

Summer Camp 2025 Handbook for Parents

Get the information you need about Summer camps here!



Thank you for choosing Courtenay Recreation Summer Programs!

We look forward to having your child at camp this summer for a fun-filled line up of activities, rewarding experiences, enjoyable moments, and new friendships!



**Courtenay
Recreation**

250-338-5371
courtenay.ca/rec

Program Tips for Parents/Guardians in Preparation for Camp:

Please explain to your child how important it is to work with and listen to their camp leaders to help ensure a fun and safe camp experience. Some of the things to review are:

- Practice good hand hygiene: wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds and avoid touching your face.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow, not your hands
- Don't be in other participant's and staff's personal bubble
- Stay home if they are unwell
- Use a refillable water bottle to stay hydrated
- Get plenty of sleep before attending camp
- Apply sunscreen before attending a program and teach your child to be able to apply their own effectively.

Sun Protection

We require all participants to be protected with sunscreen, and a hat each day. Use of UV protected sunglasses is encouraged but not required. Children should come to camp with sunscreen already applied and be able to re-apply independently upon reminders from camp leaders.

What to Bring

- Weather appropriate clothing
- Comfortable, closed toe shoes
- Bathing Suit & Towel (everyday)
- Water Bottle
- Waterproof Sunscreen & Hat
- Water Shoes or Sandals (for beach days)
- Rain Jacket & Boots (for rainy days)
- Bag lunch & snacks (peanut free)



***Please label all your child's belongings**

Please leave at home: electronics, food with peanuts, flip flops, toy weapons, money, or anything else of value or sentiment they would be upset if lost or stolen.

Important Links:

Camp Forms:
courtenay.ca/recforms
Camp Schedules:
courtenay.ca/camps

Contacts:

Summer Camp Coordinator
daycampsupervisor@courtenay.ca
250-218-8667

Summer Inclusion Coordinator
inclusion.coordinator@courtenay.ca
250-650-1756



Camp Locations

The daily meeting place for your child's camp will be printed on your receipt. Staff will be at these locations wearing their staff shirts.

Sign In/Sign Out Procedures

Parents/Guardians will be required to:

- verbally sign their child into camp with camp staff
- inform staff who will be picking them up at the end of the day.

Camp Leaders are available to help direct parents and campers and answer questions each day. We ask that parents do not enter camp program areas. If your child is over the age of 10 and has permission to sign themselves in and out of camp please complete an *independent sign-out* form, available at the front desk and our website.

Hours of Operations

Most of our camps run Monday to Friday 9 am - 4 pm, unless otherwise noted on your receipt.

KidsPlay (Before & After Camp Care)

Safe, unstructured, but supervised playtime is available before camp from 8 am - 9 am and after camp from 4 pm - 5 pm. Pre-registration is required to attend. Drop-off and pick-up from KidsPlay is at the Lewis Park totem poles.

Late Pick-ups/Absences

If you are unable to pick your child up on time, please call and notify the Lewis Centre as soon as possible. When possible your child will join the KidsPlay program and you will be billed for the cost. Late pick-ups from the KidsPlay program will be billed an additional fee. If your child will be absent from camp, please notify the Lewis Centre as soon as possible.

Field Trips

Camp may go on field trips to locations around the Comox Valley. An itinerary will be available on our website on the Friday prior to the start of your registered camp. Activities are rain or shine, so please make sure your child is prepared for all weather conditions.

Lost & Found

Items will be kept at the Lewis Centre until September 1, 2025. After, they will be donated to an organization in need. Please label everything your child brings to camp so we can ensure it is safely returned to them.

Swimming

Camp swims are supervised by qualified lifeguards. All campers will participate in a swim test and assigned a bracelet indicating if they are allowed to swim in the deep end, the shallow end or are required to wear a life jacket. Participants in life jackets and participants ages 6 & under will be within arms-reach of a leader at all time. If you would like your child to wear a life jacket regardless of their swim ability, please contact the Lewis Centre prior to the camp start date and a note will be made on your child's account. Please pack a swimsuit and towel for every day of camp.

Administration of Medications

If your child will be arriving to camp with medication (including personal medication, Tylenol, Ibuprofen, or an EpiPen), please contact the Adapted and Inclusive Program Supervisor or the Inclusion Coordinator regarding administration and storage of medication.

Allergies

Please treat day camp like a school environment. We do have campers with severe peanut and other nut allergies. Please do not send your child with nut products. If your child has food allergies or dietary restrictions please ensure these are clearly stated on the camper registration form and do not hesitate to discuss your child's allergies or dietary restrictions with program staff. If your child requires an epi-pen for their allergies, please contact our Adaptive & Inclusive Program Supervisor at 250-338-5371 to discuss arrangements.

Adapted & Inclusive Program

We make it fun and easy for children with special needs and diverse abilities to attend our camps. Contact the Summer Inclusion Coordinator at 250-338-5371 for more information on the support available.

Parent Communication

Camp leaders will keep parents/guardians informed of daily events, via an online schedule. If your child will not be attending for any reason please notify the office. Any concerns should be brought to a Program Supervisor's attention immediately.

Change in Family Status

If your child is experiencing any stress or trauma outside of camp, please inform one of the camp contacts (see back page). This will allow our staff to better understand your child and communicate more effectively should any behaviour changes occur. It is the responsibility of the parent to notify the front desk or Program Supervisor of any changes to custody orders, spousal restrictions, or living arrangements. If there is ever a concern about your child's well-being please call to discuss.

Removal of Participants from the Program

If your child comes to the program with an infectious disease (ex. Pink Eye) or condition (ex. Head Lice), the parents will be notified and the child will be sent home immediately. The child may only return to the program when they are no longer infectious. If a child's behaviour is disruptive to the program, safety or enjoyment of other participants and all efforts have been made to support him/her to participate successfully, the child's parents will be notified. If the behaviour continues, the parents will be notified again and the child will be sent home from the program for the day. The child will only be allowed to return to the program when his/her behaviour is appropriate. A child may be refused the opportunity to participate or be removed from the program by the program staff after consultation with a Program Supervisor.