

KINNERET HIGHLIGHTS



Fall Edition

818.706.8255

MEMORIES FROM OUR 70TH SUMMER!

CAMPKINNERET.COM

WHAT'S IN THIS EDITION OF THE KINNERET HIGHLIGHTS?

This special fall edition of the *Kinneret Highlights* was written by our staff for all our campers and their families to read and enjoy! There are notes from all your specialists and counselors. You can read their messages and remember everything you learned and experienced during the summer of 2024!

Campers, find the sections that your counselors wrote especially for your group!

CAMP KINNERET ENROLLMENT FOR 2025

Although it may feel like a long way off, next summer will be here before we know it. Returning family enrollment begins Monday, January 6th! As a returning Camp Kinneret family, you will have priority throughout the entire month of January. You should receive an email with enrollment information by the end of December. Families new to Kinneret can submit their applications starting Monday, January 20th. Ask your friends to contact us today to be added to our mailing list and to receive information about our camp program and our application process.

CAMP KINNERET CAMPSHIP FUND

Each year our campership fund enables children to attend Camp Kinneret who otherwise would not have the opportunity to experience a summer at camp. Named for our previous directors, Sam and Rochelle Hoffman and Harold Gordon, this fund allows us to share their vision of a child-centered, nurturing camp with children of all backgrounds. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support this important program!

See our website for more information and ways to contribute:

campkinneret.com/giving

GROUP PHOTOS

Group photos were taken in our new amphitheater this summer! In December, we will mail the group photos along with another personalized letter from the group counselors. Look for them in the mail. If your mailing address has changed, please let us know as soon as possible so we can ensure every camper receives their photo. Campers who missed photo day will still receive a copy of their group. Take a look at the summer calendar when you receive 2025 enrollment information to see when photo days will be this year!

THE CAMP KINNERET STAFF

Did you know that...?

- New staff attend group and individual interviews and must provide 3 strong references.
- We re-interview all returning staff each year to ensure that they will continue to have a positive impact in camp.
- Senior staff members participate in a mandatory conditional drug testing program and are subject to random testing throughout the summer.
- We conduct yearly professional background checks on all of our new and returning staff.
- Our staff members attend 40 hours of staff orientation and training before camp begins.
- Our staff members are required to attend weekly evening staff meetings throughout the summer.
- Our CILTs (high school interns) complete applications and attend group interviews to discuss whether the program is a good fit for them.
- CILTs also attend pre-camp training and orientation as well as 1-on-1 goals meetings and weekly group meetings.

We hope this newsletter brings back lots of magical memories from Summer 2024!



From Group Counselors:

Mystery Jewelbots & Magical Puppy Travimals

Hello Mystery Jewelbots and Magical Puppy Travimals! Oh, how I miss you all! I have been enjoying life outside of camp by doing some writing, watching some of my favorite tv shows, and learning yoga. I think about you all often. I hope school is going great so far and I hope it continues to go really well. Do you remember going on the lemonade hike and how you loved swimming?! Mystery Jewelbots, do you remember our fun games of Gaga and Mystery Jewel Ball? How about when you all would find jewels around camp and put it into our sparkling box? I loved seeing how happy you were to find these treasures and hold on to them. Keep letting your sparkle shine because you are all truly wonderful! Magical Puppy Travimals, do you remember how we traveled so many places while at camp? I think Hawaii was our favorite. How about our game of Magical Traveling Animal Gaga!? Make sure you keep using your imagination to travel fun places and keep the magic inside of you going, because you are also all truly wonderful! I think about the Independence Relay and the Olympics and how you all did so well! It was truly a fun time getting to see you all try your best. Remember to always try! Well, just know that I hope to see you at camp next summer and that you are the best Jewelbots and Puppy Travimals ever!

Love always,
Inty

Flexible Acrobatic Buddies

Hello Flexible Acrobatic Buddies! We hope you are all doing FAB! We can't believe that you are all in school and probably having such a great time. We miss you all and all the times we played "Copy Cat" and did cartwheels on the grass! Do you remember Fun Fridays in the pool where we would dance and splash along to Disney songs? You boys never failed to make us smile! Do you know what we miss more than just about everything else? You probably guessed it but it's Sparrows Nest! Remember all the fun we had in there? From building

houses, to playing hide and seek... everybody always had the best time being creative and silly. We miss you all very much from your happy smiles every morning at Good Morning Mountain to your sticky faces at Juice Cups. We hope you are all having a great time in school and continue to be the super FAB crew that you will always be to us.

Best wishes from us to you!
Grace & Samantha

Hide and Seek Puppies

Woof Woof! Hello, Hide and Seek Puppies! Wow, time has flown by since the last time we saw you boys. We can't believe that you are all in school and probably having such a great time. We miss you all and always remember talking about our favorite animal sounds. Do you remember Olympics week when all of you did your best to win as many points as possible at each activity? You did super awesome, and we are both so proud of you! Winning gold medals at the end of the week was so exciting! We miss our time at Performing Arts with Ms. Anna so much. You were always using your imaginations to make the songs and dances so fun! Remember when we would use our puppy noises and sneak up behind other counselors to surprise them!? They never saw us coming! We miss you all very much from seeing you all arrive at camp in the morning to waving goodbye at the amphitheater. We hope you are all having a great time in school and continue to be the hide and seek puppies that you will always be to us.

Best wishes from us to you!
Grace & Samantha

Shiny Silly Sundaes & Underwater Creatures

Hi Shiny Silly Sundaes and Underwater Creatures!! How are you guys? We hope that you all are doing well and enjoying being in kindergarten and TK. We miss you all so much and all the fun that we had together this summer!! We wish we were still together looking around camp for different animals in different spots, pretending to lick our ice cream cones, building different places in box world, and hiking to the Lemonade Tower and enjoying the mermaids' delicious pink

lemonade together. Remember all the fun that we had running through the rainforest, doing archery, playing dance Gaga, and playing red light green light ice cream flavor edition? We always had so much fun together and shared so many smiles and laughs, we wish we were still at camp with all of you creating more of those smiles and laughs every day.

We hope you are still having fun and working hard in school like you did at camp, and we hope that we will see you again next summer!

