

Could Summer Camp Be The Key To Your Child's Success?

Article by Ed Caballero, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Edventure More (<https://www.6crickets.com/search?provider=168>)

What does success mean for a child? Some parents might say the word is meaningless for young kids, who are exploring and learning through healthy failures. Other parents may focus on encouraging their children to do their best whenever possible. Whatever your thoughts are on success, it's inarguable that kids need a lot more than just reading, writing, and arithmetic to grow into well-rounded adults.

Studies show children lose a lot of what they've learned during the summer months, and researchers agree that summer learning programs not only fill the learning gap, but offer children a different set of experiences than those provided during the regular school year.

Summer programs often use innovative approaches to learning, integrating varied instruction with physical, recreational, cultural, and development activities. These different styles of teaching and learning allow for a richer exploration of knowledge than traditional book study.

The flow of curiosity that can happen with enriching summer experiences can be exponential. Curiosity leads to exploration, discovery, pleasure, repetition, mastery, new skill development, self esteem, and ultimately more exploration. From the time your child is in kindergarten until 12th grade, your child spends 10 weeks per year or 120 weeks total on summer vacation. Since each school year is 40 weeks, summertime really equals a total of 3 years of schooling, which is a huge opportunity for parents to provide the right environment for kids to explore and think outside the box.

Summer camp is a great chance for younger kids to socialize outside their home and get used to being away from parents for longer stretches. It's also a great way to expose young children to a variety of different types of activities to see where their interests lie and start the flow of curiosity early on.

In selecting the right camp for your child, excitement is key. When you talk about different activities, do you see a spark in your child's eye? The more excited your little one is about the camp, the more likely they are to eagerly absorb new information. Summer camps are also a highly supportive environment, making them the perfect chance for a child to play with the boundaries of their comfort zone while remaining safe and cared for.

Once your child goes to camp, make sure the learning doesn't stop there. Be sure to read the handouts the camp provides, check out resources related to the camp's sessions or themes, communicate with the Camp Director and respond to surveys as that's the best way to improve any camp's offerings. Most importantly, ask your child what they loved about camp, then incorporate those activities into playtime at home when possible.

When your child falls in love with learning, you've hit gold! That love will fuel them to do amazing things in life. The right summer camp will nourish that love of learning, which will inevitably set kids up to succeed later in life.

Edventure More, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, creates high-quality, high-access science, maker and technology School Year and Summer Camp (CAMP EDMO (<https://www.6crickets.com/search?provider=168>)) programs that foster intellectual, social, emotional, and physical intelligence in all children. By partnering with top Bay Area museums and educational thought leaders, Edventure More's unique framework incorporates the latest and most scientifically proven methods of whole child development. Edventure More is a local force in the national movement to reduce Summer Learning Loss, build 21st Century Learning Skills, and save hands-on learning in schools. 5% of all summer camp proceeds and 100% of donations support camper scholarships and subsidize the cost of science & technology programs in schools. CAMP EDMO (<https://www.6crickets.com/search?provider=168>) runs June-August in 20+ Convenient Bay Area and Greater Sacramento Locations.



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