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Summer 2016



Summer 2015 ASITS:

WELCOME TO OUR TEAM!!!

Congratulations! You are going to be part of a fabulous team, and to take part in an incredibly rewarding summer experience. Are you wondering what exactly it is that you have signed up to do? Well it is our hope that the following Animal Specialist in Training (ASIT) booklet will answer a lot of your questions, and start preparing you for your weeks at camp.

As an ASIT you will assist the staff of CCSC to the health and safety of our campers as well as our animals. You will not only get a chance to work with the animals at camp, but also to learn how to be a counselor. Cub Creek Science Camp is in the youth development business! Our goal is to help our campers build; self confidence, problem solving skills and a desire to care for each other and our planet in a safe, fun, and loving environment. How do we reach our goals? By: Creating great memories, Providing opportunities to develop new skills, Offering frequent team building activities. Modeling and expecting love and respect, assisting in creating bonds between our camper and animals whose kin are so dependent upon a healthy planet. We can't wait for you to join us in achieving our mission!

Welcome to our team, we are looking forward to a fabulous summer!

Sincerely,

Lori Martin
Camp Director
Director@bearrivranch.com

Mikayla Martin
Program Director
Director@bearrivranch.com

What rules should I follow?

As an ASIT it is expected that when you come to camp you will make camp your number one priority and put it before all other matters. In this program we prepare to return to camp in the following years as a potential staff member, and being professional is of the utmost importance. This program will allow you to gain valuable life experience with animals and those duties associated with being a camp counselor. In order to make the most of this experience we ask that you are able to follow our policies and procedures listed below. If you are not able to follow these policies then you will be asked to leave camp and will not be eligible to return to camp as an ASIT in the future.

Cell phones: ASITs are allowed to keep their cell phones during the session, but they may not be used in front of campers. Cell phones are a privilege not a right. Cell phones Can't be shared with other ASITs and all conversations hand on cell phones must be kept private and not shared. In ability to follow these rules will result in confiscation of the cell phone for a 24 hour period. If the offense happens again the ASIT will loose their cell phone for the entire duration of the session.

Conduct: ASITS are expected that during the duration of the program they adjust their personal habits and actions to the customs, policies and ideals of the program. ASITs will be expected to follow the same code of conduct that we expect from our staff. Just Remember CHOD! Choose nice words; Help others when you can; overlook an offence; Do your Job.

- ▶ No profanity or vulgar language is allowed on site. (Even out of ear shot of campers or staff)
- ▶ No fraternization, physical contact, or intimacy is allowed between ASITS or other campers on camp property.
- ▶ All conversations held at camp should be of a "G" rating. It is not appropriate to discuss your sexual orientation, dating history, or put down yourself or others.
- ▶ ASITS should not discuss their personal relationships or problems with camp duties with or in front of campers.

Dismissals: Conditions in which ASITS will be sent home immediately

- ▶ Continually and deliberately failing to do the job he/she was expected to do.
- ▶ Continually and deliberately not acting in the best interests of the program, other campers, and all program employees.
- ▶ Putting the reputation of the camp in jeopardy by not being safe, not watching out for the safety of other participants, carelessness, etc.
- ▶ Violating the rules and restrictions set out by Cub Creek and its director (fraternization, inappropriate dress, etc.)
- ▶ Physically or verbally abusing a participant or staff member in any way.
- ▶ Being unable to act in such a manner as to insure the health and safety of the campers.

Fraternization: Dating, fraternization, or any public display of affection involving ASITS is strictly prohibited.

Confidentiality: ASITS will be privileged to information during the duration of the session pertaining to animal health, camper conditions, etc. Confidentiality is stressed to both staff and ASITS. This is sensitive information and must be handled as such.

Equipment and site problems: Any problems encountered with equipment, supplies, buildings, site or facility personnel must be reported to the program supervisor before leaving at the end of the session.

ASIT Dress: You are a role model for our participants. Dress in comfortable clothing appropriate for the weather and activity. No rude or vulgar language on shirts or overly revealing clothing. No bikinis at the swimming pool. Shoes must be worn at all times (except while at the pool). ASITS will be provided with one camp tee-shirt. This shirt should be worn on the first and last day of each session and should be clean when worn.

