

## **CYC Summer Girls Camp 2017**

Theme: Under the sea (with Finding Nemo, finding life!)

Director: Jan Jopson

Speaker: Sarah Leslie

Cooks: Rochelle and Tim Weil, with assistance from Sarah Leslie

Leaders: Anneke Botha, Anna Ross, Natalie Storm, Johanna Stolte, Donna Miller, Nadia McDonnell, and Rebecca Ross. Note that Nadia left as planned on Wed pm; but having Anna ill from Wed pm put me in the position of sleeping in a campers' cabin Wed and Thurs pm.

Campers: 27 booked, 25 arrived, one home on Wed pm due to illness.

This camp was successful in the gospel message clearly shared with all the campers through Sarah's Nemo-themed talks; and also messages for the leaders to continue to develop their faith and their leadership skills. There was a happy feel to the camp, with little in the way of disruption or behavioral issues. Several campers known to have problems coping at camp in the past continued to build confidence, and new campers settled in very well. The beach trip took a lot of planning, but was a huge success and is suggested for an activity for future CYC junior camps. Illness in the camp could have been a problem, but was managed well by the leaders. The camper who was sent home could perhaps be extended a part scholarship for a future camp at the discretion of the management.

*Notes relating to activities during the week:*

Activity	Positive	Negative	Interesting
Window art and bandanas	The girls appreciated them; great memory	Long art projects for a camp like this. The window art took a long time to dry. The bandanas were not finished until Friday.	Would have been better if somehow simplified.
Photo Challenge	Fun activity, good for bonding in activity groups	It was hard for some groups to stay together. Too difficult for some overall.	
Mixed age activity groups	Allowed for leadership development in the older campers. It was a good camp overall for mixing amongst all the campers.	Consensus that there is better control in a single age group, however.	Ideal to keep cabins in age groups.
Leaders Meetings			Noted that when leaders are away from the cabins chaos can ensue.

Go Carts		Was very hot in sun and no shade available – reinforce need for sun protection	Stopped working before whole group through
Bubble soccer		Too much for this age group of girls. Very few enjoyed, as the balls were too heavy for them to manage.	Flying fox was missed!
Archery	Hard for many of the campers, but this was a challenging positive.		
Rifle	Even harder than archery, but again remained a positive activity.		Junior campers were cooperative even though they were often unsuccessful.
Mountain boards	The girls enjoyed it.		Problematic. Some of them wanted to do a more difficult stage; a few were frightened by the crashes of leaders and other campers. It might be good to have another game at the same time to keep more campers engaged.
Bonfire	Much enjoyed by all; safe due to no “non-compliant” campers.		Note to take account of dietary needs when deciding about damper or another snack/activity. Idea to start the fire later, and then sing around the fire prior to doing the cooking activity.
Waterslide	Very much enjoyed.	Dirty – need to hose off afterwards, prior to going in showers.	Need to clear bottom area. Was safer with insistence on not doubling.

Quiz	The scores were very close at the end. Having Sarah arrive as "Ariel" added a special twist to the evening – and life!	Not challenging enough overall.	Some girls were overbearing. Sound clips should have been through the computer
Beach activity	"THE BEST" Museli slice was awesome; and bacon and egg pie also very good.	Breakfast was an added burden for the cook (maybe have fruit and cereals - simpler).	Potential to bring a portaloos and spend the whole day. Maybe could use the Barth home for a base?
Scavenger hunt at beach		Actually was not appreciated by campers, who wanted to get into the sea!	Idea to have a sandcastle building competition instead. Noted that the safety reason for having campers away to camp once wet was reason for delaying entry to sea. Idea to have hot drinks and a changing area and therefore potential to stay on.
Celebratory Dinner	Great dessert. Costumes and decorations very special. Shark and penguin shenanigans added to the atmosphere.		
Find the Leaders	Fun for campers; restful for leaders; good late in camp to pair up campers with 'new' friends – mix them up a bit	Leaders didn't know when they had been found by everyone	If leaders had a list of pairs finding them, they could check them off.

Theme	Nemo was a great theme – Finding . . . Impressed with tie into the scriptures; good learning for leaders as well as campers; great to remember when they potentially watch the movie again. Bright vibrant booklet excellent for filling in answers		
Talks	Great integration of booklet, and talking with leaders prior. Excellent to have devotions after the talks or in the afternoon	Talks difficult with age group spread;	
Morning pause	Easier than full devotions in the morning	Hard for the younger campers to comprehend	Good when it came together at the beach for the morning pause there.
Talent show	Impromptu by the middle cabin.	This didn't happen – and was missed by some girls	Talent show does tend to isolate some campers who find it difficult to do.
Other			Lots of outdoorsy girls at camp; enjoyed the outdoor opportunities Split Georgia and Lucy in activity group if both come again (note that I need to pay more attention to sisters in cabins and in groups)

*Notes to self:*

Work on less demanding art project for the start of camp.

Have 'alternate' activities sorted more prior to camp, no time to look at resource books during camp!

Should have said yes to one extra leader who requested to come. Needed her in the end for the extra cabin when two others pulled out.

I need to have more set agenda for mealtimes, so I don't forget things.

I need to have an "office" set up and stick to keeping my things organized there.

Try to have cabin groups and activity groups sorted better! – confusion when shifting girls around.

Careful on duty – hard jobs for junior cabins – not too early

Extra ideas for decorating and for making a special Thursday night

Drama / "recall" – this didn't happen, as it seems to work better if it

Movie was great, and splitting in 1/3rds is about right for timing.

Value of the day okay – but need to press it more to happen – could someone

else be in charge of the process of nominating a person and drumming it up?! –

Points for cabins . . . also not really my thing – again, perhaps assign to someone else (but not a cabin leader)

Songs – need to sort prior to camp better!

*Small notes for Tim:*

Would be nice to have a few extra pillows – I needed to borrow from Clark House for a camper and for a leader.

Need plastic shopping bags for campers (supermarket type)

Need pens for general use (I have given some from around here to Jill for winter camp)

The mugs and ceramic paints are for winter girls' camp - have given to Jill.

Jonna Barth may be a leader for future camps!

Courtney in wrong cabin due to sister's DOB on enrollment – copy/paste