Lots of love,
Alex and Ash



Water Monkeys

Hi Water Monkeys! We miss you all so much and wish we could go right back to camp but we know you are having the best time in TK and kindergarten. We went back to school too and are learning all kinds of new things just like you. New school years can bring new challenges, but we know you will always be trying your best just like you did at camp this summer! While camp is over for now, we wanted to remind you of some of our favorite memories from this summer! Do you remember when you all turned into rocks and disappeared? Or when we learned fresh dance moves in performing arts?! We sure do! We miss all your smiling faces and hope to see you again next summer!

Lots of love,
Kendall and Maggie

Silly Shapeshifting Sparrows

Hi Silly Shapeshifting Sparrows! I miss you all and camp so very much! Right now, I wish I could be back at camp playing Gaga with all of you, but I know you are having a blast in TK and kindergarten. I went back to school too and get to learn all kinds of new things just like you. New school years can bring new challenges,

but I know you all are trying your best just like you did at camp this summer! Even though camp feels so far away now, I wanted to remind you of some of my favorite memories from this summer! Do you remember when we built a restaurant and city in Sparrows Nest? Or learning to shape-shift with Vladimir in Performing Arts?! Or when we won a bronze medal in the Kinneret Olympics?! I sure do! I hope to see every one of you again next summer!

Lots of love,
Kendall



Secret Service & Sea Monsters

Secret Service “shhhh”
Sea monsters “rawrrr”

Hi everyone, I hope you guys are having an amazing time in school. I hope you are learning lots and making new friends. This year, I started my third year of college at my new school in Santa Cruz. I've been having so much fun learning new things and meeting new people, but I can't help but think back about all the fun we had this past summer as the Secret Service and Sea Monsters. You were all my first campers which means the memories that we made together are so special and will last a lifetime!

Secret service, do you remember our secret missions of kindness that we went on? We were bringing joy all around camp whether it was through kind notes, or inviting others to play, I think we really made a difference. Do you also remember the special care packages we all got before the Great Kinneret Sleepout 1? Those were filled so many silly toys that we loved.

Sea monsters, do you remember sea monster gaga? You all got better and better at that as the summer went on. What about our incredible 3D printed sea monsters that our kind CILTJude made us at home? I'm not sure I've ever seen

anything that cool before! I miss you all so much and I'm so happy I got to be your counselor this past summer. Make sure to keep spreading those acts of kindness.

Have a great rest of your school year,
-Kylie

Whispering Wizard Unicorns

What's up, our Whispering Wizard Unicorns? How are you doing? We hope that your first-grade year is going well. We miss you all so much! It was so fun escaping the dragon and defeating the evil witch with you guys. Remember the time the wizard came to camp and sent us on an epic scavenger hunt? We had so much fun!! It was amazing watching all of you grow in your skills around camp: in the pool, at the archery range, and all around the camp, you all worked so hard and tried your best in everything you did! It was so exciting to see you succeed when you tried new things! Your energy, enthusiasm, and silliness were amazing and always brightened up our day. We had so much fun making up silly riddle cheers during Juice Bars and sharing our favorite dance moves at Performing Arts. We wish more than anything that we could be back in the Gaga pit, inventing new versions of our favorite game or casting spells to help fellow counselors and campers- but the memories of our times together are enough to last a lifetime!

Always remember to have fun and act silly,
Carolyn and Adam

Kinneret Adventuring Crew

Ahoy, Kinneret Adventuring Crew!

Greetings to you all! We hope that first grade has been amazing and as exciting as our days at camp with you were! We both miss you all so much! From our daily safaris across camp, to running through the rainforest, and playing statues between activities, we will always hold those memories of spending time with you all close to our hearts as we work hard in school. We hope that you do too! Who remembers when we won the Olympics after a head-to-head competition against the Blue team? Getting the fastest time out of all the

groups at Animals was one of our favorite parts; you worked together so well and helped bring the entire green team to victory! Decorating our banner together was also a treat! Playing Sharks in the pool every day and working hard at our swimming skills was always a highlight of our days! You all did great at trying new things and seeking out adventures in every part of camp. We will always remember you all for your joy, perseverance, and silliness. Remember to always have fun and stay an adventurer in all things!

Aye aye adventurers,
Carolyn and Adam

Invisible Dog Friends

Hello, our Invisible Dog Friends! We miss you all and guess who else does!? Rocky! But fear not and remember that Rocky has powers to split up and turn into other animals. He has gone home with you in the form you like best so remember when you hear a bark, meow, or a tweet, he is there with you. We hope that even though you are no longer at camp you have made friends, invisible or otherwise. Do you still have your rocks, gold, crystals or amber? Are you still singing the telephone song? We know you loved it, and we hope you share it with other people outside of camp. We know that we miss talking to each and every one of you! You made the group so interesting whether you were talking about snacks, rocks, gems, or goggles, every conversation was a joy! Remember to do the best you can every day!

We miss you all,
Leora and Irma

Kind Potato Heroes

Hello Kind Potato Heroes!

We all miss you so much! Guess who else does?! MEHH! Scrooge! We hope you are all still being kind even though you don't get potatoes for your kind acts anymore. Kindness is something important that you should always carry with you! If you all can change Scrooge bit by bit, you can do the same in real life. We hope that you are enjoying the new school year and that it's going well. We want to remind you that you can be heroes every day, either by

doing the simplest of kind acts or by acknowledging other peoples' kind act toward you or others. Hope to see you next summer!

Sincerely,
Leora and Irma

P.S. Scrooge here, I miss you even though I don't get potatoes from you no more. I am exploring and learning every day without all of you. Even though it isn't as fun without you all, you really taught me a lot and helped me become kinder, and I hope you keep doing the same towards others!

From,
Scrooge!

Super Ice Cream Spies

Hi Super Ice Cream Spies! I hope you are having the best time in 1st grade. I can't believe summer is already over and we're all back to school. Since I've been back at school in Arizona, it's been super hot and it's making me miss all the ways we used to cool down at camp! Do you remember when we played in the hose on the field or went through the rainforest? Those were some of my favorite memories of our group. You all taught me so much during the summer so I hope you are working hard to learn more so you can teach your counselors next summer! Do you know what else I miss? Playing spies on the way to our activities. It was so much fun, and we loved it so much we made it our group theme. Thank you for giving me the best summer ever! I loved getting to know about each and every one of you and miss you all so much. I hope you have a great school year and that I get to see you next summer!

