

**CAMP**  
woodcraft

# PARENT GUIDE 2024

[campwoodcraft.org](http://campwoodcraft.org)  
@campwoodcraft



# MESSAGE FROM OUR CAMP DIRECTOR

## Dear Camp Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for choosing Camp Woodcraft, for 101 years Woodcraft Rangers has been a home for all campers to explore nature, connect with old and new friends and play outdoors. We are excited that your child will be joining us as we continue to explore our camp home in Mountain Center. Whether it's climbing the rock wall, hiking a new trail, making s'mores around the campfire, or singing songs with their unit we can't wait for your camper to experience the camp magic at Camp Woodcraft.

We hope your camper is excited for their stay at camp and you are excited to hear all their memories when they return. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at [hsantos@woodcrafrangers.org](mailto:hsantos@woodcrafrangers.org).

*I can't wait to see your camper!*

*Helen Santos*

Helen Santos, Camp Director

## GETTING READY FOR CAMP

- Talk to your camper about camp and review this guide together.
- Let them know you will miss them and want them to have a good time and make lots of memories.
- Discuss expectations for camp. Let them know they'll have fun, try new things, and make new friends.
- Make sure to label all your child's belongings and encourage them to help pack their bags so they know what they have and where to find it.
- Submit health history form and all participation forms on campsite parent dashboard.
- Make your final payment by June 1.
- **Medications:** All medications listed in the child's medical health form must be checked-in at the bus pick-up location. Pack medications in a clear zip-top bag labeled with your child's name. Do NOT pack medications in luggage.



# SAFETY PROCEDURES



## Medical attention

Two health care providers will be on-site at all times and available to campers and staff to administer first aid, medications, and general care as needed. We also have contingency support services lined up with our local hospital, evacuation and emergency medical procedures.

## Emergencies

For illnesses and medical emergencies requiring additional assistance, we follow appropriate EMS procedures. The closest hospital is approximately one hour from camp, with emergency helicopter transportation available if needed for a faster transport time.

## Medications

We store and dispense all medications through our Health Center. Parents must indicate their child's medication with instructions on a Medical Health Form that is completed during the enrollment process.

## COVID-19 Vaccinations (Staff)

All camp staff are required to be fully vaccinated before arrival at camp. For campers, we strongly encourage being fully vaccinated.

## Positive COVID-19 test at camp

If an individual tests positive at camp, the individual will be immediately isolated in the designated isolation room/ area. The Camp Nurse and Camp Director will contact a physician or local health official to help determine appropriate next steps, including contact tracing and potential dismissal of the camper. Parents will be contacted if their child tested positive or was in close contact with someone who tested positive.

**\*Please note that Covid-19 policies and procedures are subject to change. For the most up to date information, please refer to our COVID-19 FAQ's located at [www.campwoodcraft.org](http://www.campwoodcraft.org)**



# CAMPER DROP-OFF



## Sunday check-in at bus stop:

- Check-in time varies for each camper. Please refer to your confirmation packet that will be e-mailed a few days prior to the start of camp with additional check-in instructions and reminders.
- Please locate the check-in table or camp staff to check-in your camper.
- Upon check-in, and for the safety of all camp participants, camper's packed bags will be checked.
- After check-in, camper will be directed to a designated area supervised by a camp staff.
- Campers will remain in the designated area until it is time to load the bus.

**\*Please note: In order to ensure a smooth check-in process, each camper will be assigned a drop-off time. Please plan to arrive at that time. We appreciate your full cooperation and patience throughout this process.**



## Sunday in-person drop off at Camp:

- Check-in time begins at 2:00pm for parents dropping off campers at camp.
- When arriving at camp, please locate the welcome table located in the parking area to check-in your camper.
- Upon check-in, and for the safety of all camp participants, camper's packed bags will be checked.
- After check-in, camper will be introduced to their counselor and meet other campers in their unit.

**\*Please note: In order to ensure a smooth check-in process, each camper will be assigned a drop-off time. Please plan to arrive at that time. We appreciate your full cooperation and patience throughout this process.**



# CAMPER PICK-UP



## Friday pick-up at bus stop:

- Please plan to arrive with your photo identification at the bus stop at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled return time. (Please refer to your confirmation packet for pick up time)
- Only parents/guardians or authorized adults as indicated on the enrollment application will be allowed to sign-out campers.
- All medications will be returned to the parent/guardian/authorized pick-up adult during camper sign-out.
- We will text parents/guardians if the bus return time changes by more than 30 minutes.



