

Geneva Glen Program Outcomes

Summer



2014

This document contains all of the results of Outcomes Program from the summer including Goals and Outcomes Narratives, Session "Fruitage," ACA Youth Outcomes Analysis, Parent Satisfaction Survey Results, Outcome Program Design, Staff Program Evaluations, and other program resources.

The "Fruitage"
of the 2014
Summer

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Youth Outcomes Battery

YOB Introduction

From Overview of the ACA Youth Outcomes Battery V2

The second edition of the ACA Youth Outcomes Battery (ACA-YOB) provides camps and other youth programs with measures that focus on eleven common youth outcomes. The statistically tested scales are age-appropriate, short and concise, easily administered tools that can be individualized to a camp, afterschool program, or other youth programs. While the battery was designed with the camp setting in mind (e.g., nature-based context, residential nature, small group living, youth focused) the measures are focused on strong youth development outcomes that are not predicated on particular settings.

The YOB can help camp and youth program staff:

- Evaluate program goals
- Document the changes in your youth so that information can be shared with key stake-holders (parents, funders, staff, etc.)
- Demonstrate your commitment to quality programs that make a difference in people's lives
- Meet expectations for trust-worthy instruments (high reliability and validity statistical checks prove the scales accuracy)
- Can be combined to measure socially relevant concepts (Ex. Environmental Leadership could be measured by combining the scales for teamwork, responsibility, independence, problem-solving, and affinity for nature)

Specific Youth Outcomes Measured by the YOB

The YOB focuses on eleven outcomes common to many camps and other youth development programs.

- Friendship Skills (i.e., make friends and maintain relationships)
- Independence (i.e., rely less on adults and other people for solving problems and for their day-to-day activities)
- Teamwork (i.e., become more effective when working in groups of their peers)
- Family Citizenship (i.e., encourage attributes important to being a member of a family)
- Perceived Competence (i.e., believe that they can be successful in the things they do)
- Interest in Exploration (i.e., be more curious, inquisitive, eager to learn new things)
- Responsibility (i.e., learn to be accountable for their own actions and mistakes)
- Affinity for Nature (i.e., feelings of emotional attraction toward nature)
- Problem-Solving Confidence (i.e., believe they have abilities to resolve problems)
- Camp Connectedness (i.e., feeling welcomed and supported at camp)
- Spiritual Well-Being (i.e., having purpose and meaning in life, transcendence)

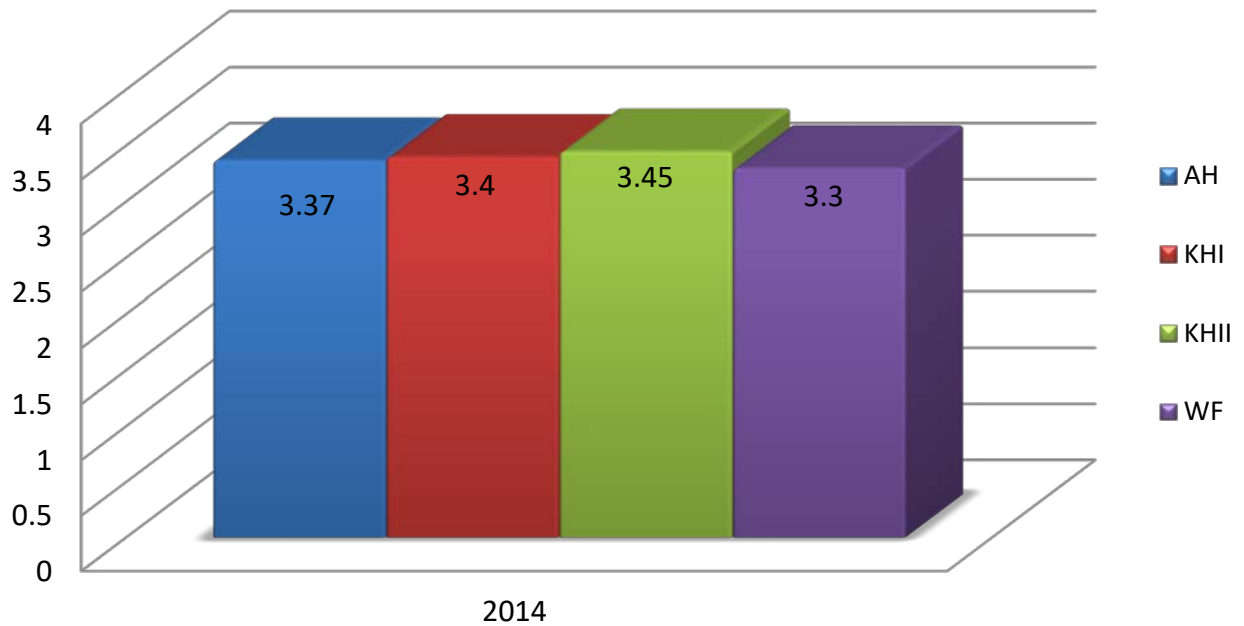
YOB Result Analysis

Young Camper Survey Analysis

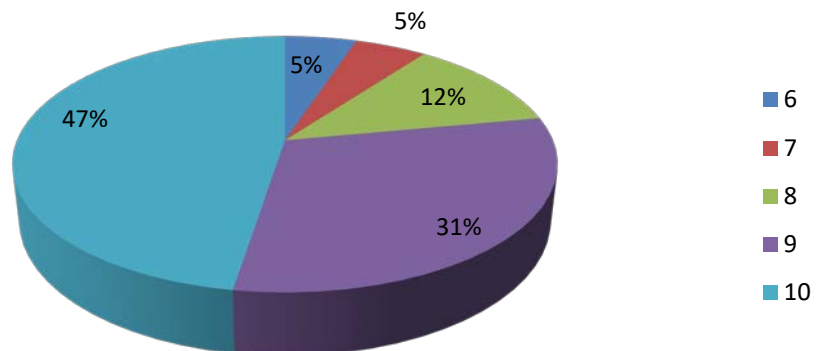
- 57 Campers were interviewed representing approximately 20% of that demographic (285 Campers)
- 14 Question Survey Yields a “Total Result” (not module/outcome based)
- Grades 2-5
- σ of .22 on Total survey (Compared to .38 in 2013)

94.92% of the campers surveyed felt that they learned “a little” to “a lot” about friendship, independence, teamwork, family citizenship, perceived competence, interest in exploration and responsibility. (+9.04% from 5 year average)

Average Scores by Session - 2014

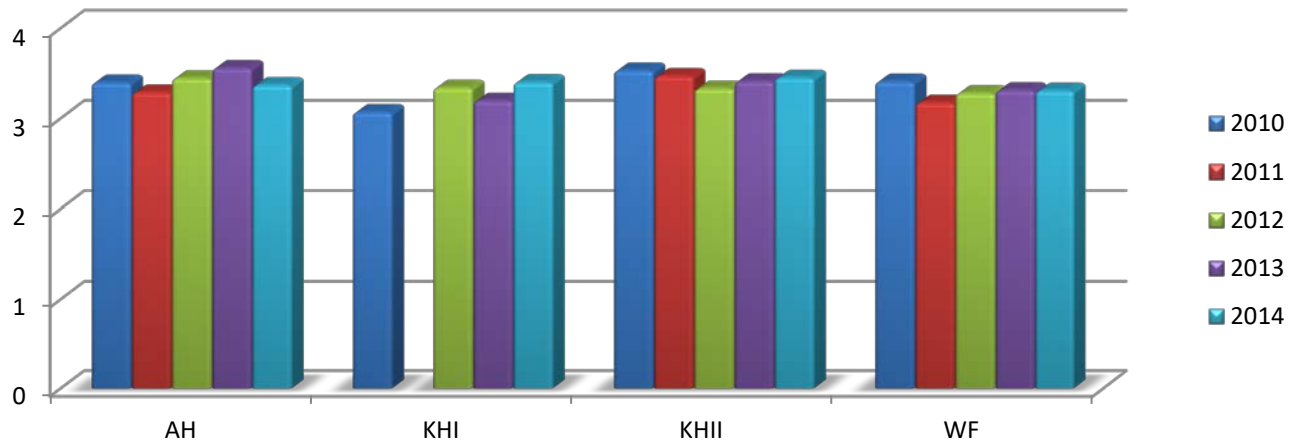


Satisfaction Results - 2014

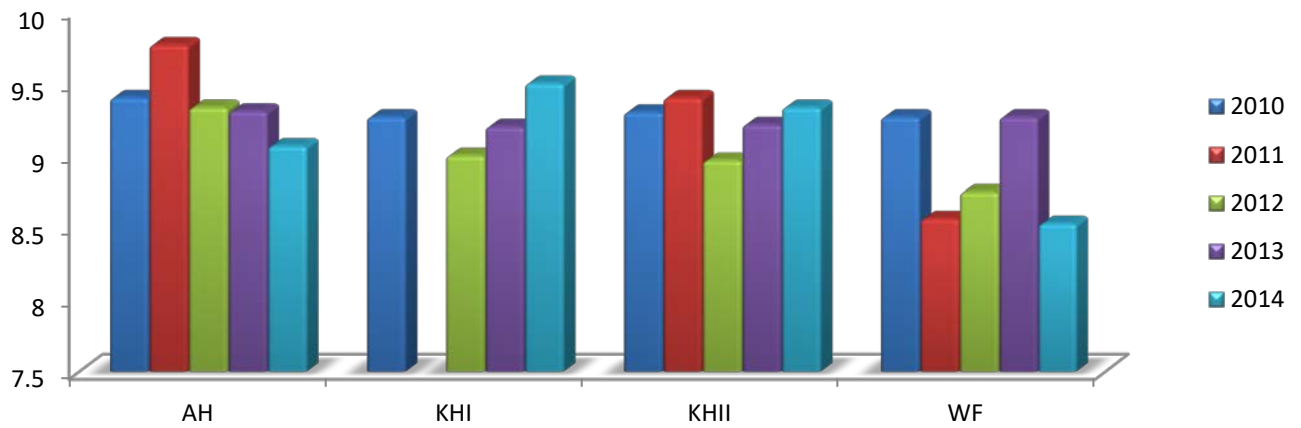


Mean: 9.1 σ 1.12

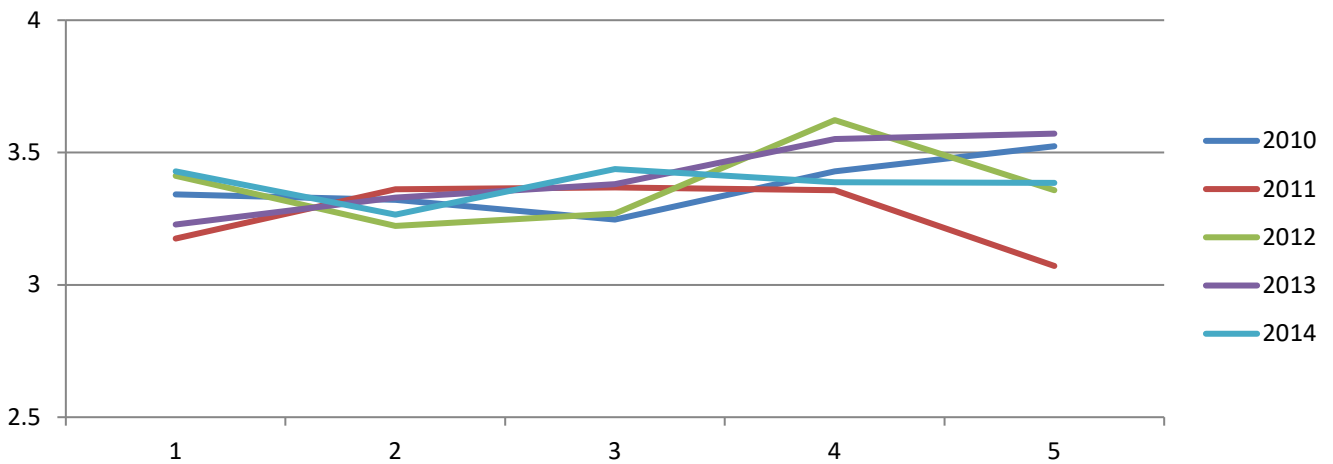
Average Score - Yearly Comparative



Satisfaction Comparative



Year at Camp Comparative



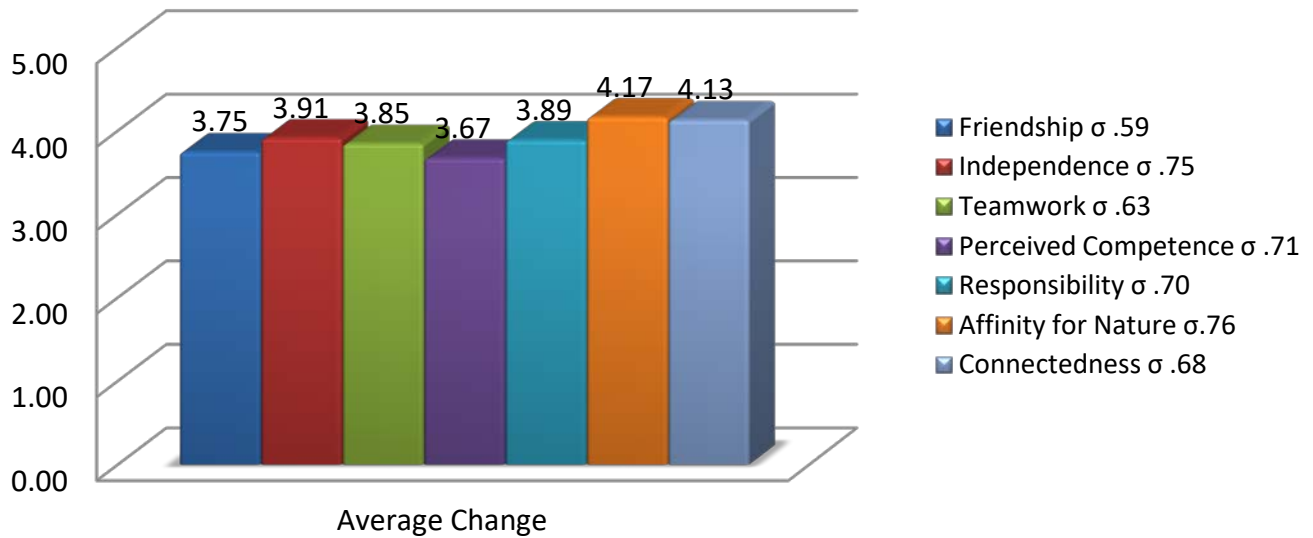
Basic Older Camper Survey

Basic Older Camper Demographic

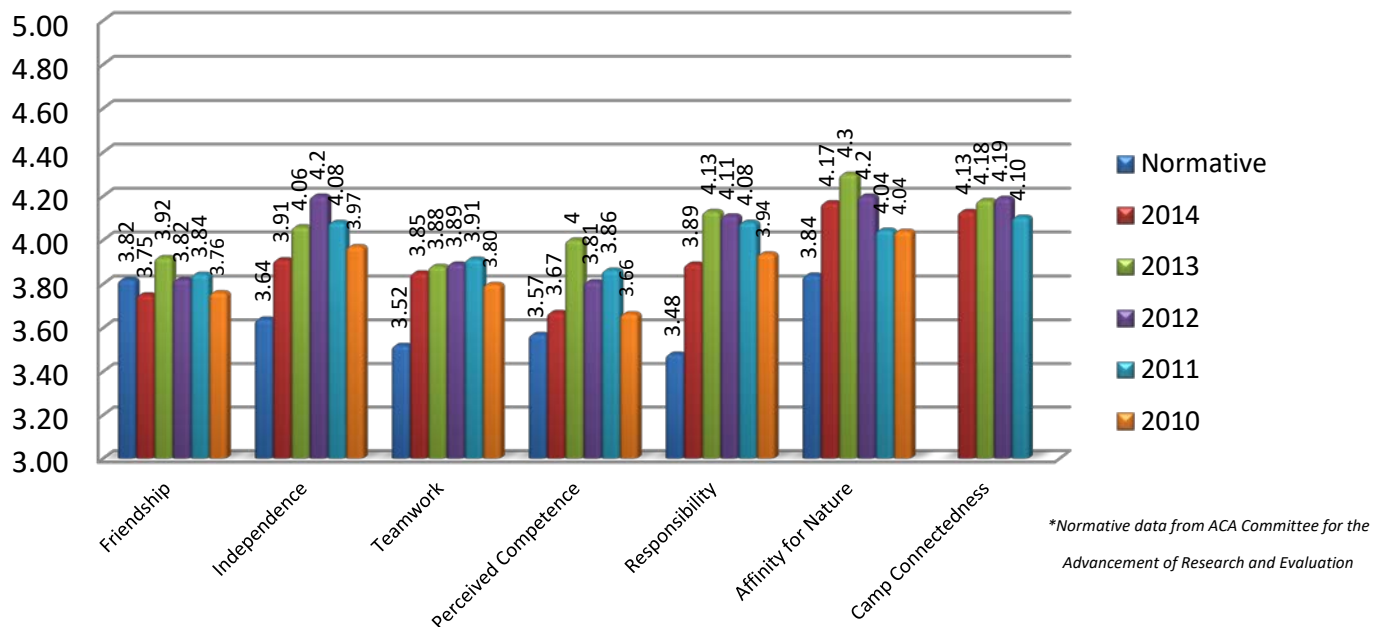
- 74 Campers were interviewed representing approximately 26% of that demographic (285 Campers)
- Friendship, Independence, Perceived Competence, Responsibility, Teamwork, Affinity for Nature, and Connectedness – 64 Questions
- Excluded Family Citizenship and Interest in Exploration
- Grade 6-8; Cabins, 14, 15, 10, 9; Dorms G, B, H

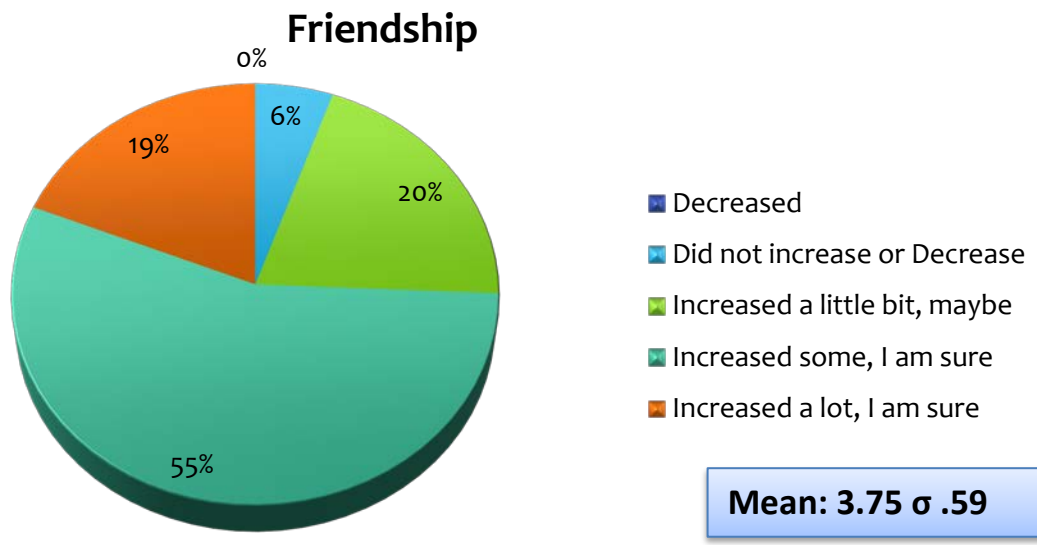
Basic Older Camper Survey Analysis

Average Scores by Outcome



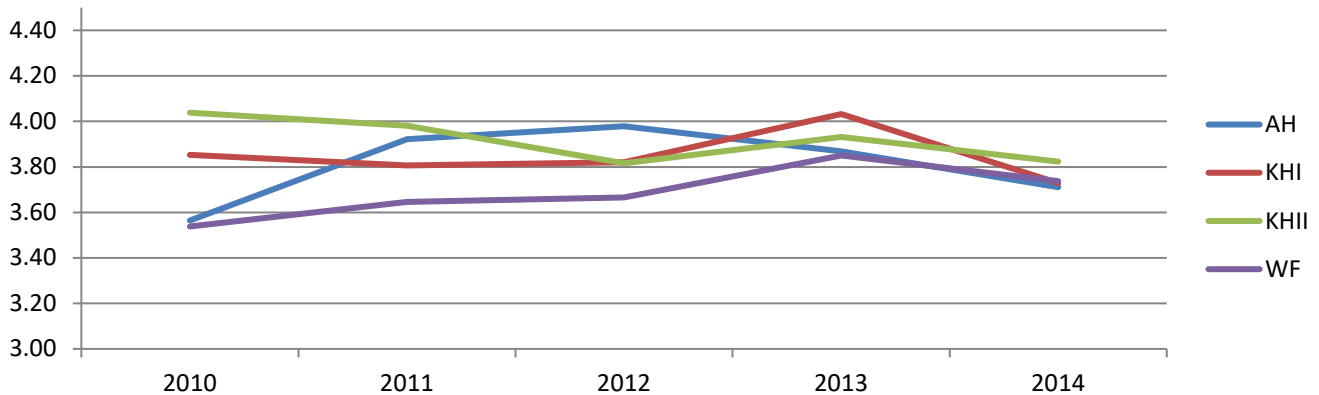
Average Scores by Outcome



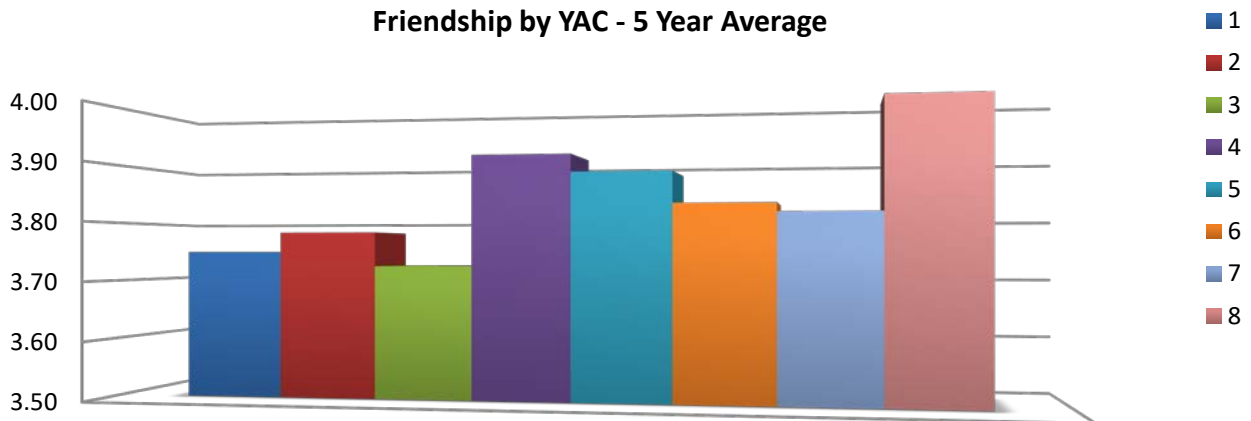


- 94% felt that camp helped increase their friendship skills (4% decrease from 2013)
- Strongest in Knighthood II; Knighthood is strongest over 5 years
- ACA Normative Values: 50th Percentile

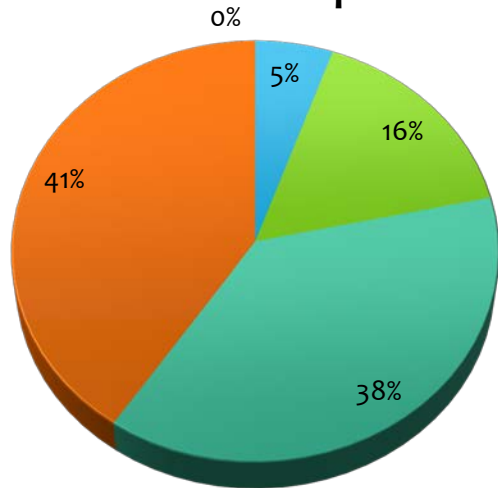
Average of Friendship by Session



Friendship by YAC - 5 Year Average



Independence

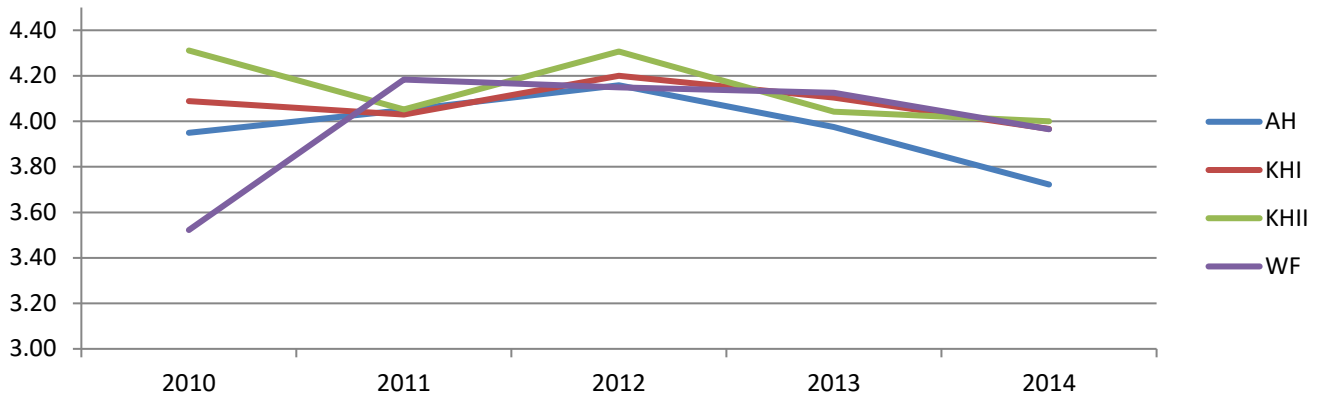


- Decreased
- Did not increase or Decrease
- Increased a little bit, maybe
- Increased some, I am sure
- Increased a lot, I am sure

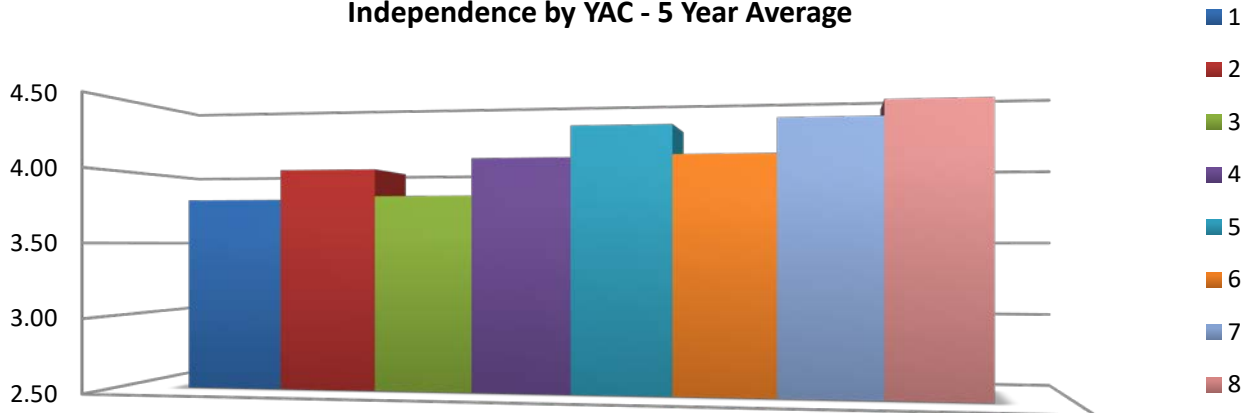
- 95% felt that camp helped increase their independence (Even)
- ACA Normative Values: 60th Percentile

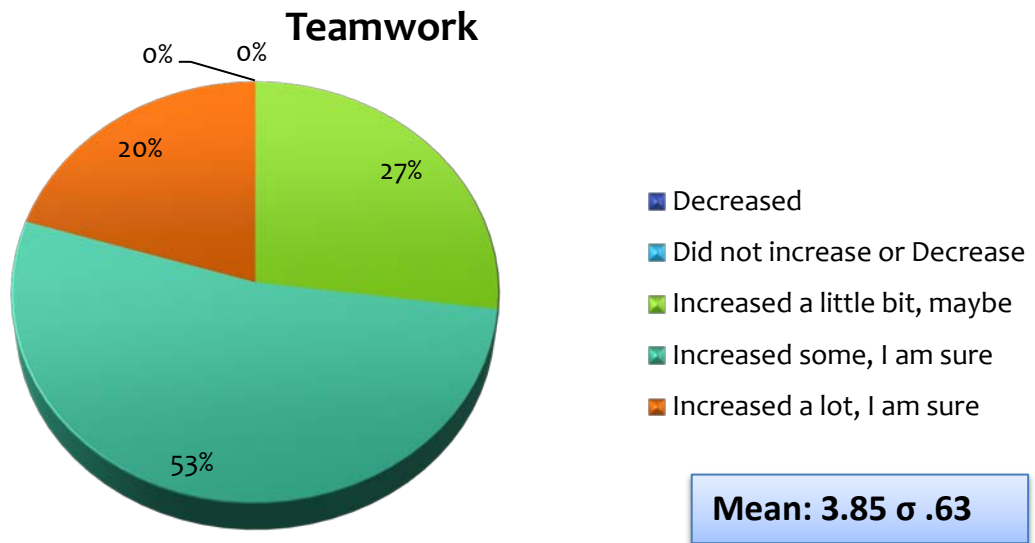
Mean: 3.91 σ .75

Average of Independence by Session



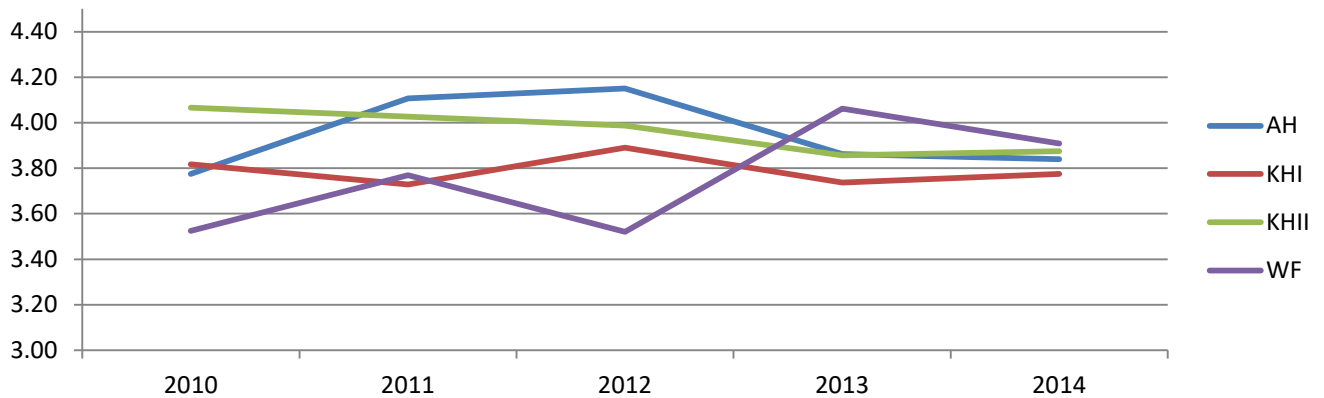
Independence by YAC - 5 Year Average



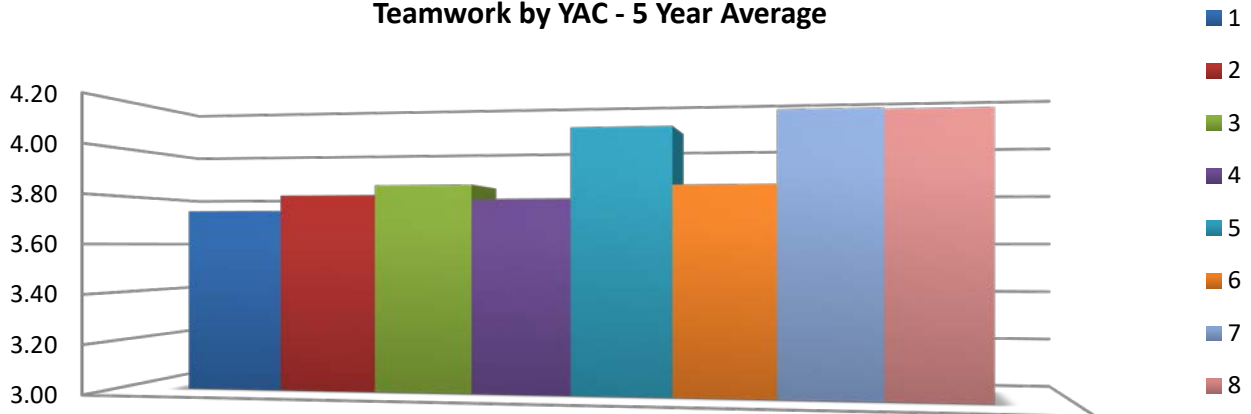


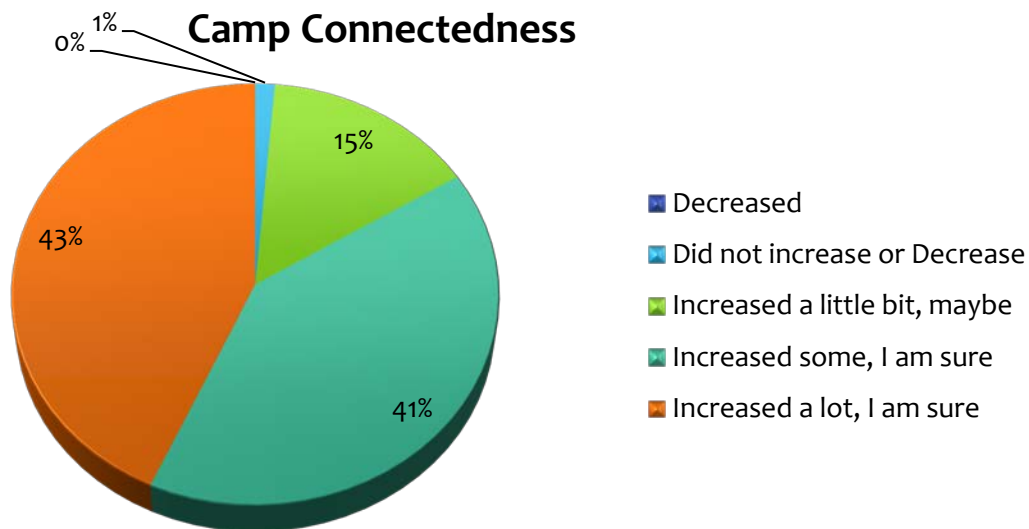
- 100% felt that camp made them better team players (+6.7% from 2013)
- Highest during World Friendship for past two years (Olympics?)
- ACA Normative Values: 60th Percentile

