



Dear Campers and Parents,

Thank you for choosing to participate in the March Sorcerers Safari, Canada's premier magic camp for young magicians. We are looking forward to spending an interesting, educational and exciting time away from our daily routines. This information package contains all of the material that you need in order to register for the March camp and ensure that your place is reserved. As well, the package outlines important instructions regarding how to properly prepare for your stay with us. We encourage both campers and parents to read all of the information in this kit, so that the campers are fully prepared to make this a camp experience of a lifetime.

Our host camp is a first rate establishment, complete with comfortable sleeping accommodations and many modern facilities. However, please keep in mind that it is a camp and it is March in Canada, as such, the items packed, in particular clothing should be practical more than fashionable. Our focus is on learning magic while having fun, two themes that are easy to combine. Campers should be sure to bring any magic items that they wish to work on, above and beyond the materials, which we will supply, for doing the workshops.

If you have any questions, whatsoever, please call us at our office. We'll be pleased to speak with you. March Break is promising to be a very magical week. See you soon!!

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## **Preparing both You and Your Child for Camp at the Sorcerers Safari**

### **Prior To Camp:**

1. Explain some of the important events in your child's history to the administrators. We will pass these notes to camp staff so that all of us can be more sensitive and aware of your child's needs. At the same time, we will ensure that these notes will remain confidential amongst only these key people.
2. Prepare your child to make his/her own bed and carry out simple housekeeping tasks. An important part of the camp experience is clean up. With the help of every camper, this can be a very painless and expedient activity.
3. We encourage you to talk positively about camp at all times so that your child will anticipate a positive camp experience.
4. Please do not discuss the prospect of homesickness as this can often increase your child's level of anxiety. If homesickness does occur during your child's stay at camp, we have well-trained staff who have had experience in dealing with this transitory aspect of a child's reaction to being away from home.
5. Prepare your child for taking care of him/herself. Winter coats should be worn in the cold and snow. Although their councilors will serve as constant reminders of good hygiene and health, we cannot stress enough the importance of preventative health care.
6. The Staff at the Sorcerers Safari will enforce the table manners and personal grooming habits that we assume have been taught at home.
7. Talk to your children about such topics as darkness, space, noise etc. in the country as compared to the more familiar city environment.
8. It is important for your child to recognize his/her own clothing. In order to do that, please label all items clearly. It is imperative that all items brought to the camp have a label. Lost article can easily be returned if the camper's name is clearly visible. Iron-on labels are discouraged since they tend to fall off. Although sewn-on labels or laundry markers are much more tedious methods of identification, they are also more reliable. At the same time, it would be useful for your child to pack his/her duffel bag with you so that he/she will know where everything is at the time of unpacking.
9. Parting day farewells often show the feeling that parents have toward their children and vice versa. Although this can be a difficult and emotional time, remember that your child needs to concentrate on what he/she has to look forward to rather than what he/she has left behind.

## **Post Camp:**

1. After camp, you should recognize your child's achievements, such as new tricks that were learned or new friends that were made. Encourage your child to talk about camp and help develop the apparent improvement in his/her behaviors and attitudes. Remember that a little praise and encouragement goes a long way.
2. By following the above guidelines, you will have actively participated in your child's experience at the camp. Both you and your child will be better prepared for a rewarding and enriching experience at the Sorcerers Safari.

## **Baggage:**

Given that the camp is only five days in duration, we encourage you to pack only the items your child might need. Do not pack food or water. Be sure to pack fragile items such as props, very carefully. The staff has been instructed to refuse any items that are not deemed essential. We recommend using duffel bags, as they require no locking device, are lighter and easier to handle and store. Please ensure that all of your child's bags are clearly marked and tagged.

