



**CAMP AWESOME
SUMMER CAMP
PACKET
2023
FUN IN THE SUN**

Jackson Area YMCA

**594 E. Main St.
Jackson, OH 46540
740-286-7008**

WELCOME TO DAY CAMP

Welcome to the Jackson Area YMCA Summer Camp program. Camp Awesome Staff will be committed to the development and security of your children. Kindness, patience, learning opportunities and ALL out fun will be our objective this summer. In turn, we ask that you, as the parent, please help us in as many ways as you can by letting us know of any concerns or ideas that arise at any time. In this way, Camp Awesome staff and parents will function as a team directed towards having a wonderful summer.

Furthermore, our goal is to ensure that each child feels safe and enjoys their summer with our staff at the Jackson Area YMCA. As a team, we will provide a camp that they will remember for the rest of their lives and gain friendships that will continue for years to come.

Looking forward to a Summer filled with Adventure,

Timothy Harvey, Chief Executive Director of Jackson Area YMCA



CORE VALUES

The Jackson Area YMCA has identified the core values of **respect, responsibility, honesty, caring and faith** as essential in a child's character development. Camp Awesome provides programs incorporating these values into the overall camp experience each day.

Our approach towards values formation is designed to reinforce the lessons that families teach their children every day. Through staff and camper role modeling, we provide campers with the opportunity to depart from Camp Awesome with a better understanding and recognition of these character traits in themselves and in others.

CAMP AWESOME PAYMENTS

Unless a signed payment agreement is on file and payments are scheduled to draft, all camp fees must be paid by May 31st. For Before and After Care, payments are due Thursday before for following week or sporadic charges must be paid by Monday before starting a new camp week. This can be set to draft as well.

PARENT COMMUNICATION

Camp Awesome Staff are trained to handle day-to-day situations that might arise during your camper's day in a safe and caring manner. Instances when you might expect to hear from Camp Awesome Staff for consultations or to arrange for an early pick up of your camper may include: **•illness or behavioral issues**

CONTACTING YOUR CAMPER IN AN EMERGENCY

Should you need to contact your camper under emergency circumstances, please do so through the Jackson Area YMCA at (740) 286-7008. A director will contact you and offer his/her assistance as to the best way to be in contact with your child.

WEATHER RELATED ISSUES

In the unlikely event that a Camp Awesome field trip needs to deviate from the daily schedule, you will receive a text, email or phone call updating you on any changes. If it rains or thunderstorms during one of our pool visits we will stay at (or return to) the Y. You will only be notified if another off campus destination is substituted.

CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

Morning check-in for all groups will be in the gym at a table with the child's counselor. Your child should arrive no earlier than 9:00 am (if not using extended care). **Please be on time.** On the first day of each week there will be a designated individual that will help you go to the appropriate area.

PICK-UP PROCEDURES

The person picking-up must be listed on the camper's authorized pick-up list, and present a photo ID before your camper will be released. Your child should be picked-up no later than 3:40pm (if not using extended care).

EXTENDED CARE

Extended Care is available starting at 7:00am and ending at 5:30pm. No extra charge.

HEALTH INFORMATION

IMPORTANT!

The health and safety of your child is our primary concern. Health forms must be filled in completely before your child enters Camp Awesome.

Your child's counselor will be responsible for the distribution of a camper's medication.

Please note the dosage amount and times for each day. We are not responsible for leftover medications, bottles, or inhalers. Children will not be permitted to carry their own medications (except inhalers). Epi pens will be carried by your child's counselor.

Medications must be in the sealed prescription bottle (dosage time and amount clearly stated by a licensed physician). Please place the bottle in a clear plastic bag (ex. Ziploc).

Medications sent in only a duffel bag or wrapper will not be distributed. **Over-the-counter medication will not be administered by staff and cannot be sent to Camp with your child unless prescribed by a licensed physician.**

Please Note: Medications must be refilled weekly.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, FRACTURES, BREAKS & STITCHES

Children with communicable diseases will not be allowed to attend Camp Awesome until they are free of the disease, or until he/she is no longer contagious, as determined by a doctor. Campers with fractures, breaks, or stitches must have written permission from their physician to attend camp, as well as permission from the **Camp Awesome Director**.

CAMP HYGIENE STANDARDS

Cleanliness is a key component to keeping campers healthy. Campers will be required to clean their hands prior to every meal. Your pre-camp support of this concept is appreciated.

BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS

Most behavioral issues will be handled by the counselor. If a situation goes beyond that, it will be taken to Timothy. Parents will be notified and asked for assistance in rectifying persistent behavioral issue. It is our policy to consult with parents on strategies for dealing with campers who have behavioral problems. When the welfare of the camper, other campers, or camp property/equipment is jeopardized, the parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified to pick up their camper at their own expense. Program fees will be forfeited. Camp Awesome staff will make every effort to call the family starting with parent or guardian, then the emergency contact.

BULLY POLICY

We ask that parents talk to their campers about bullying before Camp Awesome begins. Encourage them to

tell a staff member if they are having problems, and be respectful of other campers. To ensure the emotional and physical wellbeing of all campers at Camp Awesome, parents or guardians will be contacted immediately to help assist with any bullying issues.

BULLYING DESCRIPTION

Bullying is intentional aggressive behavior. It can take the form of physical or verbal harassment and involves an imbalance of power. For instance, a group of children can gang up on another child, or someone who is physically bigger or more aggressive can intimidate someone else. Bullying behavior can include teasing, insulting someone (particularly about their weight or height, race, sexuality, religion or other personal traits), shoving, hitting, excluding someone, or gossiping about someone. Bullying can cause a child to feel upset, afraid, ashamed, embarrassed, and anxious. It can involve children of any age, including kindergartners. Bullying behavior is frequently repeated unless there is intervention. Bullying is not tolerated at Camp Awesome!

****All campers attending on a field trip day are required to go on the trip. All children MUST wear the provided camp t-shirt on field trip days. Field trips may be morning, afternoon, or full day. Children must be signed into camp by the designated drop off time. The bus will not wait for late campers.**

Camp Awesome 2023 Weekly Themes: Fun in the Sun

Week 1: Field of Friends (June 5th – June 9th)

-What a better way to start camp than making lifelong friends while playing yard games. This week we will focus on being outside most of the day playing yard games and soaking up some sun.

Week 2: Science (June 12th – June 16th)

-This week our campers will become little scientists. Each day there will be a big science activity to take place. Campers will learn to measure, experiment and most of all have fun.

Week 3: Aquatic Week (June 19th – June 23rd)

-During aquatic week we will be spending our time at some local pools around the area. So, bring your towels, sunscreen, bathing suits and have fun!

Week 4: Y-lympics (June 26th – June 30th)

-We are bringing the Olympics to our own backyard this year. This week we will be playing Olympic sports in our backyard.

Week 5: Camps Got Talent (July 10th – July 14th)

-This week campers will be able to show us all of their talent. We will sing, dance, do tricks and many other fun activities together!

Week 6: Mystery Week (July 17th – July 21st)

-This week is full of mystery. We will do mysterious scavenger hunts, mysterious board games, detective games.

Week 7: Water, Water Everywhere (July 24th- July 28th)

-Water, Water Everywhere includes outdoor water games and going to local pools in the area.

Week 8: Blast from the Past (July 31st- Aug 4th)

-This week we will be reminiscing on past summer camp activities. We will take some time to reflect on the past 7 weeks and enjoy some of the best activities from each week.



1. What should my child wear to Camp Awesome?

Appropriate clothing for play and weather, including sneakers. Please apply sunscreen SPF 15 or higher to your child each morning before arriving at camp. Camp Awesome counselors are unable to apply sunscreen on your child at camp unless it is in **spray form**. * Make sure to always pack a change of clothes for children will often participate in water games.

2. Swimming?

Swimming takes place at Hillcrest Pool with their employed certified lifeguards with the addition of our counselors and Jr. counselors are additionally watching out for the safety of campers. During swim camp only, lessons will be taught by the qualified swim instructors who are employees of Hillcrest Pool. Children are encouraged not to bring swim toys. However, they are welcome to bring goggles and flotation devices.

3. Are children forced to participate in all activities?

All children are strongly encouraged to participate but are not forced. However, there are no alternative activities planned for children who do not participate in scheduled activities.

4. What happens when my child becomes sick or hurt?

When a child becomes hurt we will fill out an incident report and administer first aid (ice packs, band-aids, etc.) If a more serious injury occurs we will contact a parent or guardian, or call an ambulance to take your child to the ER as appropriate to the situation. If your child becomes ill while attending camp, we will notify you to pick your child up. If your child is sick in the morning, please do not bring them to camp.

5. What if I arrive late with my child?

Please bring your child to the front desk at the Jackson Area YMCA. One of the counter staff will escort your child to his or her group. Please do not try to find your child's group on your own.

6. What if I need to pick up my child early?

Please notify the front desk of the Jackson Area YMCA before arrival on that day that your son/daughter will be picked up early. YMCA staff will notify the counselor and bring your child to the lobby.