



CAMP MAKERIE
SUMMER 2026
Family Handbook

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SOME HELPFUL DEFINITIONS:

CM - Camp Makerie

CD - Camp Director

AD - Assistant Director

Camp Minder - Our registration system

CampInTouch - The login portal for parents after they have an account

Campanion - Our Parent App to access your account/weekly photos on your phone

From the Camp Director:

Hello Camp Makerie Families,

It is truly an honor to welcome your child to Camp Makerie. We know that trusting someone with your child is a big decision, and we don't take that responsibility lightly for a single moment.

Camp Makerie has grown into a year-round home for kids, a place where children can show up as themselves and feel a sense of belonging, whether they're joining us for summer camp, afterschool, school break camps, or teacher workdays. Our goal is to meet kids exactly where they are and support them as they grow, socially, emotionally, and creatively.



In a world that can sometimes feel overwhelming or uncertain, Camp Makerie is designed to be a space that feels safe, respectful, joyful, and supportive. We believe children learn best through play, creativity, and connection, and we work intentionally to create an environment where kids feel confident taking risks, building friendships, and exploring their imaginations.

Please take time to read through this handbook carefully, even if your family has been with us before. It contains important information and updates to help ensure your child has a smooth, positive experience and that your family feels prepared for the days ahead.

We value open communication and see camp as a partnership with families. If you ever have questions, concerns, or insights about your child, we want to hear from you.

Thank you for trusting us with your most precious people. We are grateful to be part of your child's journey and can't wait to share another meaningful season at Camp Makerie.

With gratitude,
Harmony Lenasbunt (Director of Magic)

OUR VISION, MISSION, & VALUES.

We believe in the power of camp for kids, that it has the potential to be a formative and life changing experience. We are dedicated to making that a positive growing experience for all our campers. We take very seriously our role in our campers' lives, and the unique opportunity that being outside of a school environment and away from their parents is for fostering independence, growing resilience, and building confidence. We see ourselves as partners with our campers' caregivers, and do everything we can to ensure the highest quality kids camping program we can in a day camp setting.

Our mission is to create opportunities for kids to grow in connection to themselves, their peers, and their community through our camp experience.

We want kids to leave our camp feeling confident, cared about, and proud of what they accomplished, we want them to have learned how to make new friends (its hard and scary!) and also how to keep friendships, we want them to have a deeper understanding of what they do creates ripple effects for others, so we are sending lots of warm fuzzy ripples of kindness out into the world every week of camp.

HOW TO FIND US

Camp Makerie is located at 3536 NW 8th Ave (next to Littlewood Elementary School). It will look like a church from the road but we are a campus buildings behind that. The property has a one way drive around the campus. We have signs on 8th ave at the entrance and you just pull in there and follow the drive around. You will see signs and staff on campus guiding you to check in. When you are ready to leave you will continue to drive one-way around the rest of the building to the exit on 8th Ave. (you will not exit the same place you entered, its all a one-way drive).

Registration/Payments

Our Camper Registration Program is Campminder. You can access it on our website with the button that say Returning Family Login or New Registrations if you don't have an account yet. This is called Campintouch and gives you access to all your campers information, forms, accounts, etc. All fees must be paid in Full by the start of their first camp week. If you signed up for a payment schedule, the remainder is due by or before on the camper's first day of camp. If you are paying by monthly payments, you will receive an email notice 1-2 days before we process the next payment. Extended care and summer lunches can added on anytime through this same Campintouch Login, just click the Application tab. Any extra fees (ie Snacks or Extended Care not

purchased in advance) that were incurred through the week will be added to the original payment method unless a prior arrangement was made.

Cancelations/Refunds/Registration Changes

Our refund policy is as follows:

- 4 weeks prior to camp: 100% refund with a \$35 cancelation fee per week.
- 2 to 4 weeks prior to camp: 50% of cost available as a refund.
- Less than 2 weeks prior to camp: No refund, There is no prorated credit/refund/exchange for individual days missed
- Sick credit of 50% can be only given for full week of camp missed due to illness, credit will be added to your account to apply to another camp week, and request must be made in writing and doctors note supplied.

For Registration Changes: Once you check out, the only changes you can make to your campers schedule is to add more weeks/extended care/ lunch options. If you need to switch a week, remove AM/PM extended care, or cancel, all these functions require camp authorization. Just send an email to magic@campmakerie.com requesting these changes. The only change that incurs a fee is a cancelation of a camp week, which follows the above cancelation policy. All other changes are no charge.

FORMS & WAIVERS

After your camper is enrolled in our camp, you can log into Campintouch (login button is on our website labeled Current Family Login) from your browser or use the Companion app to complete your required forms/waivers. Just log in and click Forms. You will see a list of required forms and waivers to complete before your camper's first day at camp. Please make sure these are completed in time as it can delay your Monday check in. These only need to be filled out 1x each season, and updated each year. So if you are a returning family, you will still need to update forms and waivers.

CAMPANION APP

We have a camp app! Its cool and handy! Download Companion from your app store and log in with the same credentials you created to register. From this app you can access your campers application info, fill out forms and waivers, view your camper's schedule, and have access to our daily photo drop and camp update posts! We post every day so you can get in on the fun. Please note, because this app is not a secure program, the only place you will be able to access your financial information is through the Campintouch login from your browser which will require 2-factor authorization to login.