## **Confidential Registration Form:**

A PARENT or LEGAL GUARDIAN must complete this form. A physician need not be contacted for this information since they will charge for this service. Please forward the completed form to the Camp Administrator at your earliest convenience but no later than March 1st, 2008. Please ensure that the immunization dates are accurate. The Camp will cover all normal medical expenses, which are carried out on our site. Any camper requiring hospital services (i.e., x-rays, blood tests, etc.) that are not covered by O.H.I.P. will be at the expense of the Parent. Campers on regular medication should bring a sufficient supply for their camp stay. Out-of-province campers may want to carry some sort of private health insurance. This form provides important information - take your time filling it out and please take it seriously. Accurate and honest information will allow us to place your child in activities that are suitable to his/her skill level. This will prevent him/her from being bored or bewildered in any given activity. Our goal is to provide your child with the best possible camp experience. Finally, please be certain that your child's Health Card number is correctly recorded, including the VERSION CODE.

## **Special Medication:**

If your child uses medication, allergy injections, pills or special equipment, which you are sending with him/her to camp, be sure they are labeled with your child's name and the necessary instructions (include dose & side effects). Please bring these Items to the camp and give them directly to one of our camp staff.

## **Departure & Arrival:**

Arrival is Monday March 10<sup>th</sup> in the morning and departure will be on Friday March 14<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. We will contact you directly with all details, after the application has been received at our office. Unfortunately, we cannot supply transportation to or from the camp grounds.

## **Dismissal from Camp:**

Although all of our staff is aware of the regulations that govern cigarette smoking, alcohol consumption, stealing or the use of illegal drugs, we feel it is important for the campers and the parents to be aware of them as well.

No campers are allowed to smoke. If caught, the camper will immediately be asked to leave camp. No refund will be issued and the parents must arrange their own transportation. The Camp Administrator will notify the parents by telephone. For obvious reasons, stealing, alcohol, drugs and bullying are forbidden and will result in dismissal and possible legal action. Campers will be given a warning for minor infractions. However, if the camper shows no response and continues with behavior that jeopardizes the safety or well being of themselves and others, the camp reserves the right to dismiss the camper, with no refund.

Camp staff is trained for such problems as homesickness and bullying. Staff will not use inappropriate treatment or discipline of a camper. However, all behavioral matters should be disclosed in the camper profile to alert staff of potential problems.

Please make sure that your child is aware of these policies and that they understand them.

## **Meals & Menus:**

Every effort possible is made to provide our campers with the best food and most creative menus. Obviously, it is impossible to please every camper but we try. Campers who are allergic to certain food items can be accommodated if we know in advance. Those who

require vegetarian meals will be offered an alternative main course, but the variety will not be the same as those on regular diets.

Please keep in mind that prior to camp we **MUST** receive either a parental or medical acknowledgement in writing that a camper is vegetarian, kosher or has a food allergy in order for us to provide the proper meal

### **Other Items:**

The Camp makes every effort to supply our campers with most of the equipment necessary to participate in camp activities, including all materials necessary for participation in the magic workshops. However, campers are welcome to bring any additional magic items that they wish (e.g. tricks that they have been working on or that they may wish to perform while at camp). Don't forget to bring a **flashlight** (with extra batteries). Items which must be left at home, include: jewelry, electronic games, walkmans, CD players, knives, lighters, water guns, laser pointers, cell phones, pagers and walkie talkies.

### **Suggested Clothing List:**

#### **Clothing**

- 3 pairs of long pants (jeans or sweatpants)
- 1 heavy jacket, gloves and/or mittens, winter hat and snow pants
- 6 pairs of socks
- 3 sweaters or sweatshirts, 5 t-shirts
- 1 pair of slippers
- 2 pairs of pajamas
- 6 underwear
- 2 pairs of shoes
- 1 pair of warm winter boots
- 1 raincoat

#### **Toiletries**

- 2 towels
- 1 face cloth
- 1 laundry bag
- 1 brush and comb
- 1 bar of soap (with containers)
- 1 toothbrush and paste
- 1 hair shampoo
- 1 nail clippers
- 1 toiletry bag

If your child wears glasses, send an extra pair, in case of damage or loss.