Average of Teamwork by Session



Teamwork by YAC - 5 Year Average

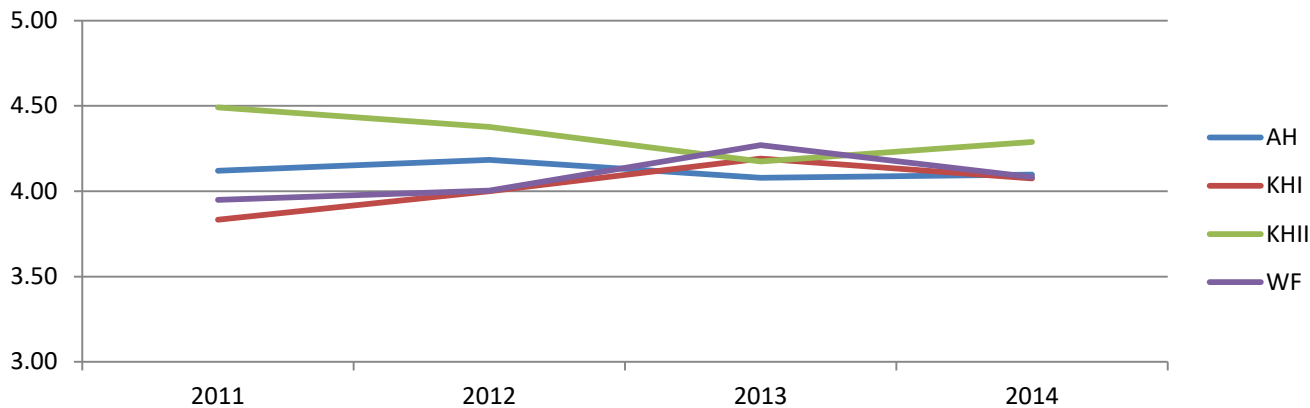




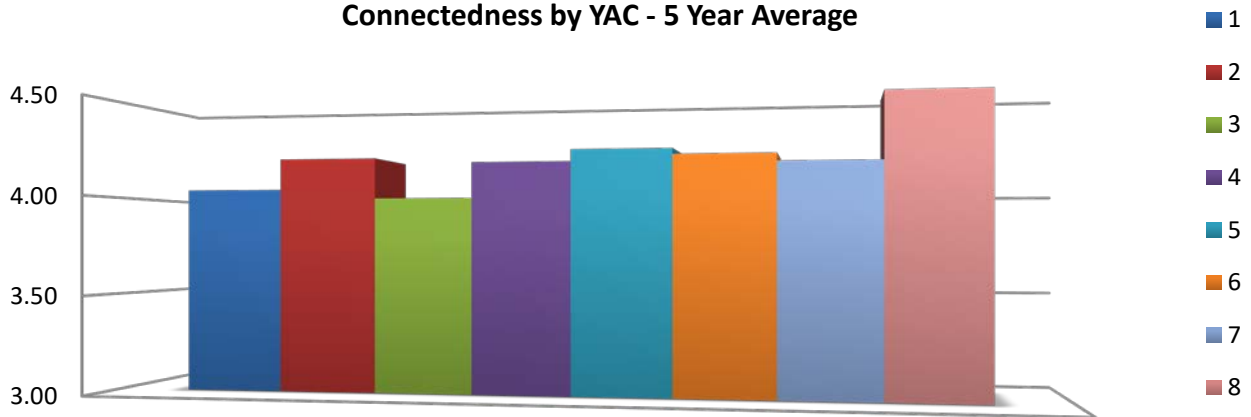
- 99% felt welcomed and supported at camp (No change from 2013)
- No National Norms
- Been very consistent – 5 year overall average

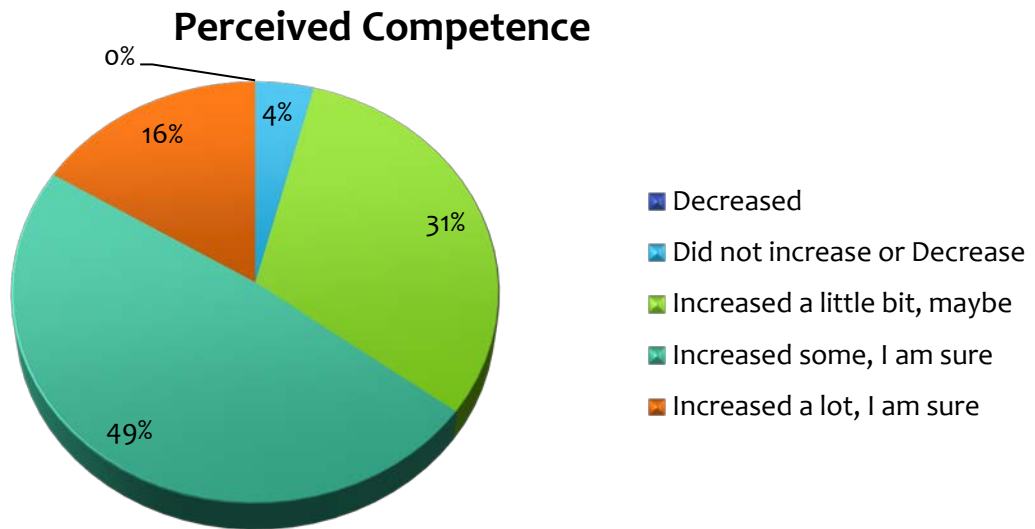
Mean: 4.13 σ .66

Average of Connectedness by Session



Connectedness by YAC - 5 Year Average

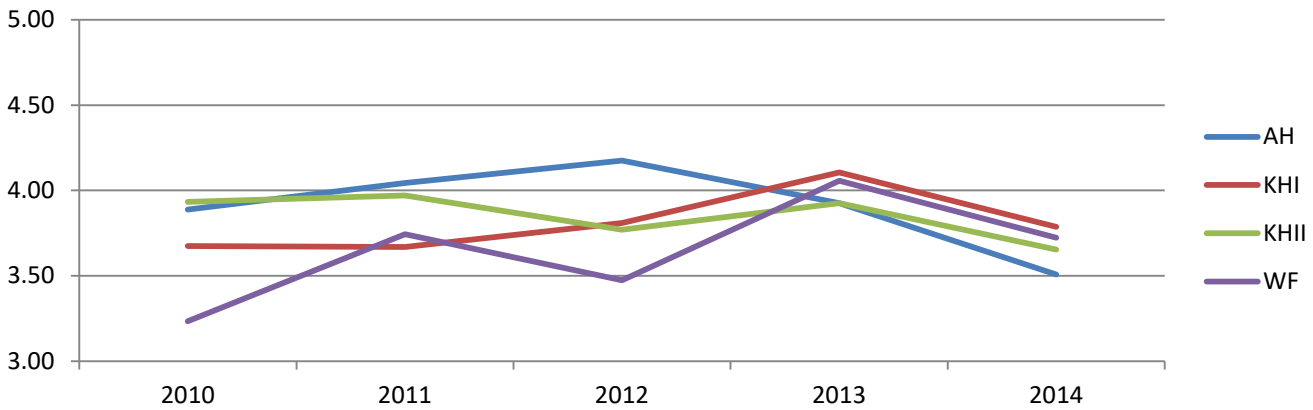




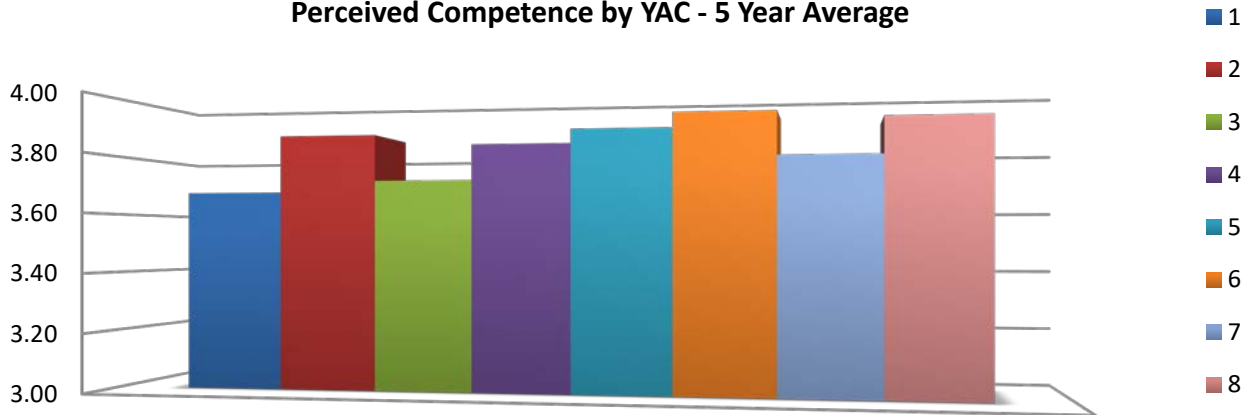
- 96%% felt more confident about themselves after camp (-4.1% in 2013)
- ACA Normative Values: 50th Percentile (Decreased from 2013)

Mean: 3.67 σ .71

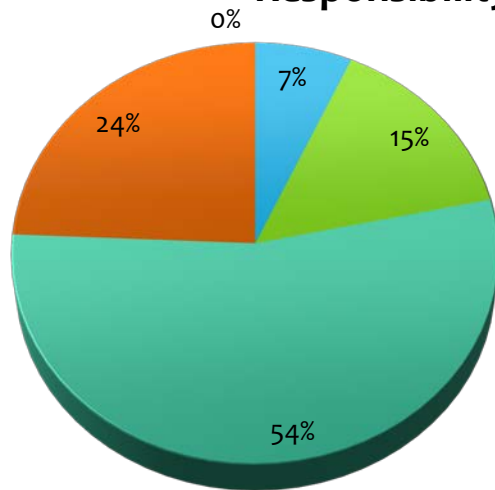
Average of Perceived Competence by Session



Perceived Competence by YAC - 5 Year Average



Responsibility

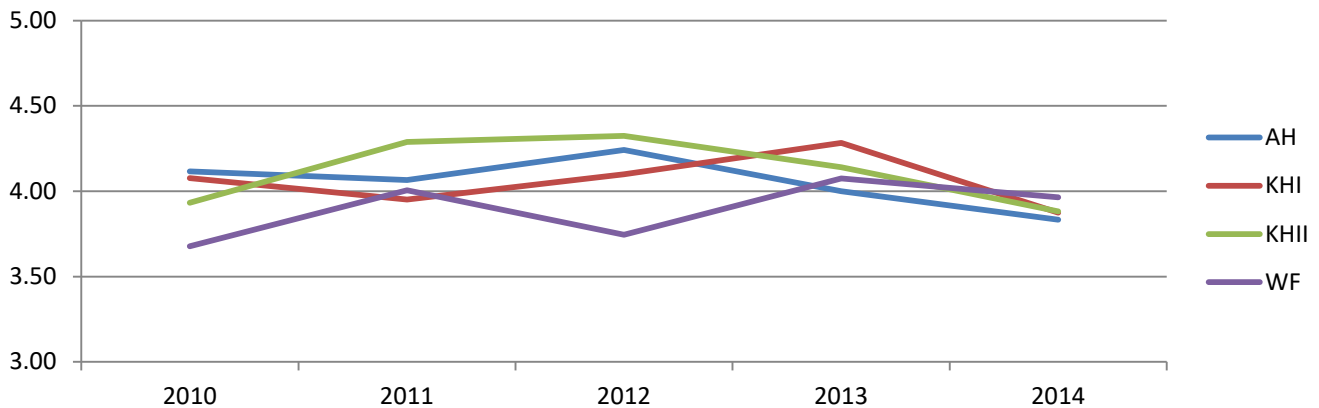


- Decreased
- Did not increase or Decrease
- Increased a little bit, maybe
- Increased some, I am sure
- Increased a lot, I am sure

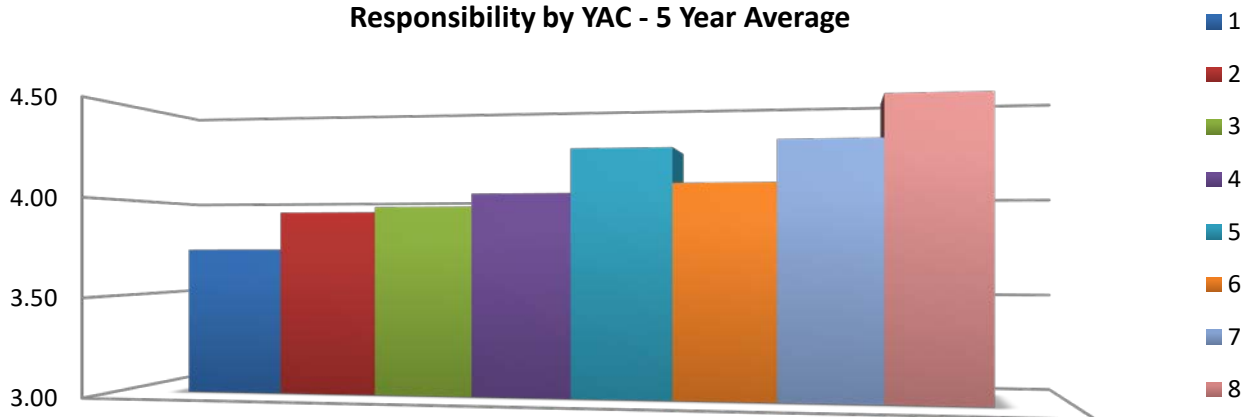
- 93.2% felt more responsible after camp (-6.8% from 2013)
- 5.71% decrease in mean scores from 2013
- ACA Normative Values: 60-70th Percentile

Mean: 3.89 σ .70

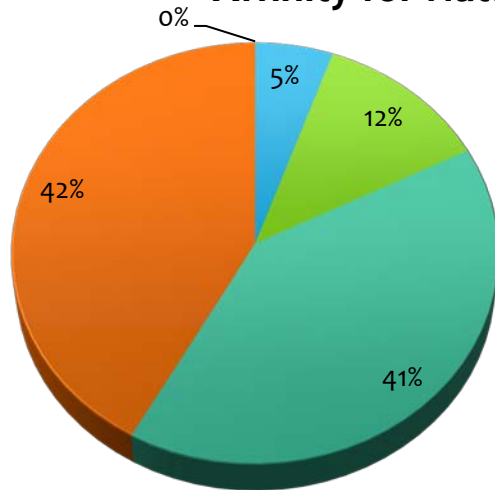
Average of Responsibility by Session



Responsibility by YAC - 5 Year Average



Affinity for Nature

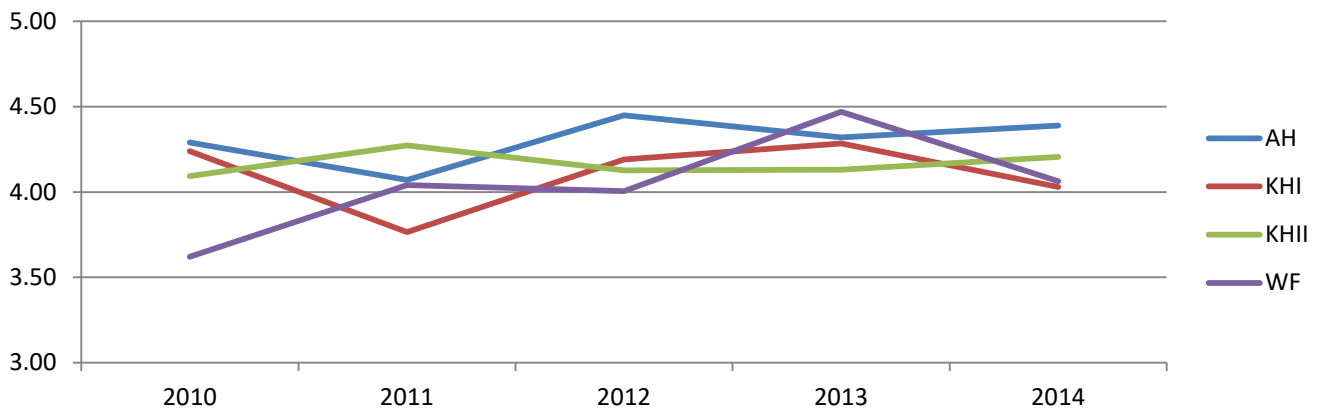


- Decreased
- Did not increase or Decrease
- Increased a little bit, maybe
- Increased some, I am sure
- Increased a lot, I am sure

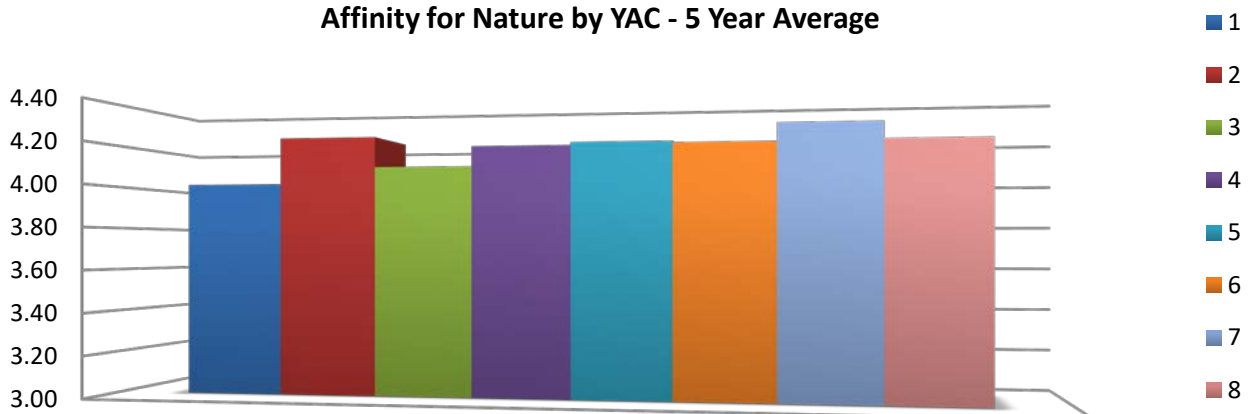
Mean: 4.17 σ .76

- 94.6% had a greater appreciation for nature as a results of camp (-3% from 2013)
- 5.71% Drop in mean scores
- World Friendship rated highest in 2013 (American Heritage is typically rated highest)
- ACA Normative Values: 50-60th Percentile

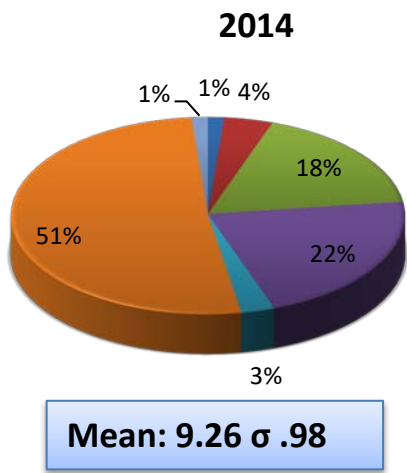
Average of Affinity for Nature by Session



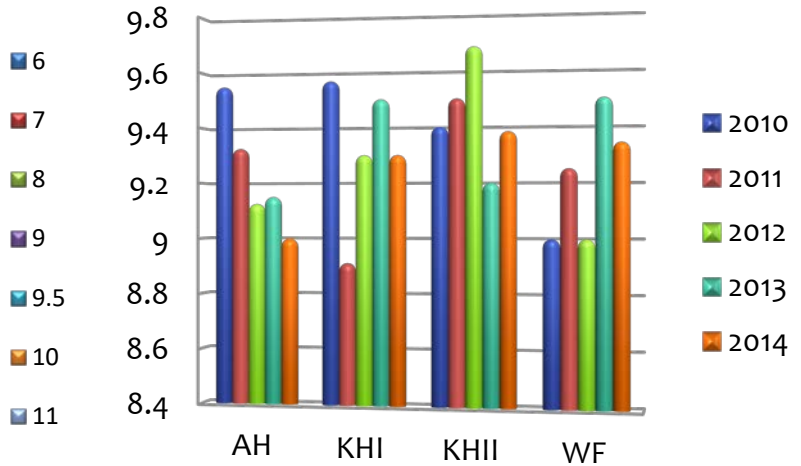
Affinity for Nature by YAC - 5 Year Average



Satisfaction Survey Results and Other Analysis



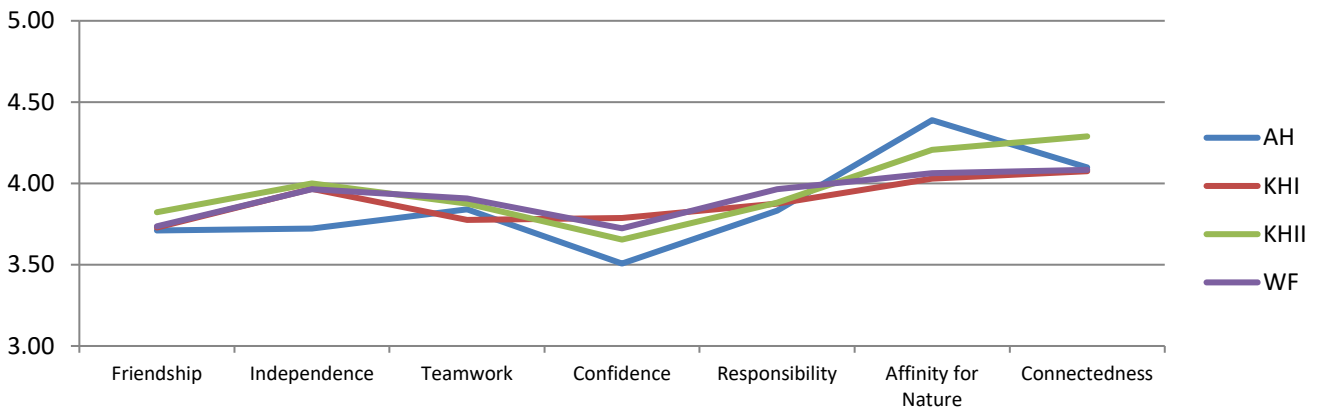
Session/Year Comparative



- Satisfaction rating of camp decrease less than 1% from 2013
- Satisfaction is consistent with 5 Year Average (9.39 σ 1.03)
- World Friendship had the greatest effect on campers
- American Heritage had the lowest overall effect on campers and was the lowest rated (2 year trend)
 - AH did rate high in Affinity for Nature
- Girls rated slightly higher than boys in every outcome (5 Years Now)
- Favorite Activities: Barn, Ropes, Pool
- What did they NOT LIKE about camp?
 - #1: Nothing – It was great (25%)
 - #2: Sickness (9%)
 - #3 Crafts (5%)

What else should we know?
 “Keep camp the same” or “It’s perfect the way it is.” **55%**

Average of Change by Session

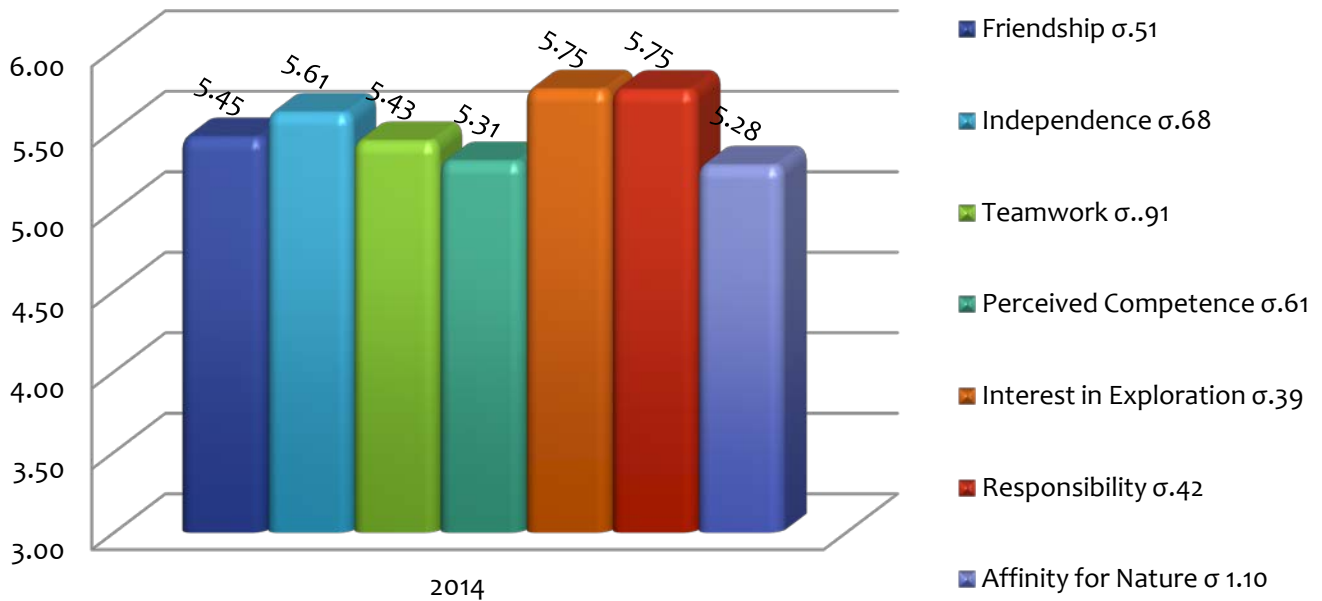


Detailed Older Camper Demographic

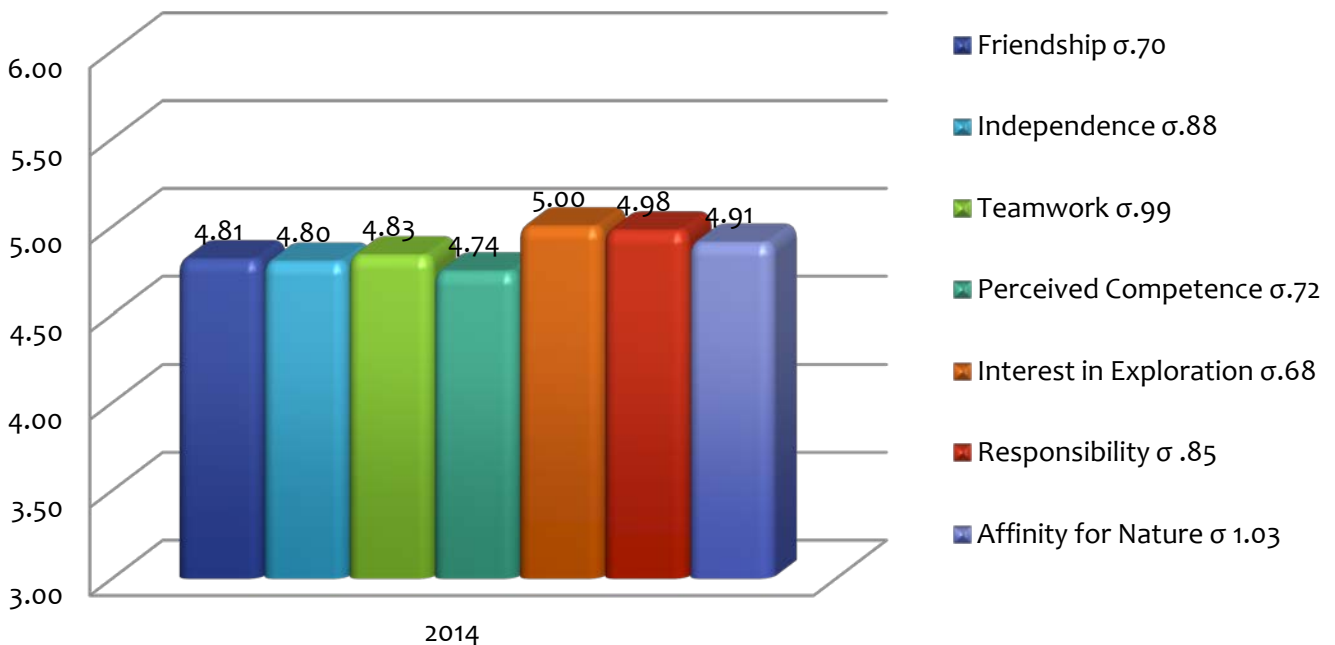
- 76 Campers were interviewed representing approximately 23% of that demographic (332 Campers)
- 7 Outcomes were surveyed: Friendship, Independence, Teamwork, Perceived Competence, Interest in Exploration, Responsibility and Affinity for Nature
- Grade 8-11; Cabins 2, 4, 5, 7, 6; Dorms A, E, F

