

Welcome Guide 2011

Welcome to the family!

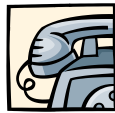
Thank you for choosing Crossroads for Kids for your children's summer experience. Our purpose is to provide the highest quality experience that we possibly can. Our camps will become a positive long-lasting memory for your son or daughter. Please read through the information carefully. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,
Patrick Cleary
Director, Camp Wing/Duxbury Stockade

Lisa Bower & Michael Clancy
Co-Directors, Camp Mitton

Information

Our staff is more than happy to answer any questions to make this camp experience the most successful possible:



Year Round Office:
(781) 834-2700

Camp Wing (summer only): (781) 837-4279

Camp Mitton (summer only): (508) 385-0951



All *registration/payment related questions* should be directed to our Outreach Coordinator Victoria at the Crossroads for Kids main office.

During the dates of camp operation (July 1-August 26) please call the appropriate summer phone numbers for all *camp-related concerns*. If for any reason you are unable to reach someone in the camp office, please do call our main office and speak with Jeanne (our office manager) or Victoria to get a message to the camp directors.

Questions, concerns, feedback, suggestions are also welcome at our year-round office.

We're Here to Help!

Camp dates

CAMP WING and CAMP MITTON

	FIRST DAY	LAST DAY
Session 1 (14 days)	Fri., July 1	Thurs., July 14
Session 2 (20 days)	Sat., July 16	Thurs., Aug. 4
Session 3 (20 days)	Sun., Aug 7	Fri., Aug 26



Fees and Refunds

The balance of your camp fees (the cost of camp, minus any deposits, financial assistance, or agency payments) is due **45 days** prior to the opening day of your session. If you register for camp after this time, the balance is due upon receipt of this Welcome Packet. If payment is not received in a timely manner, your registration may be canceled and your deposit forfeited.

The invoice included with this packet is the **only** payment notification you will receive. We appreciate prompt payment upon receipt of this packet. **PAYMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AT THE BUS OR ON OPENING DAY.** Please mail your money order to our office in Duxbury. Please do not mail cash. Mail to:

**Crossroads for Kids, Attn: Victoria
119 Myrtle St., Duxbury, MA 02332**

Visa and MasterCard may also be used for balance of fees—
please call our office and speak to Victoria to pay your fees over the
phone.

Refunds of the balance paid are **ONLY** given for certified medical reasons, pro-rated based on the full camper fee. There are no refunds for late arrivals or early departures. Under no circumstances are deposits refunded.

Staff selection policies and procedures including confirmation of background checks, and camp health care and discipline policies, are available to parents/guardians at their request. You may contact the office during business hours at 781-834-2700 to file any grievances.

Camp Wing ONLY



IF YOUR CHILD IS TAKING THE BUS:

First Day of Camp: You should be at the South Bay Center in Dorchester, in the parking lot between Target and Best Buy at 10:00 A.M. It takes time to get your child through the check-in procedure; the bus will leave at 10:30 sharp.

Last Day of Camp: Please pick up your children at South Bay Center at 10:00 A.M. *You will need to show your photo ID and sign your child out.*

IF YOU ARE DRIVING DIRECTLY TO/FROM CAMP:

First Day of Camp: Please bring your child between 10:00 and 10:30 A.M.

Last Day of Camp: Please pick up your child between 9:00 and 9:30 A.M. *You will need to show your photo ID and sign your child out.*

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP WING FROM BOSTON (35 MILES):

Take Rt. 93 South to Rt. 3 South – you will be on Rt. 3 for about 30 miles. Take Exit 11 (Rt. 14W) and turn left at the end of the exit ramp. At the fork, bear right onto Union Street. Turn right onto Keene Street (1st intersection). Camp will be about ½ mile on the left.

DIRECTIONS TO SOUTH BAY CENTER

BY TRAIN TO SOUTH BAY: *Take the Red Line to Andrew Station. There is a free shuttle for passengers traveling to South Bay Center.*

BY CAR TO SOUTH BAY: From **93S**, take Exit 18 and follow signs to South Bay Center. From **93N** take Exit 16; follow signs for South Bay Center.

