



IS YOUR CHILD

READY FOR K-CAMP?

K-Camp is a big and exciting step! To help ensure a positive, safe, and successful camp experience for every child, we ask families to **review the readiness checklist below**. These developmental markers help us determine whether a child is prepared for the structure and activities of a full camp day.

Please note: **Children must be 4 years old prior to their first day of camp to be eligible for K-Camp.** Reviewing these expectations can help set your child up for a confident and happy summer at the Y.

Developmental Readiness

- Follows 1–2 step directions.
- Communicates basic needs (bathroom, hunger, help).
- Participates in short group activities (5–10 minutes).
- Uses the restroom, washes hands, and handles simple self-care.
- Fully bathroom independent.
- Transitions between activities with guidance.

Emotional Readiness

- Able to separate from caregivers with minimal distress; counselors should not need to hold campers back once the group transitions.
- Expresses feelings using simple words.
- Accepts reassurance and redirection.
- Practices sharing and turn-taking with support.
- Does not need extended one-on-one attention.
- Remains with the group and returns promptly when a counselor asks.

Physical Readiness

- Comfortable with active play (running, climbing, playground).
- Can carry a small backpack or belongings.
- Follows basic safety cues (stop, body to self, stay within designated area, etc.).
- Handles a full day of activity with breaks, including extended outdoor time.

Mental Readiness

- Can focus for ~10 minutes at a time.
- Shows curiosity about new activities.
- Handles small routine changes with help.

Practical Readiness

- Keeps track of personal items with reminders.
- Drinks water when prompted.
- Understands camp is a full day of play, routine, and transitions.

A photograph of several children sitting at a green wooden picnic table outdoors. They are wearing yellow t-shirts with a logo that says 'the CAMPERS'. There are water bottles, food containers, and other items on the table. In the background, there is a green fence and some trees.

IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR PIONEERS?

Camp is an exciting opportunity for growth at every age! To help ensure a positive, safe, and successful experience for all campers, we ask families to review the readiness checklist below. These expectations help determine whether a camper is prepared for the structure, independence, and activities of a full camp day.

Pioneers Group readiness checklist for children entering 1st & 2nd grades this fall.

Developmental Readiness

- Follows multi-step instructions.
- Participates in 15–25-minute group activities.
- Communicates clearly with adults and peers.
- Fully bathroom independent.
- Dresses appropriately for outdoor activities and changing weather.

Emotional Readiness

- Separates confidently from caregivers.
- Manages emotions with occasional support.
- Navigates peer interactions with guidance.
- Does not need extended one-on-one attention.
- Shows respectful behavior toward peers, counselors, and staff.
- Follows camp rules, boundaries, and instructions the first time.
- Handles wins and losses in games with good sportsmanship.
- Comfortable being away from home during the full day of camp.

Physical Readiness

- Participates safely in sports and outdoor play.
- Comfortable with a full day of activity with breaks, including extended outdoor time.
- Understands basic safety expectations (body to self, listening to counselors, always staying with designated group, respecting other campers and counselors, etc.).
- Applies sunscreen independently and correctly as needed.

Mental Readiness

- Stays engaged for 15–25 minutes.
- Shows willingness to try new things.
- Problem-solves with guidance.
- Communicates needs, concerns, or issues to counselors when necessary

Practical Readiness

- Manages belongings with occasional reminders.
- Recognizes when they need water or a rest.

A photograph of two young children, a girl and a boy, smiling at the camera. They are wearing yellow t-shirts with a blue collar. In the background, other children in similar shirts are visible, along with outdoor camp equipment like tables and chairs.

IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR

TRAILBLAZERS

Camp is an exciting opportunity for growth at every age! To help ensure a positive, safe, and successful experience for all campers, we ask families to review the readiness checklist below. These expectations help determine whether a camper is prepared for the structure, independence, and activities of a full camp day.

Trailblazers & Specialty Camps readiness checklist for children entering 3rd & 4th grades this fall.

Developmental Readiness

- Follows routines with little assistance.
- Handles group rotations and activity stations.
- Dresses appropriately for outdoor activities and changing weather.

Emotional Readiness

- Manages frustration with support.
- Advocates for themselves appropriately.
- Shows cooperation and respect.
- Shows respectful behavior toward peers, counselors, and staff.
- Follows camp rules, boundaries, and instructions the first time.
- Handles wins and losses in games with good sportsmanship.
- Comfortable being away from home during the full day of camp.

