

Adventure Camp FAQ

Adventure Camp is a rustic, outdoor adventure program that uses the challenges of outdoor living, combined with the unique activities, to teach important life lessons and build character into each camper. The weekly schedule is adventurous and sometimes strenuous, but the joy and satisfaction of completing the challenge is very rewarding. Daily Bible lessons are taught and modeled by the Adventure Camp staff each day no matter whether the group is on the trail, the river, or climbing a mountain. Below you will find some frequently asked questions as well as information on the nature of Adventure Camp that will help you better understand the program.

FAQ

Where is Adventure Camp?

Adventure Camp is our basecamp 6/10 mile up Sugar Hollow Rd. from New Life's main lodge.

How often are campers away from the property of New Life?

6-8th grade campers only camp away from New Life once maybe twice during the week. The majority of nights are spent camping at base camp. 9-12th grade campers may be camping away from New Life the entire week.

Are campers outside all the time?

Yes, Adventure Camp does everything outside for the entirety of the week. At basecamp there is a pavilion and shelter structures.

What are the sleeping arrangements for Adventure Camp?

At basecamp we have wood shelters for campers to sleep in. They are also welcome to bring their own tents and hammocks. When camping off site we typically tent camp or hammock.

What activities are there this year?

Summer 2021 activities depend on which week of camp it is (see our summer brochure) but include: river canoeing, swimming, lake canoeing, rock climbing, rappelling, mountain biking, wild caving, hiking, and games.

What do the staff do?

Staff responsibilities include supervising campers, leading and experiencing activities right alongside the campers, counseling, outdoor cooking, and logistics.

What is the food like at Adventure Camp?

All food is cooked outside with portable stoves or a campfire. Some of the favorites are pancakes, hobo dinners, pita pizzas, and trail mix.

Which week should my camper go to?

The grade your child will be going into in the fall is the grade that should be selected. For example, a rising 6th grader would attend 6-8 weeks and the same for the 9-12 weeks. We do allow a 1 grade difference for siblings or friends to attend together. Please contact us for this availability.

My camper doesn't have the gear that is listed to bring. What should I do?

New Life has any gear that campers will need including backpacks, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, tents, rain jackets, and water bottles. Campers are welcome to and often do bring a lot of their own gear. Go to the downloads tab on our website (newlifebiblecamp.com) and scroll down to Adventure Camp forms. There you will find a list of everything you will need for your week of camp. If you have any questions contact zach: zach@newlifebiblecamp.com or text 678-842-3325.

What should my camper expect?—"A day in the life of an Adventure Camper"

While different weeks have different activities (see our summer brochure) the average day looks like this. Wake up 7:30, breakfast 8:00, devotions 8:30, active games 9:00, team building 9:30, passive games 10:00, depart for next destination 10:30-11:00, lunch 12:00, the days main activity 1:00 (climbing or hiking or canoeing, etc.), 4:30 load up and head to campsite, 6:00 dinner, 6:30 devotional, 7:00 free time, 8:45 night game, 9:30 day's debrief, 10:00 lights out.

- **Nature of Adventure Camp** (this will help you understand why we do what we do)
 - **Philosophy**—We desire New Life to be a quality camp where God’s Word impacts each camper. Our adventure program falls right in line with this philosophy. While we love to have fun in a variety of outdoor ways, Adventure Camp uses that fun to teach the Word of God. We utilize teachable moments and experiential learning to emphasize spiritual truth. If someone tried to explain the word, “trust”, to you, you would probably understand it but may not actually learn and retain what you heard. At Adventure Camp rather than teaching trust we experience it through activities such as rock climbing. After rock climbing on a 30 foot cliff, campers really understand what it means to trust the staff, ropes, and harnesses. This is a great opportunity to open the Word of God and talk about trust. Campers will better retain the discussion on trust because of their experience. This example is one of the many amazing different opportunities there are to teach spiritual truth. Campers come with their own set of needs, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual. Staff are trained to observe and try to identify and meet these needs. Our goal is to share the Gospel with every camper.

 - **The outdoors**--The very nature of Adventure Camp is that it is an outdoor wilderness camp. The outdoors provide campers amazing opportunities for both fun and learning not to mention the stunning beauty of God’s creation. The outdoors present unique challenges that campers will learn from. The tight knit group promotes bonding and teamwork. Comforts such as technology and a heated house are removed giving campers an appreciation for what they do have once they return home.

 - **Activities**—Almost as soon as the summer ends in August planning resumes in October. As our full time Adventure Coordinator plans throughout the year a concentrated effort is made to make the program fun, utilize opportunities to open God’s Word, make the program better than it was last year, and to rotate in new activities and locations. Activities include games and night games (we love to play games), rock climbing, river canoeing, rappelling, hiking, wild caving, mountain biking and swimming. These rotate each year depending on where the program goes. Activities our challenge by choice. Campers choose how much they want to push themselves in each activity. We do encourage each camper to challenge themselves to learn and experience new things. When it comes to learning at Adventure Camp we practice facilitating (allowing the experience to play out and drawing truths from it) rather than guiding (manipulating the experience to emphasize a point). We want campers to learn from their specific experiences.

- **Staff**—Each summer Adventure Camp hires three summer staff for a total of four staff. The program leader, who is full time staff, is trained in Wilderness First Aid, assessing risk, making decisions, leading all activities from rock climbing to river canoeing, and leading staff. The three summer staff are all trained in CPR and First Aid. Staff are trained in the outdoor environment and know how to respond to thunderstorms. Their responsibilities include supervising campers, leading and experiencing activities right alongside the campers, counseling, outdoor cooking, and logistics.
- **Meals**— Our food comes from local grocery stores so it is fresh. Typically anything that needs to stay cold goes into a cooler and is used earlier in the week. An intentional effort is made to provide a variety of food types, accommodate special diets, and to rotate new foods in each year.
- **Levels of challenge**— Why climb, canoe, and hike? Challenge pulls campers out of their comfort zone and promotes learning not to mention all of the fun had along the way. 6-8th grade weeks base themselves at New Life. While they do travel away from New Life a little bit for some activities they do stay on the property the majority of the week. These weeks allow campers to experience a variety of activities while keeping them age appropriate. 9-12th grade weeks experience the highest level of challenge Adventure Camp has to offer. 9-12th campers are away from New Life for most of their activities. High Adventure week is the capstone of Adventure Camp.

Questions: contact Zach, zach@newlifebiblecamp.com or 678-842-3325