

# A day in the life of a Tadpole

8:30am-8:45am

## **Arrival/Free Play**

Campers are welcomed into the play yard by Waldorf School of Princeton Kindergarten Teacher, an assistant counselor, and a counselor in training. Campers place their belongings in cubbies and are invited into the play yard to dig for treasures or cook up a delicious snack in the sand box. In the back yard the children seek new adventures on our play structure, develop their balance on natural balance beams, and explore the flower and vegetable gardens.

8:45-9:00

## **All Camp Morning Gathering**

Morning Gathering occurs two to three times per week and provides an opportunity for the entire camp community to gather together. We will sing camp songs, play group games, solve riddles, and listen to stories related to the session themes. This time also provides the perfect opportunity for campers to share their group happenings.

9:00-10:00

## **Circle/Activities**

At circle time Tadpole Campers engage with the session theme through singing, playing circle games and performing finger plays. These activities enhance vocabulary, support fine and gross motor skills, and build relationships. Counselors develop meaningful activities to cultivate camper's sense of wonder, creativity, and imagination specific to our camp session theme. Special projects may include natural bubble wands, flower art, painting flower pots, making herb and flower bouquets, and baking handmade pizza using herbs from our own garden. Campers always enjoy camp traditional projects such as watercolor painting, bread baking, and yarn projects. This year Tadpole campers will also work with local artist Susan Mania on a tie-dyeing project.

10:00-10:45

## **Snack**

A healthy and hearty snack is provided by the camp each day. Snacks include, but are not limited to: homemade bread, carrots and hummus, chips and salsa, etc. All campers are asked to bring one piece of fruit to share for our community fruit salad served everyday alongside the provided snack. After snack, campers transition to bathrooming and changing into bathing suits and water-shoes for the creek!

11:00-12:00

### **Creek Time**

Off to the Creek! Often the favorite time of the day, campers are paired two by two and together sing their way down to pebble beach. Its shallow waters, shady canopies, and natural clay provide the perfect place for young Tadpole campers to keep cool, build fairy houses, construct bridges, and sculpt mud bowls. After spending time at the creek, campers sing their way back to their classroom to change into dry clothes.

12:00-12:30

### **Story/Rest**

Once returning from the creek, campers take a short rest while listening to gentle lullabies and stories. On special days campers enjoy a puppet show. Puppet shows are performed by their own counselors using handcrafted marionettes and hand held puppets.

12:30-1:00

### **Lunch**

After such an exciting morning Tadpole campers are hungry! Campers and counselors sit together as one group and enjoy their lunch from home. This time is full of happy chatter as the campers eat their lunch. Afterwards campers, who are attending the morning session only, are dismissed by their counselor.

1:00-2:00

### **Free Play**

Campers who spend the entire day with us are excited to go back to their adventures in the play yard. The afternoon heat is a great time for water play! Campers either return to the creek, play in our foot safe sprinkler, or use water toys to splish and splash in the water table in their own play yard.

2:00-2:45

### **Rest Time**

Camp days are tons of fun, but being outside all day in the sun is exhausting for Tadpole campers. In the afternoon they take a longer rest while listening to stories and allowing their bodies to re-energize for the remainder of the day! On extra hot days campers enjoy rest time in an air conditioned space.

2:45-3:15

### **Light Snack**

Afternoon snack, provided by the camp, is sometimes enjoyed outdoors or even at the creek! Our afternoon snacks include, but are not limited to: apples and cheese, pizza bagels, and watermelon.

3:15-3:45

**Activity**

Campers participate in projects that take a few days to complete. Providing campers with an opportunity to engage more deeply with the camp theme, crafts may include wind chimes, small structures, flower prints, small handcrafted animals and/or scarecrows.

3:45-4:00

**Free Play/ Dismissal**

After tidying up and preparing to go home, campers participate in a goodbye circle where they wish one another well until tomorrow.

Note: All campers return home in dry clothes.