



Frequently Asked Questions

What are the Ages of Campers?

- Our campers start at age 3 (fully toilet trained) and go up to age 15
- We base our groups on the grade your child will complete in June (not by age)

Are your Groups Coed?

- Yes, all our groups are coed
- We hire male and female camp counselors and lifeguards

Do you accept payment from a Third Party Vendor?

- We don't accept Child Care Resources or Children's Home Society at this time
- We do accept direct payment from DCP&P

Do you offer any Financial Assistance?

- Yes, applications are available on our website and are reviewed in the order they are received. Assistance is available based on qualifications and availability of funding. You will need to submit the application, applicable documents and worksheet by May 3, 2019

Do you offer a Sibling Discount?

- Not at this time. There is no membership or registration fee to attend this YMCA camp.

Can You Extend the Camp Hours?

- Yes, we provide AM Care from 7:30 am – 9am for \$30 a week or PM Care from 4pm to 6pm for \$50 per week.
- Matawan AM Care- 7am drop off for \$10 per week or PM Care from bus drop off to 6pm is \$10 per week
- Red Bank AM Care- 7:30am drop off for \$10 per week or PM Care from bus drop off to 6pm is \$10 per week

Do you provide a half day program?

- Yes, for our preschool groups only (Ages 3-5) 9am to 1pm. 3 day, 4 day or 5 day option.

Can You Enroll Anytime?

- Yes, however the earlier you register the earlier you can start making payments. Camp enrollment is on a first come first serve basis. If we have an opening we will accept enrollment throughout the camp season.

- Registration is available online and must be completed by the Thursday prior of the week you want your child to attend.

Do you Provide Lunch?

- An optional lunch is available for an additional fee. Please check the menu on our website, and register online.
- You can also pack a lunch with an ice pack and we will keep lunch boxes in an air conditioned room.

Can Campers Buy Snacks?

- Yes, all campers except preschool during free swim period. We have a Trading Post that stocks drinks, healthier snack options and ice cream. You can set up an account for your child in \$10 increments. No refunds are given if they don't use all their money. Preschool campers are provided a snack.

About Ticks?

- We have an aggressive, professional spraying program, done off-hours on a regular basis.
- We teach campers to ID ticks and do tick checks each day.
- We use cleared and treated trails.

Is There Trained Medical Personnel on Site?

- Yes, we have a Health Director on duty during regular camp hours.
- All staff are CPR and First Aid certified.
- Medication is administered by and stored with Health Director
- First aid supplies with all groups and throughout camp

What Do the Campers do if it's Raining or Excessively Hot?

- Camp Zehnder has indoor and covered space to accommodate campers on rainy days. If there is NO thunder and lightning they can still swim.
- In excessive heat we modify the schedule to give more time in the water and we limit high exertion activities.

What about Refunds or Credits?

- A credit may be issued for an illness resulting in 3 consecutive days' absence from camp. A doctor's note is required.
- There are no refunds or credits for vacations. Please choose your weeks carefully. We will make every effort to switch your camper to a different week if necessary.
- In the rare instance a child is expelled from camp, there will be no refund or credit issued.

What is the Swim Program Like?

- All of our campers get an instructional swim every morning they attend camp and recreational swim in the afternoon. Our instructors are trained to encourage your child to participate in both.

- Counselors and lifeguards in and around the pool
- All campers are swim tested and marked with colored band
- All lifeguards are certified in life guarding, first aid and CPR. Swim instructors are trained in YMCA swim instruction, first aid and CPR.

What are the Ages and Experience of your Staff?

- Many of the staff are teachers and/or individuals who work with children year round.
- Our camp counselors are a minimum of 18 years old while our Junior camp Counselors are a minimum of 16 years old before the summer starts. Each unit is supervised by a senior camp counselor trained in behavior management supervision and has experience with children.
- All staff complete a background check, drug screen, national sex offender registry check and attend extensive training prior to start of camp

What is the Staff/Camper Ratio?

- Ratios are 1 staff to 6 campers for Pre-K (3-5 yrs. old); Grade K-2 are 1 to 8 and Grades 3 to 5 are 1 to 10.
- Each specialty activity has an additional staff person who is involved with each group during those activities, along with the group's regular counselors.

Is there Bus Service?

- Yes, we have bus stop locations between Matawan and Brick. See website for the bus routes.
- It is a \$50 additional fee each week for each camper.
- All the drivers are specially licensed and complete a background check, drug screen and national sex offender registry check.

Do You Have A Special Program for Teens?

- Yes, we have a Travel Camp. Our travel program is offered as a 5 day program. We program and budget age appropriate activities and trips. This travel program fosters independence and offers new experiences for our maturing campers. We do not pro-rate for less days.
- Campers who have completed 6th grade will travel Tuesday and Thursday's and campers who completed 7th and up will travel Monday, Wednesday and Friday's. (changes may be made due to enrollment, weather and other situations)
- Trips are to outdoor recreational areas, beaches/water parks, sporting events and on rainy days to the movies, bowling, etc. Any trips that involve water, the campers are swim tested, a camp lifeguard goes on trip and they only go to a guarded beach.
- See our Trip Schedule. (available on website)

Are There Any Special Events over the summer?

- Throughout the summer we have special programming such as Theme Days, Carnival, Family Swim, and Family Nights (see brochure or website for dates)

Do You Have a Camp Counselor training program?

- Our Role Model in Training (RMIT) Program is designed to provide leadership training for those that have a desire to work with children. It is recommended to attend at least 4 weeks.
- Our RMIT's are 14-15 years old, attending 9th or 10th grade.
- Campers in our RMIT program are charged \$75 per week; they do not get paid, they are campers.
- Applicants in this program must fill out a separate RMIT Application and have an interview with the Camp Director.

Are Special Needs campers allowed at camp?

- Camp Zehnder believes that all children should have the opportunity to attend camp. We work to include all campers in our programs. Please speak with the Camp Director to see if we can meet your camper's needs.

How do I stay connected to what's going on at camp?

- You will receive weekly email/newsletter
- Download the Remind App and join the class ycamp3911
- Website- TheCommunityYMCA.org
- Y App- The Community YMCA
- Daily reports "tree mail" sent home for preschool, kindergarten and first grade campers. Others if requested.
- Like & Follow us on Facebook @YMCA Camp Zehnder