Cedar Brook
Early Learning Centre

Summer Camp: Ages 4-8

Handbook Families 2023

A HANDBOOK FOR FAMILIES

A message from Kari	3
Cedar Brook Summer Camps	4
Summer Camp Group Size	5
Camper Activities	7
A Typical Day	8
What to wear in the forest	9
Camp Fees	10
Miscellaneous	11

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Early Learning Centre

(506)260-656 phone number

www.cedarbrooknb.com

A MESSAGE FROM KARI

Let me begin by saying thank you for choosing Cedar Brook. There are a lot of choices for summer camps in Fredericton and I am excited that you made Cedar Brook your choice. This past year has brought a tremendous amount of uncertainty for families and children; therefore, this summer, our focus is "Getting kids back to their roots!" This means getting outside all day, putting away electronics, exploring for crayfish and salamanders in the brook, building shelters, singing songs, playing games, creating nature crafts, having fires, archery, climbing trees and making new friends.

Again, thank you for making Cedar Brook your choice, get ready for discoveries, muddy clothes, play, laughter, learning and more because at Cedar Brook…the forest awaits!

Your partner in Forest Summer Camps,

Kari Sprague

Cedar Brook Summer Camps

Summer camp at Cedar Brook allows campers to create memories based in a beautiful forest setting. Summer camp is an opportunity for campers to be physically active, creative, and skillful in a healthy and safe environment. It allows opportunities for campers to grow and make new friendships. The forest is an excellent place for campers to develop strong situational and spatial awareness. We spend the entire day outside, where they are provided with an optimal environment for camper development.

"Children need nature for the healthy development of their senses, and therefore, for learning and creativity"

Richard Louv

The outdoors offers an abundance of sensory experiences, more diverse gross and fine motor challenges, varied open ended materials, and endless opportunities for imaginative play, all of which are crucial to all areas of development. In addition, campers will develop a sense of wonder and a deeper respect for our environment. Campers are inherently curious and eager to learn.

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Camp Sessions

Session #1 July 10-14

Session #2 July 17-21

Session #3 July 24-28

Session #4 July 31- August 4

Session#5 August 7-11 Closed for Holidays for the week!

Session #6 August 14-18

Session #7 August 21-25

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Summer Camp Group Size

Cedar Brook values and recognizes the importance of relationships and connections between the campers and counselors, therefore we maintain a group size of 12 campers for 2 counselors. This allows for the counselors to personalize the experience for each camper's strengths. Our camp counselors take on many roles in the forest, facilitator, researcher, friend, guide to allow children to seek out the wonders and awe that exist in the forest daily.

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Counsellor Qualifications

Cedar Brook is committed to ensuring campers have access to the best counselors, we employ individuals who have a variety of backgrounds, but most important, we choose only the ones who truly love being with campers. We employ counsellors who have backgrounds in Forestry, ECE, University/College students, Education, and other outdoor related skills to enhance the summer camp program. We know a counsellor has a tremendous impact on the experience of campers, therefore, we hire counselors who have qualifications such as:

- ✔ Experience with programming in an outdoor setting
- ✔ Experience or familiarity in a variety of outdoor skills
- ✔ Knowledge of Outdoor/Forest settings
- ✔ Experience with children

Camper Activities

Campers will be engaged in a variety of camp activities; below are some of the activities:

Forest Play: Open ended exploration within the forest, imaginations are let loose as campers play and discover the magic that exists.
Brook Discovery: Walking, splashing and turning over rocks while looking for crayfish, salamanders and other creatures.
Archery: Learning proper instruction to take part in an exciting activity to do so safely.

Camp wide games: From capture the flag, kick the can and more! Just plan fun.

Forest Yoga: A perfect location in the forest is all we need to move through a variety of movements related to animals and the forest.

Camp Fires: Nothing brings people together better than building a fire together and singing songs.

Nature Arts and Crafts: Using materials found in the forest, campers create arts and crafts pieces to either leave in the forest or take home.

Shelter Building: Using materials found in the forest, campers will have the opportunity to create forts, shelters, stores or other structures.

While outside counselors will lead campers through child centered, inquiry-based learning while outside. There will be times when we will follow the campers lead and assist in the discovery nature.

A Typical Day

8:30	Arrival of campers
8:30 - 9:00	Flag songs and morning camp wide activities
9:00 - 10:00	Individual
10:00-10:30	Snack, songs, and community discussions
10:30-12:00	Discovery forest centers: yoga, brook/water play, shelter building, climbing, forest play, nature art, archery, etc
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:00	Free Play in the Forest
1:00-2:00	Focused group wide activity, organized camp games, special project
2:00-3:00	Discovery forest centers: yoga, brook/water play, shelter building, climbing, forest play, nature art, archery, etc
3:00-3:30	Snack, songs, and community discussions
3:30-4:00	Free Play in the Forest
4:00-4:30	Departure of campers

What to Bring to Camp

Clothing

- Rain gear [waterproof boots, pants, jacket]
- Wool socks on colder days [they insulate even when wet]
- Sneakers for running [please no open toe shoes even in summer]
- Sun Hat
- Warmer sweater or jacket for colder days
- Lightweight clothing [silk/cotton ideal, synthetic fibres do not breathe well]
- Bug Jacket (optional)
- **An extra set of clothes (pants, socks, underwear, shirt) in case of getting wet of really muddy**

