

Camp Culture and the 3 C's... Community, Communication, & Connections

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Community – What are we talking about and how has it changed?

Knowledge & Participation = Membership

Community

- Create INTENTIONAL communities
 - Cabin/group names
 - Traditions
 - core values & principles
 - Signs
- Give your community meaning = your mission, it's more than just having one it is operationalizing it
- Example: YMCA core values
 - “If you can name it, you own it” Seth Godin, The Big Moo
 - Before:
 - The “Magic” of camp
 - Camp spirit
 - The ability to change people, help them grow
 - Just ask Scott's mom....
 - Now: we have a name for it... Respect, Responsibility, Honesty & Caring
- Places to sit: Ex. Horse Camp and old saddles outside the camp store
- Sense of responsibility and duty – jobs, areas, activities

Communication – really teach them how to do it, be a role model

- Expectations VS Rules
 - Group discussion – expectations
 - Wasn't just a lecture from the teacher
 - Stating things in the positive
 - Peer explained consequences
- Active listening – Example: Relationships & Mind reading
 - **E**ye contact
 - **S**mile & Nod
 - **P**araphrase – Follow up ?'s & “What I got out of this is...”
- Write it down!
- Body Talk
 - Trainings at camp – first day stuff
 - My face
 - Energy and enthusiasm – the way I stand and walk



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Connections or relationships

- Know their names (campers & staff)
- Teambuilding
 - Beginning of experience
 - Beginning of training
 - Beginning of each session
 - Then use concepts throughout session to build those relationships
- Interconnectedness of a Camp job – The Web
- Giving staff time & resources to create meaningful relationships
- Keeping staff connected to you and camp all year round
- Connecting parents and adults
 - Concentric Circles of Relationship to camp

You are the gate keepers, the masters of your art.... Don't take that responsibility lightly.

So this summer know that you are inspiring kids, counselors and parents AND do it with intention.... And you can change the world!



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