



Children's
Treatment Network

CTN's Summer Camp Guide 2026

Simcoe County and York Region

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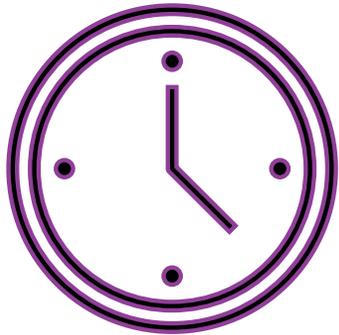
Why Should my Child Attend Summer Camp?



Camp offers a unique environment for kids and youth in your **FAMILY** to have **FUN**, make **FRIENDS**, get active outside and increase physical **FITNESS**, develop new skills (**FUNCTION**) and make memories that last a lifetime (**FUTURE**).



Choosing a Summer Camp



Plan Early

Many camps fill up quickly and have limited funding options. Give yourself time to do research and plan, so you are not scrambling.



Think About Interests

Do they like sports, arts and crafts or science? Look for camps that offer that type of program. This is also where they are likely to meet friends with similar interests.



Narrow it Down

Are you looking for overnight or day camp? Is there a specific drop-off/pick-up time or location that you would like? These questions will help you narrow down your options.



Consider Support Needs

Do they prefer small groups? Do they require 1:1 support? It can be a good idea to start at a higher level of support and taper down if it later feels unnecessary.



Inclusive vs. Adaptive - What is the Difference?



Inclusive

A program that provides the opportunity for kids with and without disabilities to participate in the same activity. May also be referred to as integration.



Adapted

A program that has been modified to meet the needs of a specific group of participants. This could be through equipment, programming, structure, support or environment.





Preparing for Camp

Connect with the camp to discuss your child's needs:

Do not withhold information from the camp about your child's needs. The more information they have, the better prepared the camp will be to support them!

Some examples of information to share might be:

- Sensory Needs
- Augmentative Communication Devices
- Feeding and Toileting needs
- Equipment
- Personality and preferences (likes/dislikes)



Preparing for Camp

Things you may need to talk to the staff about:

- Physical equipment: walkers, wheelchairs, standers, etc.
- Feeding needs/special diet
- Augmentative Communication Devices - high and low tech
- Sensory needs and strategies
- Self-regulation strategies

What you might need to bring:

- Sensory Items / Comfort Items
- Extra or preferred foods
- More clothing changes than recommended
- Toileting items - ask about sending a pack of diapers/wipes instead of a few daily so that they are on hand
- Communication devices
- Visuals (schedules, prompts, key rings)





Preparing for Camp

Connect with the camp:

- Some camps may be able to have campers tour the facility before camp begins
- If you think this would be valuable to your child, contact the camp directly to see if they can arrange this

Talk to your child or youth:

- Ask them how they are feeling about going to camp
- Talk about their worries and talk about what they are excited for
- Show them pictures online or drive by the camp so they can have a look themselves

Consider how you are feeling:

- If you are feeling anxious about your child going to camp, likely they will too
- Connect with the camp to discuss your concerns or reach out to other parents in the community who have been down this road before



Looking for a way to share information about your child with the camp?

Consider using an “F-Words Profile”



The image shows a screenshot of a form titled "'s F-words Profile" with the CanChild logo in the top right corner. The form includes a photo upload box with the text "Add a photo of yourself here! (Select jpeg or png files)". Below this are input fields for "Birthday:", "Town:", and "Languages:". The form is divided into several sections, each with a light blue text box for input: "FUNCTIONING (My strengths or how I do 'stuff'...):", "FAMILY (My family is...):", "FITNESS (I stay fit by...):", "FUN (I like...):", "FRIENDS (My friends are...):", and "FUTURE (My goals are...):". At the bottom left is the CanChild logo, and at the bottom right is the copyright notice: "© A. Cross, D. Grahovac, J. Brocklehurst, D.Kay 2017".

Looking for more F-Words tools?

Click on the link below.

