Industry-Relevant Research for Camp Professionals from ACA

Healthy Camp



Markel Insurance Company



Markel is proud to be an ACA Mission Partner and sponsor of the ACA Healthy Camp Study.









A Healthy Camp Starts at Home!

2010

A healthy camp really does start at home. Here are some things you can do to assure your child has a great summer camp experience.

- 1. When children show signs of illness, keep them home. This greatly reduces the spread of illness at camp. Be aware of your camp's criteria for inclusion in camp.
- 2. Teach your child to sneeze in his/her sleeve, and to wash his/her hands often at camp.
- 3. Closed-toed shoes are a requirement for activities such as sports and hiking. This will help avoid slips, trips, and falls, which could cause injuries. Stress to your child the importance of wearing closed-toed shoes to prevent a toe, foot, and/or ankle injury.
- 4. Send enough clothes so your child can wear layers. Mornings can be chilly and by afternoon it will be hot. This enables your child to peel his/her layers off as the weather warms.
- 5. Fatigue plays a part in injuries. If children are going to day camp, ensure they get enough rest at night. If children are going to resident camp, explain that camp is not like a sleepover. Explain to your child that he/she should not try to stay up all night!
- 6. Don't forget to send sunscreen, and instruct your child how to use sunscreen.
- 7. Please send a reusable water bottle. Your child can refill it frequently during their camp stay. Staying hydrated is very important in the summer.
- 8. The American Camp Association's® parent-dedicated Web site, <u>www.CampParents.org</u>, provides a wide range of educational resources to help parents make good health-related decisions for children.

Building a partnership between you and the camp staff is essential for your child to have the best camp experience possible this summer!