



wild & immersive

PROGRAMS ROOTED IN NATURE

14500 Silver Valley Rd
Maple Ridge, BC

wildandimmersive.ubc.ca



SUMMER CAMP

PARENT HANDBOOK

ABOUT US



Welcome to Wild & Immersive's summer camps!

Our week-long summer day camps will take your child through forest exploration with play-based, hands-on activities that will deepen their connection with nature and the land. Our activities will promote social interaction while encouraging individual confidence, environmental curiosity, and whole lot of fun along the way!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location:	Malcolm Knapp Research Forest 14500 Silver Valley Rd, Maple Ridge, BC, V4R 2R3
Camp Hours:	8:30AM - 3:00PM (sign-in starts at 8:25AM)
Office Hours:	8:00AM - 4:00PM Monday through Friday
Office Phone:	(604) 463-8148 option 4
Email:	wild.immersive@ubc.ca

5-8 CAMP SIGN-IN AT CABIN
(100m from front gate)

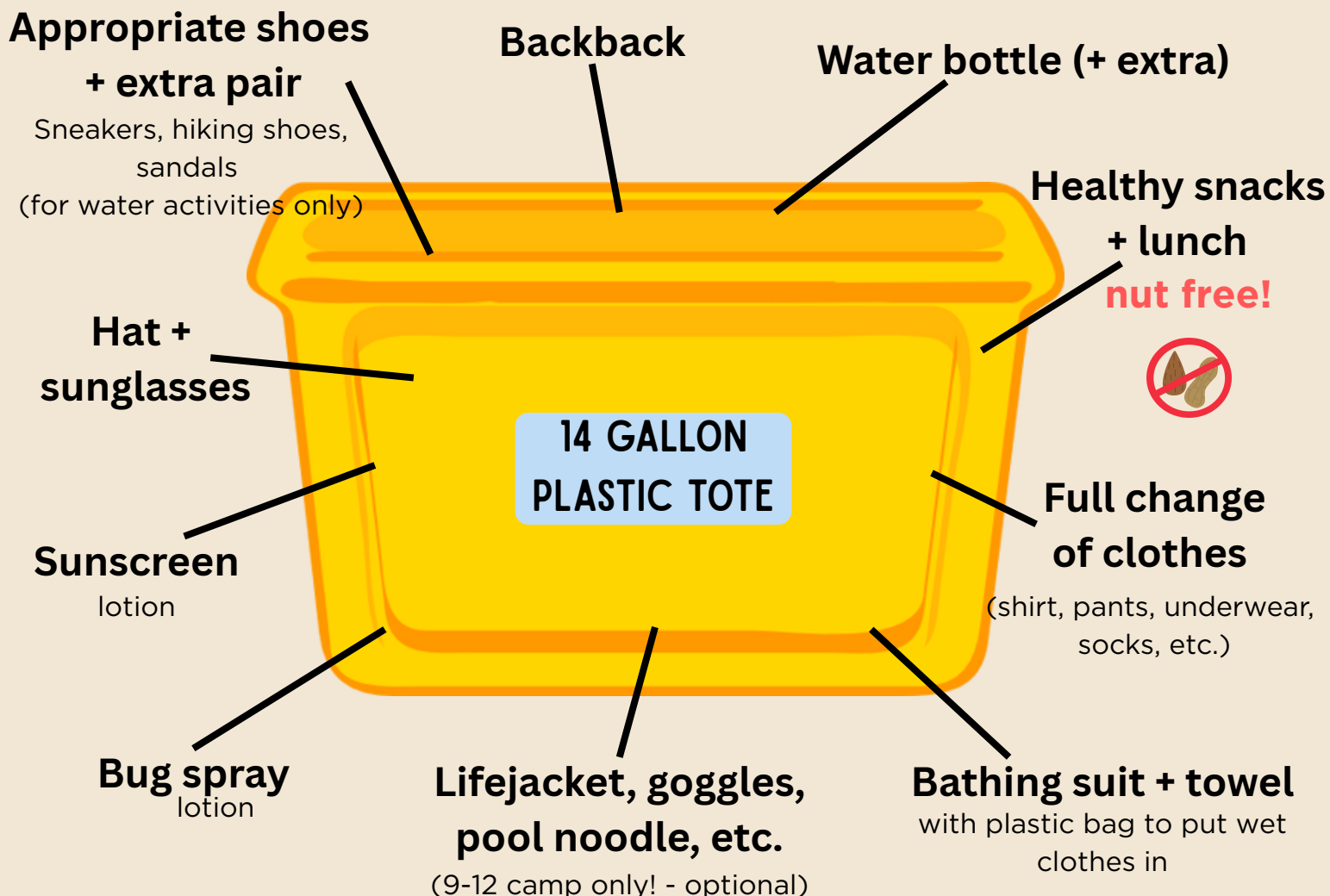


9-12 CAMP SIGN-IN AT SHED
(20m from front gate)



WHAT TO PACK

Ensure your child is ready and successful for the day by packing these essential items:



LEAVE AT HOME

- Electronic devices (cellphones, video games, etc.)
- Valuable items or special belongings
- Tools (whittling knives, multi-tools, etc.)