CAMP TOURS

We have a Pre-Camp open House night planned for June 2nd from 5p-7p. During the summer, we are able to offer tours with prior arrangement. Camp Tours can be arranged by emailing us at magic@campmakerie.com subject: Schedule A Tour. Please email ahead to schedule your tour. We are unable to accommodate drop bys, so please always schedule ahead before you come down to camp.

BRING THIS!

To be prepared for camp, campers should bring:

- A Water Bottle (Campers who forgot a water bottle will be given a disposable one for the day at a charge of \$2/bottle).
- Wear clothes that can get dirty and messy, and athletic style shoes.
- A change of clothes (you never know what will happen at camp - mandatory for campers ages 5-6)
- Towel / Swim Suit / Water Shoes (on Water Day - Typically Wednesday)
- Sunscreen &/or Bugspray (if preferred)
- For Food: Lunch and extra snacks can be brought from home or campers can opt in for the daily Camp Lunch Program and/or purchase snacks as needed for an added fee. (See section on FOOD and WATER below for more information).
- LABEL ALL THE THINGS!!! If you want this stuff back, you will want to put a name on it.

DONT BRING THIS!

Personal items can easily get lost or damaged or are just not appropriate for the camp experience. Camp Makerie can not guarantee their safety and will not be responsible for any items brought from home that are misplaced or damaged. All personal items outside of the previous list need to be left at home. These include but are not limited to:

- **Phones / Watch Phones** (see below for more info) ***(if a camper comes to camp with a cell phone or watch phone, they will be held by CM staff in a secure place until the camper gets picked up).
- **Other Electronic Devices** (handheld games, mp3 players, cameras, tablets, etc)
- **Toys/stuffed animals** or other personal items from home
- **LEGOS!** (our LEGO's and your LEGOs are identical and they get mixed up, please do not bring any to camp. this includes mini-figures and pre-built projects)
- FOR CAMPER SAFETY: FLIP FLOPS AND CROCS ARE HIGHLY DISCOURAGED, we've witnessed too many trips/injuries due to these shoes.
- Please do not send a camper to camp in long sleeves and pants without sending a change of clothes. (We understand the fight that can happen over clothes choices).

Regardless of how they feel in the morning, by noon they will be hot and sweaty on the playground and will need to change to protect against overheating.

DETOX FROM SCREENS

We value connection and our diverse amazing camp community. We want kids to be kids, and feel safe and free to just be themselves. This is one of the big reasons we consider ourselves a SCREEN-FREE CAMP (yep even when it rains or at the end of extended care)! If our goal is connection, then screen time (movie watching/video games) and checking out just doesn't belong. Furthermore, please leave phones and phone watches at home or turn in to staff when you drop your campers off to be given back at the end of the day. This helps us create moments of true connection and being present with each other. If a camper or parent need to send communication to each other during the day, you can text/call the Camp Director or Assistant Director at anytime to relay the message.

LUNCH & WATER

- Campers will either bring a packed lunch from home or have a Camp Lunch pre-ordered through our camp registration system (these will be listed online in our camper application by or before April 1st. Lunches ordered come from local food services (Publix, Dominos, etc), not prepped on site, and we can not accommodate for food allergies.
- If your child has any food allergies to the menu posted, please do not order and send them with a packed lunch.
- All lunch orders should be made by the Friday of the week before your camper's next session to guarantee that your camper gets on the order list. If you missed that deadline, just reach out to the Camp Director to see if you can still add on to the order that week.
- There is no access to a refrigerator or microwave for campers, so please plan accordingly for lunches brought from home.
- We do not provide silverware for campers, please send your camper with silverware if needed for their lunch from home.
- Campers must bring a water bottle with their name on it. A refillable bottle is required. Disposable bottles of water can also be purchased at camp if a child comes to camp without a reusable water bottle. We have water fountains available throughout the campus for refills throughout the day.

SNACKS

- Snacks can be brought from home or purchased at any time in the week at camp, no prior ordering needed. You can set up a snack fund for your camper for the week in

your CampInTouch account by clicking the ACCOUNTS tab and adding funds. All snacks cost between \$1- \$2. An amount of \$3-\$5/day or \$15-\$20/week is typical for funding a camper snack account.

- The snacks we provide are bulk purchased single serving items: chips/pretzels/fruit snacks/ crackers/ granola bars/ Fruit/ & cookies. We do not offer candy, juice, or soda.
- Campers have 2 designated snack times (3 if attending PM Extended Care) and campers will either need to bring extra snacks from home for these times or can purchase them from Camp Makerie on site. All snack purchases will run through the camper's snack funding, no cash needed.
- If a camper's fund is at zero, or they brought snacks from home but ran out early, they will be allowed to choose a snack and parents invoiced at the end of the week.
- For campers who bring snacks from home, they will only be allowed to purchase snacks from camp if they have run out before the end of the day and they are hungry, or unless written parent permission was given to purchase snacks even if they have snacks in their lunchbox (via a text or email to the Camp Director).

Supervision and Staff

Campers are supervised by Camp Makerie staff at all times. They are assigned into teams according to age and have counselors assigned to each group at a ratio of 5/1 to 8/1 depending on the age of the camper group. During project builds the ratio is 5/1 with activity staff available.

We have an incredible team of counselors ready to have a blast with your kiddo! We spend months carefully interviewing, screening, and training a stellar and passionate crew of people who are beyond excited to play with your camper this summer. Our counselors are professionals with extensive childcare, teaching, and summer camp experience. We do not employ counseling staff that are minors. On average most of our staff are between 22-28.

