

CAMP DART-LO

Program Aide in Learning (PAL) SUPPLEMENTAL PARENT GUIDE

Congratulations for choosing a camp experience that will nurture and guide your child through leadership training and service-learning. The Jr & Sr PAL programs combine outdoor play with a leadership curriculum that helps teens work positively with younger campers.

Your child will:

- Participate in general camp activities while learning how to support younger campers through the same types of activities.
- Participate in teambuilding and communication activities with peers.
- Interact with all types of children through training activities and a “live-in”.
- Receive individualized attention and feedback, and a formal end evaluation.
- Learn about policies/procedures and other administrative details of the camp program.

PROGRAM GOALS

PALS are expected to maintain leadership appropriateness and modeling at all times. At the completion of training, the PAL Director will provide each PAL with a recommendation for future training based on successfully demonstrating these abilities.

LIVE-IN WEEK (2nd or 3rd week)

After studying camper characteristics and observing various camper groups, PALS request a specific age group. The PAL Director consults the Unit Directors to determine the best counselor matches for each PAL. The opportunities for teaching and level of responsibility given depend on the maturity, skill level and confidence of each PAL. The counselor completes an evaluation form with the PAL at the end of the week.

MORE QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or concerns about you child and the PAL program, please contact the Camp Director, at 667-4717 ext 16 .

Other skills evaluated include:

- Speak clearly and loudly
- Speak at camper level (physical, language)
- Maintain eye contact
- Ask questions to track understanding
- Use teaching techniques as appropriate (demonstrate, give examples, show samples, etc.)
- Keep campers busy
- Show enthusiasm
- Maintain positive attitude
- Offer choices (make adaptations)
- Watch for safety
- Demonstrate preparedness
- Model appropriate behavior
- Has project success

* PALS usually complete Jr PAL, Sr PAL and the first year of Counselor Assistant in separate years.