



THE ART OF CHOOSING A SUMMER CAMP

By Mike McDonell President, Kidventure

Parents, let's face it. Our kids are growing up in a world much different than the ones we rode our Big Wheels in. Back then, we roamed the neighborhood in search of an adventure. Left to our own devices, we would transform empty lots into playgrounds, create fantastic forts with blankets held fast by encyclopedias, and find endless utility out of something as simple as a stick.

The world is now lightyears away from what we knew then. Driven by an endless flow of information and novelty, the bar to keep kids engaged is as high as it has ever been. That is why camp is so important and has never been more essential than right now.

Choosing the right camp can allow your child the opportunity to discover themselves, to interact with others, to feel inspired, or part of something great. Yet with all the camp options out there, choosing an appropriate program can be challenging.

The following are some of the most important questions you can ask of any camp program. These will aid you when looking to make the most of your child's camp experience.

General Camp Questions

1. Is the camp right for your child? Too many times, parents will enroll their kids in a camp they see themselves in and not their kids. You know your child best, so take into account their strengths, natural inclinations, and preferences.

2. What is the camp's mission statement? Every camp should have a goal or a mission. That mission should ultimately be to makes kids feel great about themselves and feel successful.

3. Does the camp program have a track record of quality programming and service? Read reviews, ask for a couple of references, and talk with other parents who have been to that camp.

4. Is this camp licensed by the State of Texas Youth Camps Division? This licensing ensures that every camp is held to certain standards in terms of safety, quality of staff, and quality of programming. If a camp is unlicensed, then it can be shut down by the state of Texas

at any time.

5. What is the camp's policy on how they reward good behavior and regulate poor behavior?

Staff Questions

A camp can have the most beautiful facilities, state-of-the-art camp equipment, and the best website, but the quality of any camp program begins and ends with the quality of the staff.

1. What is the ratio of counselors to campers?

2. What is the age of the staff, and what are the camp staff minimum qualification standards?

3. What medical qualifications and procedures are set in place for campers and their staff?

4. What is the background check process on your staff?

5. Will the staff simply be supervising kids, or will they be active participants

Programming Questions

Good camps have an active and well thought out curriculum. That curriculum should take into account factors like multiple ages, the weather, and the number of children attending. The following are a set of questions that should give you a good feel for the programming.

1. Does the camp provide an age appropriate curriculum suited for my child and his/her abilities? Camps tend to be open to a wide range of kids, so make sure that their activities are developmentally appropriate. Make it a point to ask about the appropriateness of the program with regards to your child's age and individual needs.

2. What percentages of those activities are outdoors vs. indoors? How does the camp program plan for the hot temperatures during the summer?

3. How are multi-age campers grouped in camp?

4. Are there field trips? If so, how are campers transported? Who drives and is there air-conditioning on that transportation?

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Albion Hurricanes FC Soccer Tryouts and Evaluations Coming in May!

Albion Hurricanes FC (AHFC), established in 1989, is leading the way in South Texas youth soccer by inspiring and developing young men and women through world class coaching and innovative techniques, as well as instilling the proper framework, self-esteem, confidence and sportsmanship within our athletes.

AHFC has multiple campuses in and around Houston . The club invites all interested players from the ages of 7 to 18, to the Player Evaluations and Tryouts to become part of our success. We ask that all interested players pre-register before coming out to the fields. Please visit albionhurricanes.org for details about your particular campus.

AHFC offers JHSL (a recreational program for 5 - 10 year olds) at our Cy Fair and Central locations and offers additional training at Katy Friday Night Academy and New Territory Thursday Night Academy. Canes Summer Soccer Camp will be in June and July and is now open to register. All information regarding all of the programs and camps can be found at albionhurricanes.org.



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(Continued from Cover)

Overnight Camp Specific Questions

When it comes to overnight camp options, many of the previous questions are perfectly applicable. However, because your kids will be going away for camp, a few more specific questions will help you make a better and informed decision.

