

 **The Wolf Pack SUMMER CAMP!**

 "*Children cannot bounce off the walls if you take away the walls*."

 -Erin Kenny

**Our Program**

Welcome to The Wolf Pack, where we thrive on co-raising respectfully wild, independent and compassionate children by connecting them to the great outdoors. We operate a year long program for 4-6yo children and this year are expanding and opening Summer Camps for our older friends! This camp is offered to children who are 6-10 years old. Our days are filled with hiking, scavenger hunts, team building games, fire building, swimming, paddle boarding, fort building, art activities, fishing, camping, and best of all, just exploring and playing! Our group size will be small, a max of 10 kids. Though our Wilderness School (4-6’s) and our Summer Camp (6-10’s) are separate programs, we will be at the same parks to allow for some interaction and collaboration during activities of both programs.

**Our Mission**

Through modern day technology and lifestyles, we have begun to lose touch with how important nature and fresh air is for our bodies and minds. We recognize the necessity for learning opportunities for all kinds of learning styles to prepare the children for kindergarten. Our program intends to reconnect children with nature, fueling a love and respect for the natural world around us which we are

confident will stick with them as they continue on their journey into youth & adulthood. Our Pack practices kindness and respect to ourselves, each other and all living things around us.

**Hours, Dates & Location**

We will be running our Adventure Camps week long, 8:30-4:30.

Our Basecamp is located at the Fallen Alders community hall at 3595 Royston Rd, we will also be exploring the Royston Shipwrecks Beach, Cumberland Village Park and Comox Lake. Parents pick up and drop off at the following locations.

Mondays – Royston Shipwrecks Beach

Tuesdays – Royston Shipwrecks Beach

Wednesdays – Cumberland Village Park

Thursdays – Comox Lake Campground

Fridays – Fallen Alders Community Hall

If the weather shifts, we will aim to be at our Base camp at Fallen Alders community Hall to the closer to our shelter and indoor space, our leader will text families updates closer to the week of summer camp.

Camp Dates –

July 2-5th-4 days $250

July 22-26th – 5 days $290

A $40 deposit is required to hold their spot, with the remainder of their fees being due on the first day of camp. Please bring a completed copy of their registration forms on their first day as well. (found on the website)

August dates – Pending based on interest

**Our Leader**

Our Leader, Kaitlyn Prowse, has completed her ECE certificate in 2014 and has worked in childcare for over 10 years. Our Leaders love for the outdoors and passion for early childhood development goes hand in hand in creating and operating this program. She carries her full ECE, First Aid & CPR-C, clean criminal record check, and multiple emergency wildlife management courses. We also have Aimee, who has her ECE and first aid, as well as Tanya, who has her ECEA and first aid. All of our staff have the adequate training and experience to go above and beyond providing exceptional care for all of our children.

**Safety in the Forest**

Here comes the grand question. "Is the forest safe to play in?" To be honest, no, it is not always entirely safe. There is always a risk to playing in an outdoor environment, and risk taking is a huge part of our learning process. That being said, our Pack leader takes great care to complete a safety check list of each area daily. Our Pack Leader always carries an overstocked first aid kit, emergency kits, and air horns. See Emergency Plans & Procedures for more details on our emergency procedures. All of our Safety Games are practiced on a daily basis and our boundary cones are never extended until all children have proven they can respect the boundaries. Though our safety games are called ‘games’ and are made fun for the children to practice, we take these games seriously and require all children to participate when needed.

**Fees and Returns**

Fees are to be e-transferred, cash or cheque dated for the day of the child’s arrival at Camp. Unless we can find a child to take your child’s spot in the program, there are no refunds for early withdrawal. If your Camp Fee is not received, your child may lose his/her space. In the event of your child being away for any reason (including but not limited to holidays or maternity leave) your regular fee will still be charged to keep your space in the program. In the event our program has to close due to reasons beyond our control (including but not limited to snow days, earthquakes, fire, flood or health emergencies) you will be contacted to pick up your child immediately. There will be no refunds for Emergency Closures. However, in the event that our program is closed for more than 5 business days for emergency closure, fee credits will be calculated and applied and adjusted to your next camp fee or will be refunded.

**Food & Drink Policy**

We thrive to promote healthy eating and nutritional habits to fuel our bodies for busy days outside. Due the nature of our outdoor program, parents must provide all snacks and lunches for their children. We will often be enjoying our meals outside so we are unable to do re-heats, but thermoses are welcome. Fresh drinking water is accessible at all times inside and our leader always carries a large jug of water on our adventures for water bottle refills. We ask that you do not send chocolate, chips, candy, or pop.

**Safe Release of The Children**

Any child registered in our program will need to be picked up prior to our closing time. No child shall be released from our care to anyone other than the parents or persons authorized on the consent form & pickup list. If an authorized person is unrecognized by a staff, he/she will be asked to show photo identification eg drivers license. If an authorized person comes to pick up a child and appears to be incapable of doing so, eg. intoxication, an alternate person on the pickup list will be contacted. Our staff are obligated to consider the health and safety of all involved and if a staff member feels this is at risk they may contact the police or contact the Ministry for Children & Families. Please advise in writing of any custody agreements that pertain to the child and submit a photocopy of any Court Orders. Late pickups will result in a charge of $10/15 minutes. Consistent late pickups will result in the release of your family from the program.

