



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

WELCOME TO PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP!

The NSYMCA Little Pioneers and Pathfinders summer camps offer a fun and unique experience for preschoolers. Campers will have their Best Summer Ever™ by meeting new friends, playing outside, discovering new interests, being physically active and creating memories that last a lifetime!

Attending camp with us this summer will be beneficial to each child's personal growth and development. Our camp experience teaches social skills, independence, promotes healthy physical development, and fosters peer friendship.

Participation in summer camp is a great way for parents and caregivers to keep kids' minds and bodies active while having FUN!

Please review the official Parent Guide on our Camp Website for full camp details.

Thank you for choosing us and we can't wait to meet our new friends this summer!

Ricky Gonzalez
Camp Director

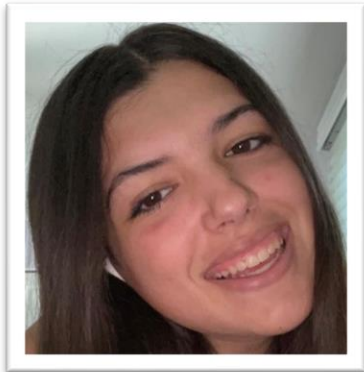
MEET OUR CAMP LEADERS!

Little Pioneers (3 yrs) – Kyla Guzman



This will be Kyla's second summer returning to our team at the NSYMCA. Last year she was an assistant with the Little Pioneers and we could not be more excited she is returning! Kyla is entering her senior year at UIC. Prior to working with us, Kyla worked part-time at a day care center, loves cats, and is gearing up for a career as a physician's assistant.

Pathfinders (4 yrs) – Anna Siddiqui



This will be Anna's third summer returning to our team at the NSYMCA. Last year she was also the head counselors for the Pathfinders and we could not be more excited she is returning! Anna currently attends Skidmore College where she is preparing for a future teaching career. Anna also works as a stage manager producing theater productions at school. Anna has extensive experience working with young children as our returning camp counselor, elementary school tutor, and as a former caregiver.



DROP-OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

Morning Drop-Off begins at 8:45 am. If you drop-off earlier than 8:45 am, your child will go to Extended AM Camp - charges will apply.

Little Pioneers & Pathfinders should park and enter through the main entrance. Do not use the drive-up drop off lines, as they are intended for elementary and middle school aged camp groups.

Little Pioneers drop-off and sign-in is outside of the K Club Youth Room room at the end of the main entrance hallway. Our staff will be waiting with signage. Pathfinders will (turn right) continue down the long hallway to our X Zone room for drop-off and sign-in.

During drop-off, the counselors will provide for you the sign in attendance form. Please sign your child(ren) in at this time.

Pick-up begins at 11:45 am (AM-only campers). Any AM-only campers not picked up by 12:00 pm will be put into Lunch Bunch - charges will apply. Parents and guardians (or authorized pick-up permission caregivers) will sign out their child(ren) each day. Please be ready to present ID at pick up.

Full-day Pathfinders pick-up begins at 3:45 PM. Any full day campers not picked up by 4:10 pm will be put into After Camp Care - charges will apply.

Pick-up locations: Little Pioneers (K Club Youth Room Room) & Pathfinders (X Zone)

Please provide ID when picking up and checking out your child. If someone else is picking up, they must be listed as an approved pick-up permission relative/friend. Email registrar@nsymca.org for all pick-up communications.

PARENTS AT CAMP POLICY

The NSYMCA summer day camp does NOT have an open-door policy. We ask that parents do their best to give a hug and kiss and say their goodbyes during the drop-off time.

Since we do not provide background checks on parents and guardians, we ask that parents and guardians do not stay to participate in camp activities (nor to simply observe).



WHAT SHOULD WE BRING?

- Swimsuit and towel (Pathfinders Tues & Fri – AM & Th PM)
- Sunscreen (please also apply on your child prior to camp)
- Closed-toed shoes (no flip flops or open-toed shoes)
- Snack(s) that don't require cooling or heating
- Reusable water bottle
- Extra pair of clothes (that can stay at the NSYMCA)
- Backpack
- Clothes appropriate for weather forecast
- Extra diapers (that can stay at the NSYMCA)

SWIMMING INFORMATION

Pathfinders campers will swim on Tuesdays and Fridays 9:30 am – 10:10 am and Thursdays 2:20 pm – 3:00 pm. Further details can be found in our camp Parent Guide. The instructional swim time will be facilitated by our experienced aquatics director, Missy Contri. For any specific swim questions, please feel free to contact Missy at MContri@NSYMCA.org.