[CanChild's F Words Tools](#)





Equipment Loan Program

Using adapted recreation equipment at Camp, offers a unique opportunity for kids to have **FUN**, make **FRIENDS**, get active outside (**FITNESS**), while developing new skills (**FUNCTIONING**) and making memories that last a lifetime (**FUTURE**).



Scan the QR code to view the Equipment Loan Program Parent Guide.

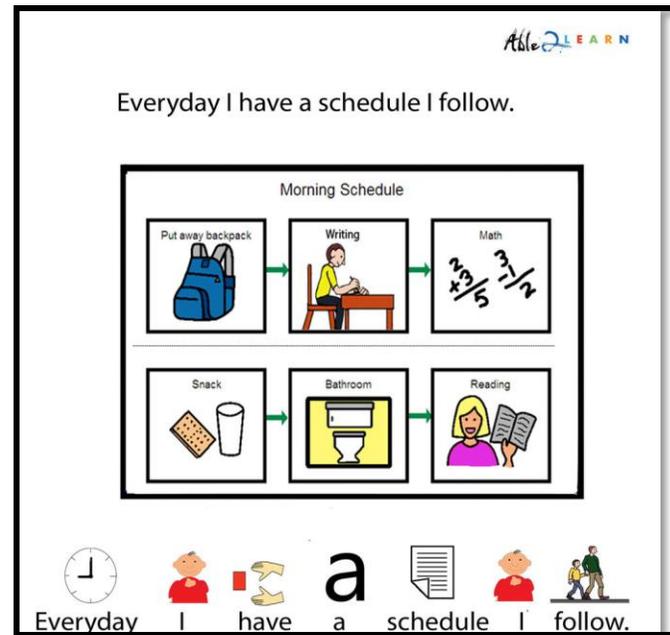


Using Visual Supports/Stories



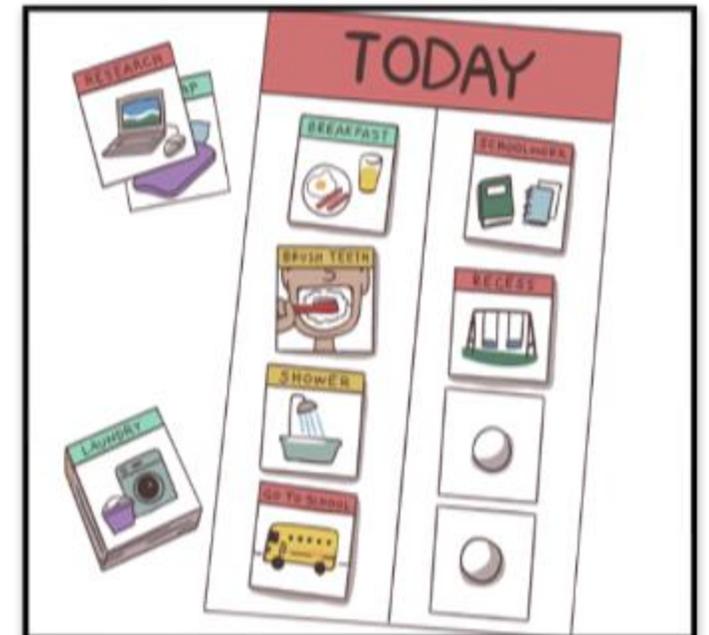
Communication Rings

Portable and quick communication. It can be worn on a lanyard or key ring for quick reference.



Social Stories

Helps teach kids and youth about places, people and activities and what might be expected.



Visual Schedules

Help kids and youth learn routines, eases anxiety and helps with transition.