1. What are the sleeping arrangements like? Not every camp has air conditioning. If that's a deal breaker for you or your camper, then ask. Additionally, the number of campers within a lodging varies greatly from camp to camp.
2. What is the waterfront safety procedure? Are there lifeguards stationed at all water activities?
3. What is the camp policy on use of technology at camp?
4. What are the food options like? Can they accommodate any allergies or dietary needs?

In Conclusion

Though this is not a comprehensive list, these questions will help you learn more about a camp program and give you the opportunity to select your child's camp experience more wisely. At the end of the day, the camp you choose for your child must be safe, it must place the camper first in all matters, and it must provide both you and your child with an environment that is both comfortable and rewarding.

Camp has the power to transform the lives of our kids. It can teach

courage, teamwork, empathy, grit, independence, and confidence. That transformative spirit has never been more alive than today. Seek out great camp programs, ask the right questions, and make solid camp choices with your child. The results will provide them with an immensely rewarding experience, one that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. Happy camping!



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7015 Barker Cypress • Cypress, Texas 77433

Cy-Fair Emergency & Imaging Center (at Beltway 8 & Tanner Rd.)
5655 W. Sam Houston Parkway N. Houston, Texas 77041

* According to the American Cancer Society

** Tomosynthesis. (3D mammography) an FDA approved imaging technology designed for early breast cancer detection. is available here.



CyFairHospital.com

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29th Annual B. F. Adam Golf Classic

Thursday, May 11, 2017
BlackHorse Golf Club

(Cypress, TX) - May 11, 2017, the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation (CFEF) will hold its 29th Annual B. F. Adam Golf Classic at BlackHorse Golf Club. For the past 7 years, Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center Hospital, a Cy-Fair Educational Foundation Partner, has generously underwritten this tournament. Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson and IBI Group have been Platinum Sponsors for more than 10 years.

One of the largest non-celebrity tournaments in the Houston area, the B.F. Adam Golf Classic is a prime example of our trustees and community business partners working together to raise scholarship funds for students of Cypress Fair banks ISD. This tournament has successfully raised over 2.7 million dollars.

CFEF was established in 1970 as a non-profit to raise money to fund a scholarship for high school graduates in the area. Over the past 46 years, the Foundation has grown tremendously through the efforts of the Board of Trustees and the generosity of the Cy-Fair Community. The Foundation has awarded more than \$7 million in scholarships to 1400 graduating seniors. CFEF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, all contributions are tax deductible, as allowed by the law.



Messiah Lutheran Church Butterfly Family Festival

Sunday, April 23, 2017 12:00-3:00PM
11522 Telge Rd., Cypress, TX 77429

Butterfly Family Festival is Taking a Twist

Come see a LIVE butterfly release! Messiah Lutheran Church is hosting its annual Butterfly Family Festival on Sunday, April 23, 12:00-3:00 PM at 11522 Telge Road in Cypress. This year we are adding new events! Beginning at 9 am we will host multiple vendors along with our silent auction. We've added Bingo, a train ride, popcorn, cupcake decorating and a FREE Basketball game.

Yes we will have your favorites: delicious BBQ lunch, cookies, a raffle, children's carnival games, cake walk, book walk, face painting, music, inflatable slide, and bounce house. Children 12 and under will receive 3 FREE tickets. The auction will run from 9:00 am-2:30 pm. The barbecue lunch will begin at 11:00 am and can be taken home or eaten at Messiah. All games will begin at noon. Bring the whole family to see the butterfly release, eat some great food, and have some fun!

The day's events will benefit Chrysalis, A Grace Place for Children, by providing scholarships to families that attend our school. Chrysalis features a Christian preschool, after school, and summer camp programs. Chrysalis Christian Preschool admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin. Call 281-807-0764 or go to www.messiahlc.org/events for further information.

Messiah Lutheran Church is a grace place, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Messiah is located at 11522 Telge Road, ½ mile north of Highway 290. Regular Sunday worship times are: 8 am—Traditions; 9:30 am—The Gathering; and 10:45 am—The Crossing. The Discovery (education) Hour is 9:15-10:15 AM on Sundays. For more information, 281-890-3013 or www.messiahlc.org. All people are welcome at Messiah.