Detailed Older Camper Overview

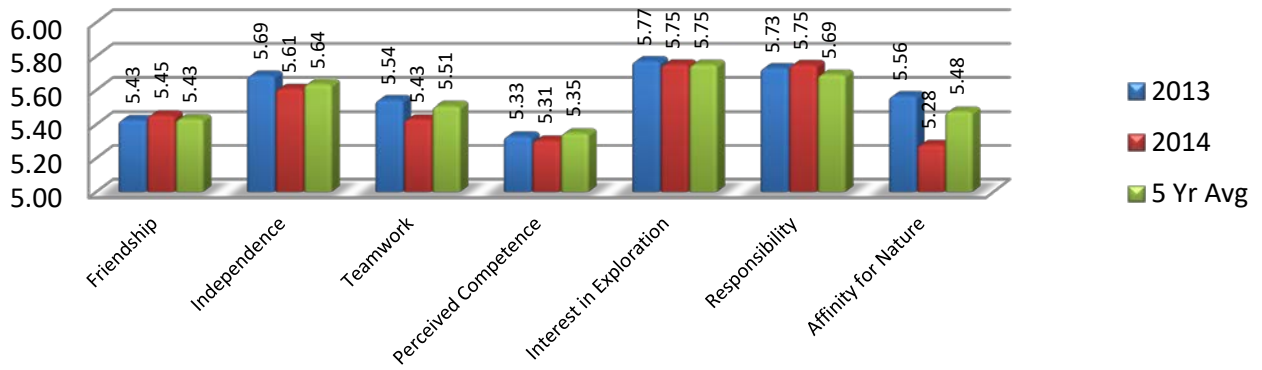
Average "Status" by Outcome



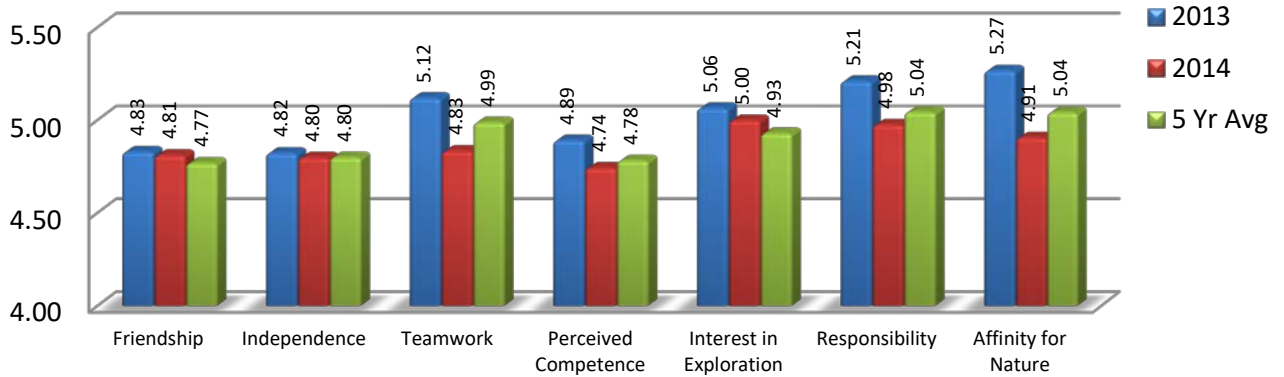
Average "Change" by Outcome



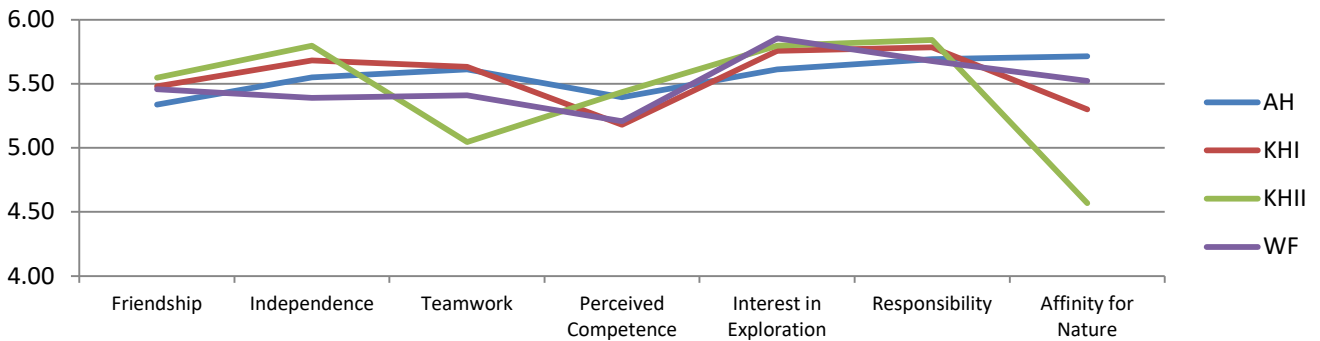
Average "Status" by Outcome



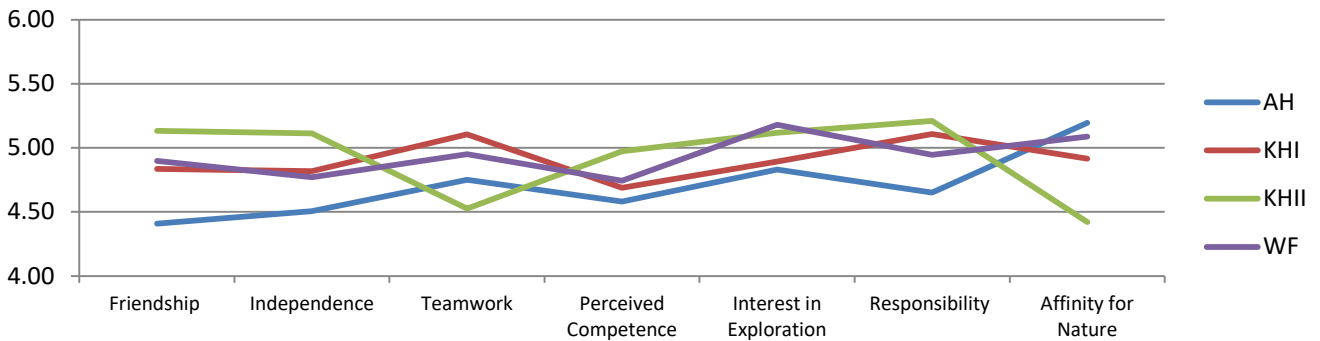
Average "Change" by Outcome



Average of "Status" by Session - 2014

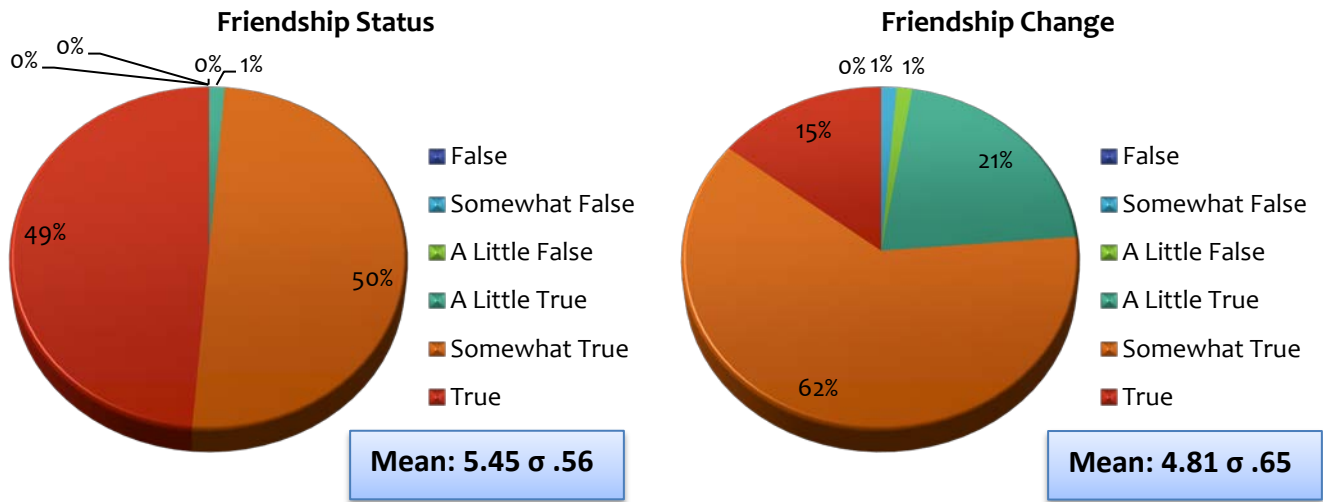


Average of "Change" by Session - 2014



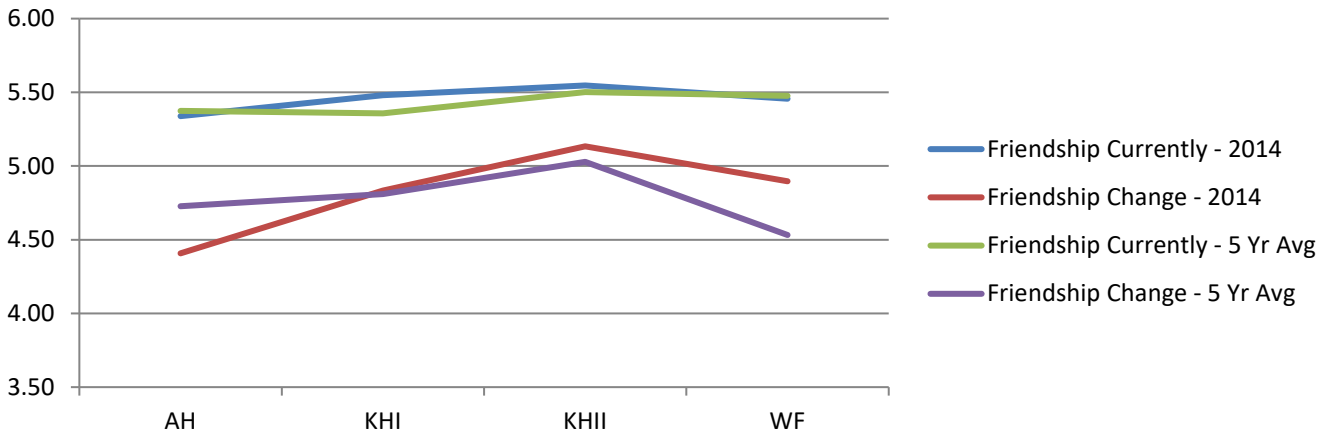
Detailed Camper Survey Analysis by Outcome

Friendship

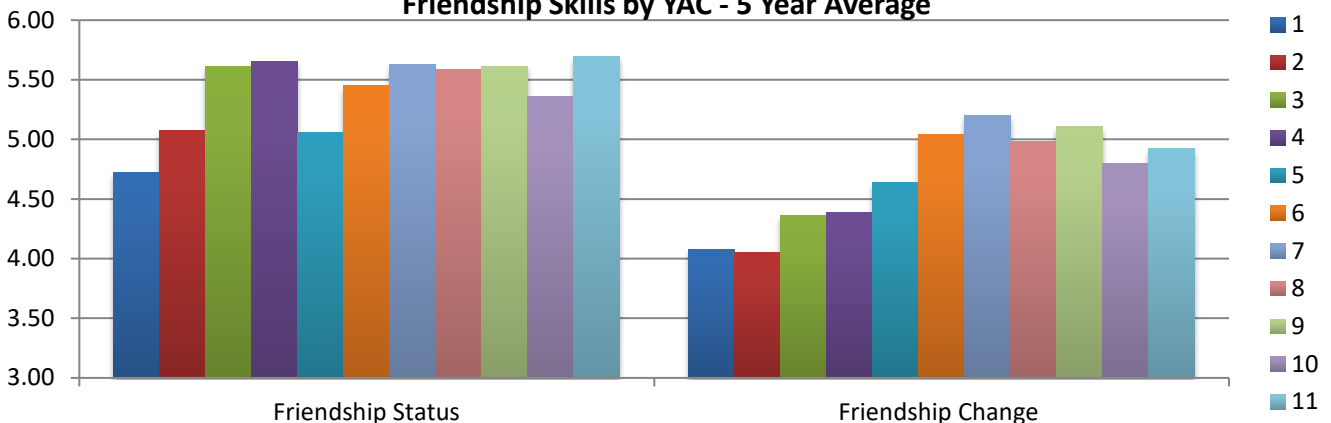


- 98.7% felt “I have good friendship skills” was a least a little true
- 67.5% felt that camp significantly improved their friendship skills (11.5% Decrease from 2013)

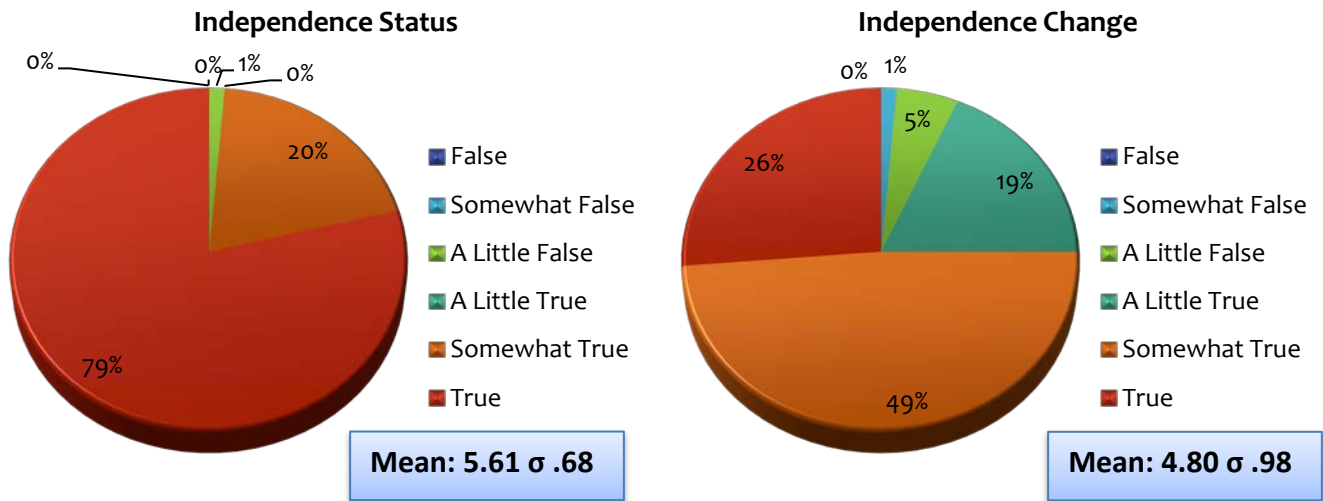
Friendship Change & Status by Session



Friendship Skills by YAC - 5 Year Average

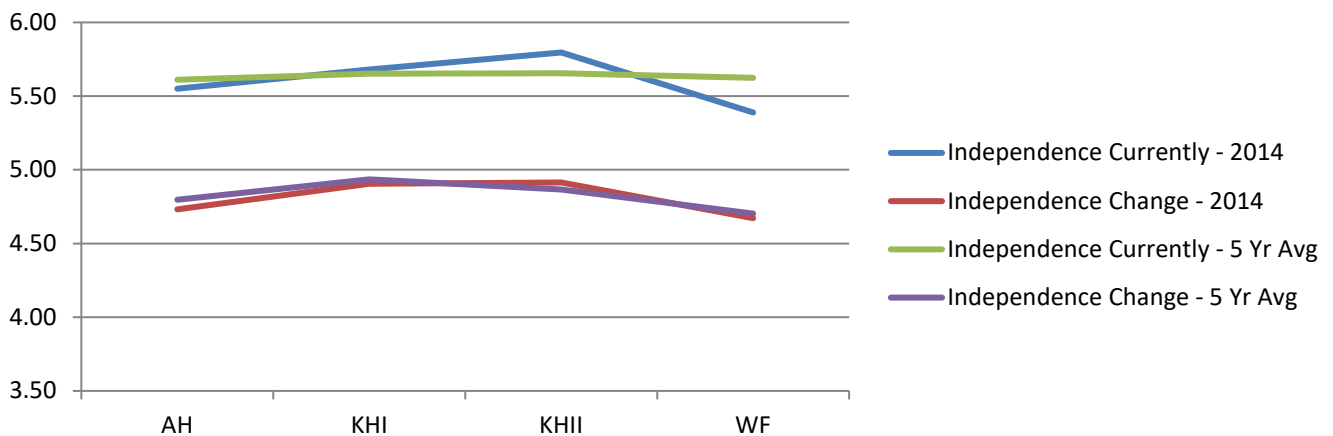


Independence

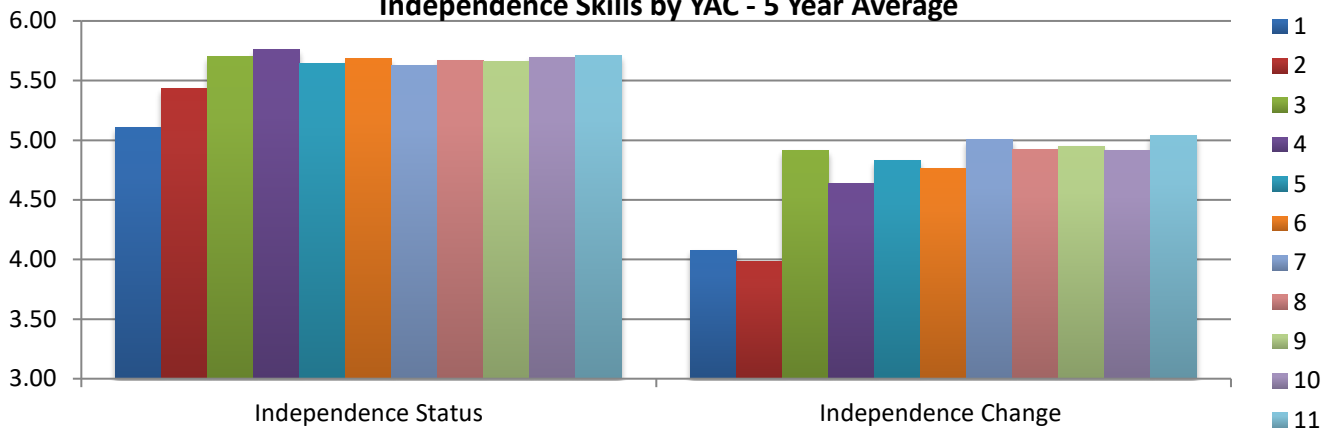


- 98.7% felt “I have good independence skills” was a least a little true
- 75% felt that camp significantly improved their friendship skills (1.8% increase from 2013)

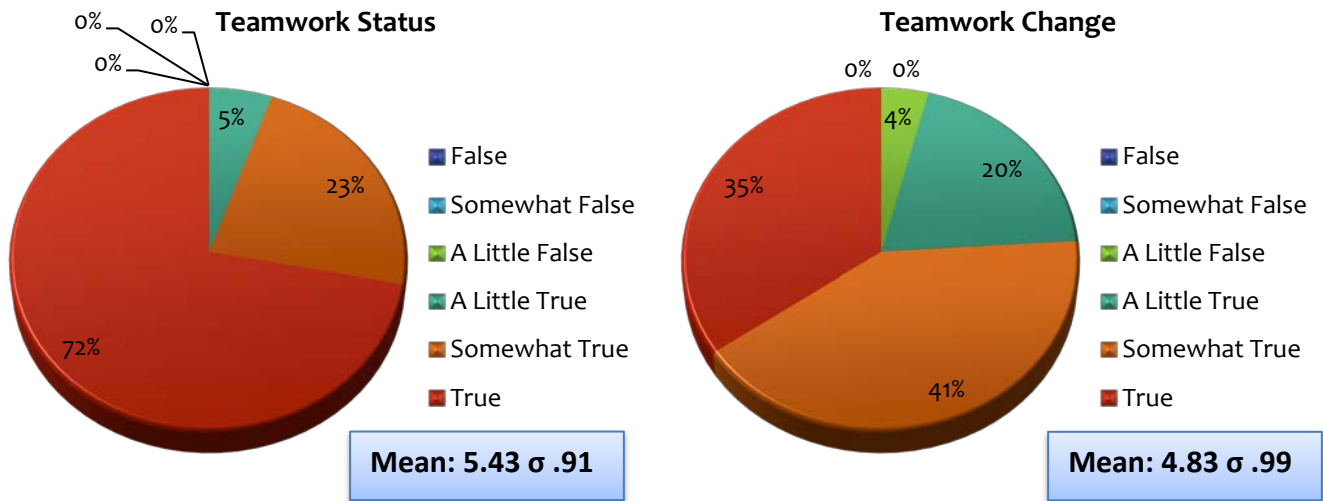
Independence Change & Status by Session



Independence Skills by YAC - 5 Year Average

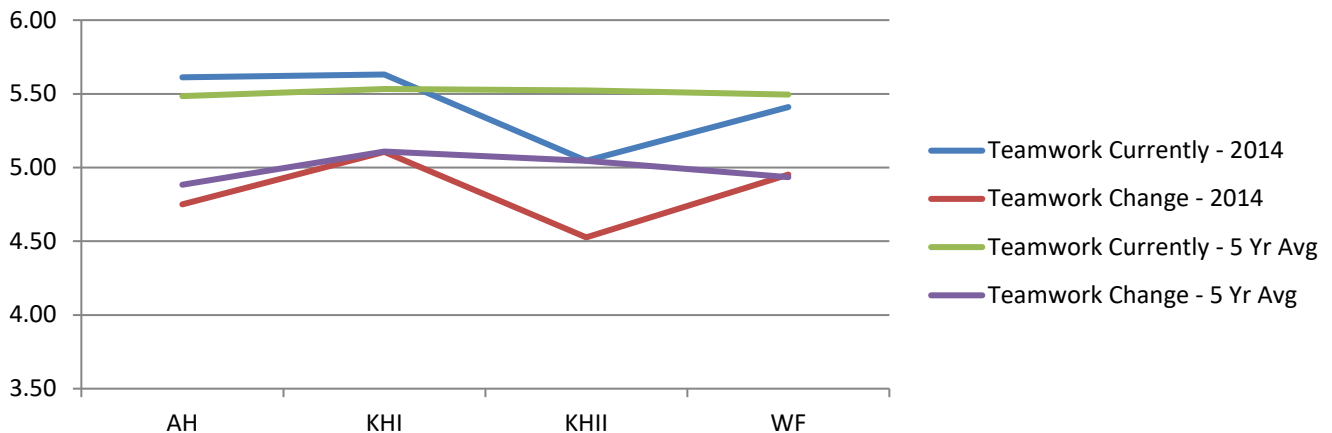


Teamwork

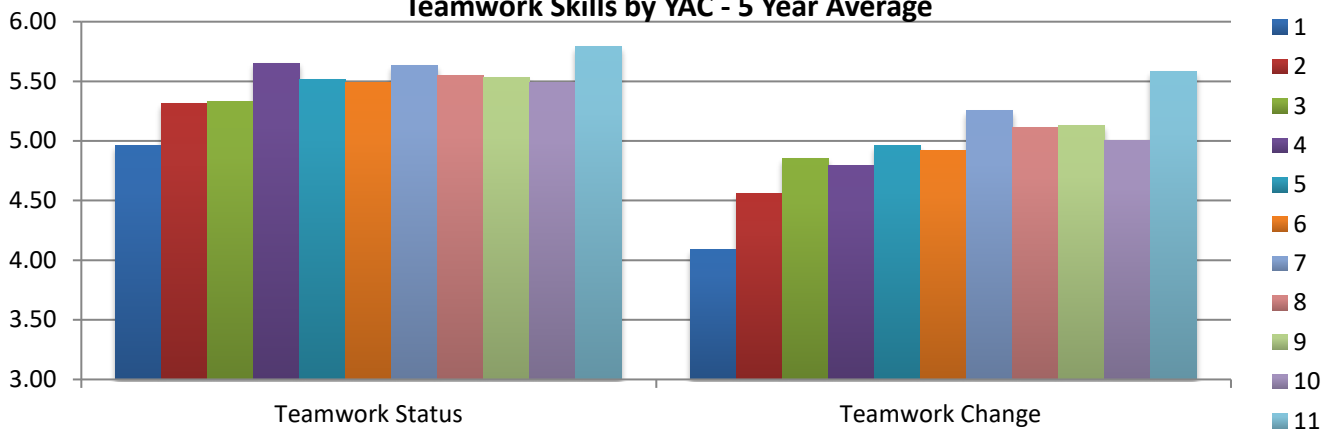


- 94.7% felt “I have good teamwork skills” was a least a little true
- 76% felt that camp significantly improved their teamwork skills (11% decrease from 2013)
- 5.8% drop in camp’s influence on teamwork skills from 2013

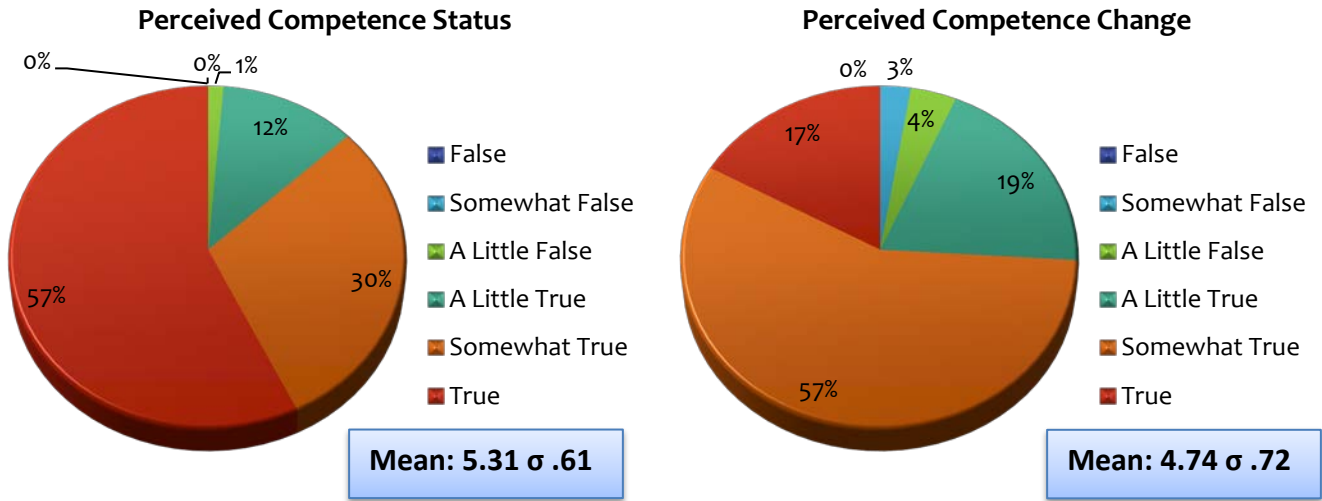
Teamwork Change & Status by Session



Teamwork Skills by YAC - 5 Year Average

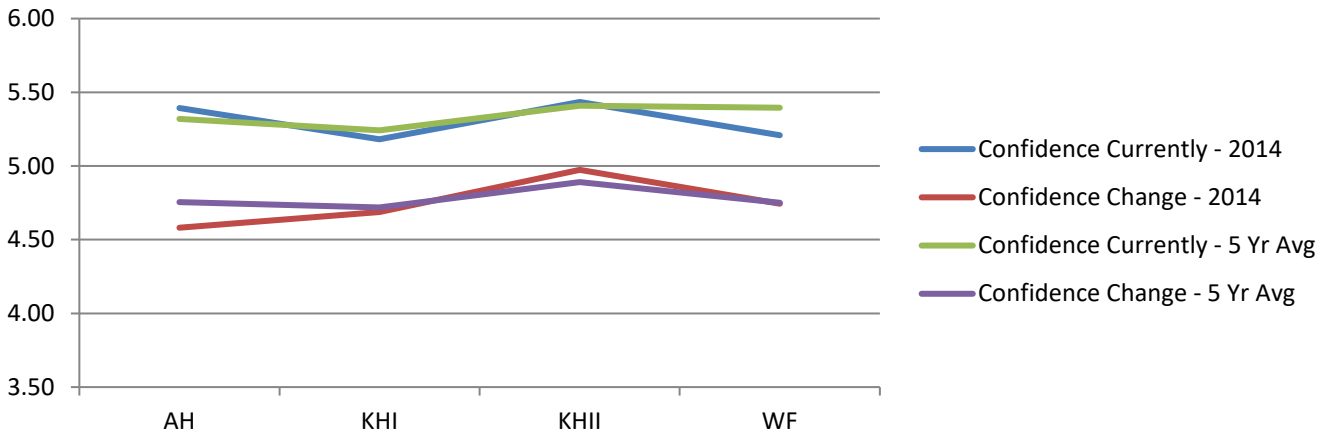


Perceived Competence (Confidence)

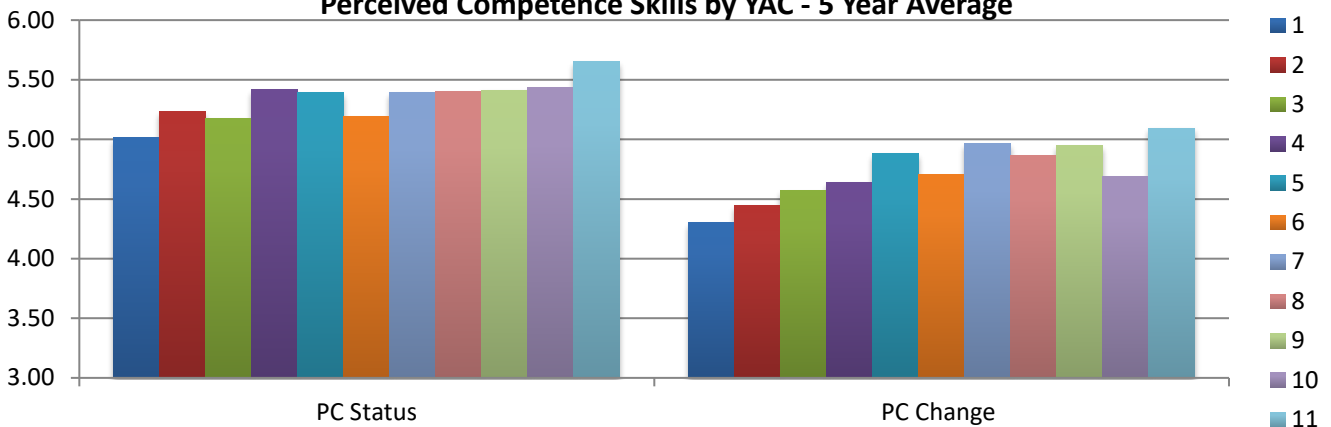


- 98% felt “I am confident in myself” was a least a little true
- 74% said that camp made a big difference in how they feel about themselves (4.6% decrease from 2013)

