



79 Maple Street • Summit, NJ 07901 • 908-273-4242 • www.theconnectiononline.org

June 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We welcome you and your child(ren) to The Connection's 2014 Summer Camps! Below you will find information from the directors of each of our camps to help prepare you and your child for a summer of fun and lasting memories. In order to insure the safety of all of our campers, we ask that you please adhere to the following:

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURE FOR ALL CAMPS

- Drop off for all SummerFun campers begins at 8:30 am and ends by 9:00 am. If you are notified that your child is in Group 1, please try to arrive closer to 8:30. If arriving after 9:00 am, please park and escort your child into the building. Dismissal begins at 12:45 pm and ends at 1:00 pm.
- Drop off for **all afternoon** camps begins at 1:00pm. If arriving after 1:15 pm, please park and escort your child into the building. Dismissal is at 4:30pm.
- To alleviate traffic congestion, please **do not** approach The Connection from Morris Avenue, as there can be **no left turn** into the parking lot (approach The Connection on Prospect Street from the Tulip Street blinking light).
- Counselors will unload/load children from the passenger side of the car and escort them safely to and from their group. It will not be necessary for you to park your car since we will be unloading and loading several cars at a time.
- Please print out the attached car sign for your child's camp and place it **on the passenger side dashboard or visor** with your child's first and last name and age. If you are car-pooling, put **all names** on one sign (extra signs available at Front Desk). Group numbers will be assigned for SummerFun campers on the first day of camp.
- If you are carpooling with someone, or if someone other than you will be picking up your child, or if you will pick up your child before regular dismissal time, **please notify us in writing by handing a note to a counselor.**
- Campers not picked up by 15 minutes after regular dismissal time will be taken to the extended care program. Appropriate fees will be assessed.

We will post **weekly newsletters every Monday** with daily activities, special events and important notices on the camp page of our website at: Theconnectiononline.org/childcare/summercamp. Also, be sure to like us on Facebook ([Facebook.com/TheConnectionNJ](https://www.facebook.com/TheConnectionNJ)) to view frequent postings of photos and videos of our campers!

Thank you for your cooperation with all of the camp procedures. Please do not hesitate to contact our camp directors if you have any questions.

We are looking forward to an exciting and fun-filled summer for all of our campers. Thank you for your ongoing participation and support.

Sincerely,

Peggy McHugh Hagen
Executive Director & CEO



TRAVEL CAMP (7/7-7/18)

Welcome to Travel Camp! Camp runs from 8:30am-4:30pm and will include an offsite trip. We will be traveling in The Connection school buses. Please be sure to have your camper dropped off at the front of the building **at 8:30am**. Specific details and requirements for each day are listed below. On their first day of camp your child will receive a blue or tie dye Connection t-shirt to be worn on specific days listed below.

General Information

EVERY DAY please send your child with the following: A Connection t-shirt, water bottle, sunscreen and backpack.

- All children need to wear comfortable clothing, a specified Connection shirt, **sneakers and socks**. Jewelry, including rope and string bracelets or anklets, is not permitted.
- Please hand all notes directly to counselors. Notes sent in backpacks can be lost or overlooked.
- Health concerns (allergies, etc.) should be noted on medical forms. Please notify us of any additional concerns prior to your child's attendance at camp.
- A snack will be provided daily. If your child needs a special snack, please feel free to send it, however, please keep in mind we are a Nut Free facility.

Monday, July 7, 2014 – Turtleback Zoo/Tree Top Adventure Course/Safari Mini Golf – West Orange, NJ

- Please wear tie dye Connection shirt and bring lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**
- **The enclosed waiver is mandatory for participation. Please sign and return ASAP.**
- Sneakers are required. Your child can not participate in the Tree Top course without sneakers.

Tuesday, July 8, 2014 – Adventure Aquarium – Camden, NJ

- Please wear blue Connection shirt and bring lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**

Wednesday, July 9, 2014 – Aladdin on Broadway – NYC

- *****IMPORTANT*** This will be a late pick up day and we will be traveling by train.** 'Aladdin' starts at 2pm therefore we will not make it back to The Connection for a 4:30pm pick up. Drop off is still at 8:30am.
- Please wear tie dye Connection shirt and bring lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**
- We will be swimming in the morning at The Connection so please send a bathing suit and towel.

