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Parent Handbook

# PA DAY CAMP

AT EVERGREEN BRICK WORKS



EVERGREEN  
BRICK WORKS

## Evergreen's Approach to Children and Learning

Our programs are engaging, active, memorable and a lot of fun. Beneath this is a determined effort to connect children to nature in cities and to nurture a place-based ecological literacy. Children connect with each other and with themselves through the skilled facilitation of energetic and highly trained staff who deliver camp programs that are:

- **Place-based:** building a foundation of knowledge through a focus on local nature, culture and community
- **Ecological:** providing children direct contact with nature
- **Hands-on:** creating a setting for compelling learning through multi- sensory, direct experience
- **Active and mobile:** moving the body to engage the mind
- **Arts infused:** breathing life into learning through creativity, compelling narratives and arts activities
- **Integrated:** weaving together knowledge and skill through ecological themes and engaging experiences

## Our Camp Team

Our highly skilled team will ensure your child has an unforgettable experience by sharing their expertise and passion for the urban wilderness. Our unique location coupled with our experienced staff of educated counsellors, seasoned camp managers and dedicated volunteers, guarantees that every child will feel welcomed and engaged in the camp experience.

# Age and Grade Groups



Children will be grouped together based on ages to create an age appropriate experience.

**Junior Group- Ages 6 & 7 (Grades 1 and 2)**

**Intermediate Group- Ages 8 & 9 (Grades 3 and 4)**

**Senior Group- Ages 10, 11 & 12 (Grades 5 and 6)**

## Program Approach to Age Groups

### **Juniors – Ages 6 & 7 (Grades 1 and 2)**

Younger children have an inherent sense of wonder in natural settings. They are fascinated by animals and the idea of habitat—that creatures can make homes out of mud and sticks, live in holes in the ground or nest in hollows in trees. Campers will see the city through the eyes of an animal seeking to know what lives here. They will follow the tracks and trails of fox, deer and coyote; they will locate the shelters of all sorts of animals.

### **Intermediates- Ages 8 & 9 (Grades 3 and 4)**

Having more experience of the world around them, the older children will explore broadly, venturing out to follow trails, find evidence of animal habitats, and collect the artifacts of the wild city. Through animal tracking, harvesting wild edibles, and crafting with natural materials, Campers will have a chance to see the city as a vibrant, wild, natural space.

### **Seniors - Ages 10, 11 & 12 (Grades 5 and 6)**

The Senior campers have a chance to shine at the Green City Adventure Camp. They'll have more opportunity and freedom to adventure further afield through the quarry and ravines all the while advancing their wilderness skills. They'll be mapping and identifying edible plants, animal tracks and hazards, to share with the rest of camp.

# Sample Schedule

## **8:30–9:00am Sign In**

## **9:00–9:30am Open Play**

Campers follow their individual interests within Children's Garden, participating in their choice of activities including: building, gardening, exploring, digging in the soil, creating sandcastles, tracking insects and creatures.

## **9:30–10:00am Welcome Circle**

Introductions, songs, stories and orientation to the day ahead

## **10:00–12:00**

Example: Review safety protocols, nature games, learning about the wild things in our City; visiting our greenhouse and edible gardens; morning snack; Nature hike through the ravines!

## **12:00–1:00pm**

Lunch and supervised free time.

## **1:00–3:00pm**

Example: Shelter Building, a group hide-out adventure, cooking, and nature rafts.

## **3:00–3:30pm**

Group gathering, closing circle and reflection; and getting ready for home.

## **3:30 Sign Out**

## **3:30 – 5:30pm Extended Care (additional \$10)**

**\*must be pre-registered.**

# General Information

*Evergreen is a national not-for-profit charity that inspires action to green cities. Camp revenues support our children's programs at including our Visiting Schools Program where we work with Inner City Schools, as well as our free community programming on weekends.*

## **Evergreen Brick Works Camp Office**

Centre for Green Cities, suite 300  
550 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, ON  
M4W 3X8

## **Office Hours**

Monday to Friday 9am–5pm

## **Camp Hours 9am–3:30pm**

Extended Care: 3:30–5:30pm

## **Contact:**

Phone: 416-596-1495-290

Fax: 416-596-1443

[Camp@evergreen.ca](mailto:Camp@evergreen.ca)



**Registration-** You may register online at <http://www.evergreen.ca/> or by submitting completed forms through e-mail, fax or in-person using the contact information above.

**Prices** are \$50 per session.

## **Camp Perks**

Evergreen Garden Market - discount of 15%

Sweet Petes Bicycle Shop - discount of 15% off accessories and 10% off bicycles for Evergreen campers. Campers may shop at any of the Sweet Petes locations. The offer is available to camp participants only. This offer cannot be combined with any existing other offer, deal or sale. To ensure the best possible service, you can email them in advance at [info@sweetpetes.com](mailto:info@sweetpetes.com) prior to coming in.