Cellphones are only permitted for safety and medical reasons and must be in backpack at **all times** while at camp.

Wild & Immersive is not responsible for lost or forgotten items. Forgotten items will be placed in our Lost and Found for 30 days which thereafter they will be donated.

WHAT TO EXPECT

5-8 CAMP

- Forest exploration
- Shelter building
- Mud kitchen play
- Archeology excavation dig boxes
- Games
- Storytime and songs
- Scavenger hunts
- Crafts
- River side fun (refreshing dip, rock stacking, finding insects, boat races, etc.)
- End of the week celebration!



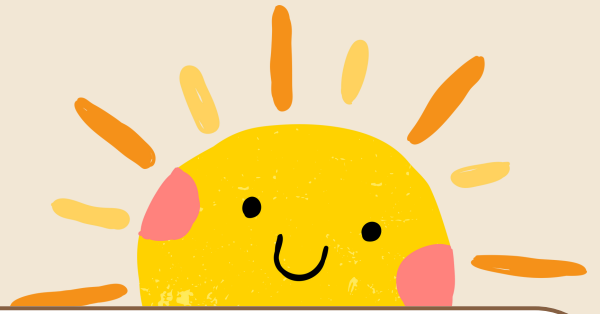
9-12 CAMP

- Marion Lake (Wednesdays & Fridays)
 - Swimming, canoeing, paddleboarding, etc.
 - Barbecue lunch (every Friday)
- Battle Archery with Stellar Play (Thursdays)
- Hiking (ranging in difficulty)
 - Blue Trail hike (3+ hour hike)
- Crafting (beading, colouring, etc.)
- Safe tool use (whittling knives, carving tools, brace and bit drills, etc.)
- Shelter building + survival skills



SCHEDULE EXAMPLE

5-8 CAMP & 9-12 CAMP



8:30am - 9:00am	Sign-In/ Structured Free Time
9:00am - 9:15am	Day Starts/ Schedule/ Housekeeping/ Names
9:15am - 9:30am	Song Circle/ Forest Code/ Bear Safety
9:30am - 10:00am	Warm-Up Game
10:00am - 10:15am	Snack Time
10:15am - 11:00am	Activity #1
11:00am - 11:45am	Activity #2
11:45am - 12:15pm	Lunch
12:15pm - 1:15pm	Quiet Time Activities/ Crafts
1:15pm - 2:30pm	Activity #3
2:30pm - 2:45pm	Rock, Stick, Leaf
2:45pm - 3:00pm	Pack-Up/ Clean- Up/ Pick-up Time

CAMP POLICIES



DROP OFF/ PICK-UP

Drop off starts no earlier than 5 minutes before the program starts (8:25am). Activities will start promptly at 9:00am.

Being consistently late will make it more challenging for your child to have a successful day as they will be missing important information, such as the schedule of the day and any announcements.

Please prepare for your child to be picked up promptly at the session end time (3:00pm). **Our participants will only be released to those on the authorized pick-up list.** If there is a person picking up who is not on the list, primary contact will be given a phone call in order to authorize the pick up. If you need to make a change to your child's authorized pick-up list, please send us an [email](#).

If your child is going to be absent, please email us prior to the start of the program.



Drop off is a great time to apply sunscreen, bug spray and go to the washroom with your child before the day starts.

5-8 Camp

For sign-in, please walk 100 metres from the main gate to our sign-in table at the Wild & Immersive cabin. As safety is our first priority, we encourage parents/ caregivers and their child to walk on the grass and not the road to access our cabin space.



9-12 Camp

For sign-in, please walk 20m from the main gate to our sign-in table at our large shed building on the right hand side of the road.



CODE OF CONDUCT / FOREST CODE

Please take the time to read the Forest Code over with your child before arriving at summer camp.

Our Summer Camp only has 3 “R’s” you need to remember and they are probably things you already do all the time! At camp you should make sure that you:

RESPECT YOURSELF

Can you think of ways you can respect yourself while at summer camp?