Thursday, July 10, 2014 – Rebounderz – Edison, NJ

- Please wear blue Connection shirt and bring lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**
- We will be swimming in the morning at The Connection so please send a bathing suit and towel.
- **The enclosed waiver is mandatory for participation. Please sign and return ASAP.**



Friday, July 11, 2014 – Sahara Sam’s Oasis – Indoor/Outdoor Water Park – West Berlin, NJ

- Please wear tie dye Connection shirt and bathing suit. Bring a towel, change of clothes, and lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes or glass please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**
- **The enclosed waiver is mandatory for campers 42” tall for Flow Rider Boogie Board ride. Please sign and return ASAP.**

Monday, July 14, 2014 - Beast Speed Boat Ride + Ripley’s Believe It Or Not - NYC

- Please wear tie dye Connection shirt and bring lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**
- Please pack extra water and let your camper know that we will be doing a lot of walking.

Tuesday, July 15, 2014 – iPlay America – Freehold, NJ

- Please wear blue Connection shirt and bring lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**

Wednesday, July 16, 2014 – NY Liberty WNBA Basketball Game – Madison Square Garden - NYC

- Please wear tie dye Connection shirt and bring lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**
- **Please note that we will be traveling by train.**
- We will be swimming in the afternoon at The Connection so please send a bathing suit and towel.

Thursday, July 17, 2014 – Surf’s Up Paddle boarding – Round Valley Recreation Area – Lebanon, NJ

- Please wear blue Connection shirt and bathing suit. Bring a towel, change of clothes, and lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**
- Please pack extra water.

Friday, July 18, 2014 – Tomahawk Lake – Sparta, NJ

- Please wear tie dye Connection shirt and bathing suit. Bring a towel, change of clothes, and lunch in a brown bag/reusable soft lunch bag with drink. No hard lunch boxes please! **Note: Lunches are not refrigerated.**
- Please pack extra water.
- Water shoes are strongly suggested or an extra pair of flip flops.

Some bus rides will be longer than others so we are permitting electronics this year. Please note that your child is responsible for them and we do lock the bus. Counselors will be taking pictures every chance they get while on the different trips so please make sure to ‘Like’ our Facebook page. Pictures will be posted of each day’s trips!

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Thank you!