Gradale Academy -20% discount available for all campers at the Gradale Academy, a Private elementary school located at Evergreen Brick Works. For more information please contact Michelle Gradish at [gradale@rogers.com](mailto:gradale@rogers.com).

**Refunds** Full refund less \$25 administration fee, will be issued upon cancellation of program within 21 days of the start date. No refunds will be issued if a reservation is cancelled less than 21 days from the program start date. Unfortunately, we are not able to issue partial refunds or refunds for missed days/sessions. No refunds will be issued for missed camp days due to flood closure. Camp cancellations must be made in writing to [camp@evergreen.ca](mailto:camp@evergreen.ca)

### **Sign In Drop-off & Sign Out Pick-up**

Camp sign in and sign out will be located in front of the CIBC Classroom, known as Camp Head Office. Signs will be posted. ID is required on pick up.

**Shuttle** The Evergreen Shuttle Bus is commonly at capacity between the hours of 8:30 – 9:30 am and 4:30 and 5pm and is not a recommended option.

**Parking** is available at Evergreen Brick Works at the rates of \$1.50/each half hour, up to \$6 for flat rate.

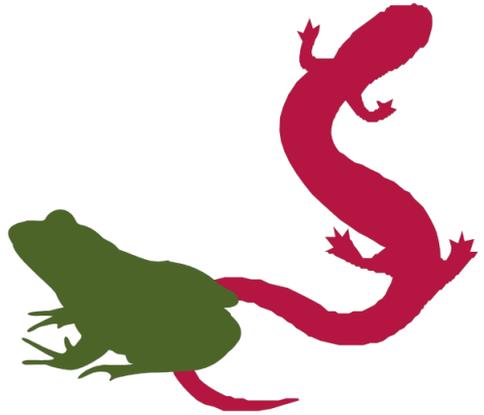
### **Extended Care**

Extended Care is available to all campers from 3:30 – 5:30 at a cost of \$10. During registration, please identify whether your child will require this service. Extended Care location will be in the Children's Garden.

**\*\*Parents arriving late will be charged \$5 every 5 minutes.**

### **Lunch and Snacks**

Children are expected to bring their own litter-free and peanut-free lunch and snacks. We recommend packing a couple substantial snacks, as campers tend to be hungrier than normal from being active outdoors all day.



**Medication Policy** All medication must be labelled and be accompanied by a letter addressed to the camp director explaining administration. Please give all medication directly to camp staff at drop-off. If your child requires an Epi-Pen, they must carry it on them at all times. Please note this clearly on your medical form and indicate the location where your child will keep it on them.

### **Clothing and personal items**

Programs will take place outdoors except in the case of severe weather. Please send your child to camp with the weather appropriate outdoor clothing including a rain coat, cold weather items in fall and winter, a wide brimmed hat in spring and summer. Always be sure to pack a refillable water bottle and sunscreen. Evergreen will not be held accountable for lost items. Please leave all valuables at home.

### **Behaviour and Discipline Policy:**

During camp, we strive to create a safe environment for both campers and employees. We expect and encourage each camper to maintain a positive level of respect for everyone. It is Evergreen's intention to work with campers and guardians to find solutions to behavioural challenges whenever possible. We appreciate your support and cooperation with our behavioural policy.

### **Behaviour Contract**

If a Camper is behaving in a way that is taking away from other campers enjoyment of camp they will be asked to write up a behaviour contract with the Camp Director. The Camp Director, the camper and their parents will be asked to sign this contract. If contract is broken, the

camper may be asked to not participate in certain activities or may be asked not to return to camp.

### **Grounds for Camper Immediate Dismissal**

Camp is expected to be a safe place for all campers and staff. If a camper is behaving in a way that negatively effects the camp experience or that is jeopardizing their own or others safety, that camper may be asked to leave camp without refund.

### **Emergency Preparedness**

Evergreen camp staff is trained in site policies and procedures, risk management, and first response. The safety of our campers and staff comes first. We have emergency management and site evacuation plans to minimize risk and ensure the safety and well-being of all individuals on site.

### **Flooding**

Our site is located in the Lower Don valley and is subject to occasional flooding. While flooding historically and statistically occurs infrequently, it can occur at anytime. In the event that a site closure is ordered prior to the start of a camp day, Evergreen will attempt to make alternative plans to run camp activities elsewhere, or, much like a snow day, we may have to cancel the day. Staff will attempt to contact you as early as possible to avoid any inconvenience.

Refunds will not be issued for missed camp days due to flooding.