



Dear Campers and Parents,

Thank you for choosing to participate in the Sorcerers Safari, Canada's only magic camp for young magicians. We are looking forward to spending an interesting and exciting eight days in one of the most beautiful locations in Ontario.

This information package contains all of the material that you need in order to register for the camp and ensure that your place is reserved. As well, the package outlines important instructions regarding how to properly prepare for your stay with us. We encourage both campers and parents to read all of the information in this kit, so that the campers are fully prepared to make this a trip of a lifetime.

Camp White Pine, our host camp is a first rate establishment, complete with comfortable cabins and many modern facilities. However, please bear in mind that it is a camp and, as such, the items packed, in particular clothing should be practical more than fashionable. Our focus is on learning magic while having fun, two themes that are easy to combine. Campers should be sure to bring any magic items that they wish to work on, above and beyond the materials, which we will supply for doing the workshops.

If you have any questions, whatsoever, please call us at our office. We'll be pleased to speak with you. August is promising to be very magical. See you soon!!

**Magic Mike Segal, Camp Director**

**Jen Segal, Camp Administrator**

**416-322-1442**

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# **Preparing Both You and Your Child for Camp at the Sorcerers Safari**

## **Prior To Camp**

1. Explain some of the important events in your child's history to the administrators. We will pass these notes to camp staff so that all of us can be more sensitive and aware of your child's needs. At the same time, we will ensure that these notes will remain confidential amongst these key people.
2. Prepare your child to make his/her own bed and carry out simple housekeeping tasks. An important part of the camp experience is clean up. With the help of every child, this can be a very painless and expedient activity.
3. We encourage you to talk positively about camp at all times so that your child will anticipate a positive camp experience.
4. Please do not discuss the prospect of homesickness as this can often increase your child's level of anxiety. If homesickness do occur during your child's stay at camp, we have well-trained staff who have had experience in dealing with this transitory aspect of a child's reaction to being away from home.
5. Prepare your child for taking care of him/herself. For example, remind him/her that bathing suits do not substitute for underwear. Raincoats should be worn in the rain and sun hats should be worn in the sun. Although their councilors will serve as constant reminders of good hygiene and health, we cannot stress enough the importance of preventative health care.
6. The Staff at the Sorcerer's Summer Safari will enforce the table manners and personal grooming habits that we assume have been taught at home.
7. Talk to your children about such topics as darkness, space, noise etc. in the country as compared to the more familiar city environment.
8. It is important for your child to recognize his/her own clothes. In order to do that please label all items clearly. It is imperative that all items brought to the camp have a label. Lost article can easily be returned if the camper's name is clearly visible. Iron-on labels are discouraged since they tend to fall off. Although sewn-on labels or laundry markers are much more tedious methods of identification, they are also more reliable. At the same time, it would be useful for your child to pack his/her duffel bag with you so that he/she will know where everything is at the time of unpacking.
9. Parting day farewells often show the feeling that parents have toward their children and vice versa. Although this can be a difficult and emotional time, remember that your child needs to concentrate on what he/she has to look forward to rather than what he/she has left behind.

## **Post Camp**

1. After camp, you should recognize your child's achievements, such as new tricks that were learned or new friends that were made. Encourage your child to talk about camp and help develop the apparent improvement in his/her behaviors and attitudes. Remember that a little praise and encouragement goes a long way.
2. Upon your child's return, there may be a short period of adjustment. He/she no longer has 9 other cabin mates to talk to nor does he/she have a scheduled day to follow. Recognize these changes and, at the same time, reassure your child of his/her place in the family again.

By following the above guidelines, you will have actively participated in your child's experience at the camp. Both you and your child will be better prepared for a rewarding and enriching experience at the Sorcerers Safari.

## **Baggage**

Given that the camp is only seven days in duration, we encourage you to pack only the items your child might need. Do not pack **food**. Be sure to pack fragile items such as props, very carefully. The staff has been instructed to refuse any items, which are not deemed essential. We recommend using duffel bags, as they require no locking device, are lighter and easier to handle and store. Please ensure that all of your child's bags are clearly marked and tagged

## **Confidential Medical/Personal Information Form**

This form must be completed by a PARENT or LEGAL GUARDIAN. A physician need not be contacted for this information since they will charge for this service. Please forward the completed form to the Camp Administrator at your earliest convenience but no later than August 15, 2008. Please ensure that the immunization dates are accurate. The Camp will cover all normal medical expenses, which are carried out on our site. Any camper requiring hospital services (i.e., x-rays, blood tests, etc.) that are not covered by O.H.I.P. will be at the expense of the Parent. Campers on regular medication should bring a sufficient supply for their camp stay. Out-of-province campers may want to carry some sort of private health insurance. This form provides important information - take your time filling it out and please take it seriously. Accurate and honest information will allow us to place your child in activities that are suitable to his/her skill level. This will prevent him/her from being bored or bewildered in any given activity. Our goal is to provide your child with the best possible camp experience. Finally, please be certain that your child's Health Card number is correctly recorded, including the VERSION CODE.

## **Special Medication**

If your child uses medication, allergy injections, pills or special equipment, which you are sending with him/her to camp, be sure they are labeled with your child's name and the necessary instructions. Please bring these Items to the camp bus parked in the Bus Loading Area, and give them directly to one of our camp staff.