Lots of Love,
Gwen

Shapeshifting Kinneret Zoo

Dear Shapeshifting Kinneret Zoo,

How are you all? We miss you already and hope school is going great! You all taught us so much about animals! We know so much about cheetahs, alacorns, unicorns, and dragons now and we hope you remember all the conversations we shared. We also loved exploring camp's nature with you all! Remember all the bunnies and lizards we saw? You all

constantly impressed us with your abilities. We all learned archery this year and you were amazing at it! You were also some great swimmers, some of our fondest memories are from the pool! Do you remember how great we did for the black team in the Olympics? We had so much fun that week! We had so much fun playing creative games such as banana tag, breakfast/lunch/dinner gaga, and Pokémon gaga! We even got to try some mermaid lemonade! We hope you're having a great time in first grade and learning a lot (and hopefully teaching everyone all your animal knowledge)!

Your counselors,
Gwen and Aidan

Unicats

Hello Unicats!!!! We have been missing you all and hope that you are having a wonderful time in first grade. It feels like just yesterday that we were looking for the lizard of archery, shooting our lucky arrows at the target, and seeing you handing out stickers during snack. It was so much fun spending all that time at Og's Yard building the tallest skyscraper ever seen at Kinneret and rolling you down the hill in the cars you put together (and also chasing runaway tires into the creek). College work is nowhere near as fun as all of the challenging homework and math problems you made, and nothing could compare to your amazing artwork. Seeing all of you design your Unicats and come up with such cool names and powers was so fantastic!! We miss all the fun times we had swimming, hiking the Lemonade Tower, and doing gymnastics on the grass!! Thank you all for your kindness, creativity, and energy that made this summer one to remember!

Kindly,
Ava and Emily

Kinneret Knights

Hello Kinneret Knights! It's Benjamin and Evelyn and we miss you so much! We are both studying very hard in school right now and we hope you are too! It's crazy that it is already so many months after summer! It feels like we were all just splashing each other with water at camp! We can't believe that you are all in school and probably having such a great time.

Remember all the fun times we had together? From playing who's in the lava game, to calling Benjamin a beaver, to saying happy birthday to John, to piggyback rides in the pool, and playing Ronaldo vs Messi... we always had sooooo much fun! We miss all your bright smiles, silly laughs, and sticky juice bar hands but we hope that this next summer we will all be back and get to see each other again! We had such an awesome summer with you, and we talk about it all the time! We wish we could relive it over and over again! We hope to see all you Knights again!

-Benjamin and Evelyn

P.S. BENJAMIN IS NOT A BEAVER!!!!



Extraordinary Excavation Expedition

Hello Extraordinary Excavation Expedition!!! (Or Triple E, Or Trampoline)

We hope you are all doing well and having a fantastic time this school year!! We have been missing you and all of the good times we had this summer. It was so fun to play intense games of field hockey and soccer and announce the twists and turns of every gaga game. You always showed such amazing sportsmanship and were always willing to try again. We remember pointing out walaroos on the way to the Lemonade Tower, searching for Whiffer, the troll under the hopping bridge, and how you would all work together every day to break the seals on each excavation site and make sure our findings were documented in the book. We miss all the energy you had every morning, all your silly jokes, and eating lunch together as a group! Thank you all for giving us such an amazing summer, we hope you always keep adventuring and exploring!

Kindly,
Ava and Benjamin

Friend Fries

Friend Fries Assemble! Hi Friend Fries! We cannot believe how long ago Session One was; it feels like forever ago that we were sitting in our favorite lunch/juice bar spot! We hope you are having an awesome time in second grade and learning a lot. We miss hearing you get EVERY SINGLE RIDDLE correct and coming up with the most silly cheers (SUGAR! SUGAR! SUGAR!) We miss seeing all of your creative minds in action whether it was during an intense game of Blocktionary, creating a crazy golf course, silly nicknames for us, or all of your many drawings. However, we think your creativity really shined during Performing Arts during GMM Madness. We don't think anyone will ever be able to beat making their counselors watch TV, sing a remix of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, do a bunch of cartwheels or even sing Let it Go (all during GMM). But, how could we forget to mention our group's favorite thing, water! We will always remember walking out of boating/rainforest looking like we just went swimming in our clothes or when you guys wanted even more water dumped on your heads after many rounds of water duck duck goose. We hope you share the ongoing debate of which restaurant has the best fries or all the wacky would you rathers we made during lunch with all of your new classmates! When we say friend, you say fries! FRIEND, FRIES FRIEND, FRIES!

Best wishes,
Connor and Lucy

Royal Hen House

Dear Royal Hen House,

We hope you have been having an amazing time in second grade! We sure do miss having icy-bears and figuring out what riddle cheer we were going to do at friendship hill. Remember that we pretended to be chickens all around camp and gave each other silly chicken names? Being back in school makes us miss having swim every day and running through the rain forest until it looked like we went swimming. We hope you're still keeping up your British accents because we have and will continue to all the way until next summer! Have a happy holiday season and never forget to enjoy

yourselves and be as silly as we were this past summer at Kinneret. Have a great rest of your school year too! We can't wait to be back with you soon.

Best,
Brandon and Rebekah



Snapshots

When I say cheese, you say freeze! Hi Snapshots! We cannot believe that you are officially second graders. We hope you are learning a lot and having so much fun with all your classmates/friends! We miss every single one of you and will always remember your crazy and awesome statues; you got really good at freezing by the end of the summer! It was like we were looking at statues in a real museum. We miss seeing your creativity and silliness shine during all times of the day. Whether it was during Arts & Crafts, gaga, your very tall cup towers at blocks, would you rather during whale watch, or your crazy Good Morning Mountain Madness. But how could we forget to mention our favorite activity – boating!! We will always remember and laugh about how we would walk out of boating soaking wet, looking like we just went swimming in the pool! Speaking of the pool, we miss watching you fearlessly jump off the diving board. From racing each other to trying to ask Carlo to go into the pool in a different language every time, to handstand competitions, to just hanging out on the steps, you all did it with a smile! Let's not overlook your amazing performance at the Olympics! You crushed EVERY challenge. Screaming at the top of your lungs, cheering on the yellow team (I got a pocket, got a pocket

full of sunshine) to swimming as fast as Lightning McQueen, to winning the bronze medal in life-sized soccer, there were so many unforgettable moments. We hope you don't encounter as many bees as you did in our four short weeks, but we encourage you to be your goofy, unique, kind, awesome, smiley selves!!