Our staff training program is extensive, over 40 hours, and we follow a specific model of staff behavior that gives our campers the safety, respect, and support they need at camp to have an incredible week. Staff are all Level 2 background checked, First Aid and CPR certified, and complete training modules covering a wide range of relevant topics like: Safety in Summer Camp Setting, Emergency procedures and drills, Sexual Abuse Prevention, Working With Special Needs Campers, Duty of Care, Group Management, Emotional Regulation, Leadership Style, Child Development, Success Counseling, Social Emotional Learning for Problem Solving, and Team Building. Staff receive further 1-1 coaching throughout the summer, two Evaluations, and a mid-

summer training to ensure we continuously meet the highest quality standards that we can.

A Typical Day

7:45-8:45a - Early Drop Off available (\$35/week or \$10/day)

8:45-9:15a- Camper Check In

9:30a- Morning Warm Ups / group game

10:00a- Activity Time: Big Project of the Week

11:30a - Lunch/Playground Rotation

12:30 - Afternoon Free Choice Activity Stations

2:30p - Camper Kindness Shout Outs/Wrap up of day in crews

3:00p-3:15p - Camper Check Out for End of Regular Camp Day

3p-5:30P - Extended Day (more activities/projects/outside play (\$75/week or \$20/day)

5:30p - All campers must be picked up by this time. (Late Fee of \$1/min will incur if camper is picked up after 5:30p)

YOUR FIRST DAY!

Campers arrive on the first day and are told which Color Crew they will be in that week. We have a full rainbow at Camp Makerie. **Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Purple, & Pink** Crews! When they join their crew they are greeted by a counselor who will help them settle in with a name tag and a cubby for their stuff. All groups have free play stations set up in their rooms as campers arrive. This free play time allows campers to ease themselves into their environment at the level they are most comfortable, and gives our counselors time to get to know them and watch their dynamics together so they can make sure each kid feels part of the group. At 9:30 groups will circle up go over our Camp Expectations! Then they play a name game (the first step to making new friends is learning their names!) and choose a group name and crew call to use for the week together. Camp crews then meet up in our central room for camp assembly and a very silly skit introducing the camp staff team, reviewing the camp expectations, and introducing our storyline for the week. The story of the week is a HUGE part of our camp. We immerse in a magical world of make-believe called Makerie, it is silly and ridiculous, and full of crazy adventures. Guided by our fearless leader Toadwart, a magical toad who sends us letters through the Makerie Fairy Mail System, we take on missions, trap villains, help others in need, and get really really silly. Please check out our **CAMP LORE** page on our website to catch up on the backstory of our world, so you might have some idea of what your child is talking about when they tell you they were terrorized by the Evil Goose that day.

PLEASE NOTE

That first day of camp is run in a VERY INTENTIONAL structure, and we URGE parents to make sure your child can attend on time that day. Missing other days of camp are less detrimental to their incorporation into the team we are building with them, but Monday is a very important day in our process. We are helping kids get to know each other, get to know us and the routine, and let our staff see how the kids work and interact together, so that when we get to Tuesday (the first day of our project build) we know who needs extra support making a friend and connecting to the team, or with following the instructions when we hand them tools that require following specific safety rules). The main objectives for that first day is to start the group formation process, help kids to find at least 1 thing in the group or their planned project that connects with and excites them and to look forward to the plan made together for their build that week.

In the middle of the day the campers will eat lunch in our picnic area and get time to play on our playground and game field. On hot days, there will be an air-conditioned play space available to take breaks as needed.

Campers will also be introduced to our Challenge Of The Day, where they can earn character building buttons to take home at the end of the week. Then the day will wrap up with a crew campfire that each team sets up together and gives them an opportunity to each share something about their day and helps them connect their individual moments with the teams shared experience together.

Every morning's structure is the same to help kids build confidence and trust with us. We make sure to keep consistency for our campers as much as possible so they know what to expect to a certain degree (with some moments of fun surprise to mix things up - you never know when a villain might show up or a marshmallow fight break out, this is summer camp after all!)

On **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** we Build our Big Project in the morning and then a rotation of Free Choice Activities in the afternoon (these will change week to week and be various kinds of fun activities like: arts and crafts, music, sports, STEM, Pokemon or Magic Cards, NERF, Archery, Dnd, News Crew, Stop Motion Animation, DJing, Theater improv, Cooking, Karaoke, and lots more.

Wednesday is typically our Water Day which takes up a full afternoon, with inflatable slides, water shooters, water games, foam bubble play, and a Slip n Slide. Oh and there's snow cones, can't forget about the snowcones!

Friday is our wrap up day, where the groups complete their project of the week and show it off in the week's big event. This is also when we will do a big wrap up of our storyline for that week. There is always one big overarching storyline for the summer that continues through each week, and each week basically concludes a chapter in that journey. On Friday, campers will bring home their buttons that they earned, a themed memento from camp that represents the chapter in the story we just concluded (in the past this has been different colored sands, or plastic gems, or an ingredient for a "potion" we were gathering all summer).