## **Departure & Arrival**

All buses will be departing from Toronto on the morning of August 23<sup>rd</sup> and returning to Toronto in the afternoon of August 30<sup>th</sup>. Further details will be made available closer to the time. If you intend to drive your child to the Camp directly, or if other special transportation arrangements must be made, please discuss this with the Jen Segal, in advance. If your child must sit with a particular camper, make sure that they come early to reserve a spot.

## **Stealing, Smoking, Alcohol & Drugs: Policies & Procedures**

Although all of our staff are aware of the regulations which govern cigarette smoking, alcohol consumption, stealing or the use of hallucinogenics, we feel it is important for the campers and the parents to be aware of them as well.

No campers are allowed to smoke. If caught, the camper will immediately be asked to leave camp. No refund will be issued and the parents must arrange their own transportation. The Camp Administrator will notify the parents by telephone. For obvious reasons, stealing, alcohol and drugs are forbidden and will result in dismissal and possible legal action.

Please make sure that your child is aware of these policies and that they understand them completely.

## **Meals & Menus**

Every effort possible is made to provide our campers with the best food and most creative menus. Obviously, it is impossible to please every camper but we try. Campers who are allergic to certain food items can be accommodated if we know in advance. Those who require vegetarian or kosher meats will be offered an alternative main course, but the variety will not be the same as those on regular diet.

Please keep in mind that we **MUST** receive either a parental or medical acknowledgement in writing that a camper is vegetarian or has a food allergy in order for us to provide the proper meal. Only the above two situations will entitle a camper to a food substitute.

## **Other Items**

The Camp makes every effort to supply our campers with most of the equipment necessary to participate in camp activities, including all materials necessary for participation in the workshops. However, campers are welcome to bring any additional magic items that they wish (e.g. tricks that they have been working on or that they may wish to perform while at camp). Listed below are some suggested options: baseball glove and a flashlight (with extra batteries). Some items which are best left at home include: jewelry, electronic games, walkmans, mp3 players and knives.

### **Suggested Clothing/Bedding List:**

#### **Clothing:**

3 pairs of shorts

6 t-shirts

2 pairs of long pants (jeans or sweatpants), 1 heavy jacket or sweater

1 sun hat

7 pairs of socks

2 light sweaters or sweatshirts

1 pair of slippers

2 pairs of pajamas

7 underwear

2 bathing suits

2 pairs of running shoes

1 pair of rubber boots

1 raincoat

## **Toiletries:**

3 towels

1 face cloth

1 laundry bag

1 brush and comb

2 bars of soap (with containers)

1 toothbrush and paste

1 hair shampoo

1 insect repellent with DEET

1 sun screen

1 nail clippers

1 toiletry bag

**Bedding & Other:** 1 pillow, 2 warm blankets, 1 pillow case, 2 sheets OR.....a sleeping bag may be substituted. (If your child is a bed wetter, send additional bedding)

If your child wears glasses, send an extra pair, in case of damage or loss. A watch is a good idea.

## **Magic Supplies to Bring to Camp**

A deck of bicycle playing cards in red or blue --- bridge size for smaller hands or poker size for larger hands.

Anything the camper wishes to work on. Nothing fragile or fire related is suggested.

**Note:** All other magic props will be available for **use** during the magic workshops.

There will be a 'dealer day' where the guests at camp will be available to sell their products.

Usually, the campers will buy something. Please do not send too much money, as everything will also be available on the web after camp.

## **Internet Policy**

We share the concerns of many families, schools, and camps regarding the dangers associated with young people's use of social networking websites such as MYspace.com, Facebook.com, and Youtube.com. As you may know, the risks range from online sexual solicitation to cyber bullying to the damaging of one's own reputation, school or camp admission status, or job prospects by posting inappropriate information on personal pages.

In general, Sorcerers Safari Camp views social networking sites (e.g. MYspace), personal websites, and blogs positively and respects the right of campers to use them as a medium of self-expression. If a camper chooses to identify himself or herself as a camper at our Camp on such internet venues, some readers of such websites or blogs may view the camper as a representative or spokesperson of Sorcerers Safari Camp. In light of this possibility, Sorcerers Safari Camp requires, as a condition of participation in Camp, that campers observe the following guidelines when referring to Sorcerers Safari Camp, its programs or activities, its campers and /or employees, in a blog or on a website.

1. Campers must be respectful in all communications and blogs related to or referencing Sorcerers Safari Camp, its employees, and other campers.
2. Campers must not use obscenities, profanity, or vulgar language.
3. Campers must not use blogs or personal websites to disparage Sorcerers Safari Camp, other campers, or employees of Sorcerers Safari Camp.
4. Campers must not use blogs or personal websites to harass, bully, or intimidate other campers or employees of Sorcerers Safari Camp. Behaviors that constitute harassment and bullying include, but are not limited to comments that are derogatory with respect to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, color, or disability; sexually suggestive humiliating, or demeaning comments; and threats to stalk, haze, or physically injure another person.
5. Campers must not use blogs or personal websites to discuss engaging in conduct that is prohibited by Camp policies, including, but not limited to, the use of alcohol and drugs, sexual behavior, sexual harassment and bullying.

Any camper found to be in violation of any portion of this Social Networking and Slogging Policy will be subject to immediate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal or not being welcomed back to Camp the following summer.

We remain committed to the health and safety of all members of our community. We hope you will discuss this policy with your camper and encourage him or her to share any inappropriate postings by or about members of our Camp community. Please know that always, we appreciate your support and welcome your comments.