

Blue Lake Summer Camp Leader in Training (LIT) program

The Leader in Training (LIT) provides a unique opportunity to inspire Camp Leaders of tomorrow. As an LIT at Camp Perigot, campers will learn leadership and supervision skills needed to succeed in the future working with children in a camp environment.

Expected outcomes:

- Gain a better understanding of how to be a leader.
- Become accountable to others and learn how to interact in a team environment.
- Gain skills through hands on experiences with areas such as team building, game play, arts and crafts, etc. for use in future employment in a similar field.
- Develop role modeling skills and learn how to navigate behavioral issues of children.
- Increase self-confidence through goal-setting and accomplishments.
- Learn from experienced staff through collective wisdom, knowledge and understanding.

Daily Interactions with Camp Coordinator and Staff:

- All LITs will come promptly to work no later than 8:45 a.m. and check in with the Camp Coordinator.
- The Camp Coordinator will lay out the plan for each day with LITs, assign each LIT to shadow another Camp Leader, explain expectations, assign other roles as needed, and lay out any last minute updates.
- LITs will be placed within a specific age group when the collective camp group is split up for different age groups (i.e. 13-14 age LIT = youngest campers 5-9 yrs old; 15-16 age LIT = oldest campers 10-12 yrs old). When assigning a counselor to shadow, this should be taken into account.
- Weekly on Mondays, Camp Coordinator or Parks and Recreation Director will sit with each LIT to lay out **one leadership goal** for the week.
- At the end of the week, LITs will be evaluated on overall advancement on proposed goal at the beginning of the week, overall interaction with staff and campers, and new skills acquired. Only constructive criticism will be given to help LITs grow.

Role of the LIT:

LITs can provide an extra set of eyes on the playground or skate floor for safety and supervision, however they should never be left in charge of supervision or disciplining of children without a Camp Leader present.

While some of the tasks that an LIT may perform is that of a "gopher" or "custodian", an LIT is present to learn, aid, and become future leaders and these tasks should not be the **ONLY** ones given to an LIT.

Examples of LIT tasks are:

- Roller Skate Helper - hand out skates to campers & restock as needed, help skaters learn how to skate, assist those who fall down on the skate floor, teach/lead/help with skate games.
- Set up arts and crafts while projects are being explained - during daily check in time is the perfect time to explain to an LIT what the craft project is, where the supplies are, and what to set up and when.
- Set up game materials while other leaders are explaining games.
- Bring up the end of the line during walking field trips.
- Vacuum at the end of the day.
- Help one on one with a camper who may be having a hard time making friends or adjusting to the camp environment.

By the end of the summer, a first year LIT should be able to lead a simple game and/or craft, with minimal help from a Camp Leader.

LIT Training:

LIT's should receive a couple hours of training prior to Camp starting. This training would include basic skate use training (how to check out skates, how to clean and fix skates if needed, restock skates properly, etc.), basic tour of the facility, where supplies are located (both games and arts/crafts), basic first aid skills (how to properly take care of a cut, bump, etc.), expectations and some scenarios of what could happen with interactions between campers and/or interactions between staff. This training could take place in conjunction with regular staff training so that all staff and LITs can partake, learn, and contribute.

Thank you for your willingness to serve as an LIT for Camp Perigot!