Living Space: ASITS are expected to keep their living space and personal items in a neat, clean and orderly fashion. No food or drinks shall be allowed in the cabins. The floor should be kept free of clutter or other obstacles. ASITS and their belongings are expected to be a role model for campers at all times. Curtains and doors to ASIT living space should be kept open at all times unless the ASIT is sleeping or changing.

Camp Property: Consumable materials are provided for campers ONLY unless otherwise notified by the Director. As an ASIT you are responsible to ensure the proper treatment of all camp property. All camp property must be returned to its designated area or crate immediately after its use, to ensure it is available for the next user. If a crate or supply is assigned to a specific ASIT that ASIT is responsible for its return to camp at the end of its use.

Staying out of others cabins: ASITS are not allowed inside any cabin other than the one they are assigned to live or work in, unless prior permission is given by the Director.

Punctuality/ Dependability: ASITS are expected to be responsible while at camp. This includes arriving on time to all activities and meeting locations, as well as completing all tasks when ask to do so. ASITS should be able to be depended on at any time they are needed.

Personal Equipment/Supplies Not allowed at program location:

- Pets
- Intoxicating beverages
- Drugs
- Firearms, weapons, etc.
- Anything that would be considered inappropriate for young children to see or hear (including music, magazines, pictures, videos, etc.)

Health Examination: ASITS are required to fill out a general Medical Information Sheet and sign an Emergency Medical Release. All ASITS must also have written parental/guardian permission for any emergency medical treatment deemed necessary by Camp Director.

What is Animal Etiquette?

Many people assume that all animals are like playful puppies that just want to be petted and played with all day. In reality, very few animals want this kind of interaction with humans. One of the first steps in truly caring for the needs of an animal is to determine what type of a relationship that animal needs and wants, with its human caretakers.

Gaining the trust of an animal takes patience and practice. In many ways it is like making a new friend. How easily an animal will trust you has a lot to do with how you behave when you first meet, and how others have treated the animal in the past. (We know the history of almost all of our animals. Being treated poorly by others is not an issue for the animals at Bear River Ranch.)

It is important to remember that humans are predators. Animals know that we are predators because they can see both our eyes at the same time. Predators have eyes in the front of their heads (examples include cats, dogs, owls and humans.) Most of the animals that we have at camp are prey animals. Prey animals are eaten by other animals and have their eyes on the sides of their head. You can only see one of their eyes at a time. This gives them a much wider field of vision and helps them see what might be sneaking up on them. Therefore, instinct tells them that they must always be on the lookout for predators.

It must be noted that predator and prey animals act differently. Predators will often “play” because these are natural behaviors for them. Chasing a ball or string is like chasing their prey. Prey animals however, will look and investigate new areas, toys and foods. They will also look for places they can hide, things they can eat or a mate. Regardless of the type of animal, all animals need more than a clean cage, food and water. Animals also need enriching activities (i.e. variety in their diet, habitat, toys, etc.) The interactions that they have with people should be one of these enriching activities, rather than a stressful event for them.

The following rules will help keep the animals at the Ranch friendly, and trusting of people, help them learn that you are not their predator and that you can be trusted. Only then will you be able to have trusting and enriching interactions with the animals at Bear River Ranch. These rules must be discussed thoroughly with campers the first time they enter an animal area and briefly reviewed each time afterwards.

1. **Don't sneak up on an animal.** (This is predator behavior.) Make sure that the animal knows that you are near. Don't startle it.
2. **Never chase an animal.** (This is predator behavior.)
3. **Never corner an animal.** (This is predator behavior.)
4. Offering a favorite food is one of the quickest ways to earn an animal's trust. Learn what your animal likes to eat and use that to encourage an interaction. **Never feed an animal other than the one you have adopted**, and always ask before offering a new food. Some foods are poisonous to some animals.

5. **Always use a quiet voice.**
6. **No sudden movements.**
7. **Keep unfamiliar objects away.** Things that we recognize as common, an animal might be startled by because of its colors, smells or sounds (i.e. feathers, pens, sticks, books, jewelry, etc.)
8. **Don't try to pet or touch any animal** that does not know you, and that you have **not received permission** to do so.
9. **Do not open any cage** without the permission of an Animal Specialist.
10. **Do not go into any animal area without an Animal Specialist** present inside the area with you.

ASIT NIGHT OUT

ASITs will get leave camp, one night out on the first Wednesday of the session. ASITs will get to decide amongst themselves where they wish to go. They will also be allowed to draw spending money from their camp store accounts as they wish.