Please follow these procedures to help us maintain the safety of all campers: during arrival and departure, please follow the instructions of staff directing traffic carefully. South Bay is a busy drop off location and parents have responsibility for campers until they are ON the bus and supervised by staff. Please unload vehicles of gear in unloading zones (clearly marked by signs) only. Please discuss the following safety rules with your camper: all persons need to be sitting on the bus, facing forward, hands and heads inside the bus (not out the window!) and campers need to follow directions and listen carefully as staff discuss the rules before the bus leaves for camp. Thank you for helping us make bus transportation safe and orderly!

In the event of emergency or transportation changes, camp will contact parents by phone as soon as possible.

Camp Mitton ONLY

IF YOUR CHILD IS TAKING THE BUS:

First Day of Camp: You should be at the South Bay Center in Dorchester, in the parking lot between Target and Best Buy at **8:45 A.M.** It takes time to get your child through the check-in procedure. The bus will leave at 9:15 sharp.

Last Day of Camp: Please pick up your children at South Bay Center at **9:00 A.M.** *You will need to show your photo ID and sign your child out.*



IF YOU ARE DRIVING DIRECTLY TO/FROM CAMP:

First Day of Camp: Please bring your child between **11:00 and 11:30 A.M.**

Last Day of Camp: Please pick up your child between **7:30 and 8:00 A.M.** *You will need to show your photo ID and sign your child out.*

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP MITTON FROM BOSTON (75 MINUTES):

Take Route 93 South to Route 3 South. Follow to the Sagamore Bridge, cross and take Route 6 East. Follow Rt 6 to exit 9B. At the end of the ramp, turn right onto Route 134 Northbound. Follow for a little less than a mile and turn right at Airline Rd. Pass through the first stop sign, then follow Airline Rd for approx. 1 mile to another stop sign. At the stop Airline Rd. becomes Satucket Rd. (a slight right veer). Take the very next right onto Slough Rd. Featherbed Lane is about half a mile down on the left. Follow the unpaved Featherbed Lane until you arrive at camp. *Please help us keep campers and staff safe by driving only 5 MPH down the driveway.*

For those parents driving to Camp Mitton: Traffic control at Camp Mitton can be quite difficult due to the nature of the land. If you are driving your camper to Camp Mitton, please keep in mind that you may have to wait for buses and other vehicles to enter and leave camp as there is only one-way access. This can cause significant delays in the drop-off and pick-up process. Please plan for this, as a quick drop-off or pick-up may not be possible. It is also important that you follow the signs and direction of our staff when at camp as safety of our campers is our number one concern.

Please use the transportation method you indicated on your camp application. If you must change, please call our office so we may update our travel rosters. Thank you!

Cabin Assignments



All cabin assignments are made in the best interest of your camper, and generally by age. Housing for girls and boys is located on opposite sides of the camp property.

Camp is a place where your children learn to make new friends. In order to encourage this process, family members and friends traveling together to camp may not be assigned.

While At camp

While at camp (continued)

Spending Money

The camp will provide all necessary items. Campers do not need cash at camp. (At Camp Wing there is a camp store where campers can purchase snacks. Please do not send more than \$5 with your camper.) We can not be responsible for lost or stolen money.



Health Care

A physical examination is required of all campers and staff within 24 months prior to their arrival at camp (a form is enclosed; if you already have a signed physical, fill out only the front side of the enclosed form and attach your physical). You must also include a copy of your child's health insurance card in addition to the health form. The **Department of Public Health requires that all campers and staff have current immunizations verified by a physician**. Health histories (front side of medical form) must be updated yearly prior to the start of camp. Medical forms **should not be mailed** but brought to camp or bus stop and given to the nurse on opening day. ***We are not allowed to***

have children at camp without this form properly completed.

