



Keeping the Kids Engaged This Summer, How to Choose the Best Summer Camp for Your Children

AUSTIN, Texas – For the third year running, Lakeway Resort and Spa is proud to be the home of Champions Day Camp. Lakeway Resort chose to integrate camp into its menu of amenities at the resort because it provides an invaluable experience all its own, to both children and parents alike. Among other attributes, camp often helps children develop greater self confidence, a sense of respect and responsibility in a fun interactive format.

It is always important to carefully research the long list of camp programs to find the organization best suited for your child, and family as a whole. To make the search easier, Faye Sager, Camp Director for Champions Day Camp, has developed a list of key points to consider:

Decide What Is Most Important

Decide what it is you want your child to get out of the program – Have fun? Make new friends? Build character? Build new skills? Have time to spend just being a kid? Interact with only girls or boys? Do you want camp to emphasize existing religious beliefs? Every camp program is built with a variety of key points in mind – make sure that what is important to you is also important to the camp. Also, do not be afraid to ask camp directors and counselors how their program promotes and emphasizes those items that are of particular interest.

Stay Consistent With Your Parenting Style

Look for camps that match your parenting style. You will want counselors to interact with your children in the same fashion you do at home. It is essential that the program dynamic instill the same values as your home instead of contradicting them.

American Camp Association

Ask what accreditations the camp has to get a better idea of how they built their program structure. Many camps are accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) which sets the highest industry standards requiring accredited camps to pass a very comprehensive set of guidelines and site visits.

Begin Online

Look for camps online, call the ones that interest you, and then visit your top choice camps. Visiting a camp not only helps you make a good decision by getting a good "feeling" about the camp and its staff, but it also helps your camper overcome pre-camp anxiety.

Have Fun at the Fair

Camp fairs are a great place to see a large variety of different camps at once. While you explore, take the opportunity to speak with staff and counselors. Often each booth will have interactive components that will allow your child to get a feel for the type of camp offered as well. Be sure to have a list of qualities that are important to you before you go.

It Starts With the Staff

Inquire from the camp director about their staff recruiting process, training process, and experience requirements. Also ask about "counselor in training programs" and keep in mind whether this something that your child may want to get involved in once they are old enough.

Variety is Key

Look for programs with an array of activities to provide variety, especially in long programs. Be sure the camp offers activities that your child is interested in, and ask how activities are assigned (if you child will pick their activities or if they are assigned by other means). It is important that your child is be able to participate in the activities that interest him, but also remember that part of camp is trying new experiences.

Take It from Someone Who Has Been There

Feel free to ask the camp director for referrals from last season's parents. These former clients will give you a huge insight into what their children enjoyed and took away from their camp experience, as well as the easy of working with the organization and staff.

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Champions Day Camp is designed to offer programs in weeklong, weekend, and individual session formats. As a part of Camp Champions, a local accredited resident camp recently named #1 overnight camp in Austin, TX, by Austin Family Magazine, Champions Day Camp aims to provide the same positive youth development in a day camp structure.

For more information regarding Champions Day Camp at Lakeway Resort and Spa, please contact Faye Sager direct at 512-261-7353 or via email at fsager@campchampions.com.

About Lakeway Resort and Spa

Majestically situated on the shores of Texas' renowned Lake Travis, Lakeway Resort and Spa has been the preferred destination for an unparalleled lakeside experience for over 25 years. Spectacular views only enhance the 168 guestrooms, suites and villas, 24,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space, dining outlets, and calming experience of San Saba Spa. Located just west of downtown, the resort has long been considered the ideal spot for mixing business with pleasure. As a Dolce Resort, Lakeway Resort and Spa is managed by a global hospitality company specializing in the meetings experience and resort destinations. Dolce Hotels and Resorts holds a portfolio of 27 unique properties in the United States, Canada, and Europe, each with its own unique style.

Lakeway Resort and Spa is located at 101 Lakeway Drive, Austin, Texas 78734. Reservations may be made by calling toll-free 800-525-3929; local, 512-261-6600, or online at www.Lakeway.Dolce.com.

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