Best Wishes,
Brandon and Lucy

Kinneret Airlines

Hey Kinneret Airlines! As we look back on our super fun summer, we cannot believe all the fun memories we made. Remember all the awesome games of Gaga we played and how competitive you all were! There were so many different types of gaga we got to play too! So much fun! All our games of Capture the Flag were so fun and really made the summer amazing. We hope you guys also liked playing sea monster with the boats, all the times we went to the rainforest together, or played with the hose on super hot days! Do you remember the times in Animals when we fed and hung out with the animals, as well as running around the field and all the quiet games? It makes us happy every time we think about those times with you guys. We really hope your summer was very memorable and fun. We also hope that our flight attendants and pilots are having a great 2nd grade year!

From,
Andy & Ava

Dragon's Den

Hello Dragon's Den Members! This is your two wacko counselors from camp Kinneret making sure you've all had a wonderful start to the school year! We hope you've kept the games and fun memories we made over summer alive throughout these past 2 months and that you have been keeping in touch with all your friends from camp! We miss you all and are always reminiscing about our Dragon's Den tours around camp, our guess and dunk games in the pool, our intense Gaga sessions and games of lava monster! We never did catch you, honestly all of you are faster than the dragon from our den! We hope you are all still singing "Hidey, Hidey, Hidey-Ho" and

"you're wanted on the telephone" everywhere you go. We can bet that you're all being just as crazy and silly at school as you were at camp too! We hope to see you all again next summer and we wish all you campers a wonderful rest of the school year!

Your counselors,
Evelyn and Jacob



Golden Rulers

Golden Rulers, it's crazy to think you're in the midst of second grade! We are back to school wishing we could time travel back to summer to sing songs, rate jumps off the diving board, and play "BLOB TAG!" "A pizza pie, a pizza pie..." Well, you know the rest runs through our brains often and makes us think of all the fun we had at camp! Getting to know you was such a blast and making new friends in other groups during activities, Independence Relay, and at swim, was too! We'd much rather be doing the worm at Performing Arts, doing tie-dye at Arts and Crafts, and seeing everyone get closer to getting a BULLSEYE at Archery Mountain then be at school. We miss playing the name game at lunch, finding out who's wanted on the telephone, and seeing everyone interact with other people on their buses! We were so good at all the riddles and had many cheers performed at Friendship hill after enjoying a Juice Bar and then a cup!

Enjoy the rest of the school year!

Carly and Jacob

Surfing Astro Kitties

Surfing Astro Kitties! We hope you are all catching the wave of learning this year in school. 2nd grade must be so fun and exciting for you all. Time sure does fly and we miss playing sharks and minnows,

swimming, and of course gaga! Has anyone been practicing at home? Or maybe you are all writing skits for your family just like we did in performing arts. You can have your family act them out like we did for you! We miss seeing all of your smiling faces and are so happy we got to enjoy our summer together. School is not the same for us without your entertaining stories at lunch. Have a fantastic rest of your school year Astro Kitties. Ride the wave!

Lots of love,
John and Chelsey

Watermelon Warriors

Watermelon Warriors! "In Formation!" is a phrase we can't believe we were able to say only a few short months ago, but we know with your warrior spirit and ability to do hard things, you are thriving in second grade! We are surviving this semester channeling all the fun and strength we gained from carrying our watermelons around camp and participating in the Kinneret Olympics that led to the green team getting gold!

We miss hanging out with you all! Seeing who can be the loudest at low ropes, who dares to challenge us in a dance battle at performing arts, designing crafts, and cooling off in the rainforest together were some of the many activities we enjoyed. However, we aren't the only ones who missed you. We found out the trash monster is still hungry and misses the juice bar treats they used to get with all the campers back in school. We hope you re-mem-mem-ber all the fun we had at camp this summer.

See you next summer for more fun,
Carly and John

Super Safari Scouts and Cheese Toasties

Hey Super Safari Scouts and Cheese Toasties! We miss you all so much and wish we were still at camp playing fun versions of Gaga with you all and running through the rainforest on hot days, or even all the fun activities we played at field and grass. We still remember all the amazing conversations we had with you all, whether we were discussing our favorite thing, or would you rather, or

talking in British accents. We hope you all look back at camp with joy of all the awesome times we had. We feel really honored to have met you all and spent the summer with you. We are writing from college but wish we could be at camp with all of you. We hope you guys are doing great and having an amazing school year! Can't wait to see you next summer!

From,
Ali and Adrian

Rockin' Superstars & Curious Critters

Hi Rockin' Superstars and Curious Critters!!! We hope you are all enjoying your school year so far, it's hard to believe that summer went by so fast! We had so much fun watching you all grow, and we know you're tackling 3rd grade like superstars! We will always think of all of you and your silly personalities and remember your curious minds so fondly.

Our Rockin' Superstars, do you remember the mini concerts that we put on together around camp? Or our rockin' dance moves at gaga? We know you're still some shining stars at school, no matter if it's on the playground or in class! We also had such a blast doing the Independence Relay with all of you, you totally crushed it- the white team totally rocked! Or when we made Kinneret history as one of the biggest Sleepout groups ever! We're so proud of you for working so hard, we know you must be learning so much in class!

Curious Critters- how many lizards have you guys seen since camp??? Maybe not too many, but there's always next summer to find more! We miss you all so much, with your goofy jokes and bouncing energy. We will never forget all the fun we had looking for critters together (or all the fun we had looking for each other during our awesome games of Chameleon). Your teamwork made the Olympics and Carnival so exciting; we're so proud of you for working together and supporting your friends! We wish the summer never had to end, but we know each and every one of you are up to something great! Thank you for such a super, crazy, fun summer and for some totally awesome memories that will last a lifetime. We will never forget all our

rainforest adventures and juice cup shenanigans. Rock on 3rd graders, you got this!