## Friday pick-up at camp:

- Check-out time is 10:00am. Please arrive on time, and plan accordingly for Friday traffic. Also, please be prepared to provide photo identification.
- Only parents/guardians or authorized adults as indicated on the enrollment application will be allowed to sign-out campers.
- All medications will be returned to the parent/guardian/authorized pick-up adult during camper sign-out.



# OUR CAMP



## Grouping

Campers are assigned to groups based on gender and age. Ratio of 6-8 campers and 1 camp counselor.

## Accommodations

Our cabins are rustic without modern conveniences —no electricity! All cabins have bunk beds with mattresses and shelves or storage space for belongings. Cabins are grouped in clusters. Each cluster has an outdoor gathering space with picnic tables, hammocks, rocking chairs and little libraries allowing for individual quiet time and group gatherings.

Modern bathrooms are located a few feet away from the cabins, are divided by gender, and are equipped with individual stalls for privacy.

## Dining

All campers enjoy breakfast, lunch, dinner, and dessert at our dining hall which provides indoor and outdoor seating, including a large deck and a large porch overlooking the campfire. We can make accommodations for any dietary restrictions. We are a nut-free camp, and our meals are prepared with nut-free oils.



# CAMPER BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

At Camp Woodcraft, we believe that all children are innately good and can greatly benefit from opportunities to realize their full potential. We view children as active participants in their own growth and developmental journey. We understand that behavior is a form of communication, often indicating innate needs or emotions. Therefore, we approach behavioral challenges with empathy and curiosity, using clarifying questions to better understand each child's individual needs.

In addition to our core beliefs, each unit integrates Camp Woodcraft agreements. These agreements foster group engagement and empower participants to identify additional agreements they wish to see all camp members follow during their time together. This collaborative process ensures shared decision-making and emphasizes harm prevention to themselves, others, and the campus/program property.

**During their time at Camp Woodcraft, they will be asked to follow the following Camp Agreements.**

*(More may be added by each individual unit.)*

1. **We agree** to treat ourselves and others with kindness and respect.
2. **We agree** to use positive and appropriate language when communicating with others.
3. **We agree** to practice good hygiene to prevent the spread of illnesses.
4. **We agree** to be responsible for keeping our areas clean.
5. **We agree** to use all camp equipment and materials with care.
6. **We agree** to communicate challenges openly and quickly with Camp Woodcraft staff.
7. **We agree** to seek assistance from staff to solve disagreements peacefully and respectfully.
8. **We agree** to actively participate, explore new opportunities, have fun, and make the most of our time at camp.



# PARENT CAMPER COMMUNICATION



## Social Media

Pictures of Campers will be posted on Woodcraft Rangers social media accounts. Make sure to follow @CampWoodcraft on Instagram for daily pictures and updates.

## Mail

Parents can send their campers mail through the United States Postal Service. In order to ensure that letters arrive on time we recommend that parents mail out their letters no later than the Monday of the week of camp to ensure that it arrives in time for our Thursday letter delivery service. Please note, mail sent after Tuesday may not arrive on time for your child to receive it during camp.

### Send mail to:

Camp Woodcraft, Camper Name (Age)  
32706 Morris Ranch Rd.  
Mountain Center, CA 92561

## Phone Calls

We understand the want or need to contact your child, so we encourage you to write a letter or send them a Camp Gram. We do not allow students to make or receive calls so as to not interrupt their experience in nature. In case of emergency, parents/guardians will be contacted by camp staff. Cell service is limited at Camp Woodcraft. If you are trying to reach us, please leave a message and we will return your call the same day. In case of emergency reach out to the main office at 213-814-6298.

## Pictures

We plan to upload once a day to the PhotoCircle app. You will receive a link to download a few weeks before your child's camp session. A majority of camp photos from each week will be uploaded here. There will be a different album for each session of camp enrolled.

*Reminder: We try our best to capture as many photos of campers throughout the week but with over 100 campers, it is simply not possible to capture every camper every day. Please know that they will have so much fun and will have many stories to share with you by the end of the week!*



# PACKING LIST

Packing for camp is the beginning of your child's camp experience! Have your child participate in packing so that he/she knows where to find their clothing and other items. Campers who do not participate in packing often do not know what they have or where to find it. Bags will be searched at check-in when parents are present. **Please do NOT pack medications in luggage.**

## PACK ENOUGH OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR THE 5-NIGHT STAY:

### Clothing:

- Underwear
- Pajamas
- Pants / shorts
- Sweater / jacket
- T-Shirts

### Footwear:

- Shower sandals
- Water shoes (closed toe)
- Tennis shoes or hiking shoes
- Socks

