

**Camp Cherith® in the Carolinas**  
**Organization goals and Camper development objectives**

**Goal # 1: To enable children to enter a personal relationship  
With Christ and to know His Word.**

Outcome: Campers will have the opportunity to recognize and act on the need for  
Personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior.

Requirements:

Morning Watch:

- Campers will learn to have a quiet time alone with God by spending 10 minutes in the morning reading the Bible and praying. Setting: outdoors, if weather permits.
- Campers will use material that explains the message of salvation and encourage them to establish a pattern of daily bible Study, Scripture memory, and prayer.
- Morning Watch materials must be approved by the Board of Directors of Camp Cherith in the Carolinas and Pioneer Clubs.

Bible Exploration

- Campers will participate in a counselor-led small group Bible study each day. These studies will include opportunities for active involvement in the learning process and for practical application to everyday living.
- Bible study curriculum must be approved by the Board of Directors of Camp Cherith in the Carolinas and Pioneer Clubs.

Campfire Messages

- Campers will have the opportunity to hear Scripture-based campfire messages which apply Scripture to daily life and encourage non-Christians to enter into a personal relationship with Christ.

Cabin Devotions:

- Cabin groups will participate in a brief devotional time each night. This may include a Scripture or devotional reading, prayer time and opportunities for interaction and sharing. This may also include a discussion of salvation that encourages campers to make a personal decision for Christ.

Songfest:

- Songfest should include spiritual songs that emphasize Scripture, scriptural principles, Christian experience and worship.

Follow Up

- Campers will be able to meet with their counselors to talk about their spiritual walk and salvation experience with opportunities given to make a decision if desired.
- Camp will provide appropriate follow-up for those campers who make decisions for Christ.

Activities

- Campers will be encouraged to practice Christian principles and behavior while participating in all phases of the camp program.

### Leadership

- Each staff member will have made a personal commitment to Christ.
- Staff will be given training in leading a camper to Christ.
- Counselors will be instructed to meet with campers on an individual basis to get to know each one by listening to the camper and discussing his or her spiritual walk.
- Staff will be trained in giving campfire messages, leading songfest and combining these two elements with the activity time to produce a unified evening program.
- Staff will be encouraged through training and supervision to model a biblical life-style and will have opportunities for personal growth through staff Bible study and prayer time.
- Staff will encourage campers to apply Christian principles to every phase of their camp life.

### Other Suggested Program Elements/Follow-up

- Christian literature may be made available to campers in the Tuck Shop (camp store) and/or camp library.
- Camp may wish to provide appropriate follow-up materials such as information about local Pioneer Clubs and churches, Bible study material etc.

## **Goal #2: To enable children to form healthy relationships**

Objective: Campers will have the opportunity to practice biblical principles of community living which enables them to develop positive relationships, to learn to work with others, to accept responsibility within a group and to develop decision-making skills

Requirements:

### Cabin Groups

- Campers will experience leadership opportunities, decision-making, self-initiated activities through planning activities for their own cabin group.
- Camp Cherith will accept campers regardless of race, religion, or culture. As much as possible, cabin groups will be made of campers from a variety of backgrounds within the same age group.
- Counselor/camper ratios will comply with the ACA standards.

### Evening Activities

- Campers will participate in evening activities designed to foster appreciation of different skills and abilities in others, cooperation, decision-making and leadership.

### CILT Program

- Qualified Explorers will be given the opportunity to participate in this special leadership development program.

### Cabin Capers

- Campers will share responsibility for maintain cleanliness in individual and community areas.

### Dining Hall

- Campers will follow established procedures that encourage community cooperation and consideration for others.

### Leadership

- Train staff in building relationships, fostering communication and facilitating group process.
- Train staff to take advantage of teachable moments.
- Train staff in positive methods of conflict resolution
- Train staff to model biblical principles of community living, positive relationships, working with others and leadership.
- Encourage staff to allow campers to plan groups activities when possible
- Provide staff with resources that will spark creative ideas for groups activity and individual accomplishment.