Stay silly and curious and we wish you all the best!

Maylene and Evan

Star Fairy Tea Party & Spicy Throwback S.P.O.R.T. Squad

Dear Star Fairy Tea Party and Spicy Throwback S.P.O.R.T squad,

Hi!! Gigi and Karla here! We're at school and thinking about you all as we sit in our classes remembering all the fun we had out in the sun this past summer. While we do love school it's not quite as magical or sporty as the silly times we had at camp together. Eating lunch now is nowhere near as fun as it was with a couple rounds of jokes or a nice gnome riddle to stump us for the rest of the day. We miss all the rounds of gaga, the "Little Sally Walker" as we got soaked in the rainforest, and all the silly acting challenges we did with Spike Chicago. We're so proud of the community of kindness that we built in our group. We made sure to look out for each other, ensuring that everyone felt included and that their voices and ideas were heard. We miss you all and are counting down the days until camp starts next year and we can see you all again!

Lots of love,
Gigi and Karla

TBD

Hey TBD! How's 3rd grade going so far? We're both already pretty swamped with schoolwork and miss all the fun we had together at camp! Remember when we played robot tag? Or when we'd give Olympic scores for everyone's dives during swim? We wish we could play just one more round of gaga with you all! We're so grateful that we got to be your counselors this past summer and we cherish all the memories we made together! Remember when we got to be a part of the actual relay for the Independence Relay? Or when we had a cargo net party at low ropes. Remember when we had to rescue the stuffed animals at Rockwall? If only the summer could've gone on forever! We miss you all so very much! We're so glad that we got

the chance to get to know you all! We hope your school year goes well, and we hope we see you all next summer!

Sending all the hugs and high fives,
Zannah and Ben



Intergalactic Pancake Monkeys

Hi Intergalactic Pancake Monkeys! We hope you're enjoying the third grade! It feels like just yesterday we were piloting our spaceships through camp and doing the pancake song and dance. We have so many great memories of everyone at camp. We were always trying to build the greatest ping pong obstacle course or towering castle at Blocks. We also remember kicking up dirt in the gaga pit as we scrambled to remain the last person standing. From Waterball at Swim to Volcano at Volleyball, we never went about our day the normal way. So, keep being extraordinary people, and we hope to see you again for more monkey business as usual.

From,
Danielle and Ben

B.O.B.s

Dear BOBs (Brave Ocean Bunnies),

How are you BOBs doing? We miss all of you so much and can't believe how much time flies! We hope you're trying your hardest, but most importantly, having fun in 3rd grade. It must be all that learning that helped us to become the riddle champions out of the whole owl flock! As soon as we sat down for lunch you quickly reminded us that we had to do the riddle. We still are incredibly impressed by the clever answers you all thought of every single day! It's so much fun to think back

to all the countless memories we made during Session One! Whenever it gets hot outside during the year, we think about how fun it would be to run through rainforest with you all again and get super wet to cool us off. The snack song and BOB song easily became our favorite camp songs, and we still sing them now. Maybe you can sing them to all your friends and family to show them how much fun it was to be a BOB! Along with that, we hope you are finding as many lizards and bobs during the school year as we did during the summer. We miss starting off Good Morning Mountain with all your big, bright smiles and ending the day with your comforting hugs. Whether we're spotting bunnies and shouting BOB or finding lizards out and about, we think of all of you and remember how much fun we had together. Thank you so much for a fun and BOB filled summer!

Best wishes,
Danielle and Aidan!

Red Hot Silly Peppers

Hello Red Hot Silly Peppers! We're so excited to hear about all the adventures you're having in school! It's hard to believe how quickly time has flown by. We miss you all dearly and often think back to the fun we had together. One of our favorite memories is playing Gaga with you. Those games were filled with laughter and energy, and it was incredible to see each of you growing more confident and skilled. Watching you all come into your own was truly inspiring. We also cherish the mornings at Good Morning Mountain, your cheerful faces, and those sweet sticky moments at Juice Bars. We hope school is treating you well and that you're continuing to shine bright, just like you always did with us. Sending you big warm hugs and hoping to hear all about your new adventures soon!

With lots of love,
Billy & Sofia

Ramen Numerals

Hey Ramen Numerals! We hope this letter finds you all in high spirits and thriving at school! It's been a while since we last saw you, and we just wanted to let you know how much we miss the amazing times we had together. One thing we'll never forget

is the incredible effort you put into the Olympics. Each of you tackled the challenges with such dedication and team spirit. It was truly inspiring to see how you supported one another and faced every obstacle with a winning attitude. We also miss all the fun we had during our activities. Whether we were brainstorming, playing games, or just hanging out, your energy and enthusiasm made every moment special. We think back fondly to those mornings filled with laughter and the joy of our time together. We hope your school year is going wonderfully and that you're continuing to shine brightly. We can't wait to see you all again and hear about all your new adventures! Sending you lots of positive vibes and big, warm hugs from us!

Best wishes,
Billy & Sofia

Goldfish G.O.O.D.S.

Goldfish G.O.O.D.S. (swim in)! Crazy how we came up with this name by just everyone having goldfish in their lunch box. We had such an amazing time with you! We shared so many fun memories and will cherish those for life. You always knew how to make us laugh on harder days and were so good at answering the riddles! Do you all remember the Independence Relay? We were so close to that win! You all did amazing in that race and were the fastest camp group! We're missing the water bottle flipping at lunch, and even the yellow jackets on someone's chicken nuggets. Or even the time Angelica ATTEMPTED to do a bellyflop (we all know it wasn't the best attempt). Overall, we feel as a group we learned so much and we created so many good memories! We really hope to see you next year! Missing you all! Hope you have an amazing school year!

Love,
Angelica & Jamie



Riddlers

5...4...3...2...1...RIDDLE TIME, RIDDLE ME THIS, RIDDLE ME THAT!