***Children must come in dressed in thin long pants daily to protect against minor cuts and scrapes.

Backpack

- Proper size backpack to carry personal gear comfortably
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Extra clothes
- Water bottle

Lunch and Snacks

- Full healthy lunch
- 2 snack breaks
- 1 large water bottle
- Extra snacks for those hungry days

Camp Fees

Fees

1 child……$250.00 per 5 day week

1 child……$200.00 per 4 day week

Camp fees are inclusive of all other fees, supplies and taxes

Payments:

• To reserve my camper's spot, a non-refundable deposit fee of $100 per camp must be paid at the time of registration (within 24 hours). Full payment is required 30 days before the session starts. Payments can be made via e-transfer (preferred) to cedarbrooknb@gmail.com (use password "forest").

Cancellations & Refunds:

Cancellations made at least 7 days prior to the start of the camp, will be granted a credit for a future week, less the $100 deposit fee per camper, per week cancelled. No refund/credit will be given with less than 7 days' notice. If your camper cannot attend camp for medical reasons, please contact our office. A credit note will be issued upon receipt of a doctor's note. Should there be a death in the family a credit will be given. No other exceptions will be made. There will be no discounts/refunds for days not attended. Camp registrations are non-transferable.

We reserve the right to cancel any program or combine groups due to insufficient registration.

Miscellaneous

1. **Camp Day Start and End Times**

The camp day begins at 8:30am and ends at 4:30, to ensure your camper and the other campers receive exceptional quality, we ask families to have your camper ready and on time! If your camper is going to be late or needs to leave early, please contact Cedar Brook as soon as possible.

2. Arriving at Camp Check-in Procedures

For safety reasons all campers must be signed in and signed out (daily) by a parent/guardian. Your camper's first day will begin at the main building for registration confirmation, review of consents, medications and discussion of any other important information. After registration, the camper will be introduced to the camp counselors' and will join the group. Subsequent days for the week, the families complete a quick check in and campers will go directly to their counselor. If your camper(s) are attending multiple weeks, please remember to check in at the main building every Monday (or the first day they are attending) to find out what group they will be in for the week.

3. Late Pick-Up Charges

If for some emergency reason you are unable to pick-up on time, please call the center to let us know so that arrangements can be made until you are able to do so. If you are late picking up your camper without reason, or on a regular basis, there will be a charge of $5.00 for every 15 minutes you are late. For example, a late pick-up at 5:00 would be an extra $10.00 charge.

4. Illness & Emergency Care Policies

As mandated by the Dept. of Education and Early Learning all campers who attend the center must be well enough to participate in all aspects of the program. For the safety of other campers, your camper may NOT attend if they are showing symptoms of the following:

- Elevated temperature (over 38.5 degrees Celsius)
- Vomiting
- Skin rash
- Communicable diseases

If any camper shows any of these symptoms, we will notify the parents that their camper will be required to be picked up within that hour.

We require all parents to sign a permission form for emergency medical care. In case of an emergency you will be contacted to meet staff at the nearest hospital. Please notify the Center if your camper contracts a communicable disease in order that we may notify other parents and the Department of Health. Re-admittance will be in accordance with health

Regulations. All parents will be notified within 12 hours if a communicable disease is detected. The guidelines of Management of Illness must be followed based on Dept. of Education and Early Childhood Dev. Health Standards.

We also will need a phone call if your camper will be absent due to illness.

5. Medication

It is the law of our Government that all medication must be labelled with the camper's name and dosage for the camper be in the original prescription bottle or package for us to administer it to the camper. It is policy that you give written instructions and must sign form daily.

6. Departure

Your camper will not be released to anyone other than the parents or those authorized by the parents. It is the parent's responsibility to notify the centre in advance of any special arrangements for release. We reserve the right to verify the information. If there is an emergency that prevents you from picking up your camper on time, please let us know as soon as possible so that alternate arrangements may be made.

7. Snacks and Lunches

Parents are required to provide healthy lunches and two healthy snacks per day. Please include an ice pack in your camper's lunch.

8. Behavior Management

To encourage positive behaviors our philosophy is to begin with well defined limitations and basic rules for the campers. We rely on positive reinforcement, redirection and good role modeling to achieve this.

Should an “incident” between two campers occur, they are encouraged to discuss their problem with the caregivers and / or campers that are involved in the “incident”.

18. COVID-19

Cedar Brook Early Learning Center follows all mandated regulations and protocols from the Department of Early Childhood and Education and Public Health. We will be following a high standard of cleaning of our facility and ensure surfaces are regularly sanitized.

One of the benefits of Cedar Brook is that we are a summer camp and campers spend most of their time outside.

As the province of New Brunswick continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic, we will work to the best of our capacity to ensure that all campers at Cedar Brook stay safe and healthy.

THE FOREST AWAITS…CALL OR EMAIL TODAY TO REGISTER YOUR SPACE.

CEDABROOKSUMMERCAMP@GMAIL.COM

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