CHECK IN PROCEDURES

- Early Drop off Campers will need to walk to our BIG camp room (Behind the tent on the field) and checked in there with staff (anytime between 7:45a-8:45a)
- Regular day campers can check in any time between **8:50a-9:10a, and will check in at the Tent.**
- **All Campers will check in at the tent on the first day of each camp week** (typically Mondays)
- **AFTER** the first day of camp, campers can be dropped off in carline at the sidewalk by the 2-story stairs. CM staff will be present to help them out of the cars, check them in, and walk them to their group rooms. If no staff is present, please park and walk your child in.
- **Monday check-in can take longer, so please plan accordingly.** We are settling lots of new kids in, getting them to their assigned teams, and gathering any additional information we need to help them have a great time at camp.
- Please help us prescreen your camper for illness. No children may stay at camp if they are experiencing any symptoms of illness.
- Parents are encouraged to say good-bye outside of the camper's assigned room as much as possible. If your camper is having a hard time saying goodbye, CM staff will help you with the transition (We have some tricks up our sleeves). We ask that all parents leave the camp building by 9:20a, unless meeting with staff.
- If you arrive after regular check in time (9:15a) and there is not a staff member present outside, please knock on one of the camp room doors and a staff will come and assist you or text/call 352-339-5102 and we will come find you,

CHECK OUT PROCEDURES

Camper pick up time is between **3:00p-3:15p**. (Please do not arrive to pick up before 2:50p). **No camper will be released between 2:30p and 2:55p** (this is both so the counselors can run an intentional closeout time for the campers and for safety as we are transitioning a lot of kids out of the camp rooms to the camp Big Room for pick up. Please plan accordingly or pick up before or after that time.

PLEASE DONT PLAN TO CHECK A CAMPER OUT EARLY ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON

(Believe us when we say they will be mad at you) - lol

2 WAYS TO PICK UP

1. CARLINE

2. PARK IN THE LOT AND WALK TO BIG CAMP ROOM ENTRANCE

IF YOU ARE PICKING UP FROM OUR CARLINE

- On Monday at drop off you can pick up a CAMPER ID PAPER to display on your dashboard.
- Please pull around the building, and follow the cones/signs to make a line at the exit side of the BIG building, (right before the exit of the campus). Please stay tight to the left side so thru traffic can still get out around you.
- As much as possible, please plan to load kids from RIGHT side of the car.
- CM staff may ask to verify your identity if you dont have a CAMPER ID CARD displayed
- If there is rain present, we will escort campers with Umbrellas, but if there is LIGHTNING present, carline will be delayed until it is safe to walk the campers out.
- In the random chance that LIGHTNING was present between 2:45-3p, carline will be moved to the morning drop off spot at the 2-story as we will have been unable to move the campers to the BIG ROOM for checkout. All pick up will need to be via carline in that case, no walk ins. You will see staff and signs to indicate that the pick up spot as moved due to weather.

IF YOU ARE PARKING AND WALKING IN TO PICK UP

- You will walk through the field and past the tent to the BIG Building behind it, and go in the double entrance doors.
- A staff will greet you at the door and call for your camper to meet you at the door.

GENERAL INFO:

- Campers will ONLY be released to authorized persons listed on their pick up list, A photo ID may be requested at any point for verification.
- If you are running late, (past 3:15), please call/text the Camp Director &/or Assistant Director to let them know when to expect you. If a camper is not picked up by 3:15p, they will be added to the extended care program at a rate of \$5/15 min or \$20 for the full extended care time. All campers must be picked up by 5:30p.

SEE THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT FOR A HANDY MAP!

Camper Pick Up List

In your CAMPINTOUCH Parent Account there is a tab that says FORMS, That is where you will fill out the Authorized Grown-ups Pick up form. You DO NOT have to fill this out for caregivers already listed on the campers original application. Those caregivers are automatically authorized. We recommend including pictures for caregivers and pickup people when you fill out the form, it helps checkout go faster. When a new person not known to staff is picking up a camper, they will need to provide a photo id to verify identity before a camper will be released to their care if one is not uploaded on the form.

Extended Care

Camp Makerie provides extended care programming for families who need early drop off or a later pick up time. This runs from 7:45a - 9am for early drop off and 3:00 PM-5:30 PM for late pick up. During extended care kids will be able to choose from a rotation of extra activities and projects as well as outdoor play time, This option works well for kids who may need more physical activity at the end of the day and or freedom to work on individual projects.

Extended care can be booked in advance when you register for the camp week, or by logging into your CAMPINTOUCH account and clicking application and adding it later on. It can be added by the day and the cost is prorated for each additional day that you add. We are requesting that extended care be booked by the start of the camp week. We can accommodate last minute add-ins but you will need to let the Camp Director know via text/phone call ASAP so we can get them added to the list.

We are closed at 5:30p and all campers must be off campus by then. A late fee will incur if a child isn't picked up by 5:30p. If a campers has not been pick up, and no caregivers/emergency contacts are able to be reached after 1 hour, CPS will be contacted

Lost & Found

Please LABEL ALL ITEMS brought to camp by your child, including clothes, towel, and water bottles. Often kids leave things behind, forget where they set them, or forget what their item looks like. Labels help us get campers items back into the correct cubbies. Our goal is to not let any items be left behind at camp, but inevitably something does. We will set out items found throughout the week on a table during check in/check out times for you to see. After the week, LOST & FOUND items are boxed and kept until the end of the summer then typically discarded or donated.

Sun Exposure, Sunscreen & Bug Spray

Its getting hotter every summer, so lets be prepared so we can have a fun week! While a lot of our activities happen inside our air conditioned buildings, we do have a tree covered playground that we use as well as a open field for games, we have a water day afternoon, and some of our sports activities for our free choice time will be on the field or on a blocked off back portion of the parking lot. All of these would be higher sun exposure times.

We recommend sun shirts and hats for outside play, sending your camper with sunscreen applied, especially on water day, and send the bottle with them if you want them to reapply later. Counselors will prompt campers to apply sunscreen before particular activities in our week that have greater level of sun exposure. We will give them a time before going out to outdoor activities to reapply as preferred by their families. We will also have a stock of sunscreen and bugspray available outside for campers to use as needed.

