

# Welcome to Preschool Camp!

The NSYMCA Little Pioneers and Pathfinders summer camps provide a fun and enriching experience designed especially for preschoolers. Campers will have their Best Summer Ever™ as they make new friends, explore the outdoors, discover new interests, stay physically active, and create memories that last a lifetime.

Attending camp with us supports each child's personal growth and development. Our program helps build social skills, encourages independence, promotes physical wellness, and nurtures meaningful peer relationships.

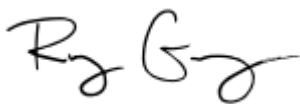
Summer camp is also a fantastic way for parents and caregivers to keep young minds and bodies active—while having tons of FUN!

## New This Summer!

We are excited to welcome Ms. Diane Hardy from 'A Hardy Party' to our weekly enrichment team! She joins our returning favorites: Ms. Vicki (weekly art lessons), Ms. Val (weekly Mini Movers class), and our popular weekly swim lessons (Pathfinders only). Full details are available on page 6.

Please be sure to review the official Parent Guide on our Camp Website for complete camp information and policies.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ricky Gonzalez".

Ricky Gonzalez  
Camp Director

## DROP-OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

**Morning Drop-Off** begins at **8:45 AM**. If you arrive earlier, your child will be placed in **Extended AM Care**, and **additional charges will apply**.

### Arrival Instructions:

- Please **park and enter through the main entrance**—do **not** use the drive-up drop-off lines, which are reserved for elementary and middle school camp groups.
- **Little Pioneers:** Drop-off and sign-in is located **outside the K Club Youth Room** at the end of the main hallway. Our staff will be there to greet you with clear signage.
- **Pathfinders:** Continue down the main hallway and **turn right** into the **X Zone Room** for drop-off and sign-in.

At drop-off, counselors will provide a sign-in sheet. **Please sign in your child(ren)** at this time.

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## PICK-UP TIMES

- **AM-Only Campers:** Pick-up begins at **11:45 AM**. Campers not picked up by **12:00 PM** will be placed in **Lunch Bunch**, and **charges will apply**.
- **Full-Day Pathfinders:** Pick-up begins at **3:45 PM**. Campers not picked up by **4:10 PM** will be placed in **After Camp Care**, and **charges will apply**.

If you are running late due to unforeseen circumstances, please call the front desk at: (847) 272-7250.

## PICK-UP LOCATIONS

- **Little Pioneers:** K Club Youth Room
- **Pathfinders:** X Zone Room

At pick-up, **all parents/guardians must present a photo ID** and sign out their child(ren). If someone else is picking up your child, they **must be listed as an authorized pick-up contact**.

You can now edit your authorized family pick-ups online through your NSYMCA account. For assistance with any updates or same-day changes, please email: [registrar@nsymca.org](mailto:registrar@nsymca.org).

## WHAT TO BRING

- **Swimsuit and towel** (Pathfinders: Tuesdays & Fridays – AM, Thursdays – PM)
  - **Sunscreen** (Preferably the spray bottle. Please apply it to your child before camp)
  - **Closed-toed shoes** (no flip-flops or open-toed shoes, please)
  - **Snack(s)** that don't require refrigeration or heating
  - **Reusable water bottle**
  - **Extra pair of clothes** (that can stay at the NSYMCA)
  - **Backpack**
  - **Clothing appropriate for the weather forecast**
  - **Extra diapers** (that can stay at the NSYMCA)
  - **Lunch** (Full-day Pathfinders only)
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## WATER SLIDE – OUTDOOR WATER FUN DAYS

This summer, we're bringing extra splash to our camp experience! We've rented a preschool-sized water slide for some exciting outdoor water play. Campers will have a blast on these special Water Slide Days. If more official outdoor water days get added (or adjusted due to weather), we will let you know. Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- **Camp Week #3** – Friday, June 27th
  - **Camp Week #5** – Friday, July 11th
  - **Camp Week #9** – Friday, August 8th
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## SWIMMING INFORMATION

- **Pathfinders** will swim on:
  - **Tuesdays & Fridays:** 9:30 AM – 10:10 AM
  - **Thursdays:** 2:20 PM – 3:00 PM
  - **Instructional swim sessions** will be led by our experienced Aquatics Director, **Missy Contri**. For any specific swim-related questions, please reach out to Missy at [MContri@NSYMCA.org](mailto:MContri@NSYMCA.org).
  - We recommend sending your Pathfinder to camp Tuesdays and Fridays with their swim attire already on to make the transition to the pool smoother.
- **Little Pioneers** do not swim. However, they will have outdoor water play days. We will send email notifications in advance to help families prepare.