We recommend sending your Pathfinder to camp Tuesdays and Fridays with their swim attire already on to help with the transition into the pool.

Little Pioneers DO NOT swim. However, they will have outdoor water play days. We will send email communications in regards to water days; giving families advance time to prepare.

We are very invested in providing personal growth and development opportunities for our campers in the areas of:

- Character development
- Coping skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Interpersonal skills
- Self-confidence and self-esteem
- Social emotional development

We are more than happy to set up conferences for families who would like additional information on their child's participation and successes at camp!



PATHFINDERS FULL-DAY

Full-day Pathfinder friends will take a quiet/rest time daily from 12:50 pm – 1:40 pm. Campers will all have assigned cots that we will disinfect daily. Campers do not have to sleep during this time, but they will need to remain on their cots. You are welcome to pack a tote bag with quiet/rest time activities for friends who will not sleep. Our recommendations are coloring books with crayons and/or 1-2 stuffed animals (quiet items only please). We recommend leaving your quiet/rest time tote bag at the NSYMCA for the week to be sent home on Fridays to be washed.

Please let us know if you have any specific instructions or requests for your child that we should be mindful of during quiet/rest time.

SNACK TIME

Please provide a snack for your child each day. The NSYMCA does not provide snack for preschool campers.

The NSYMCA does not have a formal peanut-free policy (or any other food restrictions). We ask our families to be mindful with their lunch and snacks of other potential common allergies. All campers wash hands before and after eating. Sharing food is never allowed.

LITTLE PIONEERS DAILY SCHEDULE

8:45 AM – 9:20 AM: DROP-OFF & FREE PLAY
9:20 AM – 9:30 AM: MORNING MEETING TIME
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM: DAILY ACTIVITY
10:00 AM – 10:20 AM: SNACK TIME
10:20 AM – 11:10 AM: PLAYGROUND & OUTDOOR GAMES
11:10 AM – 11:50 AM: FREE CHOICE PLAY / SMALL GROUP PROJECTS
11:50 AM – NOON: PICK-UP (K CLUB)

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10:00 AM – 10:20 AM: SNACK TIME
10:20 AM – 11:10 AM: PLAYGROUND & OUTDOOR GAMES
11:10 AM – 11:50 AM: SMALL GROUP PROJECTS
11:50 AM – NOON: PICK-UP (AM-ONLY CAMPERS)
12:00 PM – 12:50 PM: LUNCH & STORY TIME
12:50 PM – 1:40 PM: QUIET/REST TIME
1:40 PM – 2:00 PM: SNACK TIME
2:00 PM – 3:10 PM: FREE CHOICE PLAY / SMALL GROUP PROJECTS
3:10 PM – 3:45 PM: PLAYGROUND & OUTDOOR GAMES
3:45 PM – 4:00 PM: PICK-UP (X ZONE)



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ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Little Pioneers and Pathfinders will have weekly music and movement classes facilitated by our Performing Arts Department's Miss Val (Wednesdays - AM) and weekly art lessons facilitated by the NSYMCA Art Department's Miss Vicki (Thursdays - AM).

COMMUNICATION

We send general all-camp welcome emails every Thursday and general all-camp recap emails on Saturdays.

Additionally, photos will be shared via our Camp Website.

Any news regarding minor injuries, social conflicts and milestones will be communicated at pick-up. We will call you immediately regarding anything major, reoccurring, or urgent and important.

Please make sure the NSYMCA has your correct and current phone numbers, emails, and emergency contacts.

THANK YOU!

On behalf of everyone at the NSYMCA, thank you for choosing us as your summer camp. We know you had a lot of options and we will work very hard to ensure safety and success this summer. Please feel free to contact our Camp Director with any questions, comments, or concerns at any time!

Ricky Gonzalez
Camp Director
rgonzalez@nsymca.org