Here are some examples:

- Making sure you drink when you're thirsty.
- Making sure to eat enough food to stay healthy and focused.
- Adding layers if your cold, and removing layers if you're hot.
- Letting a leader know you need to go to the washroom.
- Asking a leader if you need help.
- Know that you are outside and it's ok to get dirty! Dirt on clothing and skin can all be washed off, and is a normal part of being outdoors.



RESPECT YOUR FRIENDS AND LEADERS

Can you think of ways you can respect others while at summer camp?

Here are some examples:

- Listening to others when they are talking.
- Using kind, supportive and encouraging words.
- Respecting the personal space and boundaries of others.
- Asking for our friend's consent if you are playing a rough and tumble game.
- Giving rocks and sticks space to make sure we don't accidentally hurt someone.
- Cleaning up after yourself once you are done using something.



RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Can you think of ways you can respect the environment while at summer camp?

Here are some examples:

- Putting your garbage back inside your lunch box or bin to take home (pack it in, pack it out).
- Leave the space better than when you found it.
- Picking up garbage you see on the ground, or asking a leader to pick it up.
- Giving the opportunity for plants, trees, mosses and mushrooms to grow and to only take if you really need it. How will I give back once I have taken?
- Animals and bugs of all sizes should be respected and given space to move around their home.



PROHIBITED BEHAVIOUR

While Wild & Immersive will ensure that proper behaviour management strategies are being used, certain behaviours and language use will not be tolerated in our setting.

- Displaying actions to hurt themselves, others or property
- Threats (verbal or physical)
- Negative or derogatory terms (terms used to put down another for their religion, race, culture, sexual orientation, personhood, self-expression, physical or mental ability, etc.)
- Swears and cursing (especially if directed at another)
- Physical violence
- Verbal violence

Wild & Immersive reserves the right to suspend or expel a child from the program should their behaviour be deemed unsafe for themselves or others. In this event, parents/caregivers will be contacted and instructed to pick up their child as soon as possible. A staff will be available to discuss this decision with the parent at pick-up.

Please note, if primary or secondary contacts cannot be reached, Wild & Immersive will call Emergency contact to come pick up the child.

BOUNDARIES

All participants must stay within the perimeter of the boundaries. Boundaries could be large orange cones, flagging tape or large visual cues (ex: steam donkey, trees, trails, roads, fences, trail markers, rocks, stumps, etc.).

Boundaries might also look like a leader verbally giving you temporary boundaries, especially when we are in areas we don't access as often (like during exploration!).

Going outside of boundaries will make the group unsafe. Your child must always be around a leader by sight and earshot.



WOLF CALL/ GATHERING CALL

To keep everyone safe, the leaders will establish a wolf call or gathering call with the group. If the call sounds from the leaders, your child must respond and must immediately go back to the leader no matter what they are doing.

The wolf call or gathering call could be used to recount everyone, to keep everyone safe from an animal, to move locations, or to give important information.

Ignoring a wolf call or gathering call will remove a leader from the group in order to find a participant, making the group unsafe, especially during an emergency.



CAMP POLICIES



ILLNESS POLICY

To keep our staff and participants as healthy as possible, we ask that sick children are kept home, and only allowed back once symptom-free for a minimum of 24 hours, when the following symptoms are present:

- Temperature over 38.3C
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Unexplained rash
- Significant cough

If your child is affected by a communicable disease (measles, chicken pox, mumps, strep throat, etc.) they are asked to stay home until their health provider has communicated that it is safe for them to rejoin the public.

TOILETING AND HANDWASHING

All participants must be able to use the washroom independently. **Only 1 participant is allowed inside the washroom at a time.**

If a participant has an accident, staff are happy to assist them with cleaning up and changing into dry clothing. The washrooms are located at the Wild & Immersive cabin and contain a traditional toilet, sink and indoor plumbing.

When out in the forest, if the participant needs to use the washroom, a leader or volunteer, along with a buddy (always 2:1 ratio), will help a child either return to the washrooms at the cabin or find a suitable space to go outside. We strive to follow a Leave No Trace policy which limits our impact on the surrounding environments.

If you think your child may have reservations with going to the bathroom in the forest, please discuss this with them before the start of the program.

All participants are expected to wash or sanitize their hands before eating and after using the washroom.

FOOD POLICY

Participants are required to bring their own lunch, snacks and water each session. We encourage families to pack nutritious, litter free lunches in an effort to generate less waste and adhere to Wild & Immersive philosophies. The use of reusable containers is highly encouraged. Any garbage will be sent home in the child's lunch container to adhere to our "Pack it in, Pack it out" and "Leave No Trace" philosophies. Sharing food amongst participants is not allowed.

Our summer camps are a peanut and nut-free zone.



ALLERGY POLICY

If your child has an allergy, please ensure you include this detail on the registration form, or update Wild & Immersive by email.