The Camp Nurse will be available for parents to turn over any medication that children need at camp. All medication must be in the original bottle in order for the nurse to accept the medication. We must have a written note from the parents describing the amount, time, and type of medication each camper must receive.

In case of illness or accident, campers are cared for by the camp's Health Staff, with standing orders from a medical doctor. In case of emergency, campers are taken to the local hospital or nearby medical center. Parents are immediately contacted when there is an important medical concern.

Homesickness

Children who are away from home for the first time may have a tendency towards homesickness. Our staff makes every effort to make the

Mail We encourage you to write several cheerful letters to your camper. Our campers look forward to receiving news from home. We encourage campers to write home too, but do not be alarmed if you do not hear from them—they are probably too busy with all the fun. Mail letters to the program which your child is attending and ***Be sure to include Camper's name on envelope***

CAMPER'S NAME
Camp Wing
742 Keene Street
Duxbury, MA 02332

CAMPER'S NAME
Camp Mitton
46 Featherbed Lane
Brewster, MA 02631



PLEASE NOTE: It is a good idea for you to spend some time with your camper explaining how to write a letter, and address, stamp and mail an envelope. Have your camper practice this at home. Please send your camper with PRE-ADDRESSED, PRE-STAMPED envelopes if you believe your child has difficulty with this process. Also, some parents send their camper with a sheet of paper with all the important family/friend addresses on it which can simply be copied directly onto an envelope. Counselors supervise mailing, but if your camper practices at home, you have a better chance of getting mail from camp!

transition from home to camp as easy as possible. **You can help your child transition through this by not saying that you will come and pick him or her up if camp is not fun.** It is better to assume that your child will love camp and instill this confidence in him or her. *Write cheerful and positive letters which continue to express confidence in his or her ability to succeed.* Avoid writing how much they are missed by family, friends, or pets. Call or write the Director if you become aware of serious homesickness. **With sensitive guidance, almost all children overcome any initial difficulties and become active and happy campers.**



Care Packages

It is always a special treat to receive a package while at camp. Books, magazines, puzzles, etc. make nice “care” packages. Due to storage and sanitation problems, including attracting rodents and skunks to the cabins, we ask for your cooperation:

PLEASE DO NOT SEND THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO CAMP:

Food, Beverages or Candy

If your child *does* receive these items, they will be held by the leadership staff and returned to you at the end of the session when your child is picked up.

Due to limited space in our camp office and short session lengths, we ask that you please limit care packages to ONE PER CAMPER, PER SESSION. Thank you!

receive telephone calls, we do not normally allow incoming or outgoing phone calls for campers, **especially during the first week of camp.** If a call comes in for a camper, they are usually not near the phone, but instead having fun while participating in an activity on camp. *If you are worried about your camper, you are welcome to call and speak with Leadership Staff about his or her progress at any time.* Any important messages that need to be relayed to the camper can be done through Leadership Staff or the Director. We feel this will help in the continuity of our programs as well as the success of your child's experience. Please be assured that we will contact you should any serious problems arise. *For special occasions such as birthdays, a phone call may be pre-arranged with the Camp Director.*

Camp Wing/Duxbury Stockade:

(781) 837-4279

Camp Mitton:

(508) 385-0951

Visitors



We do not encourage visitation at any time during the sessions as the campers are busy with their own activities. The unannounced arrival of parents or visitors may cause unnecessary disruption such as homesickness or missed activities. Of course, if you believe it is absolutely necessary to make a visit ***you must first call ahead and set up an appointment with the camp director.*** When you arrive, *you must check into the office.* No camper will be allowed to leave camp or to be visited by anyone other than parents/legal guardians, unless written permission is granted and arrangements have been made with the director ahead of time.