### Miscellaneous:

- 10 disposable face masks
- Flashlight w/ batteries
- Reusable water bottle
- Disposable camera
- Hat, visor and/or sunglasses

### Swim & water games gear:

- Swimsuit
- Swim towel
- Swim shirt (optional)
- Water shoes (no crocs)

### Pack for Camp Themed Activities:

- Vacation Vibes
- 80's Night
- Pajama Jam (bring an extra pair if possible)
- Mismatch Fashion
- Tie-Dye Night

### Toiletries:

- Bag or toiletry carrier
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Shampoo / Conditioner
- Body wash
- Lotion
- Sunblock
- Deodorant
- Hairbrush / comb
- Lip protection w/ SPF
- Bath towel & wash cloth
- Shower sandals (crocs acceptable)

### Optional Items:

- Books
- Writing Journal & pencil
- Comfort item (small stuffed animal, blanket)
- Photos of family/friends

### Bedding:

- Sleeping bag with a temperature rating of 45°F
- Additional blankets optional
- Pillow w/ pillowcase
- Twin sheet for mattress (optional)

### What **NOT TO** pack:

- Food or drinks
- Valuable items such as jewelry or money
- Electronics (phone, tablets, digital cameras, game consoles, etc.)
- Weapons
- Illegal substances
- Toys

# CAMP WOODCRAFT ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS



## Specialized Activities Led by a Certified Instructor

**Archery:** Campers will learn archery fundamentals; how to hold a bow and shoot an arrow safely at a target, while learning proper stance and body positions.

**Archery Tag:** For campers 11 and above, enjoy a friendly competitive game that's a little bit archery, tag, and dodgeball.

**Axe Throwing:** For campers 11 and above, enjoy learning the basics of axe throwing a safe environment with appropriate equipment.

**Low Ropes:** The low ropes course is a series of problem-solving experiences that physically engage units to develop and execute a plan. The challenges are low to the ground but are more difficult than they might look.

**Rock Wall Climbing:** We encourage our campers to reach new heights every day. Climbing has been shown to build confidence, improve focus, and increases coordination and strength in children.

**Naturalist:** A camp activity devoted to exploring and connecting with the natural world where campers learn about plants, insects, and animals.

## ACTIVITIES

continued on the next page



# CAMP WOODCRAFT ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS



## Camp Counselor Led Activities

**Nature Based Art:** Making art from nature involves utilizing various elements of nature (such as leaves, sticks, stones, bones, water, etc.) in a creative way to make a new art object. The resulting artwork makes a statement about both nature and our campers' relationship to nature.

**Team Building:** Our team building activities are used to enhance social relations and define roles within units, involving collaborative tasks.

**Night Activities:** Night activities are done as a whole camp. Activities include night hikes, skits, and selfie scavenger hunt.

**Nature Hikes:** Our campsite offers 4+ hiking trails, allowing our campers to explore and connect with nature.

**Campfires:** Campfires are a long-lasting tradition at Camp Woodcraft. Campfires evoke feelings of togetherness and promote an atmosphere of community within our Camp family.

**Game Time:** Campers get the opportunity to enjoy time playing air hockey, foosball, board games or just hanging out reading a good book in our new game room.



# DRESS-UP THEME NIGHTS



One of our favorite traditions at camp: theme nights! Each night at camp, everyone dresses up to a theme and lets their creativity and individuality shine! This year, we included classic themes along with a couple new ones! Remember, you can keep it simple or go all out — either way, it'll be SO FUN!

## SUNDAY: TIE-DYE NIGHT

Camp comes alive with a burst of colors at our tie-dye themed dinner! Bring your favorite piece or pieces of tie-dye clothing to show everyone at camp.

## MONDAY: MISMATCH FASHION

There is no such thing as a “bad sense of fashion” at camp. On mismatch night we encourage you to step outside their comfort zones and put together the most outrageous outfit you can think of — the funkier the better!

## TUESDAY: PAJAMA JAM

It's not a movie night without some s'mores and of course your favorite pajamas. Whether it's a onesie or matching set, bring your favorite pajamas to cozy up and enjoy a movie under the stars.

## WEDNESDAY: RAZZLE DAZZLE 80's

Hello, scrunchies, leg warmers, animal prints, and ripped jeans! The 80's gave us many trends, let's bring back those stylish looks for one night while we show off our best dance moves at Camp Woodcraft's Razzle Dazzle dance party!

## THURSDAY: VACATION VIBES

Whether your ideal vacation is to a tropical paradise or a trip to your favorite amusement park. Vacation vibes night is a perfect way to set the tone for a week full of fun!



# A WEEK AT CAMP!

A highlight of what to expect leading up to camp, our exciting night activities and after camp.