Things to Remember

- Please keep in mind that camp is **not** school and it isn't supposed to be (camp is all about **fun**)
- The Counsellors and Support Staff are often students and are doing their best to learn how to support a variety of campers with diverse needs in a short time frame
- Be patient, keep the lines of communication open and let the camp know how and when you would like to be notified of things
- Be realistic in your expectations of not only the staff but of your child as well (recognizing that kids and youth can and often do surprise us)
- They may take a while to settle in and get comfortable in a camp setting and that is OK
- Remember, do not hold back or leave out important information about your child's needs as camps need this to make it a positive experience for everyone





Inclusive Municipal Camps in Simcoe County



Inclusive Camp	Ages	Support Options	Contact Info
City of Barrie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • 1:3 supportive ratio for adapted camps • 1:2 supportive ratio for adapted kinder/preschool camps 	Recreation Inclusion Programmer: <u>705-726-4242 ext. 5789</u> megan.grinnell@barrie.ca
City of Bradford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available 	Inclusion Coordinator: Natalie Coutts <u>905-775-7529 ext. 8307</u>
City of Orillia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • 1 week of 1:1 support free per child • additional cost after first week 	Orillia Recreation Centre: <u>705-325-4386</u> recreation@orillia.ca
Town of Innisfil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • 1 week of 1:1 support free per child • additional cost after first week 	Town of Innisfil: <u>705-436-3710</u> <u>1-888-436-3710</u> Complete the Contact Request Form



Inclusive Camp	Ages	Support Options	Contact Info
Town of Springwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • *additional cost 	Inclusion Services: 705-728-4784 x2053. Complete the Contact Request Form
Town of Wasaga	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • *no additional cost 	Recreation Programmer: 705-429-3321 ext. 2504 E-Mail this contact
Town of New Tecumseth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • *no additional cost 	For more information regarding support staff or inclusion opportunities please contact: recreation@newtecumseth.ca
Township of Ramara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available if camper provides worker 	Township of Ramara Recreation Services: 705-325-3091 recreation@ramara.ca





Inclusive Municipal Camps in York Region



Inclusive Camp	Ages	Support Options	Contact Info
City of Markham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available at an additional cost • 1:2 supportive ratio is available if they can match up participants 	Contact Centre: (905) 477-5530 customerservice@markham.ca
City of Richmond Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available subject to availability • no additional cost 	Inclusion Services (905) 884-0855 ext. 2047 Complete the Contact Request Form
City of Vaughan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • 1:2 ratio available 	Recreation Services Department - Inclusion and Support Services (905) 832-2281 ext. 7408 inclusion@vaughan.ca
Town of Aurora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • no additional cost 	Community Programmer: (365) 500-3162 cbergin@aurora.ca



Inclusive Camp	Ages	Support Options	Contact Info
Town of Georgina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • *additional cost 	(905) 476-4301 (705) 437-2210 info@georgina.ca Additional support requests: inclusion@georgina.ca
Town of Newmarket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • *no additional cost 	(905) 953-5300 ext. 2821 inclusion@newmarket.ca
Town of Whichurch Stouffville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (13 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available • *no additional cost 	Camp Office - Inclusion Services inclusion@townofws.ca
Township of King	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool (4 to 5 years old) • School Age (6 to 12 years old) • Youth (14 years and up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 support available if camper provides worker 	(905) 833-5321 Toll Free: 1-800-688-5013 inclusion@king.ca





ONTARIO CAMPS ASSOCIATION

Community. Leadership. Life.



Ontario Camps Association (OCA) Inclusive and Accessible Camps

The OCA supports all campers and their families with tools and resources as they take advantage of the camp or outdoor education experiences. For more information on these additional specialized camps, click on the links below.

[Ontario Camp Association](#)

[Ontario Camps Association Guide: Inclusive and Accessible Camps Chart](#)

***Please note that in the OCA Guide, areas in Simcoe County are found on the Central East chart and areas in York Region can be found on the GTA chart.**



Funding Options

Everyone deserves to go to camp! Below you can find some funding opportunities in York Region and Simcoe County.

Click on the links below to see if your family is eligible.

[Autism Ontario 1:1 Summer Support Worker Reimbursement](#)

[Autism Ontario March Break Reimbursement Fund](#)

[Ontario Camp Subsidy Listing](#)

[York Region Recreation Subsidies](#)





Children's Treatment Network

Better Together: A vibrant community where all kids, youth and families belong.

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