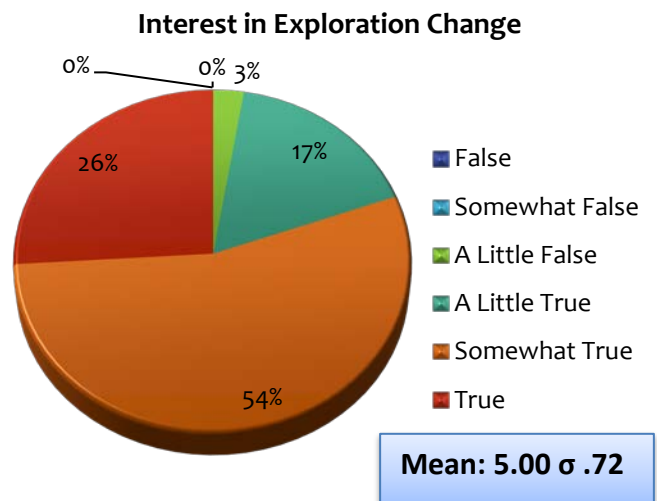
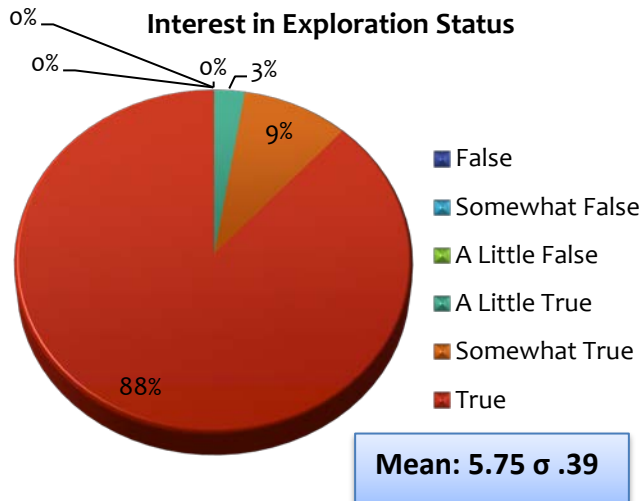
Perceived Competence Change & Status by Session



Perceived Competence Skills by YAC - 5 Year Average

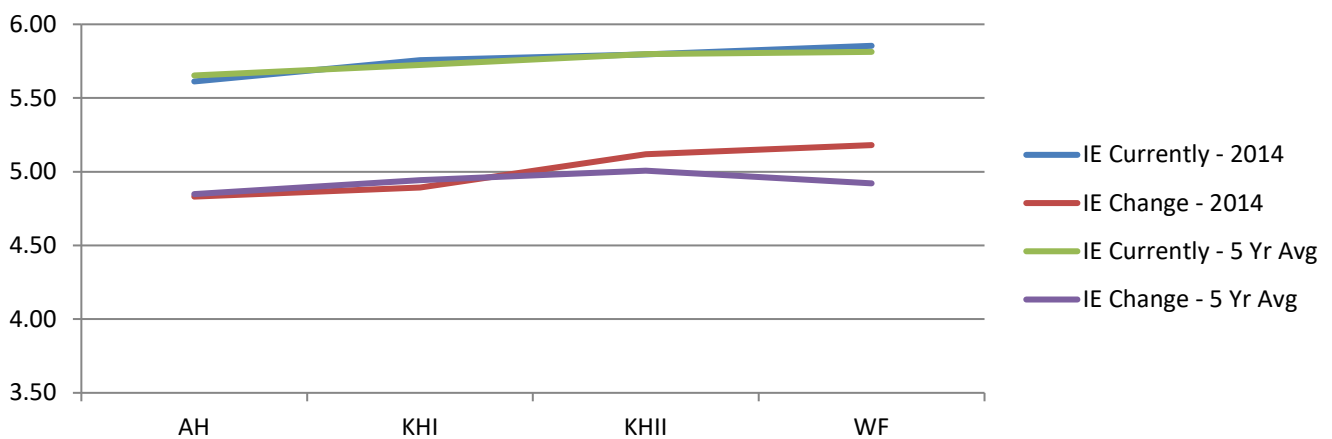


Interest in Exploration

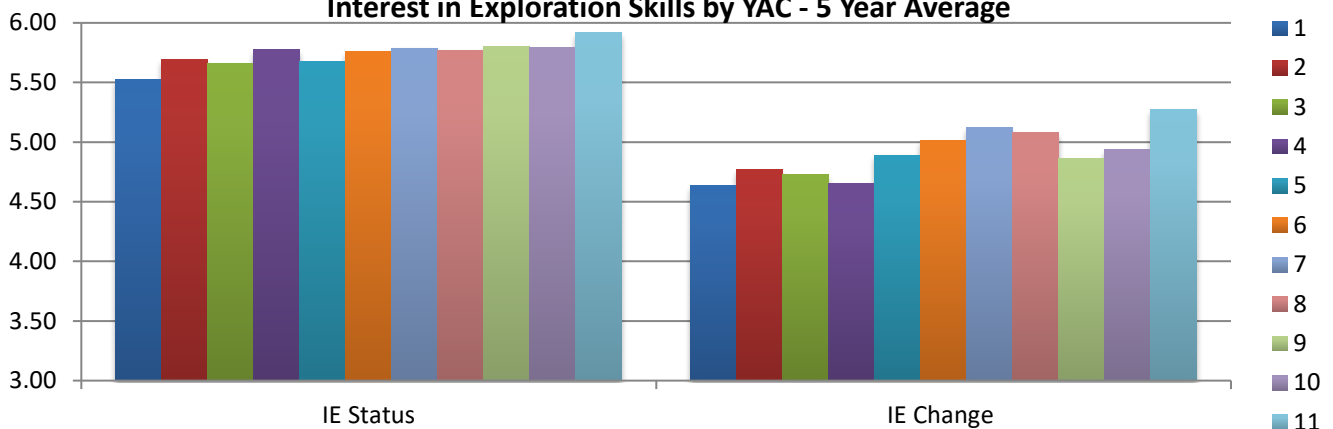


- IE defined: Learning Skills, Citizenship Skills, Nature and Outdoor Adventure
- 100% felt "I have an Interest in exploration" was a least a little true
- 80.5% said that they far more interested and prepared to learn and try new things as a result of GG (1.3% decrease from 2013)

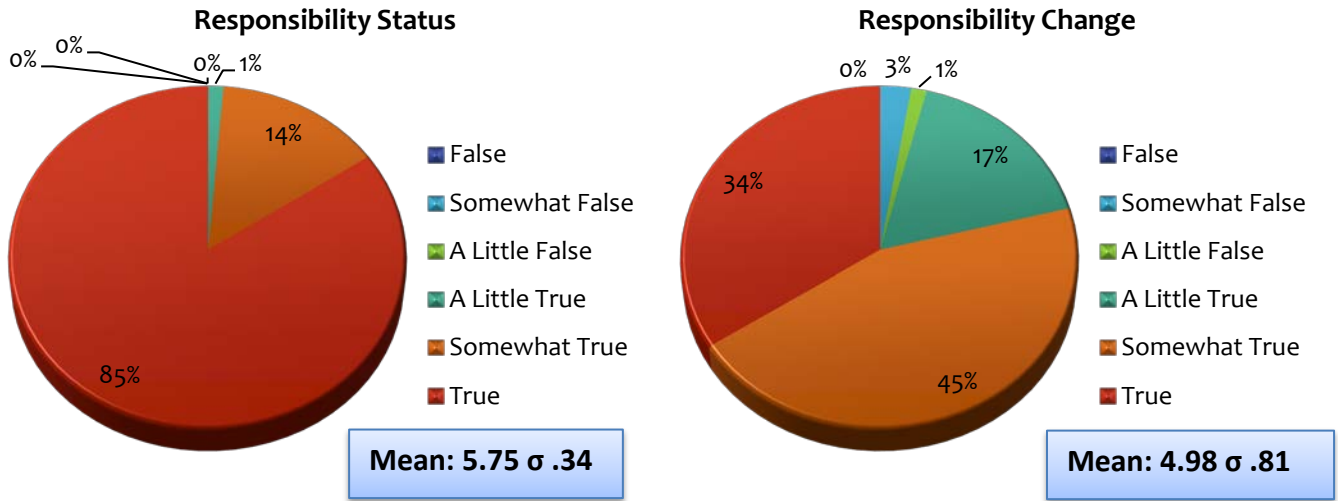
Interest in Exploration Change & Status by Session



Interest in Exploration Skills by YAC - 5 Year Average

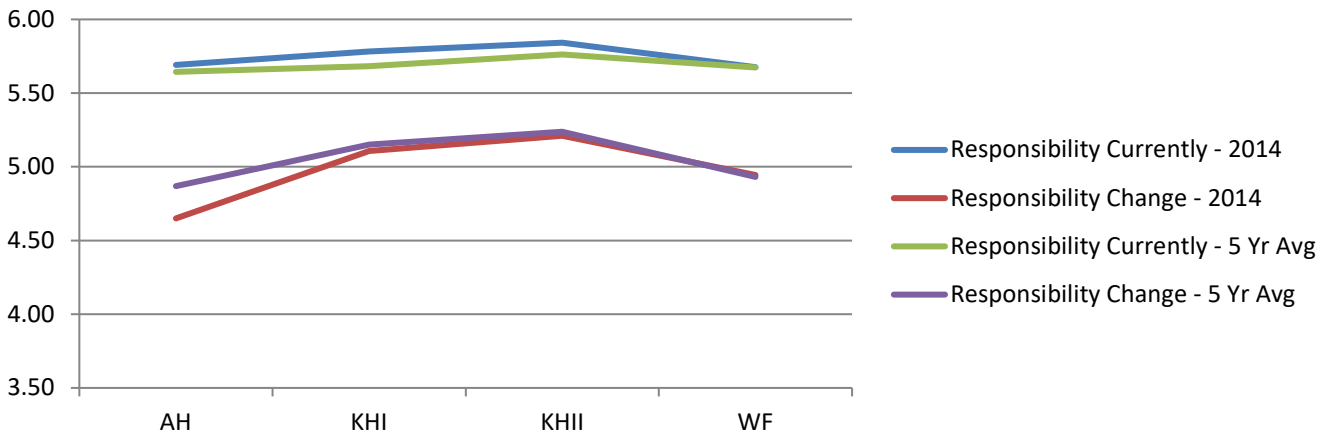


Responsibility

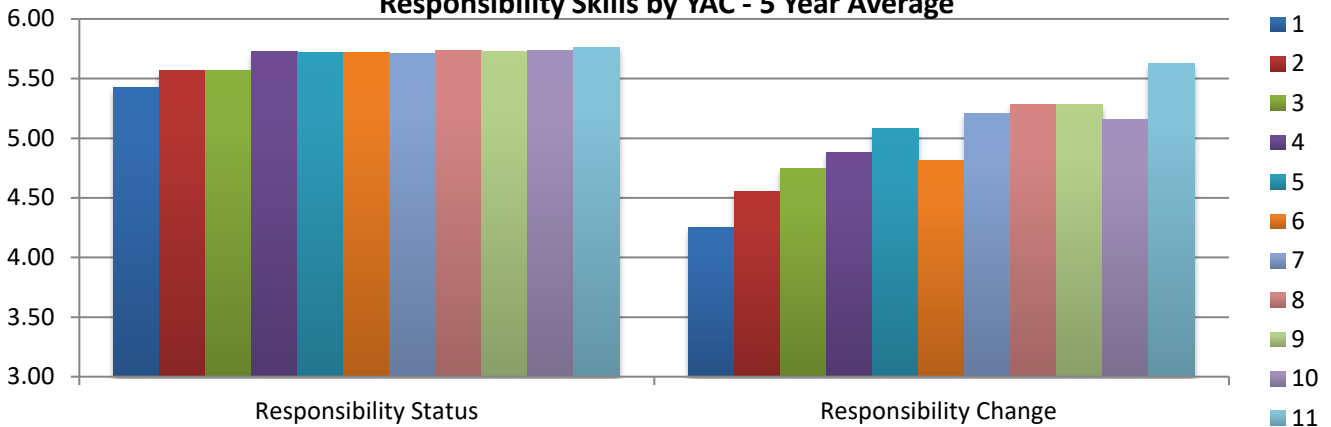


- 98.7% felt “I am responsible” was a least a little true (no change)
- 75.3% said that camp has made them considerably more responsible (7.7% decrease from 2013)

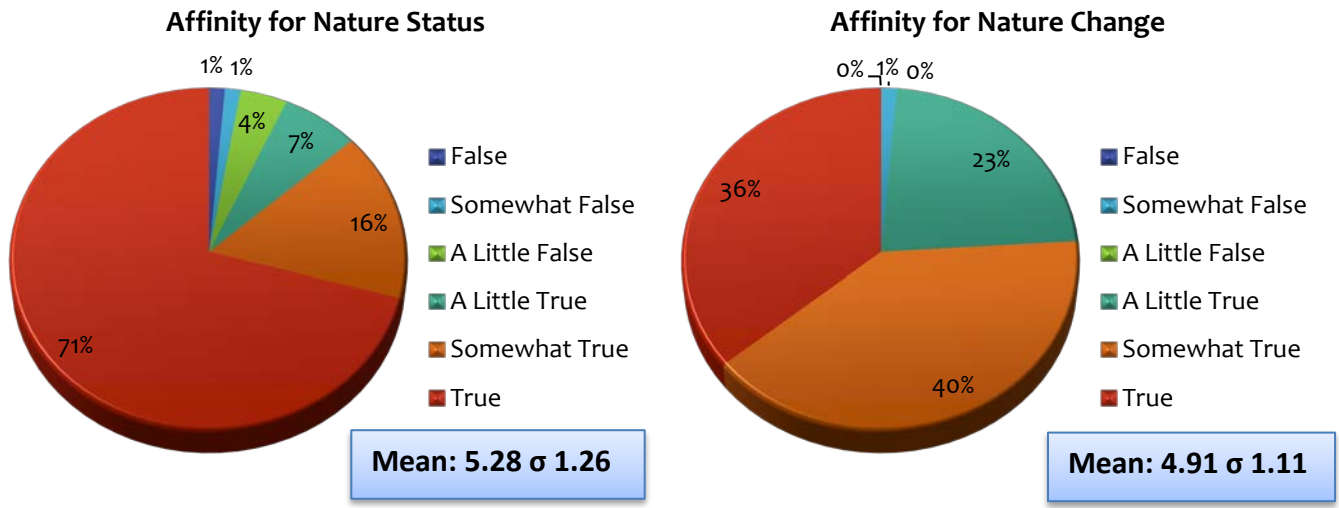
Responsibility Change & Status by Session



Responsibility Skills by YAC - 5 Year Average

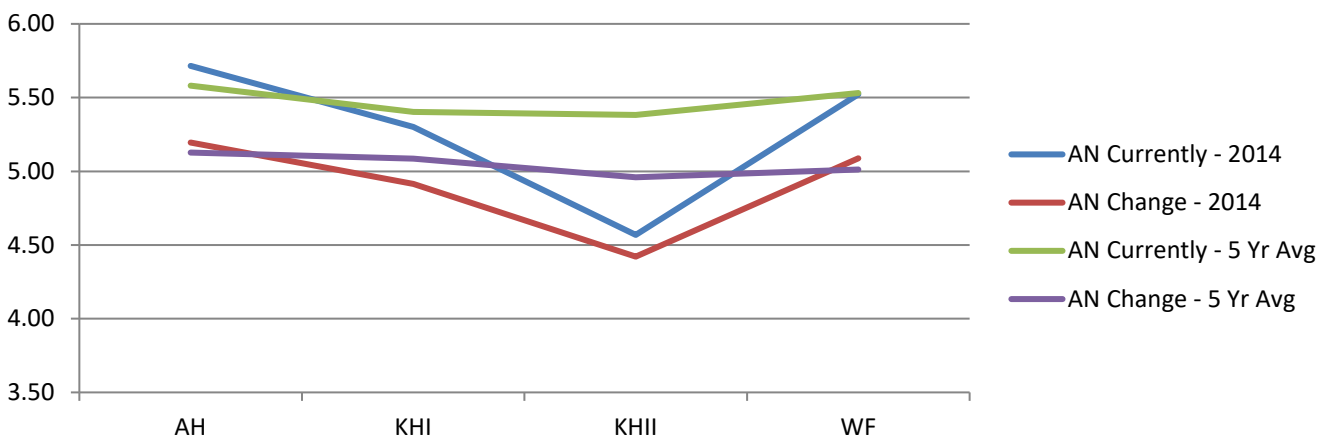


Affinity for Nature

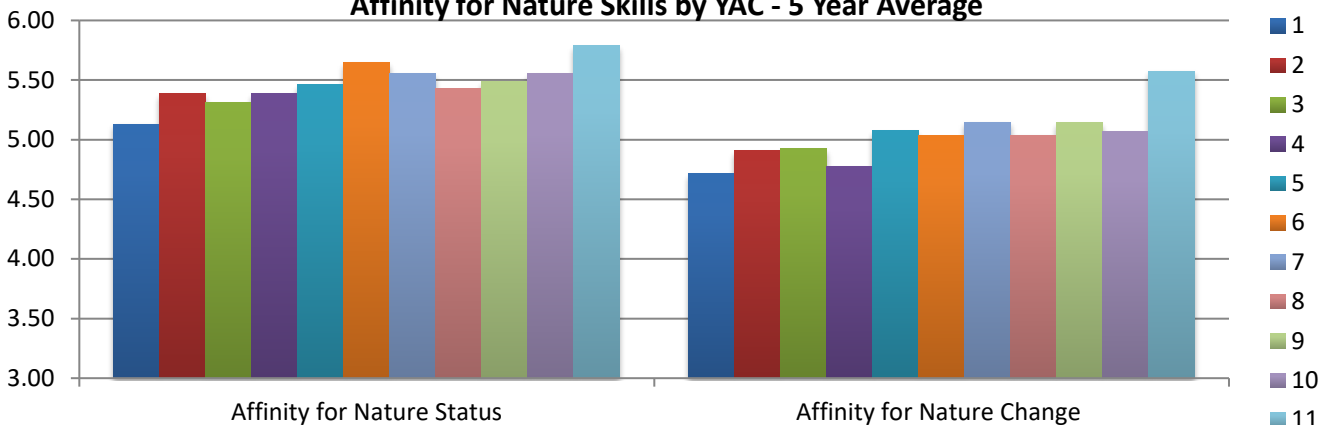


- 7% Decrease in camp’s effectiveness from 2013-2014 (higher standard deviation as well)
- Consistently the highest standard deviation of all the outcomes (status /change)
- 93.3% felt “I have an affinity for nature” was a least a little true (-4.1% from 2013)
- 76% have a significantly better affinity for nature as a result of Geneva Glen (16.3% decrease from 2013)

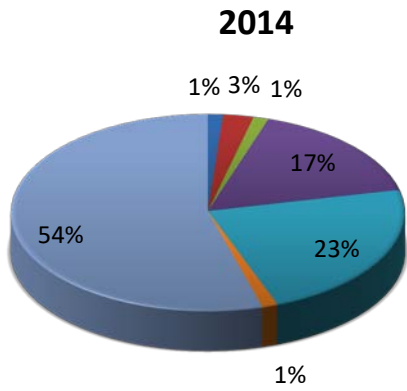
Affinity for Nature Change & Status by Session



Affinity for Nature Skills by YAC - 5 Year Average

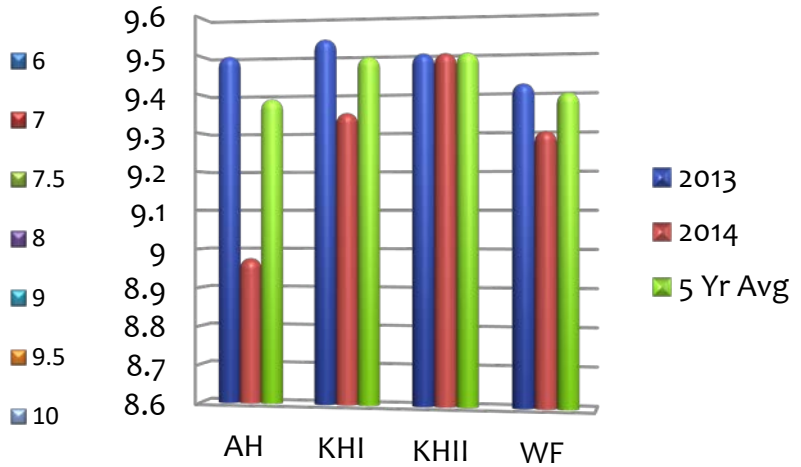


Satisfaction Survey Results and Other Analysis



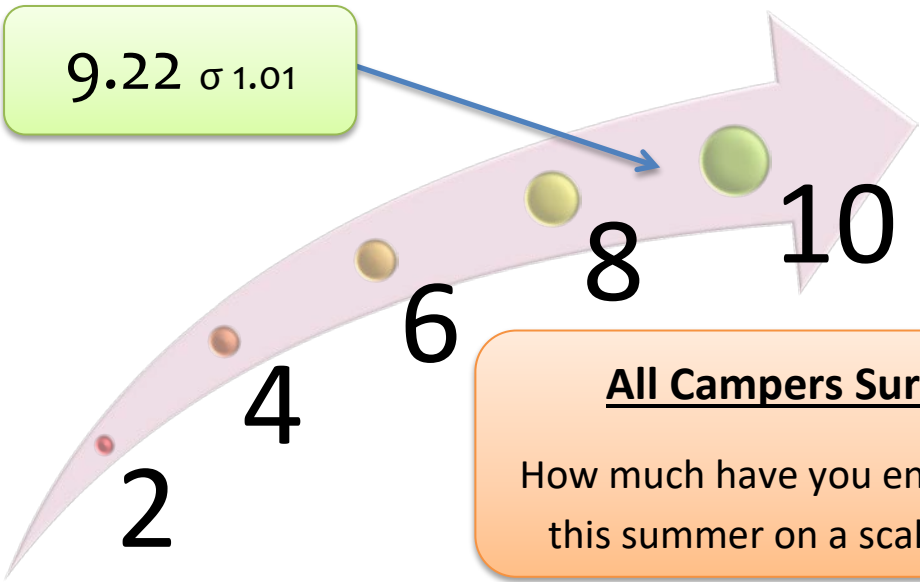
Mean: 9.27 σ .94

Session/Year Comparative



- Satisfaction rating of camp decreased 4% from 2013 (1.8% LOWER than 5 Year Average)
- Knighthood I was the highest rated – World Friendship had the highest effect on campers
- American Heritage had the lowest effect on campers and was the lowest rated session
- Girls rated slightly higher than boys in both change and status (.8% change, 1.8% status)
- Favorite Activities: Friends, Alchemy, Ropes, Pool
- 42% have suggestions for changes to the program
 - More activities / new programs (40% of comments)
- What did they NOT LIKE about camp?
 - #1: Nothing (21%)
 - #2: Food (14%)
 - #3: Schedule / Programming (10%)

What else should we know?
 “Keep camp the same” or “It’s perfect the way it is.” **14%**



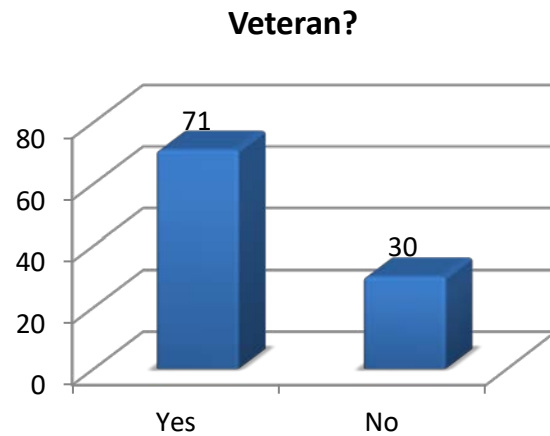
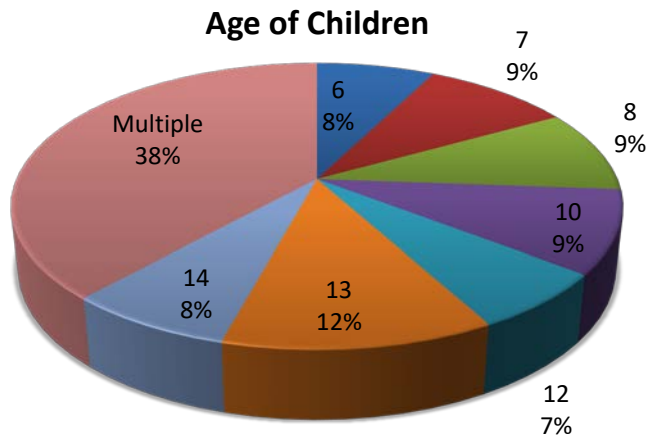
All Campers Surveyed
 How much have you enjoyed camp this summer on a scale of 1-10?

Parent Satisfaction Survey & Feedback

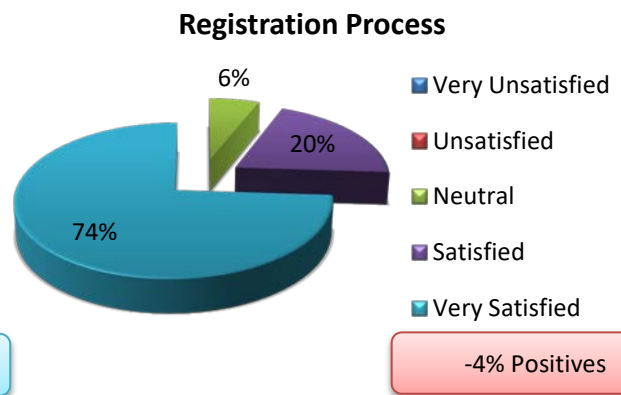
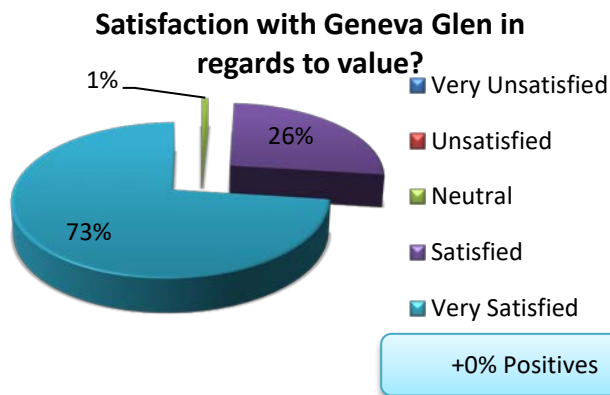
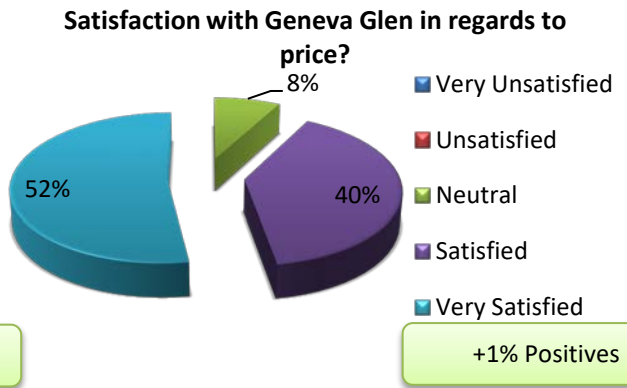
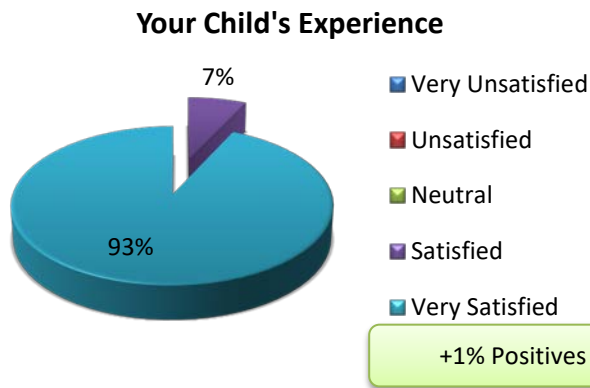
Overview

- Online form sent via Constant Contact after the end of each session
- Included both statistical and open comment questions
- 101 Parents responded (below average)

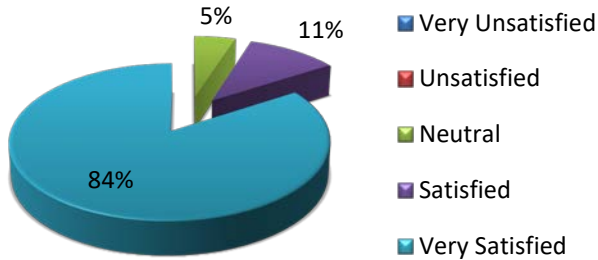
Demographic



Statistical Results

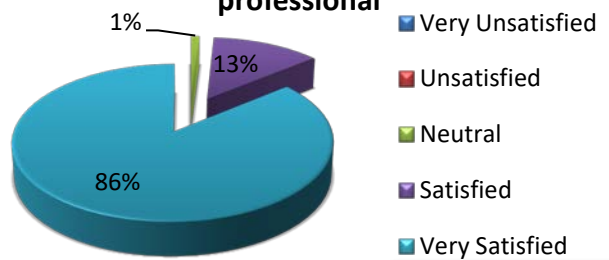


Check-in / Check-out



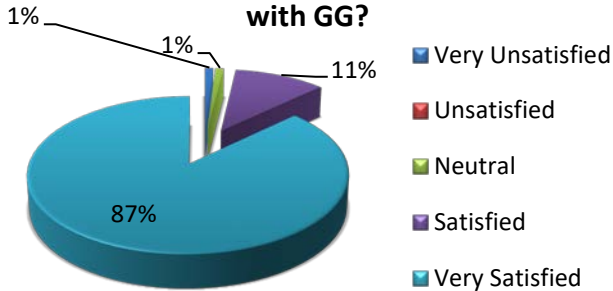
-1% Positives

Counselors were well-trained and professional



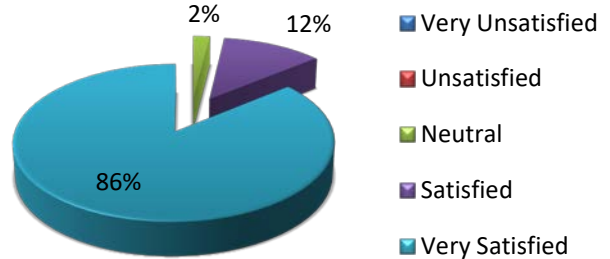
+0% Positives

Overall quality of your relationship with GG?