Cy-Fair Republican Women April Meeting

Tuesday, April 11th will be CFRW General Meeting from 10:30 AM - Noon.

Meeting is \$3 -- Meeting w/Lunch at Noon is \$23.

Hearthstone Country Club, 7615 Ameswood, Houston, TX 77095

All are welcome! Come and enjoy like-minded fellowship and relevant speakers. Our goals include educating our community about the workings of all levels of government and each of us has a voice.

RSVP to www.cfrw.net by April 4th. We look forward to seeing you there!

SAVE the DATE—November 3rd for High Heels & High Tea!

Cypress Area Food Pantry

Do you know of someone who has trouble putting food on the table? Maybe their employment was suddenly terminated; maybe it's a choice between medications or food; for whatever reason a family can find themselves in a situation where they need a little help.

Fountain of Life Church of God on Mueschke Road runs a food pantry on Mondays from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm and the only requirement is that the client should live in zip code 77433 and west of Skinner 77429. For more information, contact 281-373-9337. Food donations and volunteers are also greatly appreciated.

Computerized job search and resume preparation and printing are also available.



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“Cy-Fair Women’s Expo to Fund Local Scholarships”

Event Details

Thursday, April 27, 2017 11a.m. - 4p.m.
 Sterling Country Club
 16500 Houston National Blvd., Houston, TX 77095
 Free Admission



Houston, Texas (March 9, 2017) The 9th Annual Cy-Fair Women’s Expo will be April 27, 2017 from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at Sterling Country Club, 16500 Houston National Boulevard, Houston, TX 77095. This year’s event invites attendees to ignite connections and give back to the Cy-Fair community.

Besides giving over 60 vendors a place to showcase their products and services, the goal for our expo this year is to get the community more involved and show the Cy-Fair area what ABWA and CYFEN are all about. One of the ways we are doing this is to have local personalities present to meet and greet. Celebrities will include American Ninja Warrior Sam Sann, former NFL player and Food Network Star Eddie Jackson, and Randy Lemman, The Garden Guy.

This event is hosted by the **Cy-Fair Express Network (CYFEN)**, a local network of the American Business Women’s Association (ABWA) that provides a nurturing environment for business development, networking, education, and mentoring in Northwest Houston. Cy-Fair Express Network funds numerous local scholarships. For more information about the Expo or about CYFEN, please go to www.CYFEN.org or email expochair@cyfen.org.

The Expo is sponsored by Cake. Fine Pastry, Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center Hospital, A Splash of Sass, Robin Haynes State Farm Insurance, and Villa Sport Athletic Club and Spa.

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Cypress Texas Tea Party

The next meetings of the Cypress Texas Tea Party will be on:

Saturday, April 15, 2017 NOON - 2:00 PM
 - To Be Determined

Saturday, May 6, 2017 NOON - 2:00 PM
 - Alan Bragg, Police Chief, CFISD

The Cypress Texas Tea Party meets every three weeks on Saturday

Noon until 2:00 PM at:
 Spring Creek BBQ
 25831 Northwest Freeway
 Cypress, Texas 77429

Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/OoNjY>

A schedule of our meetings and confirmed speakers can be found at our website, www.cypresstexasteaparty.org

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Cypress Creek Lakes Year-to-Date Sales Report

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\$500,000 and above	3	3	5	1	3	1	1	2	2	0
\$451,000--\$499,999	1	4	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	4
\$351,000--\$450,999	10	6	5	7	4	4	3	3	2	1
\$276,000--\$350,999	7	1	4	4	1	2	3	4	2	1
\$231,000--\$275,999	4	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	4
\$201,000--\$230,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$200,999 and below	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	25	15	15	14	10	10	12	11	9	10
Highest \$/sq ft	\$123.56	\$130.04	\$138.91	\$158.48	\$139.12	\$133.21	\$112.77	\$115.35	\$127.91	\$128.31

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