Tacos (chicken or beef), taco toppings, chips & salsa

Friday - Grilled cheese, chips, fruit salad, cookie

Our salad bar is also available at lunch every day.



Dietary Restrictions

Due to the size of our camp, we cannot accommodate specialized meals for campers at this time (gluten free, vegetarian, kosher, vegan, etc.). We encourage parents to pack a lunch for their camper if they require a specific diet. Please let the camp registrar know if you plan to pack a lunch for your child.

Camp Store

Store Cards

In the afternoon, we give campers an opportunity to visit our camp store to buy yummy snacks and cool merchandise. Most food/drink items cost anywhere from \$.50 -1.50. Campers are allowed to choose two food/drink items per day. We recommend \$15 for your camper for the week. If your camper would like a hat or T-shirt, those run from \$10-15. Money should be added to the camper's account **before** camp. You may choose an amount to add to your camper's store card when you register him/her. If you'd like to add additional money after registering, please call our camp.

Money

Campers are not allowed to have money on them or in their backpack. They cannot use it at the store since we keep track of money on store cards. Please do not send money with them and contact the camp office to add money to their account.

Refund or Donate

If your camper has money left over on their store card at the end of the week, your money will either be returned to you or donated - depending on your answer on the online forms regarding store money. All donated store money goes toward our campership fund to help financially needy children attend a week of summer camp.



Transportation Options

Options to Get Your Camper to Camp

1. Bus transportation at one of our stops

When you register, please sign up for bus/van transportation ahead of time and call the office if something changes. Please see the website for our bus schedule with stops and pick-up/drop-off times.



2. Arriving by car

If you plan to arrive by car, please read below for more information.

Drop-Off and Pick-up Procedure at a Church

We have partnered with local churches to create the ultimate camp experience for kids & busy parents. Sign up to drop your child off at one of the local churches on our route, and we'll handle transportation to camp and back each day. Please park in the church's parking lot near the check-in area. Each location will have a specific time the bus or van is to depart. Please arrive 10 minutes before departure time. On the first day, please arrive 15-20 minutes before departure for first-day check-in.

Each day, you will sign your child in and out with one of the camp counselors. At the end of the day, please make sure to arrive before the bus/van and have your ID ready to check out your camper. Any changes regarding transportation must be communicated to the camp office **AND** the bus counselor.

Check-in and Out Procedure at Camp

Day Camper check in is near the gym. You may arrive as early as 8:45am. On the first day, please arrive between 8:45am and 8:55am. Each day, counselors will meet you at check-in. At the end of the day, there will be a pick-up line at the gym. Counselors will bring the campers to meet you at 4:00pm. Your child must be checked in and out each day. Please have ID ready to check out your camper(s).

Bus/Van Guidelines

Transportation Changes

1. If a change needs to occur to the pick-up or drop-off times or location, Camp Conquest will reach out to the primary contact listed for each camper. This communication will be an email followed up with a phone call to the contact listed on the camper registration.
2. If a parent or guardian needs to make an adjustment, please contact the camp office by email at registrar@campconquest.org AND by phone at 717.336.2541.

Safety Guidelines

In addition to the driver, we will have a bus/van counselor to supervise the children and provide a camp experience for them while driving to and from camp.

For everyone's safety, we have the following rules for the bus/van. Please discuss these with your child.

1. Parents are responsible for getting your child on and off the bus/van. You must sign your child in and out with the counselor each day.
2. Campers need to listen to and obey the counselor and driver.
3. Campers need to be seated and have their seat belt fastened at all times.
4. Once the bus/van is in motion, switching seats is not allowed.
5. Campers should tell the counselor if they have any problems on the bus.
6. Campers must wait until the bus/van comes complete stop.

If you are not at the stop and we believe you should be, we will call you. The call will most likely come from one of our counselor's cell phones and will not be a number you recognize. Regardless, the bus/van will leave on time.

Transportation Adjustments

If you need to make a change regarding your camper's pick up or drop off (regardless of whether they ride the bus or you drive them), please contact the camp office by email: registrar@campconquest.org AND by phone at 717-336-2541



After Camp

Talking with Your Camper About Their Day

There is nothing more exasperating than asking your child, "What did you do at camp?" and getting the response, "Nothing." While some children are bursting to share their experiences on the ride home, others are tired or may simply need a little more time to process. Over the week, draw your child out slowly by asking specific questions about teammates and counselors, activities they participated in and Bible stories they learned, or ask your child to show you a camp skit or sing a song.

Camp Photos

We attempt to upload pictures at the end of the week. You will receive a link and password via email the week before camp. Please be patient as sometimes it takes us longer than we expect to get photos uploaded. We cannot honor picture requests of specific campers.

Lost and Found

Please make sure all of your camper's items are clearly marked with his/her first and last name. We try to manage lost and found items continually throughout the camp season, but it is a challenge! If you discover your child is missing something upon your return home, please notify the camp office as soon as possible so that we may assist you in finding your lost items. Once summer camp season is over, we donate unclaimed items to a local charity.

Survey

We will provide a survey at the end of the week. We value your feedback in order to improve our programs for your children.

Social Media

Camp Conquest discourages camper-staff interactions on social media sites. We encourage our staff to stay connected to campers after camp through letter writing with parent permission. Please encourage your camper to write letters to their counselors rather than reaching out on social media.



Thank You

Thank you for choosing Camp Conquest for your child's camping experience. We look forward to serving your family this summer!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.



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