

April 20, 2011

Dear Parents,

Dream BIG Day Camp is a young people's world. It provides children with an environment in which they can flourish. It plants seeds of growth and cultivates the individual through the developmental stages. It enhances the child by offering support, understanding, acceptance, concern and love.

The creators of the environment are experienced, well trained camp staff. Contributing to the creation of the child's world can be a truly exciting and rewarding experience.

Thank you for sharing your children with us this summer and allowing us the opportunity to immerse them in an entirely different experience. We live in the child's world for ten weeks and it's there that we will hopefully discover parts of them that are essential to their own growth, development and enhancement.

We appreciate your trust and confidence and we are excited to be taking this journey together with you and your child.

Sincerely,

Mary & George Stein  
Owners/Directors

## **Dream BIG Day Camp Philosophy**

We encourage personal growth in each child by providing an excellent program facilitated by nurturing and highly trained staff. Anchored in this safe and supportive community, each camper will hopefully have fun, acquire new skills, feel valued for who they are and develop a sense of belonging.

The core philosophy of Dream BIG Day Camp is to empower all children to find their own “place in the sun” while having tons of fun and improving their skills. We recognize campers for their efforts as well as for being good citizens. Since Dream BIG Day Camp is group oriented the campers primarily participate with their respective groups, thus sharing common experiences and developing greater friendships.

The camp gathers together as a community EVERY morning and afternoon to sing, acknowledge birthdays, celebrate lost teeth and just be generally goofy together! We hand out “Fuzzies” to those who have either tried hard or done something kind for another person that day. The “Fuzzies” are the cornerstone of the camp’s ethos. Our goal is for ALL campers and staff to feel valued based on their inner qualities and thus feel a sense of inclusion and connectedness.

We want you, as a parent, to call us ANYTIME with a concern. We all want the highest quality experience possible for your child and if a call or visit enhances this, then by all means we want you to do so. Should any concerns arise that we need to apprise you of or need your assistance with, we will never hesitate to call.

Please understand that we, Mary and George, are not always readily available when you call. We are primarily out amongst the campers and staff for the balance of the day. Frequently we will return calls after 3:30 p.m., excluding of course those matters that require immediate attention.

## **Enrollment & Tuition**

Dream BIG Day Camp welcomes children ages 4-10 years old. Campers must be 4 years old by June 1 of the summer they are enrolling for camp. Enrollment can be done via our website or by calling the camp office at 303.377.1805.

Dream BIG Day Camp is in operation Monday-Friday from June 6-August 12, 2011.

Session 1-June 6 - June 24

Session 2-June 27 - July 15 (There is no camp on Monday, July 4th.)

Session 3-July 18 - August 5

Baseball Camp-August 8 - August 12

Basketball Camp-August 8 - August 12

Coolinary Camp-August 8 - August 12

Dance Camp - August 8 - August 12

Dream World - August 8 - August 12

Lacrosse Camp-August 8 - August 12

Soccer Camp 1-June 13 - June 17

Soccer Camp 2-August 8 - August 12

Camp tuition for 2011 is \$465 per week for full day campers or \$330 per week for mini day campers (available option for current pre-K & Kindergarten only). Campers may enroll for three, six or nine weeks of camp. All families must be paid in full before their child can attend Dream BIG Day Camp. Tuition is 100% refundable until April 15. The fees for the one week specialty camps range from \$220 - \$395.

Provided there is room, families looking to “extend” during the summer for another session are welcome to do so. You may also extend from a “mini day” to a full day schedule provided we have availability in the full day group for your child’s age.

## Typical Day

Dream BIG Day Camp drop off is from 8:30-8:45 a.m. each day. Mini campers stay until 12:30 p.m. and full day campers stay until 3:00 p.m. We ask that children not be dropped off earlier than 8:30 a.m. and picked up no later than 5:00 p.m. **PARENTS MAY NEVER LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED.** The Dream BIG office will be staffed from 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. daily.

Parents are invited to meet the staff members for their child's group from 2-3 PM on Friday, June 10 (Session 1); Friday July 1 (Session 2); and Friday, July 22 (Session 3). We will email more details about this as we get closer.

**Grandparent Day** is Wednesday, June 15; Wednesday, July 6; and Wednesday, July 27. We ask that Grandparents select one day only if their grandchild is at Dream BIG for more than one session. Visiting is from 9 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

**Dream BIG theatrical performances** will be on the morning of Thursday, June 23; Thursday, July 14; and Thursday, Aug. 4. Parents are invited to attend and exact times will be determined at a later date.

## Drop Off Procedures

When you arrive at camp with your child you will see our staff direct you. Our staff will greet you and your child and escort your child out of the vehicle and to the appropriate place. The same will be done at pick up in the afternoon. **In order to ensure safety and ease for everyone, we ask that you remain in your vehicle during drop off and pick up times.**

If you walk your child to camp and/or pick them up in a similar fashion our staff will greet you and your child and take them to the appropriate place. Please make sure you sign in your child with the "WALK INS" staff member. The same procedure will occur at pick up times. Exact drop off and pick up points will be communicated before camp starts.

## **Extended Care**

Dream BIG Day Camp offers extended care from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for an additional \$25 per day (each additional child is \$10 per day). This form can be found online at our website.

## **Absences or Late Drop off**

If a camper is late or absent that day, we ask that parents call and notify the office by 9:00 a.m. It is important for us to know if your child is ill, and if so, if the illness is communicable (e.g. strep, vomiting, pink eye etc.). Campers arriving late to camp should be escorted by a parent to the office. Campers will then be escorted to their groups after sign in.