Children with life-threatening allergies will be required to bring **2 EpiPens** to camp each day. One (1) EpiPen must be kept on their person at all times, and one (1) EpiPen kept in their belongings. Children must know how to administer their own EpiPen.

All participants with life-threatening allergies requiring an EpiPen will need to sign an **Epinephrine Auto Injector (EAI) Medication Form** detailing the child's allergy, Epinephrine auto injector information, and authorizing Wild & Immersive staff to assist if required in administering the auto injector in the event of a reaction.

MEDICATION POLICY

Staff must be informed about the medical needs of all their participants. If your child needs to take medication while at camp, we ask for the following information:

- Name of child
- Name of medication
- Type of medication (ex: inhaler)
- Dosage
- When to give
- How to give (ie: inhaler, orally)

This information should also be listed on the medication brought to camp. If participants have other medical requirements (ie: diabetes monitoring), we will work with the families to create a care plan for their child during our program.

INCLEMENT WEATHER/ CLOSURES

Wild & Immersive programs run outdoors in all weather conditions (rain, snow, sun). Staff consult the forecast throughout the day and assess the weather on a continual basis.

Sessions can be canceled in events of:

- High winds (sustained winds above a Beaufort Scale Level 6)
- Lightning
- Air Quality advisories (only advisories that specifically target youth)
- Heat Index advisories (only advisories that specifically target youth)

Cancellations will not be determined until the morning of the scheduled program. Families will be notified of cancellations by 8am the morning of the scheduled program.

SUNSCREEN/ BUG SPRAY AND SUN SAFETY

Wild & Immersive highly encourages all participants to arrive for the program each day with sunscreen and bug spray already applied. Children may bring extra in their belongings if reapplication is needed, however, sunscreen and bug spray are not to be left out and should be put immediately back in belongings once done using.

We highly recommend that children bring non-aerosol sunscreen and bug repellent.

Aerosols are easily inhaled or ingested when sprayed with others in close proximity and also may negatively impact the ecosystem around us.



Hats are recommended to be worn at all times, especially on cloudless days. Sunglasses can also help keep eyes safe.

Frequent water and shade breaks will be added to programming on very hot days.

WATER SAFETY



5-8 Camp

The 5-8 camp will be able to cool off on hot days by the North Alouette river off of the Green Trail.

During the summer, the river water is calm and low enough that you can't swim but enough to dip in and be refreshed. No lifejackets required.

Our "beach" area is sectioned off and offers shade as well as sunshine.

Our campers can enjoy the water, find cool bugs, build rock stacks, and race boats down the river.

There is no rock throwing in this area due to the high concentration of kids in a small space.

While at the river, the river rocks might be slippery and stepping with careful and sure footing is best.



9-12 Camp

The 9-12 camp will enjoy Marion Lake (7 km from the front gate) on Wednesdays and Fridays.

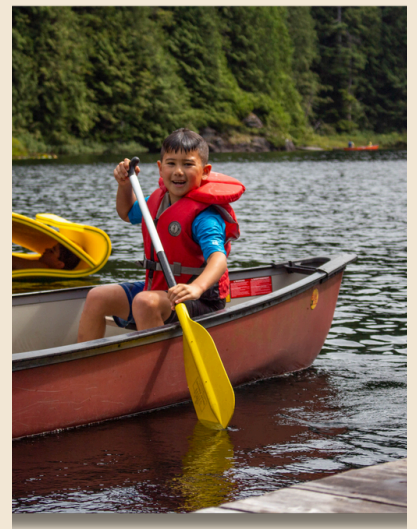
Our campers can swim, canoe and paddleboard while at the lake.

A certified lifeguard will be watching at all times when the campers are in the water.

Campers who wish to swim without a lifejacket will have to pass a "swim test" before being allowed to do so. If campers do not pass the swim test, they will be required to wear a lifejacket.

Lifejackets **MUST** be worn out in the open water while canoeing and paddleboarding, no matter if they passed the swim test.

Lifejackets will be available to all campers, as well as pool noodles. Our campers **MUST** adhere to water safety rules at all times or may be removed from the activities.



HARVESTING/ GATHERING

The research forest does not permit any harvesting or gathering to keep the integrity of active research projects and environment around the forest. Due to the nature of our program, our educators will weigh the options, risks and benefits for participants to interact with edible plants and berries, and also the use of plants, mosses, ferns, soil, and flowers for play or learning purposes.

Berries are not to be consumed before asking a leader to identify it first. The health and safety of our participants is priority. At no time should plants or mushrooms be consumed.



We are excited to host your child at our Summer Camps this year! If you have any questions, please contact us at



wild.immersive@ubc.ca