For Bugspray, we have found that it is only needed for the kids that are prone to bugs, most kids have no issue on our property as it's a clear/cleaned out playground with very few critters. However, if your child is always getting bit when no one else is, or has strong reactions to bites, you may want to send bugspray.

Water Day

We typically have a WEDNESDAY Water Day every week, but sometimes it is moved to THURSDAY or even FRIDAY depending on the schedule of the week and the weather. Please check with staff to be sure, and you will also get a reminder email during the week regarding what day water day is planned for. We play water games and use inflatable water slides around campus for this event. Please send your camper wearing their water clothes under their day clothes if possible. **Campers should WEAR THEIR SWIMSUIT to camp and bring the following: WATER SHOES and a TOWEL.** We also recommend sunscreen and sun shirts/hats. If a camper forgot water clothes, they can still participate in their day clothes if they would like and we will call your family to bring them a change of clothes for the end. We will have a few extra towels on hand for those cases. We don't want anyone to miss out.

If your child absolutely doesn't want to participate in the water activities, they will be given an indoor self-directed option (boardgames, books, puzzles, drawing, LEGO, etc) under the supervision of a counselor for the duration of their groups water activity time.

VISITORS

We only allow visitors while camp is running with prior arrangement. All visitors must stay within staff supervision at all times while camp is operating and wear a name tag. You will be asked to turn in your Drivers License and car keys to be held by Camp Makerie Staff until the end of your visit.

PLEASE NOTE WHEN ON OUR CAMPUS: No weapons of any kind allowed, even with lawful permit. No illicit drugs, marijuana (medical or otherwise), or alcohol can be brought on our campus. We are a smoke and vape free campus. Personal pets are not allowed on campus without prior permission and evidence of general health and up to date vaccinations.

VOLUNTEERS

At this time, we are not currently taking volunteers for the summer program. However our Teen LIT program has an opportunity for those participants to get up to 10 hours of volunteer work as an optional part of their experience in that program. Reach out to us for more info.

CAMPER MEDICATIONS

All medications that come with a camper should be turned in to the check in staff at drop off. Medication must be in the original container. All camper medications will be kept secured in our medications box located in our Staff Area until they are dosed for your camper unless instructed otherwise approved by CM Staff and preferred by the parent (examples of this would be epi-pens and inhalers). A Camper Medication Authorization Form must be filled out to authorize MBC staff to administer the medication as well as all dosing instructions. This is found in your camper's Campintouch Account. Staff will log medication administration in our medical log available for parent review at any time. Our medication logs are further reviewed by our on-call Camp Nurse Practitioner on a weekly basis.

Camper Safety

At Camp Makerie, we try our best to provide as safe an environment as we can for our campers. The buildings we use are regularly safety inspected by DCF as well as the Fire Marshall, and local law enforcement has vetted our emergency plans. Our campus is equipped with campus wide camera security, and the perimeter of our camper activity areas are fully closed off to the public by 8 foot security gates locked from the outside. Camp Makerie staff review and/or practice emergency drills weekly, as well as walk the campus to identify any safety concerns. All visitors on campus are escorted by

staff and campers are visually transferred to their caregivers as the end of the day and never released to anyone not listed on their camper profile.

CAMPER HEALTH AND ILLNESS

At Camp Makerie we are dedicated to protect our camper's health and well-being while in our care. We do our very best to keep camp healthy and use best practices for inhibiting communicable illnesses on our campus. This is a TEAM effort! We can't do it alone and need you to help us by doing your own daily screenings of your camper before dropping them off for camp to ensure they are well and ready for camp!

IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER THAT ANY CHILD EXPERIENCING **ANY SIGNS OF ANY ILLNESS** REMAIN AT HOME. - For this effort we have created a SICK credit. Any camper that misses their full scheduled week of camp can receive a 50% credit on their account to apply to a future camp. A doctor's note will be required and request made in writing to the camp director. Partially missed weeks can not be credited.

If your camper has any of the following symptoms at the start of camp, they should not attend until symptoms resolve. Any campers showing any of these symptoms during camp will be sent home:

- Temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
- Diarrhea (2 or more abnormally loose stools within a 24 hour period)
- Prolonged Indigestion Issues
- Moderate to severe Coughing (if your child has a lingering mild cough, they may stay at camp but could be asked to wear a mask when indoors.)
- Difficult or rapid breathing
- Yellowish skin or eyes
- Redness of the eye, obvious discharge, matted eyelashes, burning or itching
- Untreated, infected skin patches or unusual spots or rashes
- Unusually dark urine and/ or grey or white stool
- Stiff neck with elevated temperature
- Evidence of lice, scabies, or other parasitic infestation
- Sore throat or difficulty in swallowing
- Vomiting within a 24 hour period
- Abnormally tired and/or lethargic

Campers will be moved away from the group if they are found to have any of these listed symptoms while at camp, and their family contacted to pick up. We do this out of abundance of caution for the safety of our camp community and that individual child's health.

Camp Makerie has a stock of typical Over the Counter children's medications that are available to be dispensed with parent permission. These are things like Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Benadryl, Itch Creams, Burn Cream, Etc) A full list is on the Camper Health Form. If you have given permission to dispense an OTC medication on an as needed basis, we always still try to contact you first before dispensing whenever possible.