Phone Calls

It is natural for parents to want to call their children at camp or vice versa. **Because it can be inconvenient and disruptive for campers to place or**

Lost and Found



Two weeks after the end of each session, all abandoned articles will be donated to a charitable organization. ***We urge all parents to check through the Lost and Found before they leave camp.*** We cannot be responsible for articles left at camp. While packing for camp should be done by an adult, (and packing to go home is supervised by staff) we recommend that you have your camper participate in this process so he/she is familiar with the items in his/her bag. This will help campers to identify their own clothing at camp. It is a reality that clothes can get lost/misplaced at camp—please do not send any items to camp that you or your child consider to be favorites!

Preparing Your Child for Group Life

Going away to camp for the first (and in some cases even second) time is something children anticipate with both excitement and some anxiety. This is normal, since there are many new things to learn all at once---new routines, new friends, being dependent on others, being more on your own, mastering new songs, skills and activities and so on.

One major aspect of camp is interacting in a group with other children. Once at camp your child will acquire a host of “brothers” or “sisters” ---their group mates--- with whom they must cooperate and work out



differences. Group interaction is one of the most significant areas of potential growth for every child at camp, as this is where they learn to work out conflicts that naturally arise, make new friends, and become more flexible and tolerant of individual differences. You can prepare your child to make the most of this opportunity by having brief, but clear talks about some of the following themes:

- Your counselor is there to help you. If you are feeling left out, unhappy, or are having trouble with other campers, talk to your counselor. You can ask for help. You do not have to fight or argue. You do not have to “go it alone.”

- If you feel your counselor does not understand you or is not helping you, go to the director or any adult at camp that you feel comfortable talking with and tell them.

- Remember that being part of a group means that you have to do your part to help out. That means being part of clean up, following the rules and helping each other. Don't be afraid to stand up for what you know is right if other children are being mean or rude.

- Be respectful of other people's space and things. *Ask permission before you take or use something that belongs to a counselor or another camper.*

What to Bring

When you pack to come to camp, list quantities in the **To Camp** column. Tape this list on the inside of your **suitcase or trunk** – please do not pack belongings in plastic bags. On the last day of camp, check the **Back Home** column to be sure you bring everything home.

Old clothes are recommended.

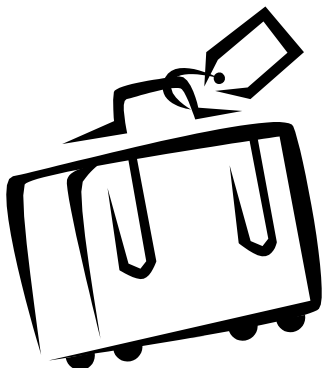
PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

Spray cans (roll-ons and liquids are much preferred), fireworks, weapons, gameboys, beepers, cell phones, food, snacks, or gum.

Spaghetti-strap tank tops are considered inappropriate as are tight and/or half shirts.

Crossroads for Kids does not allow illegal substances.

We prefer you do not bring and cannot be responsible for: mp3 players, personal electronics, or any other valuables (jewelry, etc.).



VERY IMPORTANT: EVERY ITEM
MUST BE LABELED WITH CAMPER'S NAME.

Clothing and Equipment List	To Camp	Back Home
1 Sleeping Bag <i>(optional if bringing blanket)</i>		
Blankets <i>(optional if bringing sleeping bag)</i>		
1-2 Sheets		
1 Pillow and pillow case		
1 Jacket		
2 Sweatshirts		
Laundry Bag for dirty laundry		
Sneakers (1 or 2 pair)		
9 T-shirts		
2 Pants		
9 Shorts		
10-12 pairs of Socks		
10-12 pairs of Underwear		
Swim Suit (1 piece)		
1 pair of Pajamas		
Toothbrush, toothpaste, brush		
Other Toiletries (lotion, deodorant)		
1 pair flip flops (swimming/ showering)		
Washcloth, soap, shampoo		
2 Towels		
Stationery, stamps, pen/pencil		
1 Raincoat or poncho		
1 Flashlight		
Appropriate Reading Material		
Insect Repellent (non-aerosol)		
Sun Screen		

Notes



www.crossroads4kids.org