



KANAKUK KAMPS STAFF

Writing Kids

Continuing your Ministry for a Lifetime

One of the greatest rewards from a summer of ministry at Kanakuk is the continued opportunity to pour into the lives of Kampers. Thousands of boys and girls see Christ lived out year 'round through Kanakuk staff who continue to serve as role-models, encouragers, and friends. Here are some tips to help you be effective and transparent in your communication with Kampers.

Tip #1: Get Parents Involved and Keep Them in the Loop (Postcards and Emails)

We strongly encourage you to get the parents involved and communicate with them first. Getting parents involved in your encouragement of their child is a positive thing. All parents want to know who is communicating with their child and what is being communicated. Here are some ways you can get the parents involved:

- A. Use Postcards:** A postcard allows parents to see what you are writing and encourages them to be apart of the process. If you are sending a letter in an envelope, address it to the parents.
- B. Write the Parents:** Consider writing your Kamper through the parents. (see example) This will allow the parents to get to know you better.
- C. Copy E-mails:** When writing an e-mail to a Kamper, copy the parents on the same e-mails so they can be aware of what is being communicated.

If a parent does not want you to communicate with their child, you must respect their wishes.

Tip #2: Use Appropriate Language

Use genuine, positive and encouraging comments. Keep details of your personal life to a minimum. What may seem like appropriate language to you can sometimes give the wrong impression to parents or Kampers. Consider what you say, and how you say it through the eyes of parents who may not know you. Here are some examples of appropriate and inappropriate language in your letter writing:

✓ Appropriate Language

I am so proud of you.
Keep running hard after Jesus.
Stay in God's Word.

✗ Inappropriate Language

I love you.
I am crazy without you.
I need more of you in my life.
I can't wait to hug your neck.
I think about you all the time.

Tip #3: Know Your Role

Your role is to encourage kids and continue to point them to Christ. Your words are powerful, so use your "role-model" platform to encourage kids in their pursuit of Jesus. Be their Barnabas!

EXAMPLE #1

Dear Jake-

How are you? I sure had a blast with you at Kamp this summer. You have such a zeal for the Lord and a passion for others. Keep seeking Jesus first and reading your Bible everyday. I am so proud of you and the things you stand for. Stay in Touch!

Your counselor,
Alex Wright



Dear Mr. & Mrs. Smith-

Please tell Ryan how proud I am of him. We had such a blast this summer at Kamp. I love how he pursues Jesus with his whole heart and puts others before himself. What a great quality to have at such a young age. Hope to see you guys next summer.

Ryan's counselor - John Blake

EXAMPLE #2

