



March 2012

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Tennessee Aquarium educators hope to make this summer camp experience one that your child will enjoy and remember for a lifetime. Our goal is to create a camp environment that is both enjoyable and supportive, allowing children to feel good about themselves as they participate in many new experiences. Our educators are able to accomplish this goal by providing a camp environment that promotes physical safety, emotional well-being, educational opportunities and fun. We also feel everyone shares in the responsibility of making camp a great experience; every camper plays a critical role by agreeing to respect others.

Throughout the week campers will be exposed to new opportunities that challenge them and help them grow. Some of these opportunities are physical, such as ropes courses for EcoExplorers. Others are emotional, such as leaving parents for the first time in AquaTots. These experiences can be a big adjustment, so positive encouragement from all the campers as well as from you, as the parent/guardian, can be essential to your child's success.

Sometimes, despite everyone's best efforts, children will misbehave during these experiences. Our educators can easily handle most of these situations at camp, but there may be times when we need to include the parent/guardian for disciplinary purposes. In hopes of eliminating these situations from occurring and ensuring that everyone truly understands what is considered appropriate behavior at camp, the Tennessee Aquarium has instituted a behavior contract (copy on the back of this letter).

Please read and sign the contract, indicating that both you and the camper understand what type of behavior is expected during Aquarium summer camp and what the consequences will be if a camper chooses to partake in inappropriate behavior. **The bottom portion of the contract must be signed and returned along with the medical form prior to the start of camp.**

If you have any questions, please call me at (800) 262-0695, ext. 4058, George Bartnik, Education Programs Manager at ext. 4049, or Jennifer Latour, Education Coordinator at ext. 4050.

We certainly appreciate your trust and support. Together we can make Summer Camp 2012 a wonderful experience for your child.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Baker".

Tim Baker
Education Director

BEHAVIOR CONTRACT

Expectations

1. Follow the counselor's directions.
2. Always stay with the group.
3. Be courteous to others. Remember to treat others as you would like to be treated. Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself.
4. Always talk to a counselor if you have a question or a problem during camp. We won't be able to help you if you don't speak up.
5. Pay attention and listen when someone else is speaking.

Failure to follow these expectations will result in an unsafe or unenjoyable atmosphere for you and others in camp. Should that happen, the following consequences will occur:

Consequences

Depending on the severity of the situation or if the behavior persists, one or more of the following consequences will be taken.

1. Counselors will discuss the behavior with the camper.
2. The camper will be given a "time out" or will not be allowed to participate in a subsequent activity.
3. Counselors will discuss the behavior with the parent/guardian.
4. The child will be sent home immediately or told that he/she will not be allowed to return the following day.

Note: There are no refunds when a child's own behavior requires he/she be sent home.

I have read and understand the Summer Camp 2012
Behavior Contract and I have discussed it with my child
in a manner that he/she can understand.

Camper's name: _____

Name and date of camp: _____

Parent or legal guardian's signature: X _____ Date: _____