



# Wilderness SUNRISE

EQUIPPING BOYS FOR LIFE

Fall 2017

## A DAY AT CAMP - PREPARATION FOR LIFE YOUR INVESTMENT IN CAMP IS PAYING OFF

*Have you ever wondered what a day at camp is like and how the daily activities at camp prepare a boy for later in life? I recently spent a day with the Pioneer group to learn more about how camp equips boys for life.*



**6:00** Chiefs wake up and prepare for the day.

**6:30** After prayer for the day, Chief Erick starts the fire for breakfast, and Chief Jadon wakes up the boys. Upon waking up, the boys make their beds and sweep out their tents. In the winter, they would fire up the wood stoves.

**7:00** Time for morning devotions. Today's lesson is about the world's most dangerous weapon; the tongue. Afterwards, they discuss the expectations for the day (see sidebar). They talk about how doing one's work properly builds trust with the chiefs and the group. When trust is earned, it's then not necessary to have one's work checked after it is completed.

**7:10** After brushing their teeth (see sidebar), the boys

begin doing their chores. Chores include raking trails, cleaning lanterns, preparing kindling for Pow Wow, cleaning the privy, setting the table and cooking breakfast. Chief Jadon and the group discussed how some of the chores were not completed properly according to the expectations they had set. Several of the boys redid their chores.

**8:00** Breakfast time. Today is Thursday so the group is eating down trail at the campsite. Today's breakfast is sausage and cheese omelets. On Wednesday and Thursday, the groups eat at their campsites. They plan and prepare their own meals. The other five days they eat up at Chuckwagon.

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### Expectations

Before any activity such as chores, setting the table, eating a meal, doing a work project, having a fun activity, or leaving the property, the group will come up with a couple expectations for their attitude or behavior. For instance, before a meal possible expectations could be, "keeping the conversations appropriate", and, "using good table manners." If a camper fails at any of these expectations, the group will circle up to solve the problem.

### Brushing Teeth

Learning personal hygiene is an important part of camp. Daily showers and brushing teeth is part of the program. The boys brush their teeth four times each day – after waking up, after breakfast, after lunch and before going to bed.



# DAY IN THE LIFE AT CAMP CONT.



## The Four Steps of Problem Solving

1. Identify the problem – The problem may be a failure to follow expectations, having a bad attitude or not relating well with other campers or the chiefs.
2. Find a Solution – The group will discuss possible ways to deal with the problem.
3. Solve the problem. Choose one of the solutions and take action. This could be an apology, redoing a chore, etc.
4. Plan for the next time. What steps can be taken to avoid a problem when faced with a similar situation down the road.

Circling up to solve a problem can last anywhere from less than a minute to a couple hours depending upon the difficulty of the issue.

## Trips

While taking trips are fun, that is not the main purpose. Together as a group, they map their route, plan their meals, calculate expenses and decide the theme for their trip. Trips provide opportunities for building teamwork and increasing personal growth. These trips include canoeing, back-packing, or road tours.

**8:45** The cleanup crew cleans off the table and washes dishes. The rest of the group walks up to Chuckwagon to get tools for the morning project. While waiting for the group to return with tools, the cleanup crew repairs the roof on the wood tent.

**9:30** Today's work project is cutting and splitting wood. During the project, several bad attitudes interrupted the work and the group circled up to solve the problems (see sidebar).

**10:30** Cooks leave to start preparing lunch.

**11:45** Just before lunch, the

group celebrated how they met their goal to cut and split six wheelbarrow loads of wood.

**12:00** Today's lunch is chicken wings and tater tots. Lunch was earlier than normal due to an off-property road trip scheduled for the afternoon.

**12:45** Siesta. Time for rest and a short nap.

**1:20** The group heads up trail to board the bus for their road trip.

**2:00** In preparation for their upcoming agriculture trip next session (see sidebar), they are visiting a local farm. Today they are visiting Mr. Bill who has a

small hobby farm outside of Westminster. Mr. Bill showed the boys his chickens, work horses, and how he milked goats.

**4:00** After returning from their short excursion, a couple of the boys received haircuts. They had a short meeting with Chief Marcus, a supervisor, about some of the details of their upcoming bus trip. They pick up their laundry and head back down trail to their campsite.



# DAY IN THE LIFE AT CAMP CONT.

**4:50** Back at their campsite, the boys fold their laundry and prepare supper. Tonight's expectations for the meal are to keep a low tone while talking and to not complain.

**5:30** For supper this evening, it's black beans and rice with chicken, cheese, sour cream, and other goodies mixed together. Dessert was a birthday cake that one of the boys brought back from home visit.

**6:15** The group sang a few songs while the table was cleaned and the dishes were washed.

**6:45** Time for showers.

**7:15** The group goes up trail to return tools.

**8:30** Personal time is a time where boys sit around craft tent playing guitar, carving, arranging their tackle boxes, building a bow, and working on other projects.



**9:00** Before going to bed, the boys gather around a small fire for Pow Wow to evaluate their day (See sidebar). They felt good about what they accomplished with their work project. They also

talked about how much fun it was to visit Mr. Bill's farm. The group discussed that on their next site visit, they could do better at focusing and listening to their host.

**9:15** The chiefs tuck the boys in bed after telling them how much they are loved. No matter how good or bad a boy may have acted during the day, he goes to sleep knowing that he is loved.

*I wish you could have spent the day with me and the Pioneers. Every activity during the day is intended to bring a life lesson. Every day is another step for each boy on the way to a productive and fulfilling life.*

**No boy is ever turned away from camp because of a family's inability to pay. Thank you for making that possible. Together, we are making a difference.**



**The Pioneers**



## **Pow Wow - Evaluating the Day**

Each evening, the boys and the chiefs sit around a small campfire and reflect on the events of the day. The group evaluates both the successes and struggles. It prepares them for a good night's sleep and a positive outlook for the following day.

## **Equipping Boys for Life**

Every activity during each day has a purpose. Whether it's doing a chore, solving a problem or planning a trip, boys are learning skills that will benefit them for the rest of their life. Former campers often say how a skill like problem solving is something they use daily. Your support makes it possible for boys to get the help they need.

# OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Are you willing to invest in a life changing experience that will impact you for the rest of your life? Just ask any former staff how camp has transformed them in a positive and powerful way. Here are some opportunities that are available soon:

- Thrift Store Guys & Girls - March 2018
- Cook - June 2017

## STAFF NEWS

### ARRIVALS

- Karina Yoder (Cook), *Paradise, PA*
- Lavon & Karisa Herschberger (Supervisor), *Lovington, IL*
- Tyler Yoder (Explorer Chief), *Gambier OH*
- Chavis Shaum (Trailblazer Chief), *Power, MT*
- Ina Wengerd (Thrift Store), *Dalton, OH*
- Jolene Hochstetler (Thrift Store), *Millersburg, OH*
- Kim Miller (Thrift Store), *Millersburg, OH*
- Jay Snyder (Thrift Store), *Bethel, PA*
- Steve & Ella Mae Martin (Donor Services), *Womelsdorf, PA*

### DEPARTING

- Geralyn Shaum (Cook), *Power, MT*
- Emily Troyer (Thrift Store), *Gambier, OH*
- Edith Yoder (Thrift Store), *Sturgis, MI*
- Jared Stoltzfus (Frontiersmen Chief), *Penn Yan, NY*
- Justin & Jessica Yutzy (Supervisor), *Seneca, SC*
- Nate Esh (Trailblazer Chief), *Penn Yan, NY*
- Lance Miller (Explorers Chief), *Goshen, IN*



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