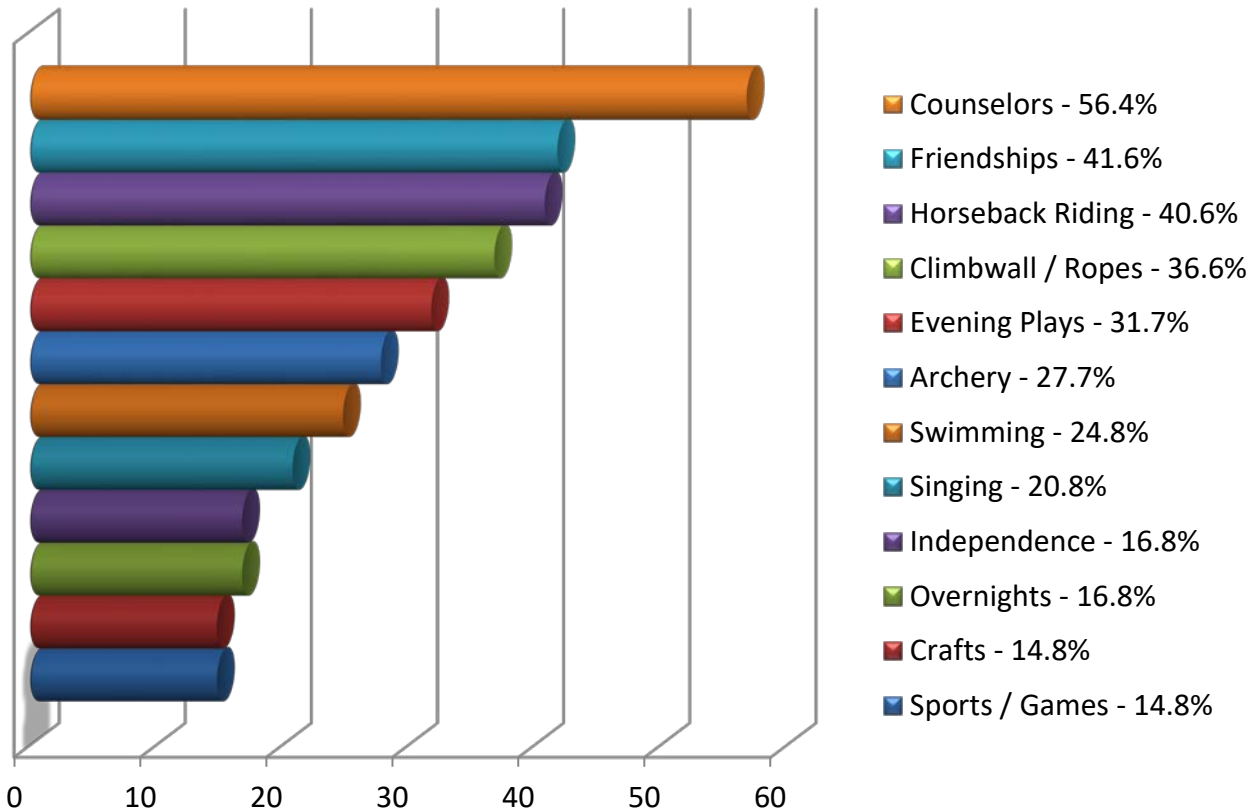
+0% Positives

Overall Satisfaction

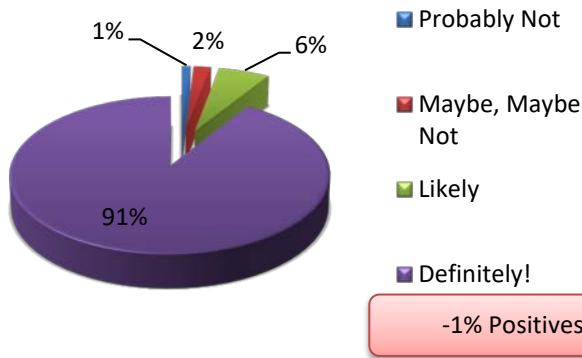


-1% Positives

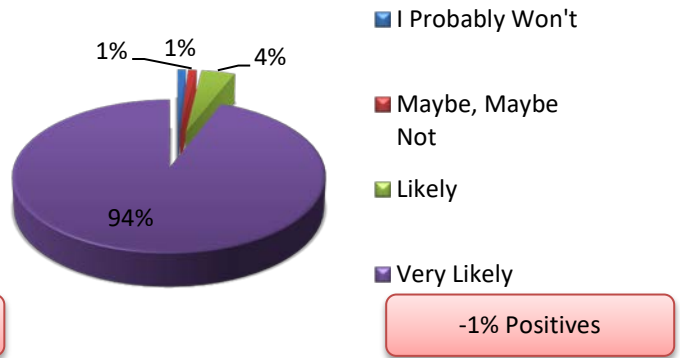
Counts of Favorites Things from camp this summer



Will you sign your child / children up for Geneva Glen next year?



How likely are you to recommend Geneva Glen to a friend or relative?



Parent Feedback

Trends and other notes

- Many compliments regarding food service
- Experience with counselors is immensely positive
- Price is not a complaint but a challenge
- Health Issues (including the Norovirus) was common complaint
- Generally they would change “nothing”
- Counselors, Friendships and Horseback Riding remain top 3 (3 Years)
- Significant increase in Ropes as favorite activity
- Significant Increase in Singing as favorite activity (Younger Campers!)

Feedback Wordles

As a parent, what do you value most about your child's camp experience?



What specifically are you satisfied with from the list above?

Caleb's counselors, Nick, Sterling and Casey, were just super fabulous. He enjoyed all 3 of them immensely. It really made his first year at camp a great success because he had so much fun and felt at ease away from home.

Refined the check-in and check-out experience. It's easy and fast. Thank you

Nick and Seth were fantastic counselors

Overall it was a great first camp experience for our child. He really enjoyed the experience of sleeping in a cabin, especially the top bunk, making new friends, staying up late, sleeping outside and all of the fun activities. He loved his counselors as well.

She always has such a great experience and never wants to leave. She has so much fun, and loves everything about Geneva Glen.

My kids had a blast. My daughter (her first year) loved it and wanted to stay. She felt her independence, enjoyed meeting new people and just had fun. My son (his 2nd yr) just really loved it as well.

My boys have always had a great experience at Geneva Glen. They love the activities and the counselors do a really good job with them.

I love that my son is beaming with excitement and wants to go back. I love that the traditions have continued and that he gets to explore so many fun activities. I love that he bonds with the counselors too.

Great communication

Great counselor to kid ratio, great variety of activities, friendly atmosphere, caring counselors, welcoming staff. Focus on play, imagination and nature is perfect.

My girls are twins, and just loved the independence from each other (and from mom/dad)! So great

My twins had an amazing time. They loved their counselors and all the activities. Especially the Dirty Derby!! Camp looks great and everyone we interacted with was friendly, helpful and welcoming.

Counselors seemed to have great training with being down at kids level, dealing with homesickness, making first camp experience a great one!

Well...this is my daughter's 8th summer at GG and I think it's fair to say she LOVES it! Thank you for all you do...

We thought the counselors were wonderful and our son enjoyed everything!

The counselors were outstanding, I appreciated the postcard.

I appreciate the staff and counselors attention to each child and the experience they provide.

The boys love the counselors every year and the relaxed pace, softball games, and rendezvous.

Our kids have loved GG. Hard to put a price tag on that (although it is getting pricier).

When my son left for camp it was a challenge to get him off his electronic devices. When he arrived home he wanted to do many other activities other than electronics. That is what we were hoping for!

"Everything was so well organized and efficiently run. We have been looking forward to sending our daughter to GG for years and we were not disappointed! She had a wonderful time and we were so pleased with our interactions with camp staff.

I also have to commend the staff in how they handled the situation with the gastrointestinal illness. The nurses were wonderful and I am so grateful my daughter was in good hands!"

I appreciate the respect, self esteem, good will, and good citizenship that is exhibited by staff and taught to the campers.

Thank you for such a fun experience for our child. She can't wait to return and wants to be a counselor too!

Our kids, Tess and Quentin Wallace, had a terrific time despite Quentin getting ill and having to be sent home 2 days early from camp. They love the variety of activities, the amazing staff you employ, and having 2 weeks to be among friends, cousins, and nature!

Our son loved it

My daughter had a fantastic time at camp even though she was a little hesitant about the idea of a sleep away camp. The postcard from her counselor was lovely and described our daughter to a T. You could tell that she had taken the time to get to know our daughter (who takes a while to warm up to people).

My child's experience this summer and everyone's willingness to help.

My child had a wonderful experience and great counselors.

"the counselors were fabulous young men and great role models (we had Asher as head of the cabin)

our son felt welcomed and that people were excited to see him and when he checked in his counselor from last year recognized him and came over to him - a huge boost!"

Our child's experience. She clearly had such a fun time wherein she built relationships. Our daughter was obviously bettered by GG!

Quality of experience!

Counselors ability to make my kids feel loved and included.

My kids love GG! We only had one disappointing report this year. see below.

GG is the very best. Tate and Jack Martell have more fun every year they attend. This year was no exception, and they continue to lament that their GG session for the year is over! Your counselors are also second to none. Thank you for allowing Tate to be picked up for the day for her charity speech. You're the best - ALL of you!

The change in the food service was AMAZING! It changed everything for my daughter. Both my girls had the time of their lives and cried when they had to come home. They had their "Ah Ha" moment that I was waiting for, the one that changed everything for me when I was on staff. GG is a magical place.

My son was in a safe place, gaining confidence, self insight, and skills to be a compassionate, productive member of society. And he had a blast, to boot!

The counselors in cabin #15 were fantastic.

my child absolutely loves Geneva Glen. It is his favorite thing about the year (not just about the summer) thank you!

LOVE GENEVA GLEN as an opportunity for growth and independence for my children as it was for me. My 3 daughters loved their counselors (with the exception of one - see below). My 14 year old, who was in Cabin 5, said these were her favorite counselors ever in 8 years of being at camp. My 9 year old loved Jordan in Ash Grove Cabin.

I am continually amazed at how happy my child is when she tells me about the Glen. It is definitely one of the highlights of her life. I believe it is a very well run camp where I feel my child not only is safe but grows in character every time she attends.

"Counselors and staff are all wonderful!

Kids love all the GG traditions .

They enjoyed the activities and the wonderful food."

The program is so wonderful! The boys come home with such self confidence and excitement! They absolutely loved their counselors and were so proud of their ranks achieved. This was our first time as "out of state" campers, and airport process was easy for the boys. Thanks!

Ella loved her counselors and said the girls in her cabin were very nice. She also liked the food better this year.

Always a wonderful experience for my daughter. So good for her to disconnect from electronics and social stresses and enjoy the environment at Geneva Glen.

Knighthood II is a fantastic session which both of my children have loved. The counselors supported my son very appropriately and gave him a degree of independence he valued.

The counselors! All three provided a nurturing environment that is lasting for our son. Great people make GG!

My kids had another amazing Summer and experience!

"The helpfulness of the staff on both check-in and check-out was the best I have experienced. There was a crew member (John or Jake?) that was especially helpful with the trunks at check-out.

Kids both raved about the new food service"

The counselors are amazing. We really appreciate how well connected they are to the kids.

Counselors well trained.

The counselors - very supportive and the camper/ counselor ratio is great.

Our daughter looks forward to coming to Geneva Glen all year long, and it always delivers what she is looking for! The Golden Heart counselors were very well picked to welcome veteran and new campers alike.

Our daughter had an amazing experience and was able to take away just the things we wanted her to - new friendships, memories, and growth.

Alex starts talking about next year's camp in September. Her experiences have always been great.

Sending a child alone from out of state was daunting but GG made it easy and were very dependable.

We love it all

My son continues to grow and develop with great motivation and support of the GG team. He looks forward to the next session at the conclusion of the current session. I know he is in good and safe hands.

Will had another fantastic experience. He's matured and grown, and wants to be there all summer in 2015

Knowing my son is going to have a blast for 2 weeks!

My son had such a great experience at GG. I am thrilled with the counselors and how everything was handled from start to finish.

The counselors were amazing and check-in/check-out was so easy.

We love everything about the camp, the only thing we wish was different is that we'd like the girls to get into Knighthood - we've been trying for 3 years!

I love the fact that the girls connect so deeply with the counselors, and that these counselors are such diverse, interesting, independent and caring people.

Riley had a bit of difficulty transitioning to camp. The staff went so far above and beyond helping her get acclimated. They turned a difficult experience into one of the most rewarding times of her life.

The counselors are amazing! They are such wonderful role models. You do a great job of recruiting excellent young people.

That the camp encourages individuality.

Great counselors and memories to last a lifetime.

"My daughter Hannah was very happy with the food this year. She has special dietary needs and the cooks were wonderful to her.

They always made sure she had something to eat that she liked.

Thank you so much."

My child had a fabulous time! He loved everything about Geneva Glen and his experience.

Such an amazing experience for Children to truly 'check out' and be at camp without electronics and enjoy being outdoors! Counselors are amazing!!

What specifically are you dissatisfied with from the list above?

Only 2 things---Caleb was disappointed that he didn't get to shoot the BB gun even once. Also, there camp night out was cold and wet but he understood that is just the way it goes sometimes! Those two items were very minor in light of the other fun times...even the Dirty Dirby he didn't think he would like!! He is also hoping next year to be able to trail ride the horses rather than just around the stable.

Our son was truly heartbroken that he didn't get a chance to shoot a BB gun during his week at camp. He said they had to answer trivia questions about Harry Potter in order to be allowed to do this activity and he and one other boy from his cabin couldn't answer the questions so they weren't allowed to participate. I thought he would get over it after a few days, but he is still talking about it every day. It was the thing he was most excited to do at camp after hearing about it during the pancake breakfast. We understand disappointments happen, but this was really unexpected for us.

Nothing, really. I wish it were a little more affordable for us, but the financial assistance helps a lot and we appreciate it.

"My older son needs to be in the 2 week program but at age 9 that seems like a long time away. Also, I like having both of my boys at camp at the same time which we can no longer do.

I know having friends at camp is comforting for my kids (esp the one that attended this year). I hope that in the future he will meet new kids and will be a little more challenged socially. "

nada

It's hard to know what kind of experience my child had. She seems to have enjoyed it, but also isn't one to complain and seemed disconnected from the other children when we picked her up. Some more post-camp, child-specific information from the counselors would be great, especially for timid first-timer kids and parents. The goodbye was very brief and I was surprised When picking up my daughter, the first thing the counselors said was that she had been homesick several times and got sick during the week. I didn't get the sense that she had formed friendships. I guess I was expecting her to be getting hugs and goodbyes, so this took me a bit off guard, though I did appreciate them informing me. It was a little disconcerting not to have any more information other than a quick mention of her homesickness and illness. Would a short nurse write-up and/or head counselor write-up be possible? We aren't sure what to think for next summer.

My only complaint is that my son was told not to wear a shirt for the dirty derby on the last day, and he got a severe sunburn that is still peeling one week later. PLEASE tell your counselor that fair skinned children at altitude must have sun protection outside!!

It would be great to get a bit of break when sending two or more kids!

n/a

My children (Laurel and Campbell Supplee) were assigned to cabins 14 and 15. At registration I was given 2 counselor profile sheets for cabin 15 and none for cabin 14. I realized this when I got home after dropping off and sent an e-mail to ggcamp@genevaglen.org on 6/22 asking for the cabin 14 information but never received a response. Would appreciate it is this could still be sent to me at renee.supplee@bakerhughes.com.

A small issue I had was hearing that my child was driven off site for a hiking trip. I was unaware that the children would ever be taken offsite. The trip sounded fun and I am confident it was a great experience.

The only suggestion I would make is to have received more direct communication from Nancy/Ken regarding the sickness going around camp and procedures needing to be followed. The letter you sent after camp was very comprehensive but came after the fact. Maybe that was because you didn't have much info or capacity to disseminate info prior to the end of that session, but I would've liked more info. conveyed as my child was being sent home (to his grandparents- as we are out of state).

Our son came home a little burnt. Would like more reminder/supervision applying sunscreen.

None

Nothing

I wonder if the Noro Virus could have been prevented in the number of kids affected if there had been more hygiene practiced. I was told the kids were only able to shower one time the whole trip due to concerns about water shortages. That does not appear to be safe practice. My child did not apply any sunscreen the whole two weeks. It is unclear to me whether the kids were told to apply sunscreen and she did not listen or if it was not encouraged.

"We love Geneva Glen and we appreciate all of the efforts you make to make this experience happy and memorable - your staff are wonderful, happy people and we picked up a very happy (and dirty) child!

the only concern was the inability to go on the zipline because it rained that day and I would hope they could have worked out a way to still do this on another day but they didn't"

I am a divorced parent, which I specifically included on my blue camper information sheet. However, the postcard that was sent to me was addressed to "Mr. & Mrs." It made me feel like the counselor knew nothing about my child and discredited the rest of the postcard.

The only things wrong with GG are that it is a little expensive, and sometimes people (my kids included, even though they have been going there for several summers) occasionally have been wait listed for certain sessions because they are so popular. I'm not sure if you can do anything about those two issues, but I thought I would at least let you know those are our complaints.

The one thing that my kids told me about this year that was a little unsettling to me was that my 9 year old daughter was not feeling well. She told the counselors, and due to multiple girls "not feeling well" they questioned its legitimacy. My daughter then saw my son in the meadow and asked him what to do, since she was really not feeling well. My son, directed her to tell other counselors, but my daughter- not wanting to stir up any trouble decided not to. She then proceed to vomit a bit later. I think being away from home and not feeling well is a tough thing to deal with at the age of 9. It was unfortunate that the legitimacy of her illness was questioned and then she was afraid to go to anyone else. :(

Not a thing.

Not dissatisfied at all, but the cost is tough for us. Our girls want to come back next summer for a month and that is going to be tough to do.

Really can't think of anything at all.

One of my 9 year old's counselors seemed to have shown favoritism toward one of the girls in her cabin and it really bothered my daughter. This counselor, Olivia, was not engaging with me or my husband at drop off or pick up, but acted removed and childish.

Disappointed at the amount of petty wafering that went on. Lots of "middle school/mean girl" talk in cabins.

My 13 years old said there were quite a few days where they ran out of food at meals and had to have different options for meals. That was frustrating to her especially not having enough at the feast. She loves that meal and was bummed. The food they did really enjoy and the gluten free options was awesome!!! Just needed more food.

Check-in procedure could be streamlined. How about a staggered start time? The lines were very long.

Nothing!

The way the trips are determined for the seniors, lottery system. Seems that our child has not gotten to go anywhere in a few years. This is most distressing as it seems that every senior should have at least an opportunity to attend one off camp trips. This needs to be fixed. Does feel biased.

I would still like to see them come home less exhausted- not just from the last evening but the late evenings (bedtime at home is 9:30) always leave them rundown. I can't imagine sending them for more than 2 weeks- I fear they would be too sick to enjoy the 2nd session.

none

The check-in process is lengthy, especially if you have to drop off meds. Our daughter only needs to take one inhaler and others were dropping off bags of medications. The computerized check-in for meds was very efficient, however.

Nothing

Unfortunately my daughter was unable to do her favorite thing - Oh Mama, as her cabin was only scheduled there one time and they did not have enough time to get all campers through. Perhaps a 2nd time slot or allowing those that don't get to go another chance? This was very disappointing to her, as it was one of the only things she talked about doing again from last year.

n/a

"My child came home with a severe cold that had developed into pneumonia. I was told that she had been sick nearly the entire time at camp, after having been rained on during the outdoor overnight. I was dissappointed that she did not have better medical care while she was there. I trusted that the medical staff would have cared for her far better than they did.

My child is somewhat shy, so she was not able to do half of the activities that she wanted because they were always full. This was her first year being a senior and her first time being able to choose her own activities. I wish that the counselors would have helped her through this process better so that she was able to participate in the activities she wanted to try.

I can't think of a thing.

NOTHING!

Really nothing.

My girls generally enjoy their time at camp although I sense that a lot goes on with boy / girl relationships that I would like the camp and counselors to discourage. For example, when two counselors are in a relationship, the campers should not know about it.

My daughter came home with a fever of 102, not sure that her needs were met medically.

nothing

My son came home sick and has really struggled to get healthy. I asked for a tax ID number for my records and have yet to receive it.

NOTHING!

Do have any comments or suggestions on the camp activities?

More time on BB guns so all kids have a chance to participate

Please set expectations up front that not every camper will get to participate in every camp activity. I think if our son had known that he might not be able to shoot the BB gun or that there would be trivia questions involved he wouldn't be so disappointed today.

not at this time

Activities are great!

The boys love the overnight camping and want more.

No

None- they are all terrific!

Let seniors help with barn chores if they wish.

we love what you do because it isn't complicated and it is wholesome

Upgrade and/or fix broken equipment such as basketballs, arrows, rifle. Lacrosse equipment would be great, too!

No

Bring more prominence to singing at the Glen.

My son loved being a senior camper this year.

Better food at camp outs.

Our daughter totally loved the pulling of the sword and other KH2-specific activities. It is these types of things that makes GG unique.

None

See above.

Everything is awesome!

n/a

Ensure that they less dominant kids are given a chance to try the popular activities, instead of being told they were always "full."

Seems like the kids do lots of things to get points. Some of them are funny, some seem a bit rough on the kids (i.e. they vomit afterwards). I hate to see the kids learn about fraternity pranks so early in life. I would love to see actual sports or other skills to earn campers points.

I think its great that you have so many activities to choose from. He never got "bored" and was able to try new things that he otherwise wouldn't have.

You've got this dialed in. Keep doing what you're doing!

Repeat popular clinics

NONE

Tennis court?

Were the counselors good role models for your child/children?

Absolutely! I thought my son's counselors in Dorm G were very mature, responsible, and kind.

Absolutely amazing young men; they really enjoyed their job as counselors and it showed

Yes!!!!

The counselors were terrific. He felt well cared-for.

Wonderful --- we are extremely happy and excited to come back next year.

Yes, he won't stop talking about Ben B

He really like all of his counselors in Dorm F.

Yes, they were wonderful.

Seemed to be.

Yes, very

as far as I know :)

Yes!

Seemed to be fantastic role models, but without much information about how the week went, it's hard to say. I get the sense the counselors were caring, fun, energetic and dedicated, but also that my daughter could have used some more support connecting with the other children.

YES!

Absolutely. They were very caring and responsible. My daughters loved their counselors.

Absolutely!

From what I can tell, yes.

yes - and wrote us a lovely letter

Yes

Yes!

Yes, definitely as always.

Terrific.

Yes, my daughter stated that one of her counselors was not as good as the other two though.

YES!

Yes (at least according to our son the counselor)

Yes, Eric really enjoyed his counselors.

Yes--I can't say enough about this. The counselors were wonderful and my daughter told me that all of the girls in their cabin got along well--I attribute that to the counselors!

Yes.

Excellent.

they were fantastic, really watched out for the first time campers.

Excellent! They are top notch and my kids loved their counselors this year!

Yes

Yes very

Definitely

fabulous!

yes, from everything we hear they are excellent role models. and it's so important...she worships them!

Yes, they were awesome!

Absolutely!

YES!

yes

Absolutely great models to both of my kids.

The best. My girls LOVED their counselors this year.

Yes indeed.

Quinn came home more helpful and proactive.Thank you.

Defiantly.

Excellent - they were very kind, mature and he loved them!

Troy was my son's favorite counselor.

Yes, overall

Yes, definitely

Yes

The counselors were great role models! The boys have funny stories of their counselors, but they really take to heart the comments from induction.

Yes

Yes. My son has had counselors several years running who clearly foster good pro-social behavior.

Absolutely....hats off to the counselors or Dorm G...Danny, Nick and Adam....all awesome!

Absolutely

"One of my son's counselors, Danny, would talk with the boys in his dorm about how he was a ladies man and how many girlfriends he has. Seemed inappropriate to my son.

All of the other counselors both kids had were great role models and great friends."

Excellent!

Mckenzie, Asher

Yes.

Yes. She still talks about counselors from last year...

Absolutely!

Very much!

Yes.

Yes so loving and nurturing

Absolutely

absolutely.

Without a doubt!

Overall yes.

yes

Excellent job! My son came home a much "nicer" kid.

Definitely!

Absolutely...our girls want to be counselors someday and we hope they will.

yes, yes, yes!!!

Immensely. The counselors were excellent at bonding with the girls as well as keeping a great level of respect.

They were amazing! They taught my children so much--honesty, hard work, respect, responsibility.

"Yes. Skyler is thrilled with his experiences at GG. He was

extremely excited when he found out who his counselors

were going to be this year. "

See comment above

Yes!

Yes

Yes!

Definitely

YES!

Yes

As a parent, did you receive adequate information before camp started? Any comments on the registration process?

yes

Yes. The veteran status is tough, although I understand that helps form a community feel at Geneva Glen. However, it is very difficult to get into Geneva Glen! My son is lucky, but my daughter hasn't been able to go these past 2 years.

Yes!!

Yes.

Would have liked an email a day or 2 before pick up reminding me of the pick up time as the Myths and Magic pick up time is different from the other sessions listed on the web site.

Yes a ton thank you!

Yes - all smooth - thank you

The information was great.

Yes. Nothing more to add.

YES

Yes. The website has gotten better

yes! very organized

yes

yes, all good. :)

yes

Yes.

Yes!

yes

Yes

Yes

Great to have the on-line option. It would be great to not have to re-do everything every year. :-)

"Yes

No"

Great info!

All good

Yes, I had adequate information.

Yes--very informative and I loved the orientation breakfast for new campers.

Excellent!

Very well organized.

yes

Yes- enough info was provided!

The only extra information that I wished we received was a more detailed packing list. The person who gave us a tour of the camp helped a great deal in filling in some of the gaps. Since I have never been to a camp, I really had no idea what and how much to pack. One tip we received was to pack a more padded sleeping bag since they would most likely be sleeping on the ground during their overnight and the extra cushioning would help.

The registration process was simple and easy I loved it.

Yes

very smooth except the form that has to be specifically signed by the doctor - cumbersome

We received everything we needed.

Yes, we liked getting the email the week before KH I began, explaining the registration process.

yes

yes, great information.

Yes, I did.

yes

Perfect.

Yes

Yes.

Yes

Registration process is perfect.

Yes.

Yes, love the online health form process this year. Any way to put registration process online?

I tried very hard to have my daughter attend the same session as my son. We communicated this wish to your staff many times. Despite being #1 on the wait list, she was unable to attend the same session. The staff member attributed the refusal to the fact that her registration arrived "late," when it had been sent only a day

after my son's. Having sent my daughter to Geneva Glen for seven years and my son for five, I was surprised and disappointed that nobody at the camp seemed remotely interested in the difficulties this posed for my family. Nor did anyone express any regret at being unable to accommodate us, either by e-mail, phone, or in person when we dropped our children off. I am frustrated with your impersonal approach and am considering not sending my daughter to camp at Geneva Glen next year.

Yes. Clear, timely communication. Thank you!

Yes

Good amount of info. Our registrations went well.

Yes

yes

Yes - enough information.

Yes. Registration process was great.

Yes

Very smooth...

Yes love the emails before about check in

Yes. Registration process is efficient.

I would like to have a better understanding of the levels: middler, senior, etc....

all good

Yes

I felt like I had enough information prior to camp to feel comfortable. Registration was very straight forward and the communication was great.

Yes - perhaps a more detailed camping list with suggestions for quantities.

Yes

Plenty of information.

Yes

Yes

yes. You are very clear.

I think its about time you guys revamped the packing list.

An email with the link to what kids need to bring to camp would be helpful

yes

YEs

Yes.

Yes!

Yes - and I loved the postcards from counselor!

As a parent, what do you value most about your child's camp experience?

independence

The overall experience and the confidence and independence gained.

Time away from home, independence and new friendships. Caleb really had a blast!

Learning independence, learning to enjoy and value nature, building friendships, being put into circumstances that are different from those at home, communicating needs/wants to those around her, being adventurous

learning how to be a nice individual that is respectful to others.

The opportunity to have outdoor adventures, to gain a little bit of independence and to build friendships.

Gaining self confidence and independence.

It was not only nice for my child at camp, but a real gift to have time with the kids that weren't at camp. Its a benefit I wasn't expecting

Leadership, friendships, games, fun, independence, confidence

Giving them the chance to try out some independence and learn responsibility.

The pure joy she shows whenever she talks about it. That's what it's all about.

That they had fun and want to go back

fun time away from him doing camp stuff. No video games.

his ability to be independent, to develop new relationships and to experience new activities

the ability to be away from home, gain independence, and be in a safe and fun environment

building confidence, trying new things independently.

everything! That they are safe and having a fabulous experience.

The experiences that they get to have -they are city kids. Also the independence they get to learn and experience while making life long friends and memories.

Being a part of the GG family & magic.

The overall experience of being in nature and the friendships that are formed.

fun and independence

I value the independence fostered by the experience.

GG offers such a great environment for the children to explore themselves and truly become independent.

2 weeks of screen-free fun, relationships with counselors and other campers.

Leadership

He is so happy at GG and has made many long lasting friendships with other kids and counselors.

The friendships they make

"The opportunity to become more independent and broaden his experiences. "

Learning to make new friends, develop relationships, learn responsibility and broadening her horizons.

He is safe, having fun, being active, while learning how to be a good citizen and maturing, becoming a leader.

Safe environment with leaders modeling attitudes that are wholesome, trustworthy, and fun-loving.

experience of new friends, socializing and being away from home for the first time.

I love the opportunity they have to be among their peers, have some structure but also lots of independence, to be in nature without the distraction of technology.

The opportunity to meet other people. Since she's starting middle school this year, she has to get used to meeting a whole new group of peers, teachers, etc. This camp gave her the confidence that it's doable.

I value that she gained experience, independence, and had a great time.

Independence

the self confidence he gained and the expectation of being independent

Her joy and growth due to the experience!

That she was so enthused about it and happy about her whole time. That lots of creativity and imagination were used by campers and counselors the whole time. That the counselors understood and loved our daughter for who she was. That she got to challenge herself and work through the fear and do it!

The ability for my son to be himself and grow and learn about himself.

They come back better people ... great personal growth. Amazing, counselors!

they gained maturity, independence, and are getting over their fears (e.g., getting put into a cabin where they did not know anyone, and coming out with several best friends)

I love that they are without electronics. They can focus on relationships, nature and learning about themselves.

Their ability to bond with counselors and other kids, and think for themselves and build confidence without their parents for these two weeks.

Having a place to be where they can express themselves and be accepted. My girls are both so different from each other and sometimes my younger one gets compared to the older one and they are two completely different, individual people. Camp lets them be individuals.

Gaining independence and trying new things.

Being able to have my child experience things outside of Wisconsin.

Meeting new kids and learning some independence.

independence. confidence. values.

Making new friends and independence

Her opportunities to grow and develop a strong body, mind and character.

That they are safe, having a blast, learning to be independent, building lasting friendships, enjoying the outdoors, and gaining confidence in who they are. I love that GG makes them feel accepted and loved for who they are.

I love how positive the atmosphere is. Campers are expected and guided to become better people, but are accepted and celebrated for their individuality. My kids wait all year to come name to camp.

Learning life skills, getting confidence and believing in herself.

The disconnect from the fast pace world of electronics and teenage stresses.

I like him to learn independence. I think it's important that he have the opportunity to make decisions about behavior and group dynamics when I'm not around. This practice is important at his age so that when the stakes are higher he is in the habit of making good choices, even when they may be tough ones.

Independence, belonging, self worth, empowerment, fun!

That they get to get away from their everyday and immerse themselves in nature and new experiences.

Growth in independence, confidence, self-esteem. Love of GG. Great friendships

independence, personal growth

Yes - it is good for his confidence.

The people and the culture. My wife and I both went to camp at GG, and it is wonderful to hear that our daughter's experience mirrors both of ours. The consistency of the experience is truly amazing.

The independence gained and the new friendships made.

Geneva Glen is her personal experience. Creating an independent child is essential to their success in life. Geneva Glen helps us achieve that.

Independence, responsibility, making new friends.

It helps children learn to be their true selves.

Growth in a sense of independence, responsibility, and development of life-long friendships.

Great summer memories & being a responsible for themselves.

FUN! First and foremost it should be FUN! Each child within their level should be given equal opportunity.

independence. time away from the city, and electronics

My sons experience and counselor interactions

I can't tell you enough how happy we are that we found Geneva Glen! My son came back excited, talkative and ready for next year. This doesn't often happen with a "cool" almost 13 yr old. :)

Everything - independence, getting away from electronics, imaginative playing, outdoors.