**SATURDAY**

Finish packing together with camper and get a good night's rest.



**SUNDAY**

Eat a good breakfast and arrive on time to the bus stop or at camp. Welcome campfire at camp!



**MONDAY**

Astrology Night Hike



**TUESDAY**

S'mores and Movie under the Stars



**WEDNESDAY**

Glow in the Dark Dance Party



**THURSDAY**

Lake Trip, Color Run, Skits, and more!



**FRIDAY**

Memory Hill and share your camp stories with family!



**SATURDAY**

Don't forget to fill out our camp survey for campers and parents.





# A DAY IN THE LIFE AT CAMP!

This is what a traditional camp day looks like. Activities vary from day to day.

7:30 am	<b>Rise and Shine (Morning Activities)</b> Staff and Campers are ready for the day and schedules are given out.
8:00 - 9:00 am	<b>Breakfast</b> During each meal, one unit will be assigned to set-up and clean-up. All meals are "buffet style" and camp staff will help serve. Once campers and staff get their meals, they will be assigned a table to sit at. Camp staff will facilitate conversations throughout mealtimes to engage campers and encourage them to learn more about each other.
9:00 - 9:30 am	<b>Prep for the Day</b> One unit will participate in a bird watching activity with our Naturalist. All other units will engage in a quiet activity such as mediation, yoga, reading etc. to help them prepare for the day.
9:30 - 10:30 am	<b>Activity 1: Archery</b> During specialized activities there will be an activity counselor leading the activity. During these activities counselors are not on break, counselors assist with supervision and activity implementation.
10:30 - 11:30 am	<b>Activity 2: Low Ropes Specialized Activity</b> The low ropes course is a series of problem-solving experiences that physically engage units to develop and execute a plan. The challenges are low to the ground but are more difficult than they might look.
11:30 - 12:00 pm	<b>Prep for Lunch:</b> The unit assigned for lunch prep will begin setting up.
12:00 - 1:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00 - 1:45 pm	<b>Camp Mingle</b> During Camp Mingle, counselors are assigned to facilitate specific activities while campers have an opportunity to select from any of the activities they want to participate in and meet other campers from other units. Activities include making friendship bracelets, field games, gaga ball, soccer, etc.
1:45 - 2:45 pm	<b>Activity 3: Naturalist Specialist Activity</b> Our Naturalist helps campers spend time outdoors learning about themselves and their connection with nature.
2:45 - 3:45 pm	<b>Activity 4: Unit Flags</b> Counselors and campers will come up with a unit name and create a flag that represents them as a unit.
3:45 - 4:45 pm	<b>Activity 5: Team Building</b> Team building activities encourage campers to challenge themselves, to work with other campers in their unit, and to learn more about them. Campers are exposed to how others may think, work, communicate and solve problems in different ways.
4:45 - 5:00 pm	<b>Prep for Dinner:</b> The unit assigned for dinner prep will begin setting up.
5:00 - 6:00 pm	<b>Dinner</b>
6:00 - 7:30 pm	<b>Unit Reflection</b> During this time units can reflect on their day, they can talk about their favorite activities, or what they are looking forward to. Campers can write about their experiences in their journals.
7:30 - 9:00 pm	<b>Night Activity</b> Night activities include everyone. All campers participate in these activities together, providing counselors with additional support with supervision and activity implementation. Examples of night activities include campfires, skits, and scavenger hunt.
9:00 - 10:00 pm	<b>Lights Out!</b> Staff rounds are conducted throughout the night to ensure overnight safety and supervision.

# THE SETON STEPS

## Camp Woodcraft Program Progression

Named after founder Ernest Seton, The Seton Steps introduces new activities for campers of specific ages. The steps are designed to support the continual growth and development of every camper as they return to Camp Woodcraft each year. No matter what step a camper is on, there will be many opportunities to have fun, build skills, meet new friends and make memories to last a lifetime!



### RANGER

7-8 years old

Experience camp magic with all our traditional camp activities, including rock climbing, archery, gaga ball, team building, campfires and much more!

### EXPLORER

9-10 years old

Explore the San Jacinto mountains beyond our camp grounds with a short trip to Lake Hemet for a picnic and swim with your bunk mates and other units.

### ADVENTURER

11-12 years old

Engage in target sports, such as archery tag and axe throwing for thrilling individual skill building and friendly competitive play (both super fun and safe, of course!).