Right now, we are wishing to be back at camp with you. College and teaching are not as fun as camp and sometimes we daydream of the times we played hockey or did high ropes! It was all fun with you all! Our favorite part of the day was doing riddles or even telling really bad dad jokes. All the jokes made us so happy. You guys were so creative and full of energy during the summer! Remember the time that we had the Olympics relay and you poured water all over us? That was a funny memory we couldn't forget! Or even the time where we were rocking it at Pictionary!? We were a great team! We keep thinking about summer and the amazing memories we made. We hope to see you all next year! Missing you!

Sincerely,
Angelica & Jamie

SO RAD

Hello our SO RAD friends! It's so crazy to think that you are all in school, but we know you are all having a great time and learning and growing every day. We miss you all so much and all the memories we made this summer like the Goo-Goo and racoon war, the whirlpools, how we joked that Hadley and Peyton were actually the same person, the gigantic cup towers, the high ropes adventures, the epic switch from juice bars to juice cups, and so much more! We loved trying to crack the camp riddles, playing Blitz, and singing re-mem-mem together. Thinking about playing lava monster and gaga together only brings smiles to our faces and we miss watching you all succeed and grow at archery and high ropes. We are so proud of the people you are and the growth we saw in each and every one of you throughout the summer. We will miss the laughs and jokes we all shared together and will continue to smile every time a memory from this summer crosses our minds. We loved watching you all grow as people and how your friendships blossomed every week. You all overcame so many obstacles and fears and it was so much fun to get to share those moments with you. This was truly an unforgettable summer, and we will both think about all

of the good times we shared throughout the whole year. Keep spreading sunshine on rainy days!

- Hadley & Peyton

P.S. Sour cherry... again?!

P.P.S. Sorry Peyton jinxed the rain at Sleepout

Professional Pickles

Dear Professional Pickles,

This summer was so fun and flew by so fast! We can't believe that you are all in 4th grade and learning new things every day. We both have such fond memories of this summer like the tragedy of riddles going away and having our own daily riddles, the rainforest runs where we ended up *soaked*, mushroom gaga games, the Kinneret Olympics, the epic water ball games in the pool, and all our fun conversations. Every day of camp is a cherished memory for both of us and we will never forget the experiences we all shared together. We loved watching you overcome your fears at high ropes, gain the confidence to lead activities, and most of all, we loved watching your friendships grow closer and closer throughout the summer. You are all a joy to be around and have so much to offer. Have confidence in yourselves and keep pushing yourself to grow, but most of all, have fun! We miss everything about you all, but most of all, we miss the silly lunchtime conversations and jokes we shared. We will also never forget the games of vampire, pool basketball, and My Friend Sam. Peyton especially won't forget you making her play Blitz twice, and almost a third time :) This group will always hold a special place in our hearts! Keep working hard and learning and trying new things. Professional Pickles forever!

-Hadley & Peyton

O.G. Detective Dolphins & Roman Noodles

Hey there Detectives and Chefs!

We can't believe that it is already so many months since camp and you are probably having a blast in 4th and 5th grade! We miss you lots, and we still think back to the awesome time we had with you all this past summer. Session 1, do you

remember when we created that giant game of Among Us that we played on the grass, or that time in performing arts where you all made up scenes and we acted them out? Session 2, how could we forget about Waldo the bunny that would pop up around camp or the correct way to say ranch? Is it "ranch" or "ronch?" Food for thought kiddos.

It was super cool getting to know all of you, both as groups and as separate amazing people. Every one of you had unique personalities and skills to bring to camp this summer and it was a pleasure to see you all grow just within the span of 4 or 5 weeks! We hope that you all are learning lots of new things this year in your classes. Remember, the more you learn this year the more trivia questions you can answer next summer! When there are some hard topics that you think are tough in the classroom, just remember how you persevered on high ropes! You can do anything you put your mind to! Whether it was trying to build the biggest cup tower or winning an intense game of gaga we have seen you accomplish amazing things! We wish that summer could be all year, but for now, we'll hold on to these fun-filled memories. Wishing you all the best with your mysteries and recipes.

Best,
Jonathan and Lexi

Royal Kinneret Court & Aces

Kinneret's Royal Court & The Aces!!!

How is everyone doing?!?! We hope you're having the most amazing time in school! We're so excited for all the things you're learning, how much you're growing, and all the card game practice you're getting!

Hey! It's me, Zianni. I'm back in Riverside living with my new roommates. I'm very excited as well as nervous, similar to the way I felt the first day of camp. You have made this summer one to remember. I will never forget these days with you all, and I will hold them closely to my heart. I truly appreciate the jokes and games we played together. I want all of you to be happy this year. I wish all of you luck in this new chapter of your life. I hope to see you next year and if I don't have the pleasure to see you again, I just need to say how special you were to me. Thank

you, again. Always be kind and don't forget what I've taught you. Adios.

I'm in Utah now! (This is Aaron btw) I went on vacation right after camp and saw the most beautiful sights (ask me about it next summer)! After, I went straight to school and it's freezing cold over here, even colder than the days we had swim in the morning or the times when we ran through the rain forest and it was windy! I'm learning lots and I love being with my college friends, but I miss all of you! I miss laughing with you, playing cards, and running around in the summer sun. I miss trying to save our lunch spot in that corner next to Performing Arts, playing ultimate foot basket, and everybody's it tag! I'll probably try and play those last 2 with my friends to try and get some practice in so I can prepare for next summer! I am genuinely counting down the days until next summer and I cannot wait to see all of you at camp again. I'm so excited to hear all about the adventures you have throughout the school year! Have the most amazing time this next school year, learn lots, listen to your teachers, and HAVE FUN!

We miss you all loads! Have an amazing school year <3

Love,
Zianni & Aaron

Pickle Republic Reporters

P-I-C-K-L-E! We are the pickle republic!

We remember singing that throughout camp along with our pickle march and all of our silly pickle calls-and-responses. BREAKING NEWS! You're all having the best time in 5th grade and learning a bunch. We are away studying at college, but we miss you all and so wish we were all together again figuring out the riddle, playing goofy games, and being pickles together. We had such a fun summer together that flew by. Remember all our silly games like bunny ears, any ball always being the pickle, and how much we loved the announcement song? We always had such a good time with you guys, and having our group be an absolute fun zone. We hope that even in school and beyond, you stay the super kind, caring, sweet, funny people you all are. We wish we had one more dance party together! PICKLES UNITE! We have

decided that you are all pickles of the day every day! We miss you and wish you the most awesome time in fifth grade.