Throughout the day CM Staff are doing everything they can to keep camp a healthy space for our campers including: morning visual health checks of campers in their group, instructing the group to wash/sanitize hands routinely throughout the day (specifically at arrival and before and after eating), sanitizing surfaces frequently, and performing a thorough sanitizing clean of all activity areas every day.

PLEASE NOTE: WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT YOUR CHILD WONT BE EXPOSED TO A VIRUS WHILE AT CAMP MAKERIE, THAT IS A RISK YOU ARE TAKING BY SENDING THEM TO A YOUTH OUT-OF-SCHOOL PROGRAM THIS SUMMER. We will do everything feasible to limit that risk.

Accidents/Incidents

Even with great staff supervision and all the safety precautions in place, sometimes accidents happen at camp. Any accident requiring medical care will be treated to the extent of the CM Staff's First Aid training scope, consultation with our on call Nurse Practitioner, and the child's guardians will be notified by the Camp Director. The parents can then decide with the Camp Director whether the camper should be picked up at that time to receive further care or if they are fine to continue the day at camp. All accidents/incidents both severe and minor are documented by CM staff and reviewed by our on call NP as well as with the camper caregivers within 48 hours.

Medical Emergencies

If there is a severe medical emergency with a camper, 911 will be immediately called, and staff will then work to notify the guardians as quickly as possible. Please make sure all their allergies are listed on their registrations, as well as every contact number you have for this purpose. A CM staff member will accompany the camper to the hospital and remain with them until authorized guardians arrive.

RAINY DAYS

Florida in the summer can bring some big storms. For the most part, it doesn't effect our camp program, as we can adjust to bring outside activities inside. If a storm cancels our Water Day, we will try to reschedule for the next day. ***If there is a major storm with active lightning happening during camper pick up time, we will delay pick

up until the danger has passed. No one will be penalized for late pick up in those cases.

Expectations Of Campers

Campers should expect a fun and safe environment while at camp. To ensure this, we have some very important "Building Materials" that come from inside of us all that we must use at camp so that everyone has the very best week ever! These are our camp rules and a camper must agree to follow them. Please review them with your camper.

1. KINDNESS - in the way that we speak and act with our friends,
2. RESPECT - the counselors, as well as the campsite and camp equipment
3. TEAMWORK - finding ways to be a good teammate and leader, and also staying with our crew and asking a counselor before you go

Children with Special Needs

Camp Makerie strives to be an inclusive camp for kids of all abilities. If your camper has special needs (physical, mental, emotional, &/or social), please contact the Camp Director to discuss how we can best accommodate for them to have an awesome week with us.

To be successful at our camp, all attending campers need to be able to feed and toilet independently, follow directions, communicate needs at a developmental level appropriate for their age group, and function in a group setting in an 8/1 camper to staff ratio.

We have extra noise canceling headphones onsite, and a quiet area for kids to get breaks from the group if they need. This area has some sensory tools that kids can use to regulate as needed, as well as beanbags and a couch to rest.

We are able to provide periodic extra support for campers needing greater staff attention while in the group at specific and infrequent times, but we are not able to provide a consistent 1-1 support. At this time we are unable to accommodate 1-1 private aids due to space limitations and the group dynamics disruptions that it causes.

In general here are some good things to know about our camp environment for our kiddos with special needs.

- Camp can be a sensory overload: We run a real summer camp program, there is cheering, singing, loud music, bright flashing lights, and lots of transitions with inside and outside activities. We do as much as we can to support our sensory sensitive campers, and please just know that this is a norm for our camp

and your camper may need extra items from home to help us support them (noise canceling headphones, small handheld fan if heat is a trigger) and set up those expectations for them prior to coming to camp.

- Camp is collaborative and campers will be working with peer groups and making a project together not on their own, Being able to communicate needs and work through frustrations and hold personal boundaries with others is essential as well as communicating to staff when they need a break or need help with a peer.
- Camp RULES are for safety and all campers must be able to follow them. We use tools for our project builds that require the ability to listen to instructions and follow directions for safety, as well as stay focused on a task for our 45 minute activity blocks. Campers ages 5-6 will need to be able to focus on a task for 30 minute blocks, and campers ages 7+ will need to be able to focus on an activity task for 45 min blocks.
- SUMMER CAMP IS NOT THE TIME TO REDUCE/REMOVE MEDICATION SUPPORT. We build stuff and work together as a team, this requires a lot of direction following and accommodating for a group, if your camper requires medication to be successful focusing or working with others at school, they should continue to take it at summer camp.

Camper Behavior Struggles

We know that kids are not always going to get along, or handle situations in the best manner, or agree about everything. However, we expect that these disagreements will be handled in a kind and respectful way. Staff will work with campers who are having an issue with each other to mediate a solution that creates a safe environment where everyone feels they are valued.

For our younger campers, we may structure this with a goal and create a behavior agreement plan that allows us to create a visual reminder of what we are working on and staff will refer back to it throughout the day to remind the camper and give feedback as they improve.

If there is a camper behavior that is frequently affecting their or other's camp experience negatively, then mediation will be escalated to the Camp Director, and the camper's parents will be contacted and involved in a behavior plan for that camper to help support them to correct it. If, despite these efforts, staff continue to have to de-escalate the same issue with the same camper(s), the Camp Director will then decide whether or not camp is the best place for that child at that time. Please note that in cases where a child displays physically/verbally violent or abusive behaviors, or directly unsafe behavior (such as inability to stay with their group) this process will be escalated quickly and the child may be asked to leave camp immediately for the safety of all. In

the event that a camp is not the right fit for a child and the decision has been made either by the Director, the parents, or mutually, there is no prorated refund or credit for that current week of camp. There is no guarantee of refund of registration fees for any other subsequent weeks they were registered for in any of these cases that require dismissal from camp.

