



Dear Parents and Students,

Greetings from Camp Joy! We are pleased that your child will soon participate in our Outdoor Education Program.

The **Outdoor Education Program** uses experiential teaching techniques to encourage children to explore their environment, challenge themselves, and consider their own behavioral changes based on what they have learned. Subject areas include environmental education, cultural history, and adventure education.

FACILITIES: Camp Joy is situated on 317 acres of forest, wetland, and field, with the Todd's Fork Scenic River running along the east and south boundaries. Students primarily use the six winterized modern cabins with showers and bathrooms, dining hall facility that serves healthy family style meals, indoor classroom spaces, a recreation building, an 1805 log cabin; a nature center; three adventure ropes courses; and two group initiatives courses. Camp Joy provides a great environment for fun and learning.

SUPERVISION:

- The Camp Joy teaching staff members have all had a background check, reference check, and drug screening and are certified in CPR and First Aid. They all receive extensive training in Camp Joy's programs and are responsible for instructing each class and evening program.
- Each Joy instructor holds a degree in education, recreation, natural sciences, or a related field.
- The teachers and chaperones share supervisory responsibilities during the day and are responsible for overnight supervision.
- Our expectations for behavior and discipline are outlined clearly by the Camp Joy staff at the beginning of each program. Camp Joy reserves the right to send any group or individual home because of inappropriate behavior.

ADVENTURE PROGRAMMING: Please be aware that these programs operate with the philosophy of "Challenge by Choice". This means that students may choose their level of participation by setting their own personal goals during High and Low Ropes experiences.

PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT: Please ensure that your child is prepared for this exciting educational program.

- Remind your child that Camp Joy is an alternative school with high expectations for group participation and individual behavior for our guests.
- Both pages of the Medical Information and Acknowledgment of Risk form **must** be completed for each child, teacher, and chaperone. The visiting school is responsible for dispensing medication, and notifying the Joy staff of particular medical conditions. Participating chaperones and teachers must also complete the health and risk form (NOTE: **No one may participate in any activity at Joy without this form and all necessary medication, such as an inhaler or Ritalin**).
- Send weather appropriate clothing! Refer to the packing list for "dos and don'ts". **Participants may be removed from an activity if inadequate clothing for weather conditions causes a safety hazard.**
- In order not to spread diseases and unwanted infestations please make sure your child is healthy, does not have lice and that the luggage, sleeping bags etc are free of fleas, bed bugs etc.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE: Camp Joy instructors are certified in First Aid and CPR. The staff are trained in related safety procedures and are on duty 24 hours each day. In case of sickness or accident, parents will be notified as soon as possible. The Clarksville Volunteer Fire Department provides emergency service. Clinton Memorial Hospital is located in Wilmington, just 12 miles away.

PHONE CALLS: Please refrain from calling unless it is an emergency as we wish to keep the students focused on the program. Between 8am-4pm, call (937)289-2031. After 4pm call our On-Call Cell Phone (937)725-4036.

VISITORS: In order to keep our participants safe we have a check-in process and meeting for each group as they arrive at camp. If you are planning a visit and/or are not coming at the beginning of the program please make sure that the school coordinator is aware so they can inform the Camp Joy staff. Ideally, we discourage visitors during our program so that the child may have an independent experience. Please remember that all guests need to complete a Medical Information and Acknowledgment of Risk form.

MAIL: Students wishing to write home should bring addressed, stamped envelopes. Student mail should be addressed as follows: Attn.: Child's Name; Child's School

Camp Joy
PO Box 157
Clarksville, OH 45113

We are looking forward to meeting your child, and feel confident that he or she will come home enthusiastic to share the JOY experience with you. Please contact us at if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Randy Ryberg
Outdoor Education Manager
(937) 289-9139

Candice Wonder
Outdoor Education Assistant Manager
(937) 289-9139