**Behavioral Guidance Policy**

Our program practices respect to others, the environment and ourselves. All of our children are treated with respect. If a conflict between children occurs, the children are adult assisted to deal with conflicts with friendships. We use lots of positive reinforcement and re-direction when dealing with negative behavior. We do not use time outs, but as a last resort if the child is showing potential to hurt someone, themselves or toys, they will be asked to take a break from the area and come back to fix the problem after a period of time once emotions are back to a controlled level. Only if the child is showing potential harm to themselves or others, or the program is being disrupted, the parent be contacted for immediate pickup.

**Health & Safety**

As part of our Health and Safety Plan we have implemented the following into our daily routine:

A) We are here to support and nurture your child, providing the highest quality care

B) We combine the forest and a preschool based curriculum to prepare your child for kindergarten in all areas in a natural environment to foster their emotional, cognitive and social development

 C) We have an open door policy with parents. Please feel free to visit, join us and participate.

D) All disruptive behavior will be documented by staff and the information gathered will be used when communicating with parents (and if necessary child care development consultants and/or the Ministry of Children and Families

Consistent negative behavior will result in the following;

- Strategies and a care plan will be discussed and developed between staff and parents

1. - Care Plan Action will be implemented
2. - If strategies do not show an improvement, then an observation will be done by a consultant from Supported Child Care or the Ministry of Families
3. - In the event that your child is uncontrollable, we will not physically restrain your child but if necessary we will call you or another authorized adult on your registration form to pick them up. As a last resort, in extreme cases, we may contact 911. This would include, but not be exclusive to, hurting themselves, others or toys and equipment.

**Illness policy**

We thrive to promote proper hand washing and hygiene practices to reduce the spread of germs, though all children get sick. If your child has a communicable disease or they are not able to participate in our daily program due to being sick, you will be asked to come pick up your child. They are welcome to return after 24 hours of being symptom free (green nasal discharge, fevers, spots, etc). Please do not medicate your child before sending them to prevent the medication wearing off halfway through the day. Please discuss with our Pack leader if you have medication you wish to administer during our program. If your child has an inhaler or epipen, it must be disclosed on their children's file and discussed at the time of registration so a Care Plan can be put in place.

Clothing List

Any extra clothes/heavy items that don’t fit in your child’s pack can go in our wagon.

Please send your child in comfortable shoes, or natives are great. Make sure they are sunscreened and hat on their head every day at drop off!

Please pack rain jacket and rain pants if rain is in the forecast!

Daily :

* Completed paper copy of their registration forms on their first day. (found on our website)
* Backpack comfortable for hikes
* Reusable bag to bring home wet clothes
* Change of clothes - shirt, pants, underwear, socks
* Water & lunch
* Quick Dry shoulder coverage clothing
* Bathing suit
* Water shoes/natives
* Sunscreen
* Sun hat

*Thank you for spending the time to get familiar with our program and policies. We look forward to an amazing summer exploring, learning and growing together!*

**Emergency Plans & Procedures**

Fire Emergency Plan

1. Stop! Calmly gather the children in a line formation

2. Make sure all children in attendance are accounted for using the daily attendance forms

3. Leave the building in the safest exit marked on the posted emergency plan on wall by the door

4. Meet in the designated safe meeting spot in the parking lot

Earthquake Emergency Plan

1. Get all children in the safest duck and cover positions under a table or doorway.

2. Wait until the shaking stops

3. Count to 30 and wait to see if there is an aftershock

4. Assess the surroundings and account for all children in attendance

5. Leave the building by the safest exit.

6. Meet away from any fallen debris or wires, first option being the meeting place in the parking lot

7. All emergency supplies are located in the designated area

Bear or Cougar Sighting Plan

1. Point at the animal, yell ‘cougar’ or ‘bear’

2. Put your hands up, make yourself look big, sing jingle bells loudly

3. Have the children walk, not run, backwards towards the Pack leader

4. Leader gathers children behind them and backs up slowly as a group towards the nearest safe building & blows the air horn if required, sing ‘jingle bells’ loudly

5. Call our emergency contacts & CRD if needed

Missing Child Procedure

1. Safety call & get all children to line up behind the leader. Yell loudly ‘1, 2, 3, where are you?’ and blow whistle, walk with children behind in a line searching in areas safe to do so if the child responds or is visible.

2. Call 911 & Advise parents if no sign of child after 5 minutes

Injured Child Procedure

1. Safety call & get all children to sit in a circle and partake in an easily accessible activity together

2. Assist injured child with first aid

3. Call parents and 911 if needed

Recovery Plan

After any of the above emergencies, ensure incident reports are properly filled out and reported to authorities, all parents are informed of incidents, and any used supplies are restocked. Ensure any therapist contacts and resources are given to families if trauma or behaviors occur from the incident. Reassess all policies and plan how to prevent any future situations.