At times a camper's choices could result in physical damage to camp property. In these cases, we typically ask the camper to give back to camp by participating in a community service that is appropriate for their age. This could be cleaning floors or picking up trash in the outdoor areas. If the damage is extensive, (something with a financial loss for the camp) the camper's family is expected to compensate for the damage.

Bullying Policy

Camp Makerie does not tolerate bullying nor any type of intimidation or isolation behaviors from our campers. It is one of our main goals to increase self-confidence in our campers, and that they make lots of new friends and take great memories home at the end of the week. We ask that parents give us any information they receive at home that indicates this sort of situation occurring at camp, as there are times that things happen between campers in ways that staff don't end up seeing or hearing. Any situation that involves bullying type behaviors will be immediately addressed by leadership, and the staff will work closely with our campers to help them gain positive communication tools for solving problems and finding common ground. If that is not possible, bullying behavior without willingness to participate in reparation is a reason that a camper would be excused from camp. We work hard to keep our camp a physically and emotionally safe environment for all our campers, and we appreciate all parent feedback in this area.

What to Expect at Camp Makerie

(A Few Helpful Things for Families to Know)

Camp Makerie is not your typical day camp. Our days are full of creativity, collaboration, imagination, and a LOT of joyful chaos. Here are a few things that might help you and your camper know what to expect before the week begins.

Camp Can Get Loud, Silly, and Full of Energy

There will absolutely be moments when camp gets loud—in the best way. Songs, cheers, group games, big project reveals, and our legendary Friday celebrations can bring lots of excitement and energy. Campers are often encouraged to be playful, expressive, and a little bit silly as they participate in the camp community.

We follow a **“challenge by choice” philosophy**, meaning campers are always invited to participate at a level that feels comfortable for them. However, campers tend to have the best experience when they jump in, try new things, and allow themselves to be part of the group energy. Sometimes the best moments at camp happen when kids take a small step outside their comfort zone. We always ask campers that don’t want to participate in the camp activities being offered to still support the team even if they are not playing (this might mean sitting in the sharing circle but can pass their turn to share, or quietly hanging to the side while the counselors run a group game for the team). We want kids to be comfortable and have autonomy of choice, but at the same time not derail or work against the program that the staff are running for the rest of the group. If we find that a particular camper is opting out of a lot of things with their group, we will meet with their caregivers to formulate a plan to help their camper find a level of participation that fosters growth for them in this area.

For Campers Sensitive to Noise

We understand that the energy level at camp can sometimes feel overwhelming for campers who are sensitive to sound.

To support those campers, we offer:

- **Noise-reducing headphones** available at camp
- A **quiet chill-out space** away from louder activities
- The option for campers to bring their own headphones from home

Our staff are always happy to help campers find the balance they need to feel comfortable and supported.

Camp Is a Team Sport

Many of the biggest and most exciting projects at Camp Makerie are **team builds**. Campers collaborate with their group to design, build, and problem-solve together. Because these projects are created collectively, **large builds stay at camp** rather than going home with individual campers.

The focus is on the shared experience of creating something bigger than any one person could build alone. We also reuse and repurpose materials whenever possible, part of the Makerie spirit is seeing the creative potential in unexpected things. Campers may still bring home **smaller crafts or creations** made during free-choice activities.

For Campers Who Find Teamwork Challenging

Team projects can be exciting, but they can also be a learning experience. Campers practice skills like:

- Sharing ideas
- Listening to others
- Compromising
- Communicating clearly
- Sticking with a challenge when things don't go as planned

This is where some of the real magic of camp happens. Our staff are trained to help guide these moments and support campers as they build confidence working in a group.

If there's anything you'd like us to know about your camper, interests, personality, social style, or ways we can support them, please include it in their registration or let us know at check-in. Those little insights help us create the best possible experience for them.

Your Camper May Be Very Tired

Camp Makerie days are full. Even though camp hours may be similar to a school day, the pace is very different. Campers spend the day building, creating, moving, playing, and interacting with friends and staff. By the end of the day it's very common for campers to be **happily exhausted**. Some fall asleep on the ride home!

PRO TIP! Keeping a **consistent bedtime similar to school during camp weeks** can make a big difference in helping campers recharge for the next day.

Sometimes Camp Is Hard (And That's Okay)

Camp is a place where kids grow—not just creatively, but socially and emotionally too. Occasionally, a camper may have a tough moment. This might happen if they:

- Feel nervous about making new friends
- Disagree with a group decision during a build
- Feel frustrated when a project idea doesn't work the first time
- Have a conflict with another camper
- Feel tired or overwhelmed

These moments are normal and part of learning and growing and we want to help them through that. If your camper tells you they don't want to come back the next day, we encourage you to **reach out to us so we can work together to support them.**

With encouragement from families and guidance from our staff, most campers are able to move through these challenges and feel incredibly proud of themselves afterward. These moments often lead to new confidence, stronger friendships, and valuable life skills.

SENSITIVE TOPICS

We recognize that families today are navigating many complex topics with their children at different stages of development. Occasionally, these subjects may come up at camp through camper conversations or observations.

