

Creative Themes LIT Overview

Please read the following outline for the Leader-In-Training (LIT) programs at Creative Themes Day Camp. These programs are not for everyone; they are regimented and demanding. Talk this program over with your parents and make sure you are willing to make the commitment before they make the financial commitment. Because of interest in these programs and the disruption it causes, we will not prorate time missed from the sessions.

The LIT program at Creative Themes provides an exciting opportunity for campers entering 8th and 9th grades to take positive risks to grow, explore and have fun. In keeping with the Creative Themes philosophy, we strive to provide an atmosphere conducive to the creative expression of self; to create an atmosphere in which campers become aware of, and learn a healthy respect for their environment. The LIT programs are designed to assist youth in developing skills in team building, problem solving, leadership and self-confidence. Each LIT is asked to commit to a "Full Value Contract," to ensure the proper and effective execution of the program.

This contract includes:

- Adhere to certain safety and group behavior guidelines set down by the staff and the group.
- Give and receive honest feedback.
- Increase my awareness to when I am putting down or devaluing others or myself.
- Challenge by Choice.

Safety, whether it is physical or emotional, is essential for the group and individual to move forward. If the staff does not feel the group is ready for the next level of challenge, we will work together to achieve the necessary skills. Open and cooperative communication for the group helps instill trust and respect for each other. We promote caring attitudes for others while at the same time appreciate our strengths, weaknesses and differences. Individual differences are seen as an asset to the group. It is our expectation that each LIT actively participates in the activities to the best of their abilities. We operate under the guidelines of "Challenge by Choice" which helps the campers become involved in each activity, whether they are giving support to others or are receiving assistance. While LITs are considered campers, it is our expectation that they act as role models for the rest of camp. Appropriate behavior, language and dress show an example to the camp that they are "leaders" in training. There are opportunities for the LITs to take on leadership roles during special events and activities. There is flexibility in the schedule for the group to learn advanced camp skills. These activities will be discussed with the LITs and the staff to determine their level of interest at the beginning of the session.

The summer of 2012 at Creative Themes features new and unique programs for 8th and 9th graders. (Note: Enrollment is limited to 4 weeks of programming and should not duplicate a program for this age group. (Example: LIT can only sign up for either L2 or L5 not both). For more information call the camp office.)

Teens may decide one program is more their style or they would like to try a few different ones. All programs will allow teens to develop and challenge their leadership skills. These programs will utilize "Adventure Based Programming", Creative Themes' excellent Adventure Based staff, and 29 years of leadership programming.

L1 and L6 TEAM CAMP

A week full of teambuilding events blended with traditional camp activities. This group will be expected to plan and run an activity for the campers in the day camp program. This will take planning, teamwork and cooperation with each other. This session does include traditional camp activities but this will not be an all day choice. Teens will be expected at all times to be a good role model.

L2 and L5 TEAM/CHALLENGE

The Team/Challenge program will stress the teambuilding, problem solving and group participation activities required to be part of or lead a team. Games, Low and High Adventure and a special out-of-camp trip (all LIT's expected to go) will make this a fun and challenging program. This program can be physically demanding, some of the games can be challenging. Some teens may not be able to do the all activities and as long as they are willing to be part of the group they may still enjoy this session.

L3 and L4 ADVENTURE CHALLENGE

A one week session of High ropes activities. The Challenge program will stress the individual leadership skills and the building of self-confidence. Although teambuilding and problem solving will be a part of this program, the individual challenges will be highly stressed. This is the most physically demanding of the programs. LIT's are expected to participate in the activities and there will not be an alternate activity offered. The may choice to just to a part of the activity but will be expected to maintain their presence on the group.