How much confidence and independence they gain while they are there.

Trying new things, time away from everything familiar, new friends.

They are allowed to be kids and have fun for two weeks, but they are taught wonderful values. We're big fans of your program.

"Skyler says that camp helps him to be a better person.

You can't ask for more than that!"

personal growth

They come home happy

The friendship and the outdoor activities.

The one letter I got!

The independence and empowerment they feel going off to camp and having such a wonderful experience!

The independence

If you could change anything about camp, what would you change?

it would be great if he could go for a week next year. two weeks is awfully long and expensive

Cleaner bathrooms would be terrific according to my son

Would love to see a few picture of campers during the week to let us know everyone is happy and healthy.

Nothing - love it!

Can't think of anything!

I think it would be great if the counselors know the goals of each camper when they arrive so they are sure they get to participate in the activities that are most important to them.

nothing comes to mind now

The schedule. More options in August.

nothing at this time

More support for kids who are naturally more timid and anxious to make friends while at camp. Give parents information about how the week went so that we know if it was a good experience. Maybe just a page of info with a checklist? Or a survey that the kids fill out with the counselors to tell their parents about the week? The little information counselors did give us was concerning (they really didn't say anything positive), but our daughter says she had fun, so we're not sure what to think.

nothing

N/A

Let parents come too! ;)

Make it cost less?? (kidding)

nothing

Nothing

Nothing

None

In Eric's dorm one boy was getting bullied, it would be good to have more counselor involvement.

Showers--my daughter had no complaints about not showering but I wouldn't have minded her having a shower or two!

More challenges.

Wouldn't change anything!

None

That children could help with barn chores or be wranglers before the age of 19.

"the younger children were given contact information of their fellow campers - at 6 and 7 they can't really exchange contact info but do ask about trying to connect again with some of the campers, which we would like to be able to do (like a voluntary family directory - which is what a camp we go to in August does)

And, I would hope GG continues to work on increasing the ethnic diversity of the campers"

Make it so parents can be campers too!

Not to sound like a stalker or over-involved parent, BUT some summer camps have a live internet cam where parents can log in and see what's going on there. Maybe putting one at the top of the lodge, overlooking the meadow--probably set up so individual kids cannot be identified, for obvious security reasons--but at least us parents can see things like kids playing, weather, etc.

see comments above.

Really cannot think of anything....perhaps that my kids would have access to the healthiest of food choices.

Do WILD trips more often.

Sounds like the girls bathroom could've used a little more attention. Yuk!

Nothing.

If you could insert a lake. :)

We would definitely change the amount of petty gossip and mean girl stuff - however, if you find the answer to that then we could all change the world!

Cleanliness? seemed to be a lot of sickness the past couple years in the girls cabins, but I know this isn't easy when you have so many kids in an area.

See above.

???

My kids would say.....it should last longer.

Food was finally updated and made more available and tasty for those with special diets.

More special opportunities for Middler age campers

expand age limit to adult!

Access to water - like a river or a lake - or at least a trip to one.

Cost ;)

I worry about the food and my son's allergies keeping him from eating decently. He does okay, I know, but worry that he goes hungry because he doesn't want to stand out...

"From what I have heard, the ""Vespers"" game got completely out of control to the point that my child was worried for their safety.

Also, the medical staff should be trained to deal with illness so it doesn't get worse - like colds that turn into pneumonia."

"I would require at least one letter from each camper each rest period.

They should probably be required to shower and change clothes. My son wore the same clothes for 7 days straight."

Maybe request pictures posted somewhere - my son came home with none

I wish I could send him for the whole summer. Its cost prohibitive though.

Seeing some pictures while they are there would be nice.

We wish you would post photos mid-session so we could see them!

NOTHING!

Not a thing.

That adults could come too!

It would have a lake.

Lugging the luggage up and down the hill

He would not have come home sick!

NOTHING!

Nothing!

Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

Thank you!!!!!!

My kiddo had medication that he was prescribed under his legal first name. On his registration, I provided both his legal first name and his nickname. We also discussed real name/nickname at sign-in. His counselors were confused by the name issue and did not give him his medication for 3 out of 4 nights. Thankfully, he had a back up plan & did not have any problems. I can imagine that a medication mixup might cause significant problems for another child. I don't need to be contacted. I just thought you should know.

Myths is a screaming deal. We would pay more for it, it's such a great value.

Both of our children are looking forward to returning!

THANK YOU

Thank you for a great experience for my kids. It has been positive for four years now.

thank you!

Really appreciated the "what to ask your camper about" list at pick-up. Love the traditions and creativity! Love all the staff. Just would like more information about how the week really went for my child, what kind of illness my child had/why did she visit the clinic, how to connect with other families after camp, etc.

Thank you again

Thank you for all the phone calls when the boys were sick. It was great to have direct access to the people that were caring for them and I think speaks volumes that they didn't want to come home.

It would be nice if the wranglers had a clue about riding, they were making my daughter ride opposite of how she has been taught.

"Eric mentioned he would have liked to have done more activities with his sister cabin.

I was a bit anxious when Eric arrived at DIA. He sat there for almost an hour waiting to be picked up. He was not required to be accompanied, but he just turned 12 and I really did not want him going to luggage alone. Eric did call his contact and was told he was on his way. I talked to him on the phone until he got picked up. His contact did touch base with him a second time, but the wait was long. Probably longer for me:)"

We hope Geneva Glen is involved in our summers for a long, long time!

I was concerned that my son would be influenced by some of the other boys in the dorm who he knew from school. The safe environment that GG provides helped him to be true to himself. I was so proud that my son had the confidence in himself to be an individual and not "go along with the crowd." He was awarded his rank, but the others weren't due to behavior. I think this will be a good lesson to draw from in the future when peer pressure becomes an issue.

Love you guys! Thanks for another great summer, and expect my kids for 2 sessions next year!

Keep the food service or something comparable. It made all the difference for my daughter and her allergies. It is so hard for kids with allergies because they already stick out and to be able to know that they are eating healthy and feeling good is so important to her and as a parent.

Thank you for continuing this tradition for my children! You all are awesome!

"Colleen will always return to the Glen - when camper days are over she will be a counselor!

Colleen and Deborah Dawson 303-697-4576"

Thank you for making camp so wonderful for our children. GG is a special magical place for them and a highlight of their year. Ken and Nancy are such talented directors!

Thank you for proving such a wonderful, positive, and fun place for our children to grow!

Ella came home with a cough that she said most girls got. I took her to the doctor because she has been VERY tired since returning from camp and threw up 4 days after returning. Her cousin threw up two days after returning. She said other girls were sick in her cabin so that was a bummer. She also mentioned a "fight" or game that was played btwn counselors and that they hit each other with sticks etc. She said one male counselor was injured. I am not sure this "game" sounds appropriate?

My children have had many wonderful years at Geneva Glen, but the one time I asked you to accommodate us, you've treated us very badly and blamed us for responding too slowly (one day "late"!) to registration.

I love ya'll

Fix how seniors get to choose outings so each has at least one experience per session. This has become a real issue to us as parents more than our camper. The costs for these types of extra activities don't seem worth it or fair if our child does not get to go. My concern is her condition maybe a factor in going on these outings, after two years of no outings it seems that something is not right.

Thank you for everything that you guys do.

Thank you for another great summer at GG!

Alex's only negative comment was on the quality of the food this year. She has always raved in past years about the food, which I was always amazed at considering the number of mouths to feed! This year she said the food lacked flavor and breakfast was pretty limited.

Not sure what happened but my daughter's food from the care package we sent disappeared, and apparently this happened to other children. It was hard to hear as she was sad about it, but I'm wondering if there was any word as to where it went to?

We love camp!

Overall -- If you changed nothing it would be fine! He hopes to go onto becoming a counselor some day -- that says so much about his experience there!

Thank you so much for having gluten free options for my son. It was so much easier for him this summer!

I left a package for my son - called to make sure it would be delivered - it didn't get delivered - it was picked up but never delivered to my son. So on pick up day, thank goodness, I was able to get it tracked down and give to him.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! See you next summer. . .

Without a doubt, Geneva Glen is a life changer for these kids. My two older children say it is their happiest place on earth. The safe, supportive, family atmosphere at GG is priceless.

Wait lists for certain sessions are tough and may lead to us having to find another camp (though we really don't want to) - my kids have been to myths and magic 1x and now world friendship 2x. Really want to do knighthood and I'm worried we won't get in next summer and they won't want to repeat WF (we can't do American Heritage dates ever). Fingers crossed we make it in.

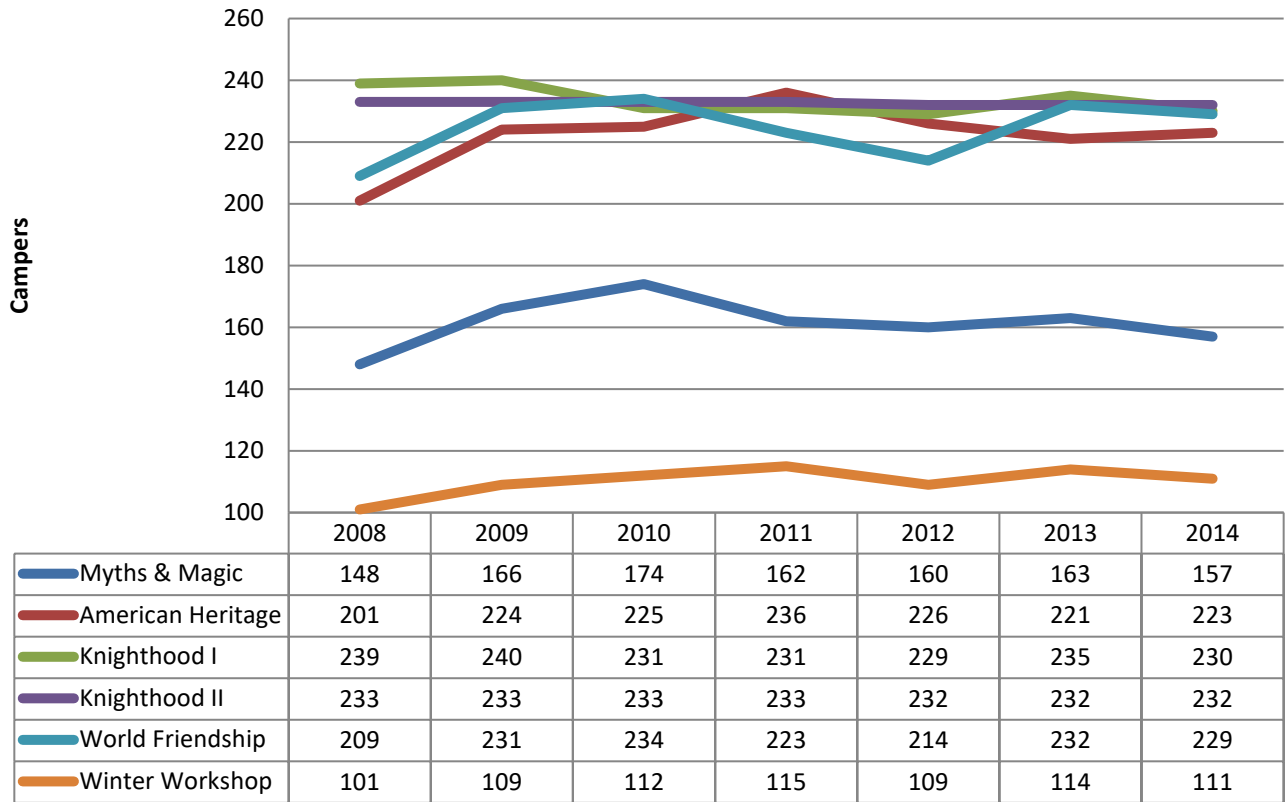
Thank you! I am very grateful. So is Sky.

I'd love to get the tax ID number for my records.

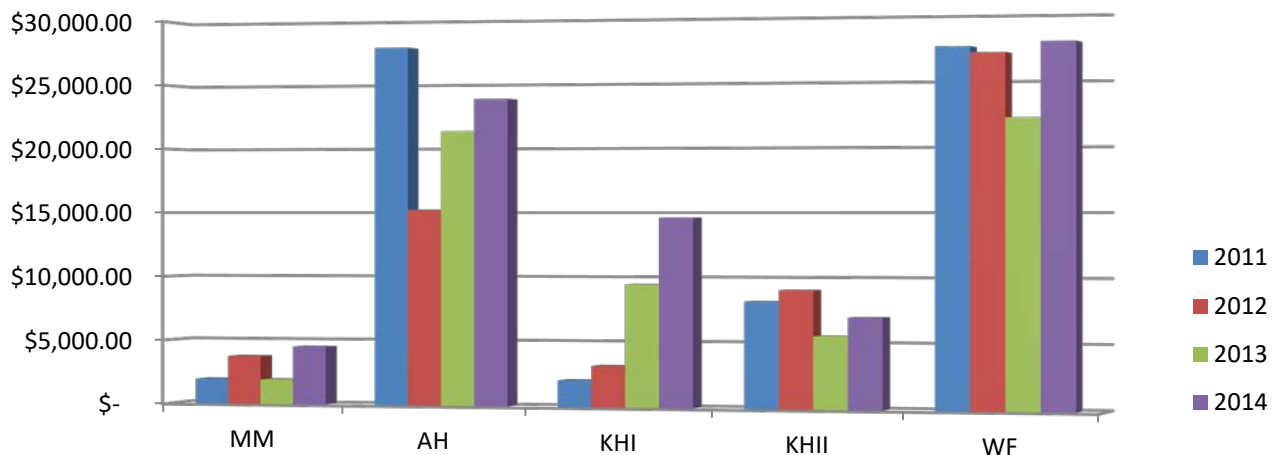
We just feel so fortunate that our children can experience this amazing summer place and that it is a highlight for both of them!

Registration Statistics

Session Counts

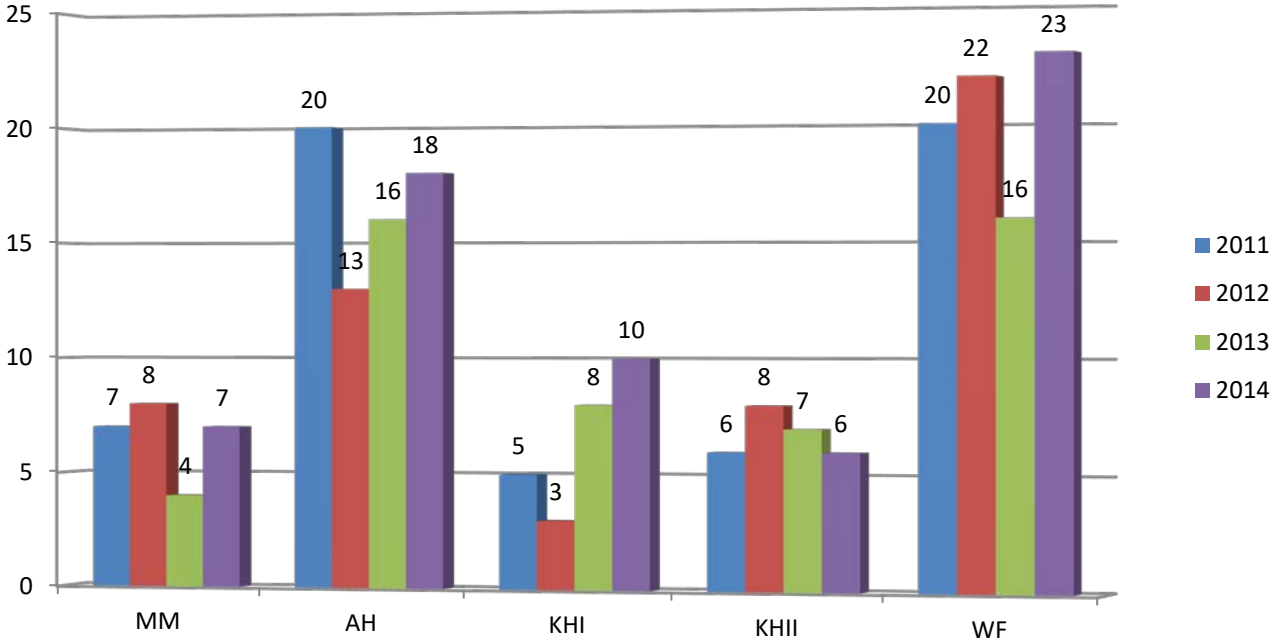


Campership & Tuition Assistance Dollars by Session



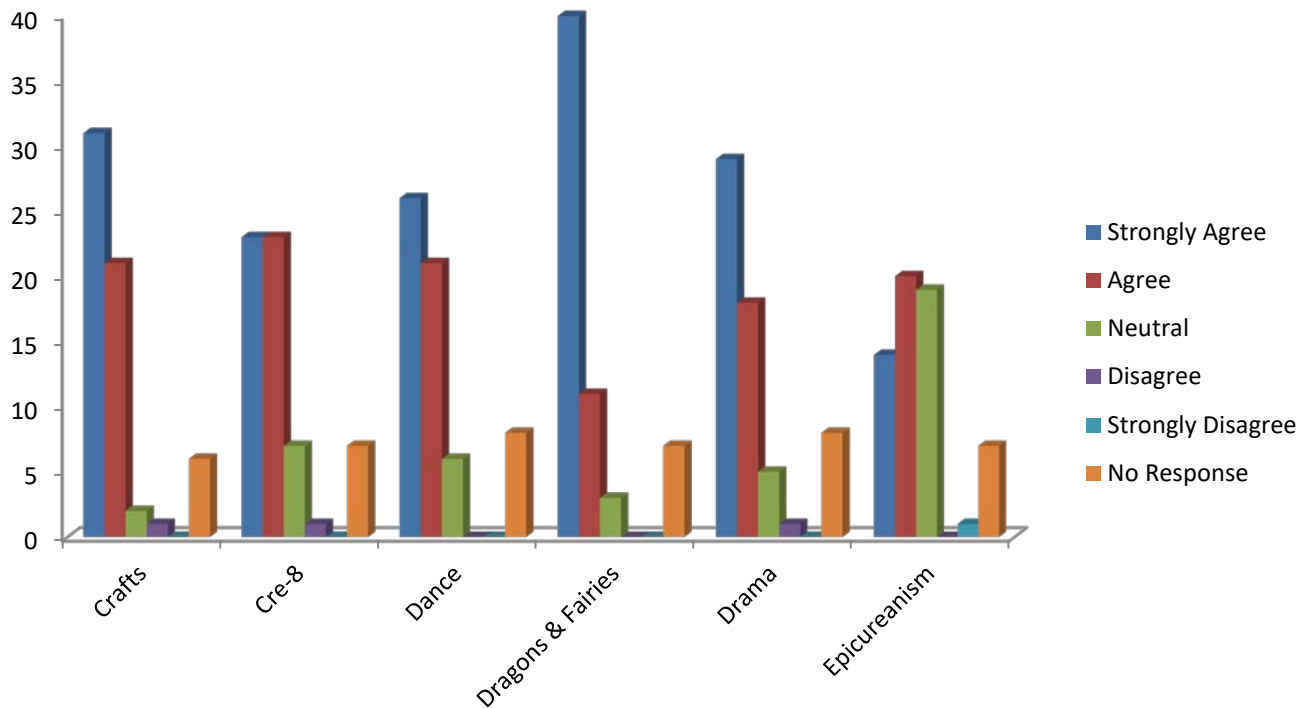
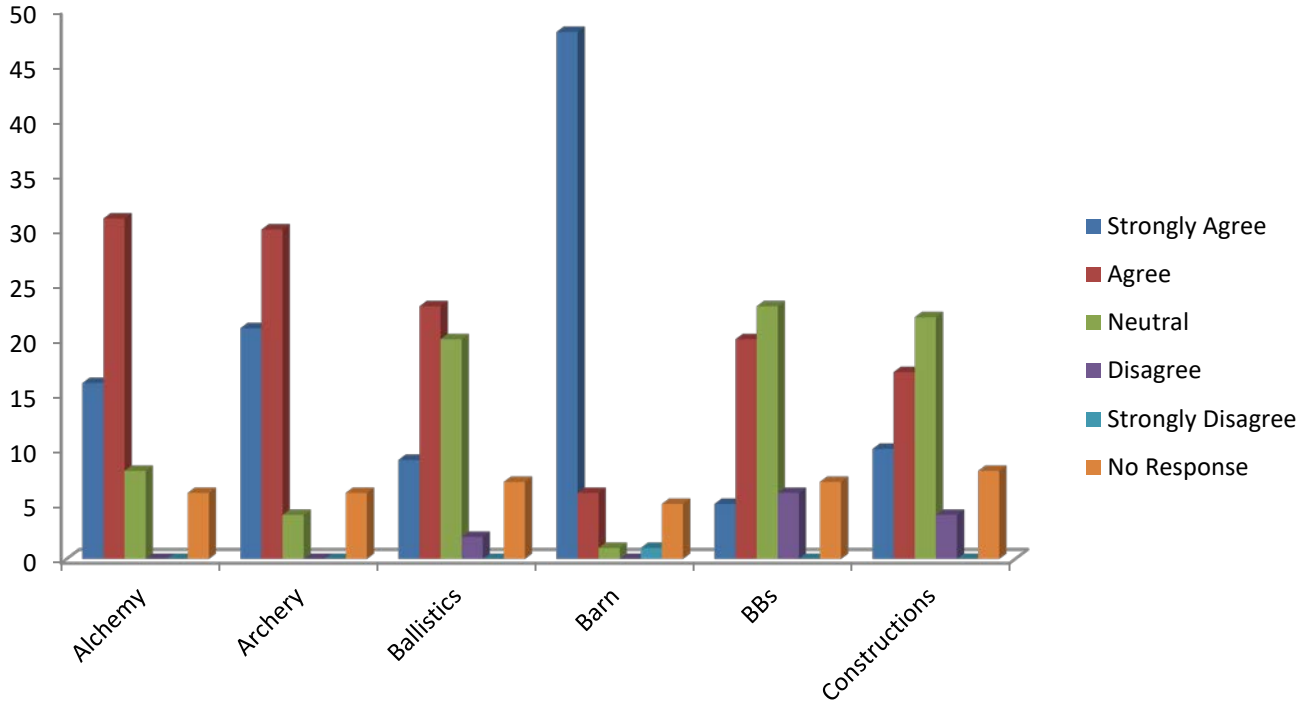
	MM	AH	KHI	KHII	WF
2011	\$1,927.50	\$27,840.00	\$2,055.00	\$8,202.50	\$27,562.50
2012	\$3,730.00	\$15,225.00	\$3,190.00	\$9,075.00	\$27,099.00
2013	\$1,920.00	\$21,317.50	\$9,475.00	\$5,585.00	\$22,179.65
2014	\$4,500.00	\$23,806.00	\$14,610.00	\$7,007.00	\$27,897.50

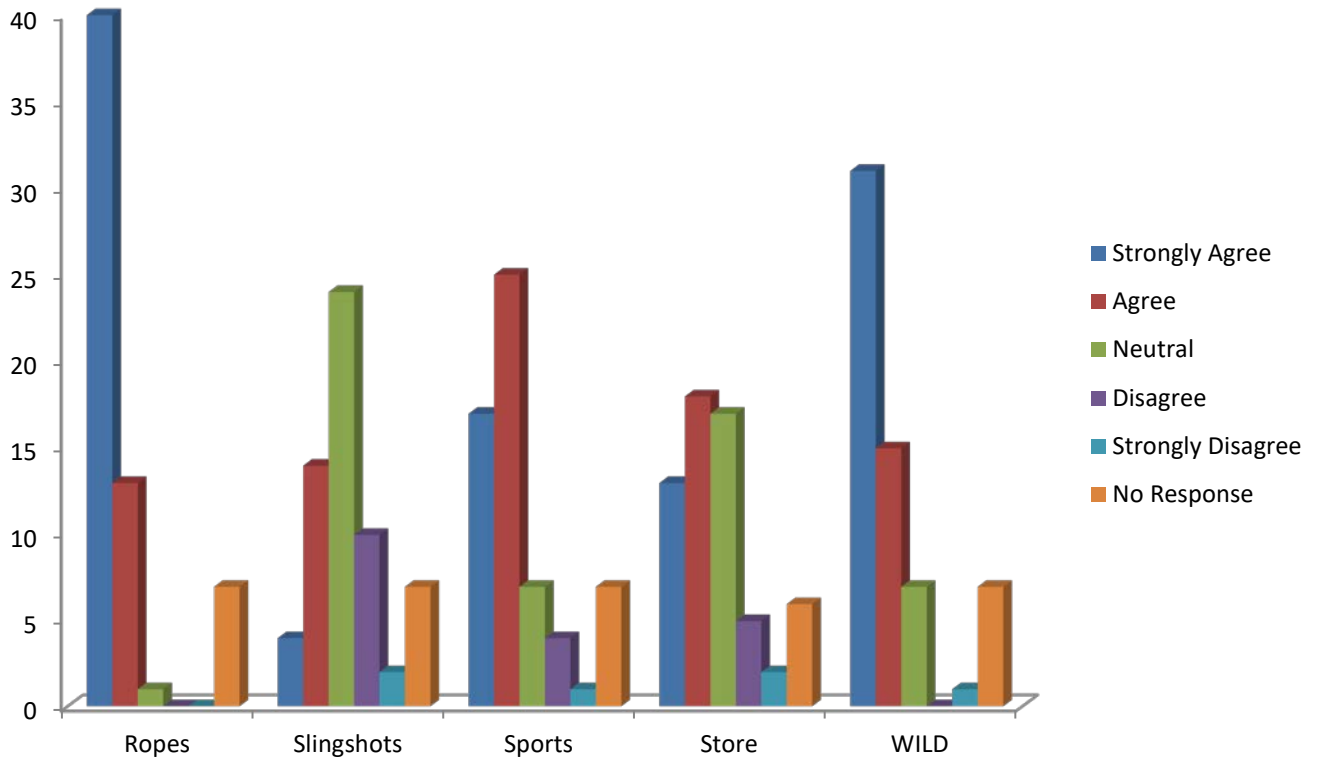
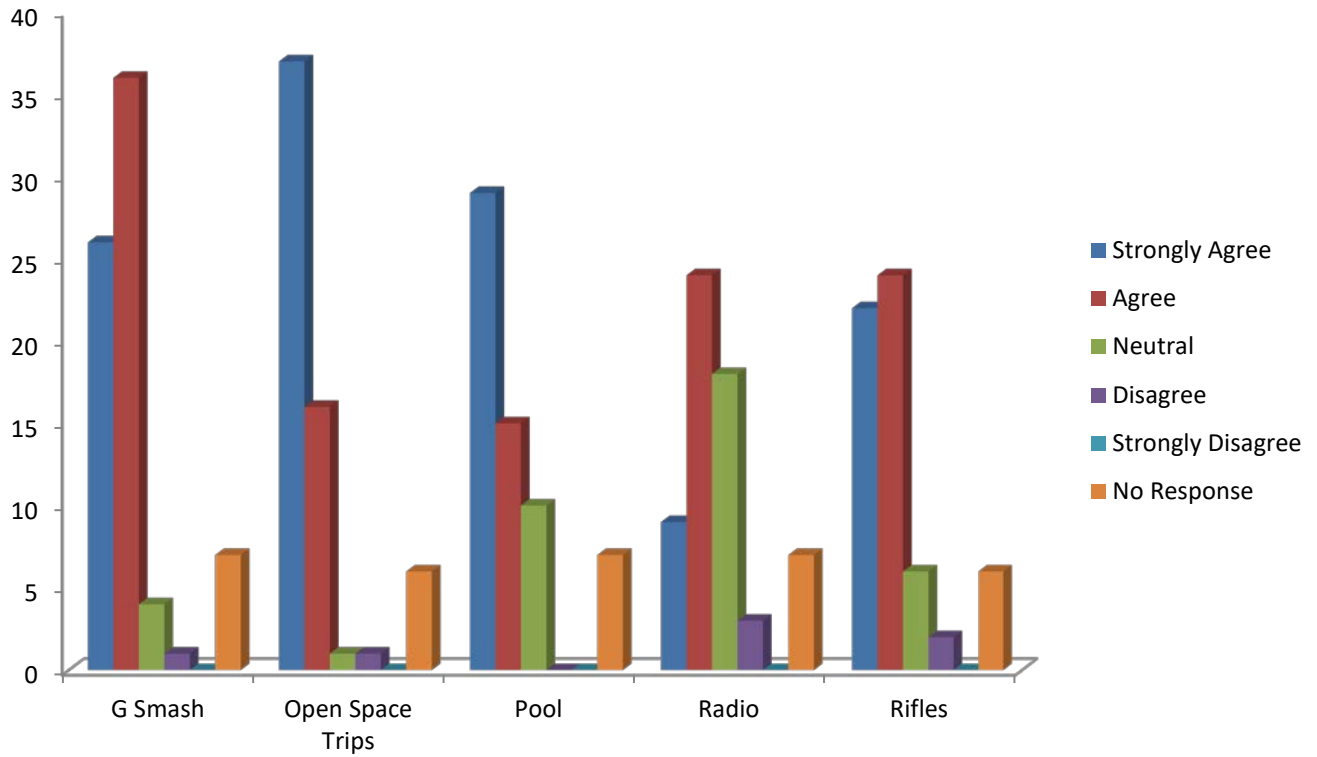
Campership & Tuition Assistance Counts by Session



Staff Program Evaluation

Please rate the areas at camp on their effectiveness, relevance to camper interest and the camp mission, as well as enthusiasm the campers have for the area.





How were the trainings you attended helpful in preparing you for the summer? What could be improved to make the trainings more helpful?

"CPR/First Aid training was better than any training of that kind that i've ever had before.

Ropes & WILD were more informative than ever and i learned a ton. i felt very prepared to run these areas. however, i wish that there would have been more hands on learning in the WILD portion."

Barn was wonderful in making my riding better and knowledge of horse behavior. I think that if you attend the 3 day barn training prior to camp you should get some kind of better treatment than those that only went to the hour long training.

I felt that having the experience in being trained for CPR and First Aid was not directly applicable, but came with a certain reassurance that I could help in an emergency situation, and proves to continue to be a beneficial life skill.

Wonderful don't change them.

I liked being taught and surrounded by my peers because it helped me to feel more comfortable learning and in coming into this summer

"I ran ropes... It went pretty well.

I do think that maybe splitting up Ropes & W/E would be useful. I've found that a lot of what has been taught at the joint training recently has been asynchronous. These days, ropes doesn't depend on w/e and vice versa. As such, people won't be able to attend all 3 days of training so they attend one day of ropes and one day of w/e. Because of this, they miss a day of ropes - often when we teach the most."

The overlap of some of the trainings made it difficult for those who wished to be trained in more than one core area before camp started.

The LGT training was very helpful with Kim Merkel. She was kind and supportive. It was long, but that may be necessary. I think it would be cool if there was better planned night programming to encourage staff to stay up at camp between days of those trainings. It may make the trainings not seem like day jobs.

Allowed for me to get a better understanding about saving someone's life. CPR certification made me feel a lot more comfortable around children knowing that I could, if I was put in the situation, potentially save their life.

I'm glad I had an opportunity to get my certifications out of the way before camp started.

Very helpful overall, covered material that I wouldn't even have thought of.

They more than prepared me.

They were very helpful in making me feel confident in what I was doing!

