

2024 CAMP MER-IDA-MOO POLICIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

I. WELCOME TO CAMP MER-IDA-MOO

Welcome to Meridian Parks and Recreation Camp MER-IDA-Moo Summer Day Camp program! These week-long day camps are offered for children ages 6 – 11; or 5 if they have finished kindergarten. Day Camp activities are designed to encourage healthy recreational play and meet the physical and social needs of your child. Activities may include recreational games, arts, crafts, fieldtrips, swimming, park visits and guest speakers.

We recommend that parents familiarize themselves with the policies and procedures of CAMP MER-IDA-MOO and talk to their children about the program's rules and expectations. A successful camp experience hinges on regular and transparent communication between staff and parents. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation in a youth day camp, please reach out to us via the contact information provided below.

We are excited for another wonderful summer with your children at our camps!

II. CONTACT US

Jenna Fletcher Recreation Coordinator jfletcher@meridiancity.org 208-888-3579	Rachel Jones Summer Camp Coordinator rjones@meridiancity.org 208-888-3579
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III. CAMP MER-IDA-MOO LOCATIONS

Discovery Elementary 2100 E. Leigh Field Dr. 208 – 513 - 4396	Siena Elementary 2870 E. Rome Dr. 208 – 513 - 3674
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IV. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All camp registration is done through Meridian Parks and Recreation Main office (33 E. Broadway Ave.), online or over phone (208-888-3579). All participants will need to have a completed and signed child profile sheet before the first day of camp. A new profile sheet will need to be filled out if they attend a new site. **Profile sheets can be found [HERE](#).**

V. REFUNDS

A request for a refund must be submitted to the Meridian Parks and Recreation office at least **two full working days prior to the activity start date** (the Wednesday at noon before the start of camp on Monday). All refunds are subject to a \$5.00 service charge.

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VI. CAMP MER-IDA-MOO HOURS

Camp runs Monday – Friday from 9:00 am. – 4:00 p.m. Camp will run for nine weeks at both Discovery Elementary and Siena Elementary from June 3 – August 2.

All camps will be closed on Thursday July 4, 2024, and Friday July 5, 2024.

VII. SIGNING IN AND OUT

A parent, guardian, or other authorized individual listed on the child profile sheet are required to sign the participant in and out of the program each day unless the participant is authorized to walk/bike to and from day camp. **A picture ID is required for all individuals picking up a participant. Individuals authorized to sign the participant in or out must be at least 18 years old.**

Participants can be dropped off at 9:00 a.m., and we ask that your child arrives by 9:30 a.m., as that is when organized activities will start, and the bus will be departing on field trip days. All participants must be picked up by 4:00 p.m. Please park your car and walk to the sign-in/out table located in the school.

Request for emergency pickup by someone who is not listed on the child profile sheet must be submitted in writing, either in person or scanned/emailed to jfletcher@meridiacity.org before 3:00 p.m. the day of pickup. The letter must contain: child’s name, day camp site, date and the name of the individual picking up the child along with the parent/guardian’s signature and a copy of photo ID. Please note that the individual picking up the participant must also show their photo ID.

Phone or verbal requests or changes will not be accepted.

VIII. SCHEDULE/CALENDAR

Parents/guardians will receive a schedule/calendar of activities via email in the week before the first day of camp. Copies will also be available at the sign-in/out table on the first day of camp.

IX. MEALS/SNACKS

Participants will need to bring a full water bottle (labeled with name), two snacks, and a cold lunch. Please note that refrigeration and microwaves are not available at day camp sites. Please remember that your child will be expending lots of energy each day and pack their lunch accordingly.