Camp Makerie's goal is to keep the camp environment **focused on creativity, friendship, and play**, while ensuring that every camper feels safe and respected. Because of this, our staff are trained to gently **redirect conversations about sensitive or complex topics** during the camp day. These may include subjects such as politics, religion, sexuality, war, public policy, or other adult issues that are best addressed within families.

If these topics arise, staff will guide the conversation back toward camp activities and encourage campers to discuss questions they may have with their **parents or trusted adults at home**.

Respect and Inclusion

At Camp Makerie, we believe every child deserves to feel welcome and valued.

We do not tolerate teasing, exclusion, or discrimination based on:

- Race or ethnicity
- Nationality or cultural background
- Religion
- Age
- Sex or gender
- Gender identity or sexual orientation
- Disability or ability level
- Physical Appearance

Campers are encouraged to be themselves and treat others with kindness and respect. This includes respecting personal choices about things such as appearance, clothing, names, or pronouns. Our focus is on helping campers learn how to **coexist respectfully and build a community where everyone belongs**.

Our Role as Camp Staff

Camp staff are not responsible for teaching or debating complex social or political issues with campers. Instead, our role is to:

- Maintain a safe and positive camp environment

- Model kindness and respectful behavior
- Redirect conversations that are not appropriate for the camp setting
- Support campers in resolving conflicts respectfully

Our goal is to create a camp culture where children can focus on creativity, collaboration, and fun while learning how to treat all others with empathy and respect.

Camp Makerie respects the diversity of beliefs held by the families we serve and does not promote political or religious viewpoints within the camp program, rather strives create an inclusive community for all.

Parent Communication

At Camp Makerie, we believe that great communication between families and staff helps create the best possible camp experience for every child. We always welcome feedback and updates from our camp families.

If there is anything happening in your child's day that might affect their experience at camp, please let us know. Even small details can help our staff better support your camper.

Examples might include:

- A late night or a tired morning
- A disagreement with a sibling or friend before arriving at camp
- A challenging day the day before at camp
- Anything happening at home that may impact their mood or behavior

You can share updates by:

- Letting a staff member know during **morning drop-off**, or
- Sending a quick text message to the Camp Director (Harmony)

These small check-ins help our staff be more aware and responsive to your camper's needs throughout the day.

Daily Camper Updates

Whenever possible, counselors will share brief updates about your camper's day during **pick-up time**, especially if something significant occurred — whether it was a big success, a challenge, or something we want you to know about.

Contacting Camp During the Day

If you need to reach camp during the day, the **Camp Director is available on site** and can be contacted by: Phone, Text, or Email. See below for contact info.

We do our best to respond as quickly as possible while also staying focused on supervising campers. Our goal is to work together with families to ensure every

camper feels **safe, supported, and excited to come back to Camp Makerie each day**. Open communication helps us do that.

Pictures and Videos at Camp

One of our favorite parts of camp is capturing the creativity, excitement, and memorable moments that happen throughout the week. Our staff take photos and short videos during activities so families can get a glimpse of the fun their campers are having.

Daily Photo Updates

Photos from the day are uploaded to the **Campanion app**, where families can check in and see highlights from camp throughout the week. We do our best to post new photos each day so you can follow along with the adventures happening at camp. Because our campers are busy building, playing, and exploring, we cannot guarantee that every camper will appear in photos each day. Our priority is always **supervising campers and facilitating activities**, so photos are taken when it is appropriate and safe for staff to briefly step away to capture a moment.

End-of-Week Videos

At the end of each week, we share special videos on the **Camp Makerie YouTube channel**, including:

- A **weekly highlight slideshow** featuring photos from the week
- A **full video of our Friday event or celebration**, so families can experience the big finale
- Occasionally, additional fun moments from camp activities and projects

These videos allow campers to relive the experience and help families feel connected to the creativity, teamwork, and excitement of the week.

Photo & Video Permissions

As part of your camper's required registration forms, families sign a **photo and media release** that allows Camp Makerie to take and share photos or videos of campers for communication and promotional purposes.

If your family has any reservations about this waiver or would like to discuss accommodations, please feel free to **reach out to the Camp Director before your camper's week begins**. We are happy to work with families to find a solution that respects your preferences while still allowing us to share the spirit of camp.

Why You Might Not See Your Camper in Photos Every Day

We know families love seeing photos from camp—and we love sharing them! However, there are a few reasons your camper may not appear in photos every day.

First and most importantly, our staff's top priority is **supervising campers and running activities**. Photos are taken when it is appropriate and safe to briefly capture a moment without interrupting the experience.

We also have **one dedicated media staff member** documenting camp, and with multiple groups participating in different activities throughout the day, some groups may be photographed one day and others the next.

Additionally, some campers move quickly between activities or prefer not to be photographed. If a camper asks not to be included in photos or videos, we always respect their boundaries.

Please know that **not appearing in photos does not mean your camper isn't having a great time**—often the busiest, most engaged campers are the hardest to catch on camera!

End of Year Tax Filing

End of year invoices are available in your CampInTouch account under the Financial Tab. Our official Business Name is Master Builder Camp, LLC / DBA Name: Camp Makerie and our Tax ID is 47-1299997.

CAMP CONTACT INFORMATION

For all general inquiries: questions about camp, registration, or things regarding a camper coming in a future week call:

Camp Makerie General Number - 352-363-5399

This number is for all sales and info inquiries. (You will leave a Voicemail to be called back ASAP):

For immediate needs and use during camp session for current campers:

Harmony Lenasbunt / Camp Director 352-339-5102

Liz Rosema / Camp Assistant Director 626-394-7814

MAP OF CAMPUS