### Other Suggested Program Elements

- Campers may experience leadership opportunities through all or some of the following camper-planned activities: cookouts, overnights, songfests, etc.

**Goal #3: To enable children to grow as whole persons.**

Objective: In activities, campers will have the opportunity to have fun, increase skills, build confidence and develop a sense of accomplishment and self-discipline.

Objective: Campers will develop a sense of their individual uniqueness and God-given worth.

Objective: Campers will have the opportunity to develop a greater appreciation for God's creation by learning to care for and enjoy the outdoor environment.

Requirements

Activities:

- Campers will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of activities designed to meet the needs and interests of different age levels.
- Campers will have the opportunity to learn skills, progressing from beginning to advanced levels, in a non-competitive atmosphere.
- Campers will receive guidance in choosing activities and will be encouraged to develop new skills.
- Campers will have the opportunity to earn achievements and receive recognition for those achievements.
- Campers will have the opportunity to strengthen their self-concept through focus on individual achievement and progress.
- Campers will receive individual attention and positive affirmation.
- Campers will have opportunities for creative expression
- Campers will have opportunity to learn about the outdoor environment
- Campers will participate in activities unique to a camp setting.
- Program will be structured to include as many outdoor activities as possible
- Campers will have opportunity to learn outdoor living skills

Outdoor Living

- Campers will participate in at least one cookout each week
- Campers will have the opportunity to sleep out-of-doors
- Campers will take responsibility for environmental conservation of the campsite.

CILT Program

- CILT's will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of activity specializations

Group Living

- Counselor/camper ratio must comply with ACA standards
- Campers will have the opportunity to share about their spiritual walk, camp experience and other concerns with their counselors during the week.
- Campers will have the opportunity to interact with others.
- The daily schedule will be flexible enough to allow for additional self-initiated cabin groups activities
- Campers will share responsibility for cabin and camp clean-up

Health and Safety

- Camp will plan and provide balanced meals.
- Camp schedule will include a balance of activity and adequate rest for campers and staff thus ensuring Necessary energy levels for positive interaction.
- Campers will be informed of site boundaries, facilities, natural hazards and danger areas
- Health care personnel must comply with ACA standards in regard to an overall health care plan, standing orders, staff certifications, screening, record-keeping, infirmary and storage of medications.
- Camp will provide necessary care in the event of routine medical care, illness or accident.
- Emergency procedures complying with ACA standards, are written in policy manuals and practiced each week.
- Camp administration will maintain ACA standards for health and safety.
- Staff will teach and enforce safety practices.
- Staff will be alert to campers' need for independence but will intervene in situations that are physically or emotionally threatening.

#### Leadership

- Counselors and activity leaders will emphasize personal achievement, rather than competition.
- Counselors and activity leaders will be encouraged to create an enjoyable learning atmosphere.
- Staff will be trained in activity skill. Qualifications and national certification will be documented.
- Camp will adhere to national organization standards (ARC, CAA, NAA, CHA, NRA, etc) where available and appropriate
- Camp administration will keep counselor's non-counseling duties to a minimum and provide sufficient time in the daily schedule for interaction with campers.
- Staff will be given experience and training in nature awareness.
- Cookout leaders will be taught principles of fire-building, safety and outdoor cookery

#### Other Suggested Program Elements

- All camp nature activity opportunities
- Nature center or other self-initiated activities
- Environmental conservation service projects

<p><b>Goal #4: To enable adults to understand children and help them develop</b></p> <p>Objective: To give staff members the opportunity to learn social and emotional development of children in order to help them minister more effectively to campers.</p>
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Requirements:

#### Training:

- Training for social and emotional markers by age are distributed to Staff Members and training is given on how to deal with misbehavior appropriately by age.
- Staff are led in a session on how to resolve conflict with each other and among campers.

Other requirements for this goal have been incorporated into all of the above objectives