



Preparing for Camp

Before your camper heads off to Camp Cocoon, please read through the following topics and, as appropriate, discuss them with your child.

DRESSING AND SHOWERING

No matter their age, all campers at Camp Cocoon must be able to dress themselves and shower alone. Be sure that your child is comfortable dressing and showering independently before sending them to camp.

PACKING FOR CAMP

Each camper should have their own luggage, not bags shared with a sibling. Each camper's luggage should contain only their own clothing, bedding, and toiletries. Please do not pack the belongings for 2 different children in the same bag or expect them to "share" toiletries or other items.

STRONG LANGUAGE

Camp Chattooga/Athens Y Camp is a Christian Camp. We are guests at Camp Chattooga and respect the Y Camp policy to refrain from strong or course language.

PUBLIC DISPLAYS of AFFECTION

Camp Cocoon is a good place to make friends, but not the best situation for a romantic relationship. Just like in school, public displays of affection are not permitted at Camp Cocoon.

HOMESICKNESS

We realize it may be incredibly hard for some campers and their families to separate for the weekend. In some cases, this will be the first time families have done so since the loss of their loved one. Camp Cocoon's counselors and volunteers are prepared for this and are confident this weekend will be a wonderful experience for everyone involved. Help the weekend run as smoothly as possible by following these few suggestions:

1. Before going to camp, talk with your camper and let him/her know it is normal to miss home, but that homesickness is temporary. Talk to your camper about finding a friend and/or activity to make the lonely times turn into fun, or to speak with one of the many counselors that will be available to them.
2. Remind your camper that they will not be able to call home or come home just because they feel homesick or sad.
3. Make your farewell brief and encouraging. Remember, the more excited you are for your camper, the more excited your camper will be about being at camp.
4. Please do not pick your camper up early or come for a visit. This will make it even harder for the campers to get over their homesickness and they may not express their feelings about their loss as openly if you are around.