X. ILLNESS

Participants diagnosed with a communicable disease, infection, rash, head lice, etc. must present a doctor’s release before returning to camp. Please do not send your child to camp if they are not feeling well, have or are suspected to have any contagious disease (e.g., COVID-19, strep throat, pink eye, chicken pox, etc.) or are experiencing any of the below symptoms (not including allergies or other known medical conditions) for 24 hrs.:

Fever over 100.4F	Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
Fatigue	Muscle or body aches
Sore Throat	Congestion or runny nose
Nausea	Vomiting
Rash/open sores	Diarrhea

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If your child becomes sick while at day camp, you will be notified and will be expected to pick up the child within one hour. If staff is unable to reach you, they will call the emergency numbers listed on the child profile sheet.

XI. POOL DAYS

Campers may swim once a week at the Meridian Pool depending on the day camp site. Swimming will take place from 1:15 – 3:00 p.m. All campers must take a swim test if they wish to go down the slides or the diving boards. Campers must take the swim test EACH time they visit the pool. The test includes demonstrated competency in each of these skills:

- Enter water by jumping feet first – without use of ladder, parent, or wall
- Tread water for 30 seconds – must keep chin and head above water the entire time
- Transition from treading water, to a back float for 15 seconds
- Swim using front crawl, freestyle, or breaststroke for distance indicated by lifeguard issuing swim test
- Front crawl must be on top of water, not underwater glide, or extended time underneath surface

Participants who can swim but cannot pass the swim test may play in the pool but cannot use the slides or diving boards. **To see wristband/pool access after completing swim test please click [HERE](#)**

XII. FIELD TRIPS

Day camp participants will go on field trips or have a guest speaker depending on the week. Schedules will be sent out prior to the start of each week.

XII. CODE OF CONDUCT

All participants, parents, and guardians are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the following policies and procedures. The goals of Camp Mer-IDA-Moo are:

- To ensure that the rights of all individuals are protected while attending the camp;
- To establish the safest and best possible learning environment for all camp participants; and
- To ensure that breaches of the rules and code of conduct are treated in a fair and consistent manner.

To meet these goals, participants are responsible to, at all times:

- Follow the instructions given by Camp staff;
- Treat one another, staff, and property with respect; and
- Behave in a way which does not endanger or interfere with the participation of themselves or others.

All campers are entitled to a pleasant and harmonious environment at Camp. The program cannot serve participants who display chronic, severe, or disruptive behaviors.

As feasible, in dealing with disruptive behaviors, Camp MER-IDA-MOO staff will use positive reinforcement, problem-solving, and assignment of logical consequences. However, if these methods

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do not result in changed behavior, parents may be notified. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Use of language that is profane, sexual, sexist, racist, violent, or threatening
- Inappropriate gestures
- Pushing, shoving, spitting, kicking, biting, hitting, or other physical harm
- Damage to city property
- Non-compliance with applicable rules
- Disregarding verbal warnings or otherwise disrespecting others
- Inappropriate touching

If disruptive behavior occurs, the following steps will be used:

1. Warning and time out. Staff will talk to camper and discuss appropriate behavior. If necessary, staff will impose a supervised “time out.” A “time out” is not a punishment, but rather a method of helping a participant consider their actions and regain control of their behavior by making a different choice.

2. Incident report to parent/guardian. Parent or guardian will be notified of the disruptive behavior via written Incident Report.

3. Program Coordinator call. Program Coordinator will call participant’s parent or guardian and discuss behavior and course of action to correct inappropriate behavior. The participant may be suspended from camp temporarily.

4. Expulsion. Program Coordinator will call participant’s parent or guardian and notify them of the participant’s expulsion from the program.

As may be deemed appropriate in the Program Coordinator’s sole discretion, any of the above steps may be combined or skipped. **The Program Coordinator may immediately expel from the program any camper who:**

- Runs away from the staff or goes off-site
- Seriously harms or threatens to seriously harm themselves or another person
- Engages in a pattern of physical or verbal abuse or bullying
- Sexually harasses another person
- Uses, possesses, or claims to be using or possess illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, incendiaries, fireworks, matches, explosives, or weapons
- Presents a safety issue to any person
- Presents a serious behavior challenge to staff