Got me ready and prepared for anything I might encounter during the summer.

Barn was helpful but a little long. I learned a ton.

Not much could be approved, they taught a lot in a very little amount of time. It was efficient.

They are all always very helpful.

The training I went to was great, very helpful.

N/A

"Camp CPR/First aid training was WAY better than the one I had that wasn't at camp.

I learned a lot at the ropes training and felt very prepared to run the area.

I wish we could have done more hands on stuff during WILD training."

Yes, trainings were helpful and prepared me for the summer.

Great!

They were definitely helpful! I met a lot of the new staff members and was able to form relationships. I also really liked going to the Ropes training because it allowed me to get used to the different areas and practice a lot before actually working them. I don't think they need improvement.

The CPR/First Aid training is more for peace of mind (for parents, board members, and even counselors) than for any practical use. And peace of mind is incredibly valuable.

They were very helpful and a good refresher of what I knew from previous summers.

All of the trainings helped prepare me to serve camp to the best of my abilities wherever I was needed. I feel like the trainings are all helpful, and easily accessible which was important.

I ran the WILD training alone, without Haley Mirr- that was frustrating, considering her circumstances of the summer.

Very helpful! I enjoyed being a certified trip leader very much!

some trainings like barn were very helpful. I think area training in general are pretty generic and that is ok and it is important to do them, especially the ones on how to bring your kids to an area- although as a veteran staffer they seem pretty redundant but for new staff they are very helpful.

I sometimes worry that the CPR/First Aid training is too vague, but I know that the instructor uses the conventional guidelines and that she didn't have a ton of personal choice in what was taught. The skill set learned/ refreshed for me, though, is deeply important. The same goes for the van driving training; I was glad to have the chance to go over the list of do's and don'ts and to be able to drive the van with just Pete before I ever drove with kids.

The CPR/First Aid training was really helpful for the summer. I felt as if I was really prepared in case anything bad were to happen.

What were your campers' favorite activities & areas this summer? What did they enjoy most about them?

"Pool: they could shower and hang out with the members of the opposite sex.

Store: Candy DUH!

Radio: got to listen to music that they wanted, unlike many of the other areas.

G-Smash: They liked the different games played there, mostly the zombie ones.

Rifles: they liked shooting their own stuff."

My seniors had a consistent schedule of Pool, G-smash, archery, and rifles. They enjoyed shooting things as well as having fun as a group. My Jrs and Middlers enjoyed Pool, Barn, Dragons, and Archery/BB's. They particularly liked imaginative places and projectile weaponry.

"Senior campers- archery, crafts, pool, alchemy

Junior/middlers- ropes, pool, barn, store"

The kids I sat with certainly made it clear that they loved Crafts, and Barn almost consistently. They also loved Middler day.

Working hard. Let's say barn

The campers that I sat with always raved about barn and ropes because these are both activities that kids cannot do at home, only at camp. They also enjoyed Castastrophe a lot, and I know that was new!

"During the Olympics my boys were obsessed with G-Smash, and while I think that the idea of beating the shit out of each other was cool enough to get them to try I, there is no doubt that Adam Gribas was the main reason why they went.

During Knighthood II my dorm C boys enjoyed pool and skits.

During KH I my dorm A boys hit up the usual Pool, Store, Rifles, but loved the Think Tank

During American Heritage the dorm F boys kinda just roamed around."

Barn and Archery- because both were activities they can't participate in at home and they make the campers feel in charge and build their esteem when they can direct a horse or hit a target

"My campers all loved ropes. They couldn't get enough of ropes. Ropes must have been really great! I'll bet the heads of ropes were really pretty, too.

With older campers, they appreciated WILD, radio, open space trips, and crafts much more than my younger campers.

However, both younger and older campers alike loved pool, store, BBs/rifles, ropes, archery, etc.

They enjoyed store because of candy. They liked the challenge of ropes, rifles, archer. Pool was a good way to relax and have fairly unrestricted fun.

"G Smash was an easy favorite for seniors and middlers alike.

The kids were a bit hesitant about the new or different areas but I feel that the counselor enthusiasm had them very excited about them afterwards."

Campers loved two types of activities: The common ones that everyone loves and those, newer, special activities. Every camper I had loved, pool, G-Smash, archery, and store. Though, I had a lot of campers who also loved areas like Sam I Am and special clinics.

They loved barn, crafts, pool, oh mama/zip line, and of course store. They loved the activities that they were really being active.

My campers loved having the opportunity to do things at camp that they would never be able to do at home. They have plenty of time to play sports at home, but Alchemy and Oh Mama and Barn are things they really looked forward too because those were things they never got to experience at home. I know they loved the special clinics and often struggled with choosing which among the many activities to sign up for - a good problem to have.

My kids loved barn which I believe is because they were able to learn and demonstrate skills as well as take ownership of their learning.

The seniors enjoyed store, rifles, barn, crafts, etc. Areas in which they could spend time with each other as I felt that was the main focus for them.

It varied with age group. My juniors and middlers like barn and store mostly. My seniors liked crafts, archery, and store mostly.

The kids that I sat with loved Barn and crafts the best. When I sat with Hilltop they loved making rockets and shooting them off. They also really loved making those pillow monsters that Cass would make.

almost everything!!

A lot of them loved Barn and Pool. Had a bunch during KH2 that went crazy at archery. Myths kids loved dragons this year and some loved ropes.

My campers enjoyed store, sports, open space trips and rifles.

My campers loved Gsmash, Drama, Pool, Rifles/BBs, Archery, and most every special activity that was planned, and I think this is largely because my boys loved to either be challenged (shooting a gun, playing a sport), or to relax and not have any pressure on them (pool, senior boys). I think Sam did a particularly good job of running clinics (Sam I am, Radio, etc) and though the area or clinic might have not been the most interesting, he made it not only fun, but also productive for the campers

"Open space trips and hikes. They loved getting out of camp and going places with their friends and different counselors.

Hikes were great because they gave the campers a chance to do something they don't normally do at home and see the beautiful parts of camp.

Crafts. My girls went pretty much everyday. They went to socialize more than to make things. Crafts is the area where I have bonded with my campers the most.

Dance is a great opportunity for campers to feel big and truly feel like they have accomplished something important in the two weeks they come to camp. I love seeing my campers' faces after they perform. They are excited, proud, and exhausted. It's awesome. "

My campers really enjoyed going to the pool, and the younger boys really enjoyed BB's and Ropes.

I saw kids at barn I thought I'd never see there. Older kids are trying new things each year they come because they love this place so much.

Barn, because they all thought it was really fun and cool because they got to ride horses. Pool, because it was always hot, and it's a fun place to Hang out and play ladders. Archery, because who gets to shoot archery every day, and it's always a good feeling when you shoot it in the yellow.

I found my campers favorite areas often times included barn, pool, ropes, and g-smash.

From what I heard at meal times the campers loved the creative clinics, and pool they always wanted me to go to pool with them.

"Pool: to socialize with members of the opposite sex.

store: for the candy DUH!

archery: they got to do the activity many times in one period.

G-Smash: it has violent undertones and lots of people can play at once.

Rifles: they loved getting to shoot special stuff and getting to keep them."

G-Smash is every (vocal) boy's favorite, for every age. I found a certain group of my Dorm H campers quite fond of crafts, where I could usually find them while I was on dorm. Pool for the little ones is of course a favorite. Contrary to popular opinion, my Dorm C and Hilltop never seemed to get bored with BB's. As long as there are targets to color and bullet shells to collect, the boys are happy.

My younger campers were most interested in barn, ropes and dance. The older campers were more interested in branching out and doing open space trips, drama, dance and extra activities offered, in addition to the traditional camp areas such as crafts.

"G-Smash - loved the opportunity for teamwork and to do something they don't get to do at home!

Ropes - offered a fun level of physical activity taking part in unique-to-camp experiences.

Open Space Trips, when I could actually get them to sign up - engendered appreciation for nature.

Barn, Pool, Crafts, Store, Ropes, Open Space Trips

All my campers loved pool, and I think it's a great area for camper-counselor interaction because you get to engage with each kid individually and also facilitate group interactions. They also really liked Cre-8 and I think Rachel did a great job of engaging the kids and thinking of really cool projects that the kids hadn't gotten to do before. Also whenever we went to WILD and Elle was working she always had a really creative activity planned that would get the kids involved and excited.

Every camper's interests were different. Some really enjoyed the creative areas like Crafts, Cre-8, and Radio. Some were performers and spent most of their time working on productions like Merlin's Masque or Swords Soliloquy. Almost all my campers loved pool and store. Some of my seniors were addicted to the open space trips and would sign up for every one they could. They seemed to love the areas in which they could be engaged for the entire time they were there.

"Barn had excellent programming, especially special programming such as the overnight or adventure race. I think campers like the uniqueness of opportunities like that, as they are only available at camp.

Often the favorite memories of campers looking back over the session was evening plays. My younger campers seemed to enjoy the staple camp activities more such as barn or pool while my older campers seemed to enjoy special programming like philosophy hikes that challenged the way they thought.

Pool, barn, and ropes are always favorites as they are the most substantive programs run at camp. My campers this summer really enjoyed any open space trips they went on as they got to see a new part of the world and be in nature. My little ones love fairies, of course, because it helps their imagination and allows them to see beauty in the world.

They loved barn, store and ropes mostly

This summer I saw kids gravitate towards G-Smash. I think they enjoyed the competitive aspect of it, as well as plating with friends, and having fun. I also saw an increase of kids signing up and going on hikes on the camp property through WILD. I think kids enjoyed exploring the wilderness and being with friends.

"All campers love barn and alchemy.

It is interactive and engaging."

A lot of the Senior campers enjoyed Cre-8. I think that the uniqueness of the program and the readiness of the materials allowed for a great deal of creative expression.

Many of my campers enjoyed rifles and archery quite a bit, with some taking an enormous amount of interest in WILD. They generally liked these activities because they seldom get to do them outside of camp.

Hiking and pool because they could go as a dorm

My campers' favorite areas were mainly barn and crafts. They like barn because it was a chance to interact with animals and a place to show that they could do something that seemed like a challenge. It gave them self confidence. They also liked the evening plays that were interactive like the dance or Kokopelli.

they loved barn of course. many of my middler girls were very sad not to get to go to cre8. sometimes it is hard to motivate them to do archery and bbs etc but as long as you are willing to play endless camouflage its all good. they all loved alchemy and pool. for the middlers they always love seeing something new on the schedule-
emmagination, epicurianism, etc

Krew

My campers always loved ropes! Every cabin I had was always excited about doing any activity up there. I also always had girls who were crazy for barn and girls who loved crafts. Younger girls also loved fairies and scheduled time to go to the fairy garden was always nice.

Many of my campers really enjoyed Barn, Epicureanism, Pool and Ropes. All of these areas allowed them to challenge themselves in a safe and supportive environment. They could all participate to whatever level they were comfortable with and were fully involved in the area.

"I was a wrangler this year at barn and all the campers who came down to barn were very enthusiastic or very excited to get over a fear that they may have had. Many campers got on horses who were afraid and left the barn with a positive experience. In addition older seniors really enjoyed polocrosse and in depth lessons. The little kids liked polocrosse and trotting in the arena because it was something more advanced and that they didn't get every time they came to barn. The trails were always a big hit no matter what! The Barn overnight was an activity that many kids wanted and looked forward to as well.

This summer there was a scavenger hunt that incorporated doing activities at barn such as a whole cabin lunch ride, or riding 5 of the trails, or playing polocrosse tournaments. Adding those activities increased the amount of participation at barn and camper/dorm/cabin bonding at barn. I thought it was a brilliant idea and should definitely be incorporated in 2014 summer program."

"My older female campers loved pool, store and crafts. They also loved anything that involved food or decorating their clothes. They loved the very practical and relaxing creativity.

My younger female campers loved pool, barn, ropes and store. They were much more adventurous and wanted to try new things they could not do at home. "

They absolutely always loved barn, pool, and store. I think they forged some of their strongest connections at these areas. They also gain so much confidence through the drama and dance departments. The encouragement and inclusion can do so much for them.

N/A

My younger campers loved pool, epicureanism, crafts, barn, catastrophe the most. They enjoyed these areas because they were able to be active and get to know their counselors well and these areas provided them with things they didn't get to do everyday if they were home. My older campers loved barn, crd-8, crafts, and pool the most.

What were your campers' least favorite activities & areas this summer? How can they be improved to be more fun and relevant to their needs and interests?

"My junior/ middler dorms REALLY didn't like barn. i have no idea how to make it better.

Alchemy was complained about a bit but that could have been because the workers running the area didn't have much prepared. "

Seniors: Barn, Wild and Ropes. I think my children wanted to do things that didn't take a whole period or that they wouldn't have to exert a lot of energy to go to. JR's/ Middlers: Crafts. They didn't seem to like areas that didn't take the whole period. I have no idea how to improve these areas. I like them.

"junior/middlers- constructions/egg drop/ ballistics: these areas tend not to take a full period and can lose the kid's interest fast, which makes it boring for them and hard for the counselor on cabin."

The campers I sat with didn't seem to enjoy ballistics or construction as much as the others. I'm pretty sure a big reason for this was a lack of a set program or definition of what they were doing. Even as they asked me what it was I couldn't real give an answer. I would suggest having a set plan of what will happen during these programs specifically.. perhaps a list of new ideas for construction? when I went to construction with my girls we made small houses out of stuff found around the chimney, and during ballistics the egg drop off of the lodge was always to be expected. im sure they would have loved to have a varied schedule for those specific areas. This is merely from what I have picked up on through mealtime conversation and limited interaction, I could have a misperception as to how these areas are run.

bb's you can't just how it is.

WILD went both ways, they loved it when they got to play fun outdoor games, but didn't like "boring" hikes. The same went for sports; they liked it when there were fun games, but not so much when they were just told to play dodgeball for a period because they get to play dodgeball during meadow time anyway!

As a staff we need to start focusing on the chunks of time when we are at areas, but our kids are just sitting there waiting to do something for 58 minutes. I just feel like many of the areas juniors and middlers go to are like Archery, Ropes, and BB's, where they are literally sitting there, and I understand the argument of 'Free Play' but it seems like we've been using that as a crutch and an excuse to not entertain our kids.

sports- it was hard for them to get excited about things they would normally do before meals anyway, especially for an hour and when it's hot outside

"My older campers disliked WILD a lot of the time because a lot of the activities at WILD have been done the same year after year, or because they were lazy teenagers.

My younger campers disliked slingshots because it was difficult and there wasn't much reward or recognition for doing well. BBs was often disliked because, similarly to slingshots, it was difficult with little reward, and huge waiting lines. Constructions is often disliked because there are limited supplies, a narrow-scoped goal, and because they often lack technical knowledge about what they are trying to construct."

My campers this summer tended not to like activities that lacked enthusiasm or programming. Areas like WILD and Slingshots often lacked the creativity to make kids interested. Even Barn often left campers sitting in the corral, waiting to be entertained.

Slingshots. Having slingshots with ten 7 year olds is a huge challenge. They also struggled with sports because a lot of the girls didn't see themselves as being athletic so they would shut down and barely participate.

The younger kids complain that they wish they had more variety in their schedule like the seniors do. They know all the regular areas and get jealous when they hear all the announcements in council ring that don't apply to them.

BB's and WILD were disliked by my kids. I think being outdoors more and eating candy less would help kids appreciate nature and be less intimidated by a 10 minute hike.

Really depended on the group, at least someone in each dorm I had really enjoyed each activity we went to.

My juniors and middlers did not particularly enjoy slingshots or sports, but I don't know that much could be done about it.

Slingshots

A lot of the younger ones had poor attitudes when going to alchemy but when they went they enjoyed it. A lot is about eh perception. BBs runs a little slow and some kids love it and the others hate it so maybe another lane for them to shoot from and someplace for a fort to be set up or something like that nearby (I know we have the treehouse but that makes it hard to watch everyone at once).

No areas were truly disliked

All of my boys really didn't like crafts, but I think it becomes more fun for the boys when there is either an element of competition involved (craft contests with counselor enthusiasm backing this) or its more of a group activity to show pride. After saying this, I realize that its almost like crafts for a military troupe; very successful if you focus on expertise, will to win, personal mettle, and pride.

"Slingshots. Kinda boring and awkward. It's more fun to walk around, hike, and shoot things. Sitting at the course and shooting cans and signs gets old.

The boys just aren't fans of crafts, but I think once they start participating in the area, they forget they don't "like" it.

Didn't have campers.

Rifles, maybe have some other fun things to shoot at besides targets.

I was not around them long enough to know of any constant dislike of an area.

Barn: they get really bored waiting there really fast and it's usually hot at the arena and there isn't shaded for them to wait.

crafts: for younger kids there HAS to be more organization of what is being made (don't wing it) and the craft should last better so they don't break when the kid tries to take it with him.

epicureanism: it turns into the counselor making it and the kids not helping."

The Dorm C boys thought alchemy was silly, and I would (erherm) perhaps run more serious/effectual cooking or discovery programs for juniors and middlers. They also thought an hour of slingshots was dull, but they did love to groan about such things.

WILD. Although it is engaging, they complained when having to go on hikes. I believe they learned from the hikes and it is very important to continue WILD as an area. Maybe some scheduling differences like making sure kids don't have WILD and barn back to back would be helpful so they don't have to hike in riding boots.

Photography hikes could be more interesting for older campers than a general hike.

Alchemy is still a tough sell to boys but has gotten better - and once a few went and enjoyed it the rest of the dorm seemed more open to it. Not much can be done with the programming, male counselors just need to keep pushing their boys to try out the entire range of camp activities.

Slingshots and BBs - little girls just don't really enjoy these areas but I don't think there is much we can do about it. Some of them do and I know the boys like them.

Their least favorite area was probably BBs just because there is so much sitting around. I think it's really cool that we moved it up to Rifles and that helped because there was room to do activities with the kids, but they still complained about it a lot. Slingshots was also in the same vein because it's difficult to fill an entire period with it, so the kids spend way too much time looking for rocks and then sitting waiting to shoot.

I think every area at camp has the capability to be very engaging and fun. In my opinion, areas rely about 20% on the area itself and about 80% on the staff running it. A relatively basic or simple activity can become the best area at camp with enough creativity and enthusiasm. I think that the specific area training during orientation could be beefed up. This might mean more guidance for Area Heads concerning what should be addressed in these training sessions. I don't think that the expectations are being set high enough at the beginning of the summer for how to run an area successfully, and those expectations start with the area heads.

BBs was always a hard one. There needs to be something else for campers to do while waiting in line and also guns that are more intuitive and easier for them to operate.

Things like BBs, ballistics, and constructions can be difficult with little girls, especially depending on who is running them (when creative and enthusiastic people with strong activities ran them, it was awesome).

Constructions

None comes to mind. Maybe slingshots, but that's probably due to me not seeing the campers participate in it much, due to it not being heavily scheduled.

BBs, the kids barely have enough time to all go once.

I think that WILD is difficult for jrs. and Middlers. At a certain point in the session they have run out of things to do. There also seems to be overlap in the the Alchemy and Wild activities.

Oftentimes it was hard getting younger kids excited for barn, but with older kids no trouble were present.

I would think that the sling shots was the least favorite because it didn't take up enough of time during the period.

A lot of my girls really didn't like archery because they didn't feel like they were good at it and it didn't hold their attention for an entire period.

for middlers mostly bbs archery. some loved it some weren't so interested but i think both areas could do some special like shooting something different.

They didn't like challenge as much at first but they normally warmed up to it. I think it was hard to keep their attention for the whole period so they normally ended up having free play. A lot of the girls didn't like sports very much but I feel like that's inevitable.

Areas such as Constructions, Slingshots and BB's were less popular with some of my campers. I found it harder to keep young kids entertained for a whole period at these areas because the activity itself is so short with long waiting periods in between. Maybe better planning for areas like Constructions and more games or fun targets for BB's and Slingshots.

Many kids liked the trails, however, I know many seniors liked to know the level of difficulty of the ride beforehand. There are many campers who are good riders at Geneva Glen however, there are also a lot who haven't ridden horses since they were middle age which for some was like 5 years and were scared to get on. I definitely know that those campers liked to know when the beginner trail rides were going out and a bunch of them would come down to the well house ready to improve their skills.

"My older female campers did not like WILD or open space trips. I believe that these could be improved by doing different activities instead of only hiking. Even though I believe hiking should be sufficient enough to have fun, maybe having theme hikes or involve cooking interesting foods would attract more campers.

My younger campers did not like that crafts were restricted to one craft for the whole cabin."

My campers didn't really seem to enjoy slingshots too much. Even though the people running the area and the people with their kids tried to make the kids seem enthusiastic for the area, I found that my campers got bored easily and didn't want to do the activity. I found that we played a lot of outdoor games instead of doing slingshots.

Any comments or suggestions to help improve other scheduled activities or the camper program in general?

a more diverse schedule for the juniors and middlers would be cool. they very quickly realized that they had some on the main areas more often than some of the more special ones.

I think the special activities have become incredibly creative. A big portion of my time was spent wishing I could check out a couple of clinics. I would also like to note the organization of the musical this year was fantastic and smoother run. I also would like to applaud the idea for a day long hunger game special activity. It was unexpected, fun, and incredibly creative.

All of them are great. Just keep things clean.

The schedule looked great to me!

"First and Foremost, I'd like to point out that the Hunger Games has never and absolutely will never work at camp. This summer for some reason we decided to make an entire day out of the Hunger Games, when the year before it didn't even work as an evening play. It was a waste of the kids time and I'm surprised that more of them didn't realize that the entire day was comprised of nothing whatsoever. I just think it's time to move on to something more creative.

Secondly, I don't think there is any reason for us to have 'Catch-Up' on the last day of World Friendship. The day is depressing enough as it is, but this year there was nothing going on. I even saw counselors moving some of their clothes down from girls hill in preparation to leave. We need to figure out a way to make the last day of camp more fun for the kids. On that note, I think that Chatauqua needs to be run more like Pow Wow in the

sense that there needs to be one main 'Nancy' who knows exactly what every dorm and cabin needs to do, and they will be in charge of making sure that the kids are ready to actually perform something of quality on the last day of camp. These kids should all take pride in what they get to do, not look forward to getting it over with so they can watch the 'Russian Ballet.' ON that note I think someone this would be a perfect position for someone like Jeff Ellenoff or Andy Schultz who are very creative but know how to get the job done.

Lastly, I think that we should give a little more leeway when it comes to the drama department. During his toast to Reid, Ben Brasch made a comment on how camp has been in a phase of staying true to our traditions, but recognizing when things need to be changed for the better. I think that it would be great if the Head of Drama were given the opportunity to at least edit the scripts of Merlins Masque and Pageant, and honestly Ben Brasch was the perfect man to give that challenge to."

no

The variety in programming was awesome this year. I think it may be a good idea to have the schedule looked over by a counselor or other staff member to ensure very few lulls in the programming.

I love giving my campers a variety of options about what to do, however it clearly frustrates them when we do the same activities day after day. I know variety is always the goal, but I think it's important to keep it in mind for the younger kids too. I also wish we had a better system for keeping track of the older kids when they are going around to areas. It's frustrating when I'm on senior cabin and spend most of the morning just trying to find where my kids are.

I feel as if having Open Space Trips on the first Monday or the last Thursday of a session is a mistake because the kids won't sign up for it. They want to enjoy being at camp for the first and last regularly scheduled day and won't leave camp until maybe later in the first week.

Less store! Open space trips were always great when I took them. Pete does great work with the schedule.

Honestly can't think of anything now....

None

It's honestly doing great and also in great hands with Pete.

More junior middler clinics.

I felt that the variety of programming this summer was STELLAR. Pete did a wonderful job pushing counselors to submit unique activity requests and scheduling things well - though there was still the occasional 'dead' morning or afternoon.

"I think something should be done to radio. As an area, it tends to just be a place for wafering and doesn't really serve much purpose when someone without the musical/creative skills that SamRo has runs it. I had a really difficult time running it because even when you try to do something more interactive, the space only allows for a few kids to participate and the WiFi was so terrible it was difficult to play camper requests.

It would be nice if juniors and middle schoolers were scheduled for lovely hair late into the first week. I know this can be difficult timing wise, but it is easy to get so wrapped up in camp you forget to wash your kids' hair."

I thought it went very smoothly this summer, and many counselors went above and beyond in organizing clinics, open space trips, and being creative in set areas.

I think that Cre-8 should be on the schedule more for juniors and middles. I think that even though it gets chaotic it teaches them useful skills like learning how to sew. If it is on the schedule more for juniors and middlers two people should be working it so that there are more hands to help/teach.

especially for the jr middler getting new things on the schedule is fun for them as well as the counselors and lets be real when the counselors are having fun the kids will be no matter what! maybe some special days like craft wars, or bake offs, sam i am is great

The only thing that comes to mind is to maybe try to include juniors and middlers more in things like Merlins Masque and Swords Soliloquy. Maybe by trying to include more small parts that they can try out for.

I thought the camper program this summer was extremely strong and well executed this summer.

"Taking an all day trip exploration on horses would be fun. A group of 10-12 campers that would take lunch out and go explore the back bowl trails would be fun. We did do some of those during World Friendship this past summer and it was a new exciting event for campers that loved barn. End of the session catch-up was good to catch up on chores, but also a great time to do last time in depth lessons for those older campers that asked.

Polocrosse and the barn overnights brought down more boys to barn!"

This may put too much pressure on already busy counselors, but maybe make it mandatory for a group of counselors to have a clinic one week and another group another week so that campers throughout the summer get to have fun clinics.

I think balance in scheduling is important. Often for seniors, there'll be afternoons where, without a top-notch counselor to help them be creative, they're forced to wafer. Too many sign-up clinics and not enough areas open at one time can create a serious boredom problem.

The scheduled activities should just always mix it up and do different activities.

Do you have any ideas for new activities, areas or programming to add for next summer?

I would love to see something similar to the hunger games day.. perhaps draw from another best seller or movie and spend a day of fun. I would like to see the area of video being given a second wind. (let campers write scripts and perform them. camper can create movies to premier during movie night). That would be so fun and empowering to campers who are involved.

Not that I can think of right now, but if I do I'll be sure to let you all know.

I would love to talk about the WILD program - bringing in fresh activities, incorporating lower elements at ropes, and engaging in a progression of learning with the campers. This progression would start with a challenge or goal at the beginning, activities to achieve the goal, and then a debriefing at the end. I envision this as a fusion with the Challenge, but it requires preparation, and more importantly, intention. Every activity and discussion must be led and explained with intention towards the ultimate goal.

I have a million. I will be in touch this year. I've thought of one main one thus far: week-long activities.

These kids love tradition. They like being able to finally participate in the programs they have grown up hearing about.

Trash with Brasch should definitely continue

"Maybe a garden for the older kids to maintain throughout the summer and work with to eventually use?

Kids also love being able to help decorate or maintain little things in camp they jump at and love."

Blowdarts instead of slingshots, and they alternate?

YES. Yes I do, I have a billion. Such as a laser obstacle course, taking the junior/middlers through the strenuous training many of the counselors and my self go through to become a spy. A web of red yarn you can't touch and a timer trying to get your best time and at the end of the clinic they all get to be SITS (spies in training).

more informational clinics that are themed for the sessions. especially during knighthood and world friendship.

Open Space Trips to view the Arts would be lovely, and cultured. If we could get discount tickets to a play, concerto, or even opera, that would be so cool! And it would make us look really broad-minded and worldly!

Attachment talk, or some similar programing for girls. I think the attachment talk idea is wonderful and extremely helpful to the young men, but I think girls would also benefit by being paired up with a female counselor to discuss their life and get some built in one-on-one mentoring.

Maybe we could identify the campers every session who brought instruments and make music with them instead of only during he World Friendship Musical!

If we could do more clinic-style activities for the JMers I think that would be really cool! For example, someone could be working "Zumba" all morning but it would be different JM groups that would come. Or it could be a Rangoli clinic but the younger kids would get to do it too.

Staff always has wonderful requests.

Im curious about the new marathon. If completed by next summer and if a kitchen is included, it might be really cool to have a camper culinary program.

themed hikes, more think tanks about relevant issues in high school and middle school.

craft wars, or bake offs, scottish games

The fox trot was an activity that I would have wanted to try out. I also think have a couple barn overnights throughout the summer would have been fun for the kids. It is a lot of work but it is nice when we switch it up in the program.

Once the new marathon is built, cooking as an area is going to be great. The kids and counselors would all love it.

At the moment, no, but I'll shoot you guys an email if I think of anything!

New things like castastrophe are always exciting for the kids!

Any comments or suggestions to improve evening play?

They always seem to come through amazing even if they look like no one knows what to do. awesome job.

Bring back air band. Some of my fondest camp memories are from this.

Evening plays were tight this year. I am always a fan of adaptations of old favorites, and bettering the evening lays we already have. I loved the detective evening plays! Although I would've liked to see some kind of interactive learning/ simulation during vespers like in past years. I know as a camper I learned so much and felt so strongly about it. I still tell people about the revolution simulation. Those were so powerful and interesting.

Evening play was great all summer. But the 4th of July evening play was kind of like sitting through a U.S. History class, and the kids were not into it. Also I loved having Nostalgia stuff in council fire; however, I think that council fire should be more for kids to have fun and do skits and songs. That being said, I loved Nostalgia Night when I was a senior camper, so maybe that could be a thing again.

From what I've heard, the 4th of July night was a flop. Kids like engaging in evening plays and they love competition. For example, during Luau, the kids' favorite activities were the seashell hunt and the fish hot potato game. They had a goal and a tangible 'trophy' to work towards. A lot of times, the younger kids lose interest in evening plays where they have to sit and watch. Perhaps we could incorporate interactive elements focused towards the Jrs/Middlers.

We need to re-evaluate how we are planning evening plays. I think we've become over programmed in the evening play department. Since Jurassic Park, we've put serious effort into changing evening plays. But, in truth, campers love capture the flag. Campers loves counselor hunt. The issue is not one of making new and better evening plays. We simply need to put our creative effort into the themes and rules of already established evening plays. No need to reinvent the wheel.

Evening play is great!

Active games and evening plays are always a favorite among the kids. It's also helpful to wear them out before they go to bed.

More of the fun ones! It seemed we had a lot of already scheduled evening plays and didnt really get to play the capture the flags, or counselor hunt ones. As well as while some of the ways in which we changed the fun ones were very creative, I feel as if having the capture the flag not having a serious theme or not playing scrabble during counselor hunt is more enjoyable for the kids. The silly themes such as jedi vs sith or hatfields vs mccoys are the most fun in my opinion.

Evening play is most of the kids favorite part of the day and I think that they really are fantastic. I can't think of anything I would do to improve them.

Something way more fun for 4th of July. We don't need to be school for these kids. Camp is fun!

At least once a session get to play jurassic park or capture the flag or counselor hunt. Active games that the kids can really get into.

"My kids were always wanting to play capture the flag, I almost think we could do a quasi color war where they do american gladiators style thing for points.

Also WF Sr. Vespers should be done more often. Cas KILLED that"

Planning further ahead will help but I understand how hard that is.

Stick to the traditional games, the kids love the traditional capture the flag and counselor hunt, spicing it up isn't necessarily required.

Don't ever do long boring lecture evening plays especially teaching kids on the 4th of July what presidents did or said for two hours. We all go to school for a reason avoid using school at camp.

The 4th of July evening play speeches were a little long and had issues keeping the kids attention.

Nope, it always turns out well if the counselors are in to it, which they always are.

they seem to go so well even if people have no idea how to run them. so i would change anything.

