

# Day Camp Tip Sheet

## Express Care

- Be present throughout the day. Make sure you are engaged in all activities and not talking or texting on your cell phone or having side conversations with other staff.
- Show interest in the youth. They need to know you care about them and their lives.
- Make an effort to get to know their names. Use name tags for single day camps
- Create a positive atmosphere. Keep the energy up and try to focus on the positives



## Challenge Growth

- Set clear boundaries and expectations for behavior and learning outcomes at the start of the day.
- Recognize abilities in each child and encourage them to go beyond what they think they can do.

## Provide Support

- Adapt your teaching style and level to the age of the youth you are working with.
- Be a model as someone students can look up to and admire.



## Share Power

- Be flexible with your plan for the day and listen to the youth participants. They may have an idea that could be the difference between a successful activity and one that fails.
- Respect the youth participants. Talk to them in the same manner that you expect them to talk to you.
- Respond to interests that you see. If a child has a "Spark" for a certain activity, ask them questions and find ways to link other activities back to the "Spark."



## Expand Possibilities

- Connect the children with other youth outside of their normal peer group. Switch partners and groups throughout the day.
- Give an opportunity for new experiences and learning in your curriculum. Don't just do the same thing you've always done.





# Youth Launch Leaders

Youth Launch Leaders empowers adults to create healthy, nurturing and supportive environments for youth in Southern Iowa by providing leader education to inspire positive youth development.

Youth Launch Leaders provides training opportunities and support to adult leaders of youth activities in southern Iowa, in the areas of child/adolescent growth and development.

Through the framework of the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets and Developmental Relationships, as well as instruction on developmental stages, leaders are empowered with tools needed for inspiring positive youth development.

## **Youth Launch Leaders provides:**

Newsletters

Information Resources

Trainings

Community Presentations

Organizational Support

**Julie Neas- Director**  
**Graceland University**

1 University Place

Lamoni, IA 50140

YLL@graceland.edu

641-784-5401

<http://www.graceland.edu/yll>