

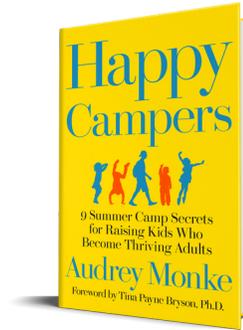
BRINGING CAMP HOME

TIPS & INSIGHTS TO BRING HOME THE MAGIC OF
TOM SAWYER CAMPS



INTRODUCTION

While researching and writing *Happy Campers*, Audrey Monke solicited input and ideas from many different camp directors. She shares activities and strategies in the “Bringing Camp Home” section at the end of each chapter.



There are still many more ideas from summer camp to share with parents, teachers, and everyone else who works with and cares about raising a generation of kids who become thriving adults.

Here are some additional wisdom and ideas from Sarah Fish that you can incorporate to bring some of the magic of Tom Sawyer Camps home when your child returns.

WISDOM

“Really what we value at Tom Sawyer is that a camper is part of one group. They have the same counselors, they have the same activities together—so really as a unit they are building this community.”

~ Sarah Fish

“We really value free play. And we all know how important it is for kids to use imagination and creativity.”

~ Sarah Fish

“At camp we’re not teaching multiplication tables, we’re teaching 100% social skills.”

~ Sarah Fish

“We are so fortunate we hear wonderful things from our parents. And one of them is the fact that kids got to take safe risks with caring adults.”

~ Sarah Fish

“Instead of trying to solve the problem ourselves, we let kids solve the problems.”

~ Sarah Fish



TIPS & STRATEGIES



Parents should encourage children to practice solving their own problems.

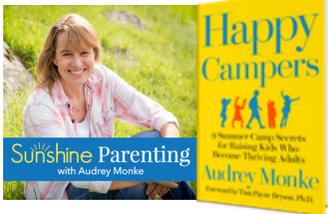


Parents should encourage their child to be independence. Start by giving them small independence and work towards giving them bigger independence.



Parents should encourage children to practice solving their own problems.





BRINGING CAMP HOME ACTIVITY CHART

HAPPY CAMPERS: 9 SUMMER CAMP SECRETS FOR RAISING KIDS WHO BECOME THRIVING ADULTS

Secret	One Simple Thing	The Sticky Note Solution	Make It Fun	Around the Campfire	Family Meeting Topic	Diving Deeper
#1 Connection	One-on-One Chat	A Note of Appreciation	Home Movies or Pictures; 100 Memories; Outdoor Fun	Questions for Connection	Screen Usage	Create a Family Contract
#2 Positive Behavior	Brainstorm "Skills to Build" List	"I noticed..."	Finding Family Flow	What Went Well Today?	Family Values and Rules	Evaluate Your Parenting
#3 Optimism	Four Smiles	Inspirational Quote	Sing or Dance (or Both)	Three Good Things; WOWs	Optimism vs. Pessimism; Optimism Quiz	No Complaining for 24 Hours
#4 Independence	Let Them Go	"What Are You Going to Do?"	"Be the Adult" Game	Biggest Independence Challenge	Responsibility and Freedom	Acknowledge Ambivalence About Kids' Independence
#5 Grit	Personal Goals	"Yet."	Gritty Movies and Books	Courage Box	Family Goals	Comfort Zones
#6 Responsibility	Chore Audit	Saturday Sticky	Make Chores More Fun	Delayed Gratification	Sharing Household Duties	Raise Future Adults
#7 Structure	Hot Spots and Routines	What's Happening Today	Unplugged Family Time	How We Relax	The "Why" Behind the Rules	Family Culture
#8 Kindness	Stay Calm	Acts of Kindness	Notes and Gifts	Kindness Brainstorm	Donating	Kindness Challenge
#9 Making Friends	Model Friendship	Compliment on Social Skill	Play a Game	Social Skill of the Week	What Makes a Good Friend?	Seek Support