Evening play is, on the whole, all perfect. For events such as Where In The World Is Carmen Sandiago, Circus, Scrabble, and in general any activity in which campers collect points-- make sure the point system is standardized for the counselors so that the game is logical and fair for all the kids. I.e., institute a point scale so that counselors know whether or not to make themselves 5 or 500 points if they are caught.

Some kids were very disappointed when they didn't get to play Jurassic Park...I understand how difficult it is to fit in evening plays (especially during the knighthood sessions), but some kids are feeling cheated when other sessions' campers get to be chased by imaginary dinosaurs and they don't.

Themes and activities should be announced earlier than dinner announcements. It offers kids a chance to get excited all day for events like the dance, capture the flag, etc. In order to do this, those running an event need to know earlier than that day/day before. A schedule of who is running evening play should be put up with the regular schedule.

Evening play was great this summer

I was impressed with certain counselors getting involved in evening plays, as well as the new and diverse evening plays that were brought to camp this summer.

I think evening play this summer was awesome. During American Heritage the evening play seemed to be focused around games like Jurassic Park or Capture the Flag and I think other session could have used more of those types of games.

Better Organized, and better communicated to campers

I think Chautauqua took a huge step in the right direction this summer with much better planning. I really liked the addition of dances and global cultures. I think It could still continue to improve through more involvement of the campers and more engaged staff.

I loved most evening plays. Council fire was by far my favorite do keep doing what you are doing with that.

There was an awful lot of sitting and listening this summer, which I've realized can be really boring for the kids even if they are listening to something cool. I think the dances were especially fun this year, and I love the variation and new additions, but maybe a couple could be tweaked for a little more kid movement.

Banjo Man outside!

Any comments or suggestions to improve special events (Rendezvous, 4th of July, Hunger Games, Carnivale, Chautauqua?)

No more hunger games. the first half works well with the tributes and stuff but the cornucopia is never fair and gets a bunch of kids mad at each other for not doing what they are suppose to.

4th of july evening play was rather boring. I could hardly keep my kids still and awake listening to speeches.

Special events were incredible this year. I liked the creativity we had in all of the special events, we should definitely continue to improve our classic special events and keep creating more!

Be clear with Hunger Games it could go one way or the other.

They all went great!

I know i said this before, but I really think we need to shy away from the Hunger Games and move onto something a bit more creative. Also, during AH there were three days in a row where the kids got extended rest hour and there was nothing to do during the day, I think we need to just double check our timing with super special activities.

make 4th of July more exciting for the children to participate- more active and less of a presentation

Hunger Games was a tough event to be counseling for. The kids had such grand expectations for the day - bloodbaths, beat-downs, and victory. Instead, they spent the morning watching a 'special' camper be in the spotlight (a position they wanted to be in), then had to sit through an extended rest hour, then finally got to engage in activities, but they were disorderly and seemingly unfair because there was no standardization to the point system. They wanted a day-long G-smash session, but spent most of the day passing time.

We need to be smarter, and more inclusive, with these days. The addition of snacks was awesome, but the events sometimes got dull and repetitive. The carrier pigeon and kissing booth may be a little overdone. We should open up ideas for activities to counselors, and see if they have any ideas. Also, Hunger Games didn't work as it should have. I think we'd really have to reinvent the hunger games to make it all-camp inclusive.

More substantial breakfasts when we have all day activities where we are moving a lot outdoors. Two of my campers got really sick on the day of the hunger games because of the lack of breakfast. Kind of miserable dealing with 10 hungry 7 and 8 year olds.

Everything was great this year! I like that we are keeping up the traditions of these events (kissing booth, marriages in the chapel, jean branding, etc.), but also trying to keep it fresh by incorporating new activities and events.

Most of them were good but some could have been cut short. Hunger Games shouldn't be an all day event the way it was laid out bc kids just get restless with all the build up and then have to go to lunch and rest hour.

These days are some of my favorites to participate in. Sometimes there is a lull in the programming at points. Maybe these times could be used in the council ring with another fun skit or performance for camp's enjoyment.

Hunger games should have less dead time. the others worked well and the people who ran them did such a great job this year.

Keep rotating people to new areas, to make new creativity and new fun!

4th of July, although educational, wasn't very "exciting" for the kids.

All went fine as long as they are planned and organized well. Be on top of planning things and communicating early with everyone about this day and what they will be doing. It will help out.

I feel that the hunger games was really long, and some kids got a little bored when they couldn't be involved.

Rendezvous could have a lassoing area. That's not really important, but it counts as a suggestion.

no more hunger games. the before game stuff is cool and fun but the cornucopia and afterward are never completely fair. the kids turn on each other for items and in the end almost none of the stuff matter anyway.

Keep bringin' those glowsticks when we can get them! I say that with the image of my Dorm C kids' frantic and obsessive scrambles to collect maximum glowsticks in mind. The dance/rave/glowparty for Seniors one night was quite prime.

Hunger Games should have been an afternoon activity, not all day. We spent most of the day killing time (late wake-up, double long rest hour, parade, etc) just to get to around 2 hours of actual activity.

I think the Hunger Games could have been just an afternoon, with a regular scheduled morning because it seemed like we were just passing time until lunch and we could make all of that shorter to move it along but it is a great idea and the kids seem to like it a lot.

I think that as long as we make sure at least two people are planning all of these events they will be perfect. It's really difficult to plan something like this by yourself, so assigning two people would be really helpful.

It helps to pick the people running these days early on so that our brains can start coming up with ideas early on instead of stressing out the two days before.

There needs to be more organization involved than just asking one person to set up the entire event. Johnny needs to do a better job of sitting down with the person running it and explain their responsibilities, resources, expectations and ideas, etc. Also, using the "petty dictator" system from Chautauqua more often would be helpful.

"Hunger Games was much too long. It was an awesome idea, but it should and could be done in half a day, not the full day. The morning had most kids just sitting around and not participating. I also think that some of the kids missed some of the classic Rendezvous activities.

I think a lot of kids missed the classic, Rendezvous-style 4th of July. This was definitely weird timing wise because the 4th fell in AH, but it would have been fun to have it be a bigger deal. Additionally, the evening play on the 4th was not something my campers enjoyed. I loved the idea of teaching them some American history, but it ended up being a bit boring for them. I am always a fan on Banjo Man on 4th of July if possible."

I think that the activities that are session oriented are great! When all of camp can get involved in a group celebration it is very nice and the outdoor all camp barbecues are very fun.

My girls loved them every time! I think the Olympics were really great this year

loved the way they went this year, i think the committees were a bit too much subdivision but everything was well done and organized

Nah, those are great fun.

I heard from kids that the whole day of Hunger Games was too much and it dragged out in some parts of the day. I think that it would be better if it just stuck to a half-day activity or even just an evening play.

Give tributes more of a chance to shine except for just the beginning of the events because they are mostly kids who need a boost and my girl got healthy attention but could have used more.

Usually, the time for just going to different stations runs longer than necessary. For example, the cabin 2 & 4 girls as the kissing booth run out of people to kiss in the first hour and then wander around for the rest of the time.

Chautauqua definitely needs a wake-up ride ;) Fourth of July was a bummer, mostly due to the fire ban, but I think that the presidential speeches were pretty much lost on the the littler kids. Hunger Games disturbed me at least because the theme is kids killing kids, but I wasn't around the kids all day to see how they liked it, so maybe they didn't notice. At the barn, the kids came and went randomly and it was sort of hard to regulate what was going on and how long each group should ride because the whole thing was a little disorganized. Chautauqua, however, was awesome this year. I thought that everyone put in a lot of effort and I loved the dances! There was definitely not an even distribution of food though, and certain areas had a bunch of extra and certain areas didn't have enough for everyone.

What should we know about overnights and cookouts?

"tarps at overnight spots would help out tons.

Cookouts were awesome this year."

Cookouts need to have food that you actually cook, or the kids don't learn those valuable skills, have less fun, and less to accomplish.

The kids seemed to be quite content with their overnight. I think the main thing is to encourage sleeping outside and make the overnight something exciting- not a necessary evil. We should work to give the overnight more enthusiasm.

If it's going to storm badly outside don't push on doing them. Reschedule or think of something else. Be clean for cookouts.

They all went well, to my knowledge.

If we are going to continue to send kids out in pouring rain, WILD or someone needs to double check to make sure every spot has the tarps and cords necessary to shield at least 2 full dorms and cabins. I think it would be wise to put 2-3 tarps at every spot with extra cords.

for a lot of cookouts we got way too much meat and not enough of anything else

"I would love to get to overnights earlier. It seems that we get to our location, hang out for about an hour, then send the kids to bed when it's dark. Though this is great for counselors, spending time with kids at a place other than the dorm/cabin is really important to them. The overnight is a night they remember and I would prefer if their memories weren't of a brief game of camouflage, wishing they could roast marshmallows, then going to bed early because the counselors told them they couldn't have watches on the overnight.

Also, having two tarps and an excess of utility cord would be very much appreciated so we could actually stay out when the weather turns bad."

The cookout cold cuts were rough. It was okay when we were on fireban, but it defeats the purpose of cookouts. overnights were fine, very fun.

They are great!

I wish we would actually cook the food. Cold cuts were not overwhelmingly popular. Quesadillas and pasta were always my favorite as a camper to make for cookouts.

All the kids hate them. During every session I had to be the one to get everyone excited and was hearing complaints all day the day before and the day of. Maybe being out in nature more than once would help kids get used to the idea.

cold cuts aren't very exciting when there are no fires allowed, perhaps we could find something else.

Counselors got tired of eating cold cut sandwiches.

We should be cooking out at cookouts! No more Deli meat sandwiches please. Kids should be learning what they can cook if they were to go on a backpacking trip and needed to cook outdoors.

Fire ban really put a damper on the cook outs. Otherwise went well and kids had fun.

Preparation for bad weather could be improved

"Locations this year = Awesome

Turkey subs = not satisfactory pretty much at all

Bring back the calzones = Suggested"

The simpler the better. The cookout ends up being a night where the counselors cook everything while the kids play. If the meal were simpler, kids could be more involved in actually cooking outdoors which is the goal.

Overnights are a lot of fun if it's not storming terribly. Push them so that kids do enjoy them. As for cookouts it's all the same every time. Not enough food or drink, sometimes we can't even have fire and cook things. Don't push cookouts if you know the weather will be awful. It's not a cookout if the cookout is inside doesn't make sense why we do it. I love cooking on the grill for cookouts if it's nice and we limit trash. That's a big one.

The overnights and cookouts went really well. It might work well to have multiple dorm/cabin groups together if multiple counselors are on alone between those groups.

"The bins with tarps are a life-saver, and I think should be required and prepared for every overnight.

If there is anyway that cookouts could be more involved for the kids AND good quality food, that would be awesome. I have no idea how that can happen."

Cookouts-- I guess we can't always control Mother Nature, but I sure would love to grill some hot dogs sometime (as I remember John Stanesco doing for us when I was in Dorm A.)

Cookouts need more variety in food options.

Make sure there are enough tarps before the overnight.

The food for cookouts needs to be food we actually cook on a fire or it seems pretty lame. We had cold cut sandwiches for the last few sessions and the kids didn't have nearly as much fun as when they can cook their pasta or whatever over the fire. I know we changed it for the fire ban but even once it was lifted, they continued the sandwiches and I wish they had changed it back.

For the most part I thought the overnights and cookouts went super well this year. The one thing I would say is that the sandwiches on the cookouts were kind of lame because we didn't get to cook anything. I think kids take pride in putting together a meal and then cooking it and seeing how it turns out, but this year they were just putting a sandwich together. Not as much work but definitely not as cool. The WILD ladies did a great job of communicating with the rest of staff for all things cookout and overnight.

Cookouts are tough without campfires. Coming up with some more creative fire-less meals might be helpful.

Bring back pita pizzas! Pasta never worked right, sandwiches aren't cooking. It is easy to just do the pita pizzas, and they're a classic. WILD heads should have locations posted earlier than dinner announcements.

I'm sure you are well aware, but the food this year on cookouts was pretty disappointing. I know much of it had to do with the fire ban, but even after it was lifted, we still had food that wasn't actually cooked. It felt like the purpose was a bit defeated this summer.

Better food planning for cookouts and better planning for when it's raining at the overnight

They went smoothly as far as I could tell, and the campers seemed to really enjoy them.

"The food for cookouts is not cookout food. Eating a ""make your own sandwich"" is a huge disappointment.

Let's try to get back to the pita pizza's and pasta and toppings."

I know this is difficult and hard to achieve, but the proportions of food are not right. I have yet to have a cookout where we didn't run out of a certain key ingredient. Having the cupcakes was great though, at one point on a cookout a bunch of groups ran out of pasta before all the campers got food and Troy was kind enough to cook up more.

The cookouts were not the same with out having fires I think the kids liked it more when we cooked things like pasta.

I think it's on a good system right now.

love them! but can we please get some pita pizzas! i know with the fire bans food got complicated but the kitchen doesnt need to spend the time make pasta and all that stuff when kids love pita pizzas and it takes much less energy and is also easier on the counselors. no more cold cuts please.

More support for Area-Themed Overnights (G-Smash)

They were always planned very well. It always helped when there were as many people on as possible for the night. I also found that there wasn't enough sandwich supplies for the cookouts.

I think overnights are best earlier in the week like they were this summer. Locations and timing was fine the only thing I would say is that staffing might need a little work. I know staff ultimately has control over days and nights off but I found that overnights were often understaffed with mostly CIT's and less experienced counselors being on which was harder.

There was only one Barn overnight and it will definitely be something to remember. However, the experience is one of a kind and I know the kids always look forward to it. Having a trough already hooked up there in the corral at the outlook would save a load of water being wasted. I know it may not be possible since it is so far up, but if it is, then it would be such a convenience to have one.

They are great and the younger kids love to play games while the older kids like to have time away from counselors. I think it should become crucial that kids are sent with backpacks to carry their stuff in for the overnight trip. There are too many kids that carry their stuff by their arms the whole trip.

Cookouts were more of eat outs this year. I know the kitchen was short-staffed but the sandwiches just had less of an outdoorsy element than even pasta.

Why did we lose the pita pizzas? They are the easiest and the tastiest and the most kid-friendly! Pasta is not a cook-out food, and the frozen veggies take a millenia to warm up no matter how they are placed on the fire. There's also a ton of bags and trash involved, and the preparation takes forever and makes a mess. The hot dogs would have been fine but no cabin or dorm was provided enough of them for the kids to not be left hungry. The locations are still great, and the system of splitting the middlers and juniors from the seniors works really well. I think the staff needs to be taught more explicitly, though, how to use charcoal. They often put way too much in and then drench it in lighter fluid and even if they have enough air to warm enough to cook the food, they're super smokey and the food tastes like chemicals. That being said, I think it would be awesome if one counselor could be getting the fire started while the other gets the kids ready, so that there isn't so much lag time before food is even getting made.

The cookouts went well this year. It would be nice to have food that the kids can prepare and cook on the coal. But that can be tricky with fire bans. But I think kids really like the idea of cooking and eating outside.

Do you have any other comments, suggestions, or ideas about camp programs not mentioned above?

The programming was fantastic this year. I was so jealous of these kids, and am amazed by all the new programming brought to camp and how full the schedule was. Incredible job. Very creative and fun-filled.

Nope! The program this summer was great!

"I loved the amount of grilled meals we had this summer and I know that the kids loved it as well!

I think it would be cool if we integrated some other people from staff to help out with evening play like we used to (like when London ran special events or whatever). I think Johnny has a bunch of great ideas but I also think that getting more input from other people can only benefit the program.

I also heard rumor about trying to get rid of NPR during World friendship, and I guess my only defense to keeping it would be that it is literally the only morning program all summer that kids actively listen to. That may sound harsh and unfair, and while many of the staff members love the Knighthood stories and the Native American stories, if you look around the council ring very few people are actively listening."

no

I'll email Pete about my other ideas.

I'll be in heavy touch this year.

not that I can think of at the moment. I thought programming wise it was a very good summer!

Would not mind seeing challenge back in as it helps bring the cabin or dorm closer as they have to work out problems together.

I <3 pete johnny reid

Nope

None at this time great summer.

"Not too much to add now-- I have to get to class. (Ha ha.)

But thanks for working so hard, Johnny or Reid or whoever is reading this! You guys rock!"

"Camp programing was wonderful. I loved the knighthood programs and American Heritage most. Would really love to see a little less gender segregation in Knighthood, and mostly would love to have some one-on-one mentor program for the ladies, like I mentioned above. Wonderful camp, wish I had grown up here!

The food is really a struggle for the counselors every year. The snacks that the cooks put out in the afternoons helped a lot but I just feel like if the meals were filling and more fortified, we wouldn't need the snacks. We seem to be helping the problem without just changing the root of the issue. I think that spending a little more

money on better food is very much worth it because honestly we lose great counselors sometimes because they can't live off of the meals that we get all summer long. The addition of the hummus at the BBJ window was amazing and very much appreciated. Also the addition of veggies to yellow meal was great but it would be awesome if for example there were fresh peaches rather than canned peaches for that meal. Or if for breakfast we had oatmeal instead of cream of wheat because more people will eat oatmeal - they came up with a great replacement for the oatmeal last summer with fruit in it but never made it this summer. Instead of sugary coffee cake in the mornings, fruit and toast with the cereal would be great. I love the chicken fajita things because it has vegetables, chicken, and guac and salsa and seems fresher than the taquitos or enchiladas which are sometimes hard to put down. Just some thoughts and suggestions but I think boosting the food will honestly boost the entire summer - if people are fed well they perform well.

"Encourage staff to find a way to do more special activities with their own cabin's and dorm's. Ninja missions, private pizza parties, and other special activities were the highlight of my camper's session.

Those who are running a special activity or evening play need more guidance in expectations and responsibilities. Also, there should be more assistance coming from Johnny, and occasionally Pete, about how things are going to run and how they can help. There were many times this summer when I felt I was running around like a chicken with his head cut off making the final touches on a special activity, and that was a chance that I could have gotten more help from the special events coordinators."

The schedule was really, really wonderful this year. Yay Pete!

barn and ropes or pool and ropes shouldn't be scheduled back to back for juniors and middleers. It's hard for timing and the kids get really tired and really emotional really fast. It also doesn't allow for the full amount of time at each area.

Kind of like the attachments, I think it would be a wonderful thing to have younger campers paired with older campers and have a couple days of the session where we would eat lunch with our partners or have evening play buddies.

I love seeing area collaboration! So many of them easily lend themselves to creative mixtures like crafts and alchemy, crafts and rifles, wild and barn, etc. I also am disappointed every year with how much areas waste, especially clinics that buy a bunch of stuff and then either it sits around or gets thrown away. Otherwise, I think camp's programming is stellar.

Appendix A – Outcomes Based Program Design

- [GG “Fruitage” – Goals and Outcomes in Program Design](#)
- [See Program Design and Area Head Paperwork for PD Logic Models](#)

GG “Fruitage” – Goals and Outcomes in Program Design

What are we doing?

- Discuss “Outcomes”
- Discuss the Program Design Logic Model Template
- Discuss Planning and Teaching Skills for your “designed” activity

Our Programs have been working great! We aren’t doing anything “wrong” – we want to “PLUS IT.”

Why should we do this?

1. Internal Uses
 - a. Identify strengths and weaknesses
 - b. Prove / disprove perceptions
 - c. Program assessment (budgeting, review)
 - d. Acknowledge and encourage innovation
 - e. Meet industry standards (ACA Accreditation)
 - f. Develop staff training
 - g. Staff evaluation tool
 - h. Motivate organization improvement
2. External Uses
 - a. “Stakeholder” support
 - b. Source of camp promotion
 - c. Enhances fundraising
 - d. Provides “proof” and “documentation”

Who’s Involved?

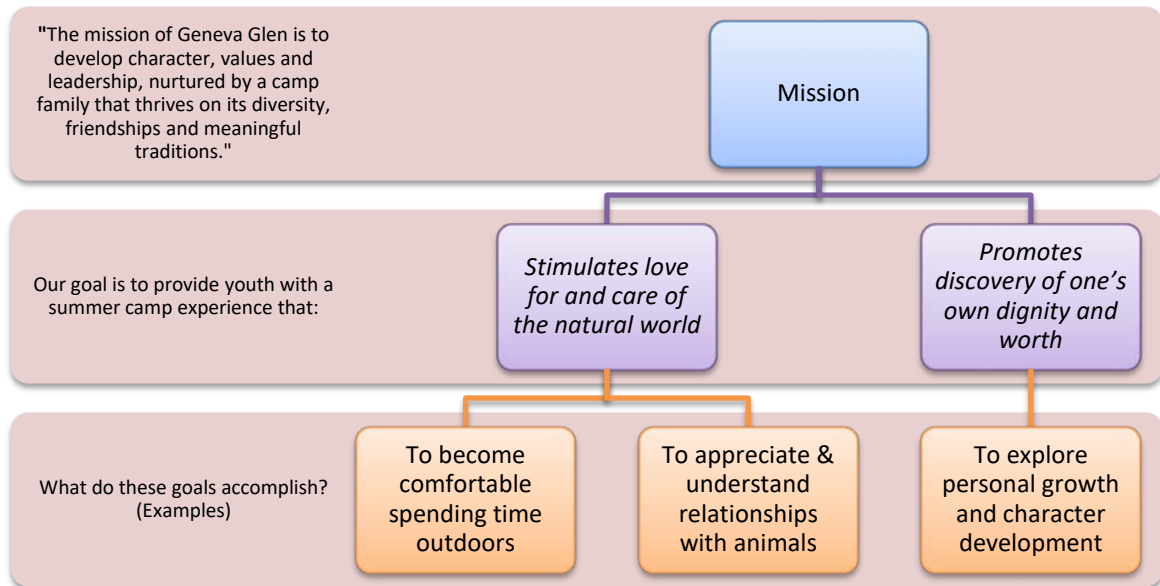
- Board of Directors
- Program Committee
- Year-Round Staff
- Area Heads

This will create a cohesive way to run the business (Board side) with infringing on the summer operation!

Purpose and Philosophy

The Critical Examination of the grounds for fundamental beliefs and an analysis of the basic concepts in the expression of such beliefs

Yikes! The philosophy of Geneva Glen is theoretical and difficult to measure. This is why we move onto Mission, Goals and Outcomes.



Geneva Glen's Mission

"The mission of Geneva Glen is to develop character, values and leadership, nurtured by a camp family that thrives on its diversity, friendships and meaningful traditions."

Geneva Glen's Goals

Our goal is to provide youth with a summer camp experience that:

- Stimulates love for and care of the natural world.
- Promotes discovery of one's own dignity and worth.
- Encourages respect for all races, creeds, and backgrounds.
- Develops commitment to enduring values and respect.
- Inspires service and responsibility to foster exemplary school and community leaders.

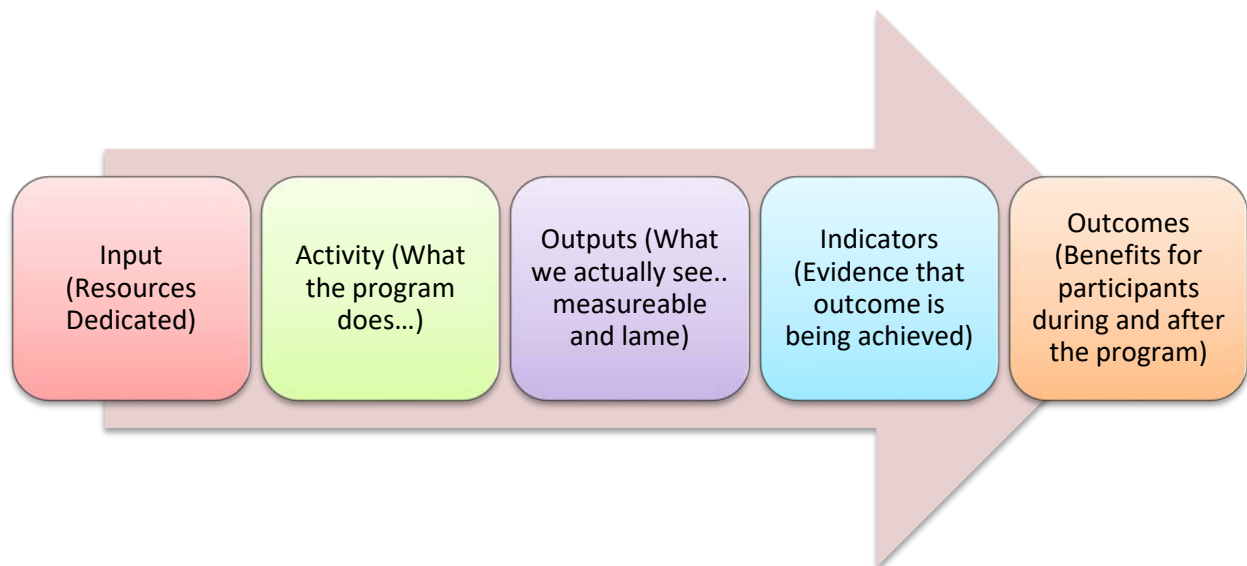
Geneva Glen's Outcomes

- Benefits during and after the program
- Helps to answer "How do you know camp was successful?"
- "Caught" vs. "Taught": Increased Intentionality
- Typical phrases "To Learn...", "To Do...", "To Become..."

You get to be the ones to determine how we measure the success of our program!

Program Design "Logic Models"

Creating a program activity intentionally

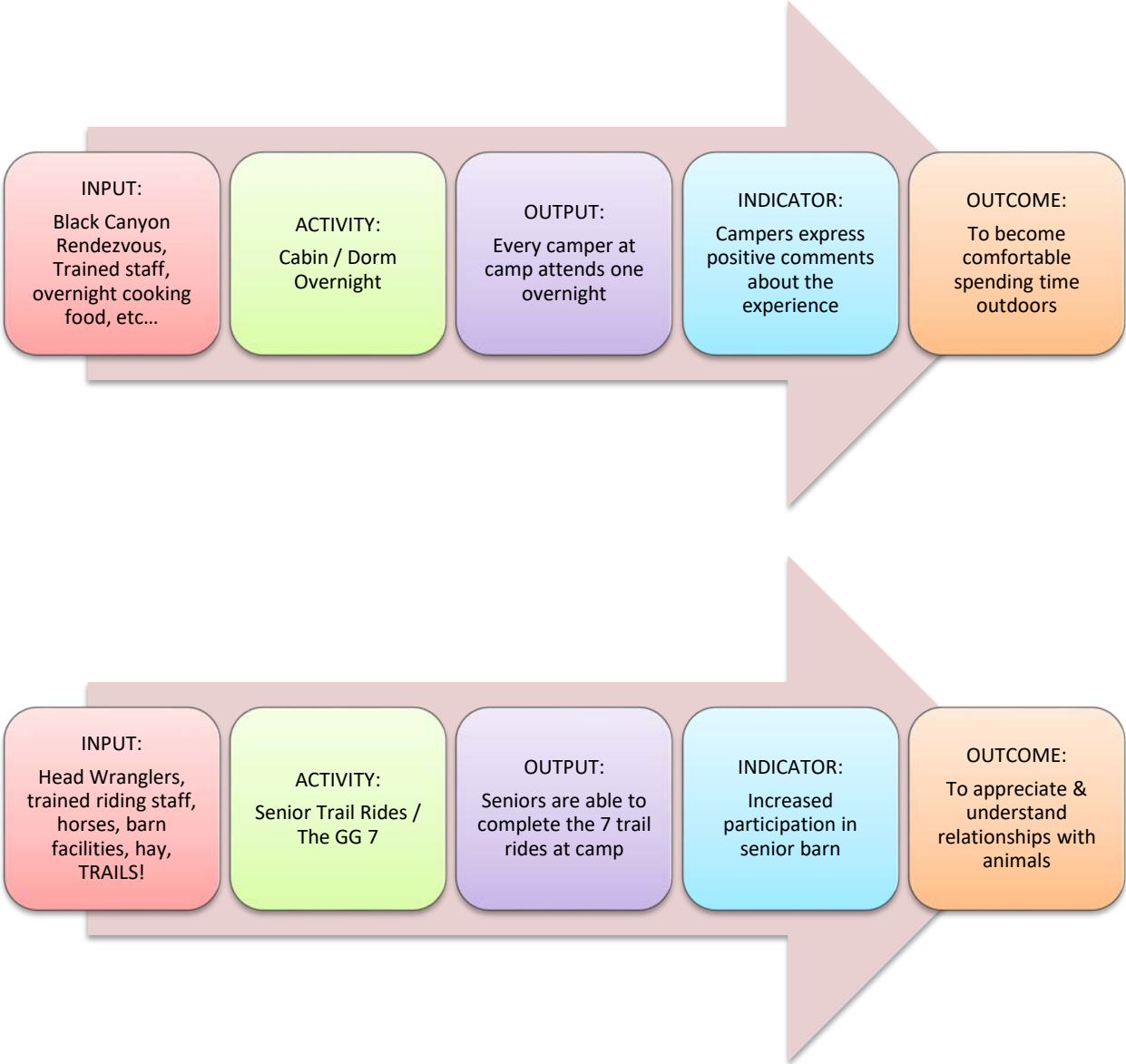


Elements

- Input: Resources, Stuff, People, Equipment, Buildings.... (Camp should provide this to you!)
- Activity: What the program does with the inputs

- Outputs: Numbers, what happened... Boring....
- Indicators: Specific, observable characteristics (Evidence)
- Outcomes: See above

Examples



Outcomes Evaluation

The Youth Outcomes Battery Elements

- Friendship Skills
- Independence
- Teamwork
- Family Citizenship
- Perceived Competence
- Interest in Exploration
- Responsibility
- Affinity for Nature

Outcomes Design Cheat Formula

“To Statement” + Outcome Battery Element + Activity = Outcome

“To Statement” + Outcome Battery Element + Activity = Outcome

These are good words to use in your Outcomes! Example Outcome: “To Increase Perceived Confidence by learning how to shoot a BB gun.”

Activity Planning

Designing the Activity

- How does the activity accomplish your outcome?
- Is the activity designed for the age characteristics and developmental needs of the children?
- Is your staff trained properly to conduct this activity?
- Will your activity “include” everyone?

Explain

- Explain it (verbal)
- Forecast the experience (what you’ll “do”)
- Show it (demonstrations)
- Test it (hands on practice before they “start”)
- Set some goals (how will it challenge campers appropriately)

Participate (Doing the Activity)

- Reinforce the positive stuff (go back to your explanation stuff)
- Critique (technique based...use those counseling skills!)
- Repetition
- “I can do it myself!”...but you can help if I need it (develops self-esteem)

Processing (Debrief)

- Ask Questions (what did you do, what did you learn, now what)
- Let the kids lead
- Highlight the key points (go back to your explanation)

Set goals for “next time”

Appendix B – Additional External Resource List

ACA Youth Outcomes Battery

- [ACA Youth Outcomes Battery.pdf](#)
- [YOB Suvery - Younger Camper.docx](#)
- [YOB Survey - Basic Camper.docx](#)
- [ACA Outcomes \(Older Camper Detailed Version\).xls](#)
- [ACA Youth Outcomes Battery Norming Tables.pdf](#)

YOB Outcomes Data Table and Analysis Charts 2014

- [ACA Outcomes \(Young Camper Version\).xlsx](#)
- [ACA Outcomes \(Older Camper Basic Version\).xlsx](#)
- [ACA Outcomes \(Older Camper Detailed Version\).xlsx](#)