## **Change of Information**

Dream BIG Day Camp asks families to notify camp of any changes in their place of living or employment. Dream BIG Day camp must have working emergency numbers at all times so we can reach parents/guardians in case of emergency.

## **Discipline Policy**

We feel that close ratios are an important factor in your child's experience so EVERY child will feel included and get the proper staff support and attention. You can expect a 4:1 ratio in your child's group. For example, a group of 16 campers will have at least 4 staff members.

Our goal at Dream BIG Day Camp is to provide a healthy, fun, safe and positive environment for campers, parents and staff. Verbal praise, positive feedback and "Fuzzies" are what Dream BIG is all about. Campers are recognized in the community frequently for trying hard and doing nice things for others.

Negative behavior will be discouraged, alternatives/choices given and conflicts defused. It may be necessary to remove a child from a negative situation and have them engage in another activity.

Immersion in the group is done in a sensitive yet proactive manner. Hitting, biting or bullying is not tolerated at Dream BIG Day Camp.

Our partnering with parents is conducive to each child's development and success at camp. Therefore Dream BIG Day Camp is always available to discuss a camper's progress, challenges, behavior and other physical needs. Means such as pictures of campers/activities on the website, proactive phone calls/emails and individually scheduled meetings all contribute to this partnering process.

Dream BIG Day Camp welcomes parents/legal guardians to provide the camp with a full understanding of their child. We kindly ask each family to share interests, temperaments, challenges and any other information that may be helpful in working with your child.

If a camper is struggling emotionally, socially or physically the Directors will contact parents/legal guardians to strategize so the camper can feel successful at camp. Every effort will be made to ensure the emotional and physical safety of each child.

Dream BIG Day Camp welcomes feedback from parents, staff and campers. This is done through surveys, staff orientation evaluations, end-of-summer reports and an open line of communication 24/7 with parents.

## **Picking up Someone Else's Child**

Parents/legal guardians wishing unauthorized individuals to pick up their camper MUST contact Dream BIG Day Camp as early as possible to grant verbal authorization for this individual. If parents wish to add an individual to their camper's list they must do so in writing. Identification must be verified for those individuals we are unfamiliar with.

## Early Pick-Up

During camp hours, please check in at the office when you are picking up your child. If parents/legal guardians are not known by the office staff and are picking up their children early, they must show proper identification.

The same procedures apply for campers staying after 3:00 p.m. The sign-out list will be present in the main office for authorized individuals to sign.

## Medical Information

When possible, Dream BIG Day Camp encourages parents to dispense medications to campers at home prior to coming to camp. In the event of a camper needing medication at camp, Dream BIG Day Camp must have all medications and written instructions from the parents. Prescribed medications must be in their original bottles/containers with a pharmacy label. **Medications will only be dispensed with a doctor's written approval.**

Each camper must have a current health form on file before they can attend Dream BIG Day Camp. All immunizations must be up to date and signed by a licensed physician or a representative of the state or local health department.

## Communicable Diseases

Please keep your child at home if they have indication of any illnesses including fever, vomiting, diarrhea, eye infections, sore throat, ear and head aches. If your child displays any of these symptoms we may call to have you pick up your child from camp.

## **Infectious Diseases**

All staff is trained in the use of Universal Precautions for infectious diseases. With any incidents involving bodily fluids, staff will use gloves and clean up with a bleach solution.

## **Allergies**

Dream BIG Day Camp is a peanut free environment. Camper allergies must be noted on Health Forms. All campers should arrive each morning with sunscreen already applied. We will reapply throughout the day. All campers must be toilet trained.

Children are required to bring their own healthy lunch and a drink or may order through our online lunch program. Morning and afternoon snacks will be provided. If your child has a severe food allergy and cannot have our snacks please educate us on this matter so they can have an alternative. Dream BIG Day Camp offers services to special needs children in compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act.

## **Forms**

The Department of Human Services has the right to suspend any child who does not have the appropriate required forms on file. All forms can be completed online at [dreambigdaycamp.com](http://dreambigdaycamp.com).

**Camper Information Form**

**Colorado Child Protection from Abuse Form**

**Extended Care Form (optional)**

**Health History Form**

**Immunization Form**

**Off-Site Permission Form**

**Parent Authorization Form**

**Physicians Examination Form**

**Pick up Authorization Form**

**Sunscreen Permission Form**

## **Personal Belongings**

Dream BIG Day Camp will provide storage for campers' personal belongings. Please label your child's clothing, towels and equipment for identification. Campers should wear sneakers and a hat each day. Backpacks should include a swimsuit, towel, water shoes, baseball glove and sunscreen.

In the event of an accident, we kindly ask that a change of clothing accompany younger children to camp on the first day. Backpacks will come to camp each Monday and return home each Friday for laundering.

We provide all equipment including tennis rackets, in-line skates, all appropriate pads, etc. If your child would like to bring their own personal in-line skates, tennis racket or pads, they may do so.

Campers are asked not to bring money to Dream BIG Day Camp. Dream BIG Day Camp is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

## **Visitors**

Visitors are most welcome at Dream BIG Day Camp and we ask that they sign-in at the main office. They will be given identification to wear. We ask visitors to return badges before departing Dream BIG Day Camp.

## **Fire Drills**

Campers and staff will go through at least one scheduled fire drill each 3 week session. Campers will be directed to a safe place and asked to wait for further instructions. All campers will know the exits from the buildings and where to congregate in case of an emergency.