



Title: Day Camp Junior Counselor

Classification: Volunteer

Department: Programming

Reports to: Program Co-Director

Position Summary:

The Junior Counselor plays an important role in making the camp experience at Living History Farms a fun educational experience! Junior Counselors assist Staff Counselors in providing a positive, inclusive, engaging, fun, supportive learning environment, where all feel welcome and valued. Junior Counselors will act as role models for campers, while learning and developing their own leadership, creativity, and communication skills.

Duties:

- Model and reinforce camp appropriate behavior with campers.
- Assist campers with activities as part of learning experiences and visits to historic sites.
- Help staff counselors in gathering and preparing materials for the day.
- Lead campers in games during check-in in the morning and check out in the afternoon.
- Be a listening ear and keep the staff counselor informed.
- Help staff counselors to supervise campers during transition times, such as when traveling between camp sites or to visit a historic area, walking to restrooms, during handwashing times, between activities, and when refilling water bottles.
- Assist in cleaning up during and after activities, such as washing dishes, wiping off tables, picking up scraps from the floor, putting crayons/markers back in boxes, etc. and reminding campers to assist in clean-up.

Expectations:

- Be a positive representative of Living History Farms in what you say and do.
- Uphold by your actions, behaviors, and speech the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Museum Code of Conduct, and Volunteer Program Statement when at Living History Farms.
- Follow, abide by, and obey all policies and program guidelines, including complying with safety regulations, the camp dress code, and being on time for your scheduled shift.
- Be a role-model for all and support your counselor in their expectations for campers.
- Respect confidentiality of sensitive information.
- Ask for assistance, help, or guidance as needed from your staff camp counselor, Day Camp Supervisor, or Department Director.

Qualifications:

- Must be 14 years old before the camp with which you are volunteering. If you are 18, you must pass a background check.

- Enjoy working with children of all ages.
- Energetic, outgoing, willing to learn and try new things, flexible to changes, and have a desire to share in the camper's excitement.
- Be dependable, punctual, and able to follow through on tasks.
- Truly enjoy and like being outside. Most camp activities are outside.
- You should have the ability to move or lift items as needed for camp. You'll be walking distances as you engage in activities around our property.

Schedule:

- You must attend 4 hours of training, between virtual and/or in person. Dates TBD.
- You will be scheduled to volunteer Monday-Friday, 8:40 am - 4:10 pm. No camp on Monday, July 4, 2022.
- New Junior Counselors may volunteer 2 weeks during the summer. Experienced Junior Counselors may volunteer more than 2 weeks.
- You will be notified of your scheduled weeks after applications and interviews have occurred.
- Where you are placed, and with what age groups, will be made based on prior experiences, interview results, and camp needs.
- Junior Counselors are intentionally not placed with friends.
- While rare, occasionally a camp may be cancelled due to low registration. When this occurs, junior counselors may be moved to a different group during the same week, if possible, or their week may be cancelled.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Living History Farms' Summer Day Camp sessions typically run Monday – Friday. Most campers are at camp from 9:00 – 4:00 daily. Campers in grades kindergarten and first grade are at camp for half-days, either mornings or afternoons. Each day camp group will spend time during the week at a different historical site at the 500 – acre, open – air museum. Camp activities include projects, activities, crafts, and games that reflect various time periods: 1700 (Native American), 1850, 1876, 1900 and today.

Living History Farms' Day Camp program is accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA), the only nationwide organization that accredits all types of organized camps. ACA accreditation verifies that a camp has complied with up to 300 standards for health, safety, and program quality.

Visit <https://www.lhf.org/events-and-programs/day-camps/> for more details about day camp.

Living History Farms is an interactive outdoor museum which educates and connects all people to the many stories of Midwestern rural heritage. It is a private, not-for-profit organization on 500 acres located in Urbandale, Iowa. Historical interpreters recreate the daily routines of early lowans on three farm sites spanning the years 1700-1900 and an 1876 town. The season typically runs approximately May 1 – October. For more information, please visit <https://www.lhf.org/>.

Living History Farms is among the elite three percent of national museums accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the only organization representing the entire scope of the museum community.

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