Michelle Stelluto

Travel Camp Director Director

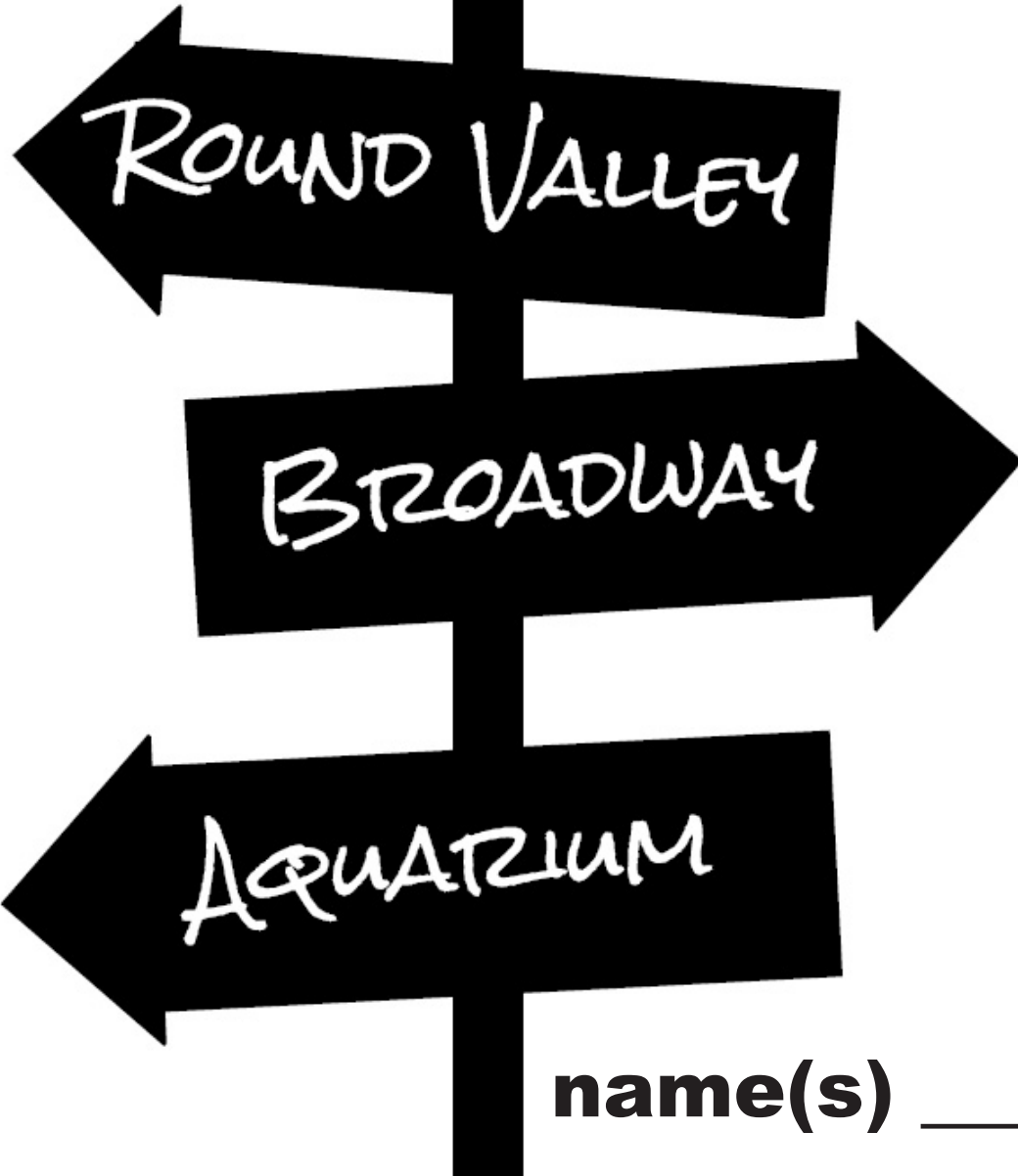
908 – 273 – 4242 ext 123

michelle.stelluto@theconnectiononline.org

“Like” us on Facebook to see the latest camp photos!

Facebook.com/TheConnectionNJ

Travel Camp



name(s) _____



INFORMATION TO PARENTS

We are required by the State Child Care Center Licensing Law to be licensed by the Office of Licensing, Child Care & Youth residential Licensing, in the Dept. of Children & Families (DCF). A copy of our current license must be posted in a prominent location at our center. Look for it when you're in the center.

To be licensed, our center must comply with the Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers (the official licensing regulations). The regulations cover such areas as: physical environment/life-safety; staff qualifications, supervision, and staff/child ratios; program activities and equipment; health, food and nutrition; rest and sleep requirements; parent/community participation; administrative and recordkeeping requirements; and others.

We must have on the premises a copy of the Manual of Requirements and make it available to interested parents for review. If you would like to review our copy, just ask any of the Camp Directors. Parents may secure a copy of the Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers by sending a check or money order for \$5 made payable to Treasurer, State of NJ and mailing it to NJ Dept. of Children & Families, Office of Licensing, Publication fees, PO Box 657, Trenton NJ 08646-0657.

We encourage parents to discuss with us any questions or concerns about the policies and program of the center or the meaning, application or alleged violations of the Manual of Requirements. We will be happy to arrange a convenient opportunity for you to review and discuss these matters with us. If you suspect we may be in violation of licensing standards, you are entitled to report them to the Office of Licensing toll free at 1 (877) 667-9845. Of course, we would appreciate your bringing these concerns to our attention, too.

We must have a policy concerning the release of children to parents or people authorized by the parent(s) to be responsible for the child. Please discuss your plans for your child's departure from the camp. We must have a policy about dispensing medicine and the management of communicable diseases. Please talk to us about these policies so we can work together to keep your children healthy. We must have a policy concerning expulsion of children from our camps. Please review this policy so we can work together to keep your child in our camps.

Parents are entitled to review our copy of the Office of Licensing's Inspection/Violation Reports on the center, which are issued after every State licensing inspection of our center. If there is a licensing complaint investigation, you are also entitled to review the Office's Complaint Investigation Summary Report, as well as any letters of enforcement or other actions taken against us during the current licensing period. Let us know if you wish to review them and we will make them available for your review.

We must cooperate with all DCF inspections/investigations. DCF staff may interview both staff members and children.

We must post its written statement of philosophy on child discipline in a prominent location and make a copy of it available to parents upon request. We encourage you to review it and to discuss with us any questions you may have.

We must offer parents of enrolled children ample opportunity to participate in and observe the activities of our camps. Parents wishing to participate in the activities or operations of the camp should discuss their interest with the camp director, who can advise them of what opportunities are available. Parents of enrolled children may visit at any time without having to secure prior approval from the director or any staff member. Please feel free to do so when you can. We welcome visits from our parents.

We must inform parents in advance of every field trip, outing, or special event away from The Connection, and must obtain prior written consent from parents before taking a child on each such trip.

Anyone who has reasonable cause to believe that an enrolled child has been or is being subjected to any form of hitting, corporal punishment, abusive language, ridicule, harsh, humiliating or frightening treatment, or any other kind of child abuse, neglect or exploitation by any adult, whether working at the center or not, is required by State law to report the concern immediately to the Department of Children and Families Toll-Free at 1 (877) NJ ABUSE (652-2873). Such reports may be made anonymously. Parents may secure information about child abuse and neglect by contacting: DCF Office of Communications and Legislation (609)292-0422 or at www.nj.gov/dcf and select publications