

Adventure Guides

YMCA Adventure Guides (grades K-5) is a program designed to help foster companionship between children and their dads. As participants, fathers and children experience adventures such as weekend campout, day trips, Pinewood Derby and more!

Objectives

- Builds a sense of self-esteem
- Expands awareness of spirit, mind, and body
- Enhances the quality of family time
- Offers unique opportunities to develop volunteer leadership skills
- Fosters companionship between father and child



How the program works:

Forming Circles

- Once registered you are assigned to a circle based on age, gender and school
- Requests to join friend's/neighbor's circle will be granted as available

Circle Meetings

- Most circles meet once a month at a location determined by the circle members
- Meeting activities are determined by circle members and usually include planning for upcoming expedition event, hiking, rock climbing, BBQ, games, etc.

Expedition Events

Once a month the circles join together for an expedition event. Trips typically include beach camping at Camp Surf, cabin camping in Catalina, Camp Martson and the Pinewood Derby. Additional fees apply for Expedition Events.

Registration Fees

FREE with Rancho Family YMCA One Parent Family & Family Membership
\$99 per year per parent/child pair
\$59 additional child

*Scholarship is available upon approval for program registration or events.

For More Information

Visit www.rancho.ymca.org or contact Sarah Trujillo, Camp & Adventure Guides Director at strujillo@ymca.org.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Do I have to be a YMCA Member to participate?

A. This program is open to everyone in our community

Q. My children are busy, and I don't think I have time. Can I still be involved in this program?

A. Generally there are two events held each month and families may attend based on their availability.

Q. Can I join Adventure Guides/Trailblazers with my child if we don't know anyone else in our area?

A. You may register for the program on your own, with your friends, neighbors, classmates, or colleagues. Each family will belong to a small group, which will allow you and your child to establish friendships as you participate together.

Q. Who operates this program?

A. The Y administers the program and provide support, training, and resources for the volunteer leadership.

Q. When I was a child, I was in Indian Guides with my dad. Is this the same program?

A. "Indian Guides" was originally developed in the 1950s. The Adventure Guides program maintains the same family values from the past, while accommodating the needs of today's families.

FRIENDS FOREVER TESTIMONIALS

"My daughter Summer was very shy when we first started the program over three years ago, but the older girls mentored her just as the fathers did for me! One of our proudest moments was when she earned a Bravery Bead for getting up the courage to try the rope swing at Indian Hills. She was recognized for that during the Bead Ceremony at the end of the weekend, and she proudly wore her rounder whenever possible! Personally, I can't think of a better opportunity to share life experiences together. No other program offers the chance for the parent and child to grow together like this one has!"

- Friends Forever! Craig

"The YMCA Adventure Guides program has provided my daughter and I new opportunities with memorable experiences that really help continue to build and maintain a great father-daughter relationship. From camping together in awesome places to helping the environment by participating in events like the beach clean up, we always leave feeling great about being together. It's rewarding to close up an Adventure Guides event and hear my six year old daughter in her little sincere voice say, '...Dad...that was an awesome weekend!' We're truly building lifetime memories and forging new friendships along the way!"

- Anonymous



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