ASIT FIELD TRIP

The following Wednesday of the ASIT session will be the Field Trip. This will be a predetermined trip that will allow ASITs a fun and educational experience. The trip will change each session. ASITs will also be allowed to withdraw money to spend at the locations we visit.

ASIT SCHEDULE

7:00 am	Morning Rounds
8:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am	ASIT Meeting
9:30 am	1 st Activity Period
10:45 am	2 nd Activity Period
12:00 pm	Supervise Free Time
12:45 pm	Animal of the Day
1:15 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm	ASIT Free Time
3:00 pm	3 rd Activity Period
4:15 pm	4 th Activity Period
5:30 pm	Dinner

6:15 pm	ASIT Training
7:30 pm	Evening Activity
8:30 pm	Adopted Cabin Time
9:15 pm	ASIT Free Time
10:15 pm	Return to Cabins

ASIT Arrival

ASITs are asked to arrive the Saturday of their session between 5 and 6 pm. Please do not arrive before this time unless you have called ahead of time. If you are flying in make sure to complete a transportation form at least 2 weeks prior to the arrival.

Theme Days- ASITs are expected to enthusiastically participate in all aspects of camp life. ASITs are expected to participate in all theme days in some way. Please make sure you have brought something to fit each theme day that you will be present for during your session. You will also have access to the camp store if you are unable to find something before coming to camp.

Here are the theme day and evening activities for summer 2015

Week 1	Opening Campfire	Favorite Animal Day Circle of Life	Imagination Day Boys Campout Girls Movie	Crazy Hat / Hair Girls Campout Boys Movie	Crazy Color Day Capture the Flag	Day in the Tropics Skit Night	
Week 2	Opening Campfire	Favorite Animal Day Circle of Life	Fairy Tale Boys Campout Girls Movie	Crazy Hat / Hair Girls Campout Boys Movie	Crazy Color Day Capture the Flag	Day in the Tropics Skit Night	
Week 3	Opening Campfire	Favorite Animal Day Circle of Life	Fairy Tale Boys Campout Girls Movie	Crazy Hat / Hair Girls Campout Boys Movie	Crazy Color Day Capture the Flag	Day in the Tropics Skit Night	
Week 4	Opening Campfire	Favorite Animal Day Circle of Life	Fairy Tale Boys Campout Girls Movie	Crazy Hat / Hair Girls Campout Boys Movie	Crazy Color Day Capture the Flag	Day in the Tropics Skit Night	

Week 5	Opening Campfire	Favorite Animal Day Circle of Life	Fairy Tale Boys Campout Girls Movie	Crazy Hat / Hair Girls Campout Boys Movie	Crazy Color Day Capture the Flag	Bug Day The Amazing Camp Race	4 th of July
Week 6	Pirate vs Ninja Pirate Regatta	Stripes / polka dots Egg Drop	Super Hero Day Flup a Flar	Jurassic Day Dino Egg Hunt	Wild West Blind Auction	Day in the Tropics Skit Night	
Week 7	Opening Campfire	Favorite Animal Day Circle of Life	Fairy Tale Boys Campout Girls Movie	Crazy Hat / Hair Girls Campout Boys Movie	Crazy Color Day Capture the Flag	Bug Day The Amazing Camp Race	backwards day Dutch Auction
Week 8	Pirate vs Ninja Pirate Regatta	Stripes / polka dots Egg Drop	Super Hero Day Flup a Flar	Jurassic Day Dino Egg Hunt	Wild West Blind Auction	Day in the Tropics Skit Night	
Week 9	Opening Campfire	Favorite Animal Day Circle of Life	Fairy Tale Boys Campout Girls Movie	Crazy Hat / Hair Girls Campout Boys Movie	Crazy Color Day Capture the Flag	Bug Day The Amazing Camp Race	backwards day Dutch Auction
Week 10	Pirate vs Ninja Pirate Regatta	Stripes / polka dots Egg Drop	Super Hero Day Flup a Flar	Jurassic Day Dino Egg Hunt	Wild West Blind Auction	Day in the Tropics Skit Night	

Understanding and receipt of ASIT policies and procedures Cub Creek Science Camp 2015

I have read, understand and agree to abide by all policies and procedures regarding the ASIT program. I understand that if I do not follow the written guidelines I can be asked to leave the program.

Camper Name _____ Date _____

Parent Name _____ Date _____

Please sign this page and bring it with you to check in.