Physical Readiness

- Participates comfortably in more involved physical activities.
- Handles extended outdoor play.
- Understands basic safety expectations (body to self, listening to counselors, always staying with designated group, respecting other campers and counselors, etc.).
- Able to engage fully at camp without the use of personal screens.

Mental Readiness

- Engages in activities for 20–30 minutes.
- Adapts to schedule changes with minimal stress.
- Follows rules with consistency.
- Communicates needs, concerns, or issues to counselors when necessary

Practical Readiness

- Tracks personal belongings throughout the day.
- Manages lunch, water, and sunscreen more independently.
- Knows what items are allowed/not allowed at camp (screens: phones, tablets, trading cards, personal games, etc.).



IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR RIVER RIDERS

Camp is an exciting opportunity for growth at every age! To help ensure a positive, safe, and successful experience for all campers, we ask families to review the readiness checklist below. These expectations help determine whether a camper is prepared for the structure, independence, and activities of camp.

River Riders & Specialty Camp readiness checklist for children entering 5th & 6th grades this fall.

Developmental Readiness

- Follows detailed instructions and completes tasks responsibly.
- Dresses appropriately for outdoor activities and changing weather.

Emotional Readiness

- Manages peer conflict and teamwork maturely.
- Accepts feedback well.
- Shows interest in leadership and responsibility.
- Shows respectful behavior toward peers, counselors, and staff.
- Follows camp rules, boundaries, and instructions the first time.
- Handles wins and losses in games with good sportsmanship.
- Comfortable being away from home during the full day of camp.

Mental Readiness

- Engages for 30+ minutes depending on activity.
- Uses problem-solving independently.
- Understands and respects boundaries and safety rules.
- Communicates needs, concerns, or issues to counselors when necessary.

Physical Readiness

- Participates comfortably in high-energy or skill-based activities.
- Handles structured sports or group challenges.
- Understands basic safety expectations (body to self, listening to counselors, always staying with designated group, respecting other campers and counselors, etc.).
- Able to engage fully at camp without the use of personal screens.
- Applies sunscreen independently and correctly as needed.

Practical Readiness

- Manages belongings independently.
- Maintains hydration, safety, and self-awareness.
- Knows what items are allowed/not allowed at camp (screens: phones, tablets, trading cards, personal games, etc.).



IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR LEADERS CLUB

To help ensure a positive, safe, and successful experience for all campers, we ask families to review the readiness checklist below. These expectations help determine whether a camper is prepared for the structure, independence, and activities of a full camp day.

Leaders Club readiness checklist for children entering 7th-9th grades this fall.

Developmental Readiness

- Can arrive prepared each day with lunch/snacks, water bottle, and needed gear.
- Keeps track of personal items throughout the day without constant reminders.
- Manages personal hygiene needs (deodorant, sunscreen, handwashing, etc.).
- Dresses appropriately for outdoor activities and changing weather.

Social & Emotional Readiness

- Participates in group activities with a positive attitude.
- Handles wins and losses in games with good sportsmanship.
- Can resolve minor conflicts or disagreements respectfully.
- Communicates needs, concerns, or issues to counselors when necessary.
- Comfortable being away from home during the full day of camp.
- Stays hydrated and applies sunscreen without being prompted frequently.
- Takes responsibility for choices, actions, and behavior.
- Uses free time safely and appropriately (no mischief, rough play, etc.).

Emotional Readiness

- Shows respectful behavior toward peers, counselors, and staff.
- Demonstrates positive leadership or mentorship with younger campers.
- Follows camp rules, boundaries, and instructions the first time.
- Uses appropriate language and demonstrates good judgment in social situations.

Physical Readiness

- Comfortable participating in sports, outdoor play, and walking between camp areas.
- Understands personal limits and can ask for breaks when needed.
- Takes care of injuries/needs by getting help from staff right away

Practical Readiness

- Can follow the camp's daily schedule without frequent redirection.
- Knows what items are allowed/not allowed at camp (screens: phones, tablets, trading cards, personal games, etc.).
- Prepared to participate in special activities (swim days, field trips, theme days, etc.).
- Always stays with Counselors.
- Never alone with any staff, counselors or other campers.