### TRAILBLAZER

13 years old

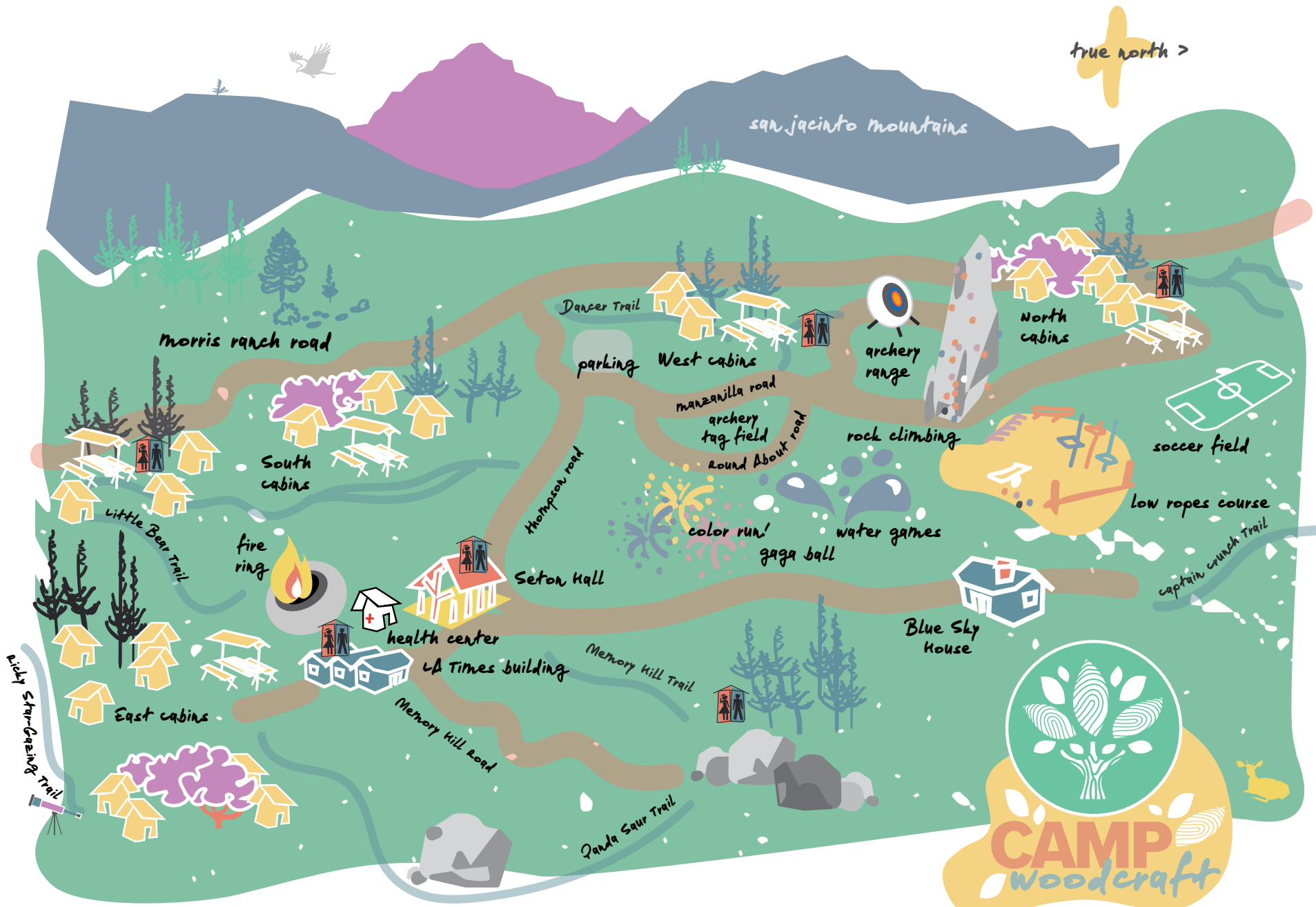
Enjoy a night beneath the bright and blazing stars! Trailblazers enjoy all that camp has to offer with a unique opportunity to sleep outside of the cabins and beneath the stars for one night.

### C.I.T.

14-17 years old

Return to camp as a Counselor-in-Training! Gain hands-on experience and sharpen the leadership skills necessary to become a camp counselor!

*All campers will also be able to enjoy all experiences in the steps prior.*



true north >

San Jacinto Mountains

Morris ranch road

Dancer Trail

parking

West cabins

archery range

North cabins

South cabins

Manzanilla road

archery tag field

Round About road

rock climbing

soccer field

Little Bear Trail

fire ring

Seton Hall

color run!

water games

low ropes course

captain crunch Trail

health center

LA Times building

Blue Sky House

East cabins

Memory Hill Trail

Memory Hill road

Panda Saur Trail



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Map not to scale