Lots of pickles,
Nicole and Charlie



Royal United Nation of Banana Slugs

Royal United Nation of Banana Slugs,

BANANAS! UNITE! We hope you are having a great time in fifth grade and learning so many cool things. We can't believe that the session went by so fast, and we wish we could go right back to playing our competitive gaga games, water polo in the pool, and poison dart frog. We are at college studying away but thinking of you! Fee Fi Fo Fum, Green Team is number one! It feels not so long ago that we were chanting for the green giants and getting that surprise gold medal! We were so proud of all your sportsmanship and how we all encouraged each other while having so much fun. From all our jokes about Michael, singing our favorite camp songs, and being turbo slugs to an activity, we had so many laughs together. In our minds, we are all back in our own nation having fun around camp once more! We will always cherish how kind, helpful, funny, and cool each and every one of you were. If we had one more round of telephone at juice cups, we would say "Banana Slugs forever!" We miss you but wish you the best in fifth grade!

Ba-na-na!!!,
Nicole and Charlie

Disco Squirrels & Kind Sunshine Rainbow Unicorn Kitties

Hey! Hope your school year has been spectacular so far! We are working hard

at school, thinking back about the great memories we made over the summer. And boy, do we miss camp! We know you are all hard at work as well, being the best versions of yourself you can be. You all had such a knack for learning and were curious by nature. The more you learn, the more trivia questions you'll be able to answer next summer! We hope that you are all enjoying school and are learning so many fun and awesome things. We also hope your lunch time discussions are as intriguing and as silly as they were at camp! Thinking back on some specific memories, we came up with a handful we know you will all enjoy. Do the Disco Squirrels remember in Session One when we would break out into "TELL ME WHY?" Or when we had our whole "faloofal" discussion? Or our silly musical riddle cheers where we could not count it off at the same time? That time we did 3 levels of skiing in the middle of summer? The arduous number game? For the Kind Sunshine Rainbow Unicorn Kitties, who remembers our 45 minute shoe conversation? The question still stands... The adventure we went on to get to our group theme? Our hilarious Fudgie the Whale Sleepout skit? All the puzzlers we played? Still lots to solve next year! The day we showed up in British accents (which we have always had by the way...)? Our cat facts of the day? We loved having each and every one of you in our group and had the absolute best time ever! Seeing you all grow over the course of the summer was so special. We were so lucky to have you all in our group, and know you are bringing a little camp everywhere you go. See you next summer!

Cheers!
Ben and Carly

Vlogging Time-Travelers

Hey Vlogging Time-Travelers! It's Sam and Renée. We just got back from one last time traveling trip before returning our watches and resuming our classes. You'll never guess where we went. The American Revolution! We met Hamilton and Washington and bragged about your phenomenal archery and high rope skills (needless to say they were impressed). We also tried to teach some guys how to play Gaga but they couldn't quite get it, haha. Sam is in his last year of college and

working on his senior performance, and Renée is finding fun outside her classes in a Mariachi group. Make sure you guys also remember to have fun just like we did at camp. Work hard and play harder. We hope you are having a fantastic time and we just wanted to remind you how awesome and spectacular you are! Never feel pressured to be anybody but yourselves, no matter the time you find yourself in. It's a shame we already turned in our time traveling watches, because if we could, we would travel back to that summer over and over again.

From,
Sam and Renée



Og's Cyber Crime Unit

Hey y'all,
Hope school is treating you well. Make sure you are working hard but enjoying your time in middle school (you'll be a counselor before you know it). We're working hard to scout the next members of Og's Cyber Crime Unit. We totally forgot to wipe your memories of the organization! Oops, oh well, maybe it's best you keep your memory. We thought we'd give you all an update on what we've been up to outside of camp. Sam's getting ready for his first show in New York. He's still counting all your points (so keep drinking water, make his job harder, haha... don't ask how he knows when you drink water). Chelsey is busy with her own schooling and looking forward to her next backpacking adventure. She hopes you are all finding time for your own favorite outdoor games. Is anyone practicing gaga? We hope to see you all again next year. Miss you tons!

Lots of love,
Sam and Chelsey

E.M.M.A & I.H.O.P.S

Hey E.M.M.A. and I.H.O.P.S,

I hope you're having a great time in 8th and 9th grade! It seems like just yesterday it was the first day of camp. I wish we were back at camp to go "boating" again or to play one more game of gaga. E.M.M.A. do you all remember me tripping in the pothole (yes pothole not a crack) and spraining my ankle? I.H.O.P.S do you remember me tripping on a rock and spraining my other ankle? I'll definitely need some new ankles before next year. I hope you all have an amazing school year.

Til' next summer,
Emma :)

From Specialists:

Animals

Baaaaaaah! Thank you so much to all the wonderful groups that spent time at the Kinneret farm this year! We had so much fun playing with all the friendly faces that came by! We hope you're having a wonderful time in school and learning lots of new things. Do you remember when Tyler lost his golden horseshoe, and we had to go on an awesome scavenger hunt to find it? That was a good time! If only he could remember where he put the horseshoe after that... Or what about when that dastardly Peanut Platoon stole our hose? They haven't messed with the farm since you chased them out of here! As we're writing this, Pickles is in here chatting away. We think he misses you all too! From everybody at the Kinneret farm, both animals and people, thank you so much for a great summer! We look forward to seeing you next year!

-Tyler, Reese, Pickles, Tippy, S'mores, Boots, Sequoia, Montana, Barney, Oakley, & Zuma

Arts & Crafts

Hello young artists! We are all wondering how you are doing. You're all back in school now, and we hope you are all doing your best and having fun. We are thinking back on some of the fun times we had in Arts and Crafts. Do you rem-mem some of the projects we

created, starting with sand art? There were a lot of colorful creations going on there. There were 3 projects that you could probably do at home. Can you guess what they are? Scribble Art, Yarn Painting, and Op Art. Our most colorful and creative project was Tie Dye. It was so much fun watching you create so many different colorful T-shirts. Are you wearing yours right now? We were also impressed with how some of you suggested and tried your own designs. Some that we remember were the Happy Face, Mickey Mouse with Fireworks, and the Heart with Fireworks.