## PERSONAL GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

At NSYMCA, we are committed to fostering personal growth and development in the following areas for all our campers:

- Character Development
- Coping Skills
- Problem-Solving Skills
- Interpersonal Skills
- Self-Confidence and Self-Esteem
- Social-Emotional Development

We are happy to arrange conference for families who would like additional information about their child's participation and progress at camp!

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## PARENTS AT CAMP POLICY

Please note that the **NSYMCA Summer Day Camp does not have an open-door policy**. We kindly ask that parents and guardians say their goodbyes during drop-off time with a quick hug and kiss to help ensure a smooth transition for all campers.

For the safety and security of all children, and because **background checks are not conducted on parents or guardians**, we ask that families **do not stay to observe or participate in camp activities**. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and positive environment for every camper.

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## FULL DAY PATHFINDERS – QUIET/REST TIME

Full-day Pathfinder campers will have a daily quiet/rest period from **12:50 PM to 1:40 PM**. Each camper will be assigned a personal cot, which will be disinfected daily. While campers are not required to sleep, they must remain on their cots during this time to allow for rest and relaxation.

Families are welcome to pack a quiet time tote bag for campers who prefer not to nap. We recommend including items such as a blanket, pillow, coloring book with crayons and/or 1–2 small stuffed animals. Please keep items soft and quiet. To simplify daily transitions, we suggest leaving the tote bag at the NSYMCA for the week—it will be sent home on Fridays for cleaning. If you have any **specific instructions or requests** for your child during quiet/rest time, please let us know so we can best support their needs.

## SNACK & FOOD POLICY

Please remember to **pack a snack** for your child each day, as the NSYMCA **does not provide snacks for preschool campers**.

While the NSYMCA does not have a formal peanut-free policy or specific food restrictions, we kindly ask families to be **mindful of common allergies** when packing lunches and snacks.

To support a safe environment for all campers:

- **Handwashing is required** before and after eating.
  - **Food sharing is not allowed** under any circumstances.
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## LITTLE PIONEERS DAILY SCHEDULE

- **8:45 AM – 9:20 AM:** Drop-Off & Free Play
  - **9:20 AM – 9:30 AM:** Morning Meeting
  - **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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- **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)



## ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Little Pioneers and Pathfinders will enjoy weekly enrichment classes, including:

**Music & Movement** with Miss Val from the Performing Arts Department

*Mondays – Morning*

**Art Lessons** with Miss Vicki from the NSYMCA Art Department

*Thursdays – Morning*

**"A Hardy Party"** with Miss Diane

*Wednesdays – Morning*

Enjoy crafts, face painting, cartooning, story time, and more!

*(And remember- Pathfinders only have weekly swim lessons on Tuesdays & Fridays: 9:30 AM – 10:10 AM and Thursdays: 2:20 PM – 3:00 PM).*

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## COMMUNICATION

- We will send out general all-camp **welcome emails** every Thursday and **recap emails** every Saturday to keep you informed of the week's activities.
  - Additionally, **photos** from camp will be shared via our **Camp Website**.
  - For any **minor injuries, social conflicts, or milestones**, we will provide updates at pick-up. If something **major, recurring, or urgent** arises, we will call you immediately.
  - Please ensure that the **NSYMCA has your current contact information**, including phone numbers, emails, and emergency contacts, to help us communicate effectively.
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## THANK YOU!

On behalf of everyone at the **NSYMCA**, we sincerely thank you for choosing us for your child's summer camp experience. We understand you have many options, and we are committed to ensuring both safety and success this summer.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to our **Camp Director**, Ricky Gonzalez, at any time:

Ricky Gonzalez  
Camp Director  
rgonzalez@nsymca.org