Using your imagination is a wonderful gift. Don't stop! Olympics Week was a chance for all of you to work as a team on your Olympic Banner. They all turned out fantastic. You should be proud of that. Teamwork is a skill that you will have a chance to use many times in your life. Our last project of the summer was Lanyards. While it is a fun project, it can also be a little frustrating. Some things you will try might be difficult at first, like Lanyards, but please don't give up. It is important to keep trying. The more you practice, the easier it will get. And when you succeed, you'll feel good about it. Summer went by way too fast, but we were glad we got to spend it with you. We hope to see you all next summer.

THANK YOU FOR STOPPING BY!
Dave, Eden, and Illeana

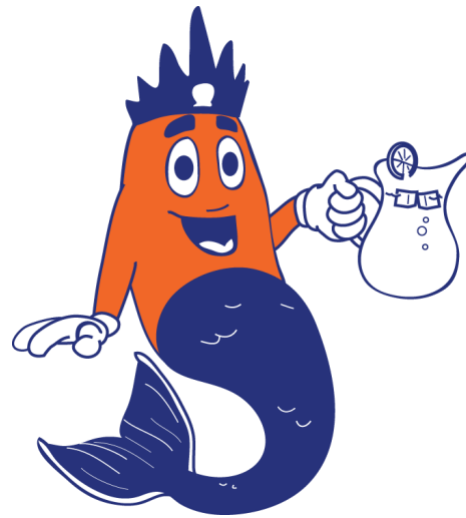
High Ropes

Hope you're all doing well during your new school year. I'm missing you all a lot around now. I loved being able to see people that I had helped climb at rock wall the last two years grow more and now get to help you climb high ropes too. Seeing all of you try your hardest to achieve your climbing goals throughout our time at camp this year made my summer amazing and made me truly appreciate my job as the High Ropes Specialist. I still look back on all the fun memories we made and the jokes and the little things that made high ropes such a special and fun activity. I loved seeing you all try to find ways to make the climbs harder, like being blindfolded, climbing under a certain time or high fiving your friends on vines and cargo net.

To my climbers in Session One, thank you for learning about high ropes with me while I figured out my routines and what worked best for us. I learned just as much from you all as you did from me.

For my Session Two kiddos, I look back on our time during Olympics week, where you all competed and earned points for your team colors, even though the only reward you would get would be a bracelet made by me. Your joy and love for high ropes made mine grow more and more each day; all summer long.

Welcome back to earth and I miss you all,
Sarah



Garden & Nature

Dear Campers,

Nature and garden this year were really fun. All the activities offered something interesting, but a few stood out in particular and piqued every curiosity and helped us all understand the universe a little more. We worked together as a group to put together dinosaur bones and gasped with amazement at all the bones we dissected from a single owl pellet! We built hummingbird feeders, made rope from yucca, learned about and polished our very own chunks of amber crystals, excavated dinosaur bones, planted and grew our own mini gardens, learned about the moon cycles, and made incredible bird wheels! Sometimes we even got to meet up with some of the critters that live here at camp, like various lizards, frogs and toads, water critters, and a wingless wasp (just to name a few).

In the garden, we worked on all sorts of

stuff from soil and compost creation, to growing plants from seeds, to learning and practicing traditional farming methods, and even pest control (scarecrow building). We heard stories that taught us about the world we live in and even got to taste some of the fruits of our labor in the form of herbal snow cones. Nature and the garden were always a nice surprise and a lot of fun. Now that camp is over, we feel like we know and care more about the natural world and can't wait to come back next year!

From,
Lauren and Farmer J

Performing Arts

What an AMAZING summer we had together! I'm so grateful to have spent so much time with your smiling faces, infectious energy, and hilarious humor. Thank you for giving me a chance to share my passion with you all, I'll carry our memories in my heart forever. Remember when you got to make your counselors do the silliest things you could imagine? Or when you became Master Shapeshifters and auditioned for Spike Chicago's World Tour? I was so proud of you all for jumping in and trying your best at every crazy activity. You truly showed your counselors and I what it means to be FEARLESS! Now that I'm back at school, the thing that I miss most about this summer was having the opportunity to be inspired by all of you every day. Meanwhile, Vladimir is back in Russia, teaching a year-long "Master Shapeshifting" program. Spike Chicago's World Tour is on its way to Ireland, after just selling out in London - where Larry Spignioli attended a performance and instantly decided to make a documentary about Spike. They all send their best to you. And as for me, I'm dancing, singing, and acting up a storm every day in school, then spending my nights as the dance captain of the Pacific Conservatory Theatre's production of "Beauty and the Beast."

I miss you all and I hope you have a fantastic school year!

Love,
Anna

Rockwall

Hi Campers! It was such a pleasure meeting all of you! I had so much fun this summer and we even started a few little traditions too! I loved giving out prizes and watching everyone climb with little stuffed animals. We learned teamwork and even how to climb on our own and overcome obstacles and fears of heights. I cherish all the memories that we made together, and everyone made my first summer here a blast! I hope that I could help everyone reach their goals and even get into rock climbing more. I wish everyone good luck during the school year, and I miss all of you so much!

Love,
Amy

Swim

Hey Campers! How's everyone doing? The guards are back at our schools and jobs, but still thinking about the unforgettable moments we shared over the summer. From our silly swim lessons to group games of Water Ball, it was a summer packed with fun and memories that will stick with us forever! Who could forget our Thrilling Thursdays and Fridays, our Fitness Fridays (and the Fitness Thursday Prank!), or you and your counselors' incredible diving board jumps? While we miss the pool and camp SO much, we really miss YOU all the most! Your energy throughout the day, your smiles, and the excitement you brought, whether in the pool or outside the gate, made this

summer so special! We miss seeing your creativity, laughter, and most importantly, your WALKING FEET! We're already counting down the days until next summer and hope you all are too!

Courtney, Robbie, Carlo, Sam, Amanda, Megan, Bella, Elora, Lexi, Keshav, and Kat



We hope you have a very happy, healthy, and adventurous school year. We're excited to see you in Summer 2025!!!

