YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS HERE

With summer camp locations throughout Will and Grundy Counties, the Y is your family's source for fun this summer! For camp locations, pricing, and field trip schedules, please contact your local YMCA branch.

Scan below to learn more:

IGNITE THEIR PASSIONS

In addition to summer day camp, the YMCA offers a wide variety of sports and specialty camps each summer.

HAVING FUN AS A TEAM

Summer Sports Camps

When kids play sports they get more than just exercise. Besides being physically active, they develop higher self-esteem, perform better in school, and work better in groups. YMCA sports camps teach kids the fundamentals of the game while emphasizing the importance of teamwork.

The Y will be offering a variety of sports camps this summer, including:

- Basketball
- Flag Football
- Volleyball
- Cheerleading
- Poms
- Wrestling
- Softball
- Fishing
- Tennis
- Baseball
- Golf
- Dodgeball
- Preschool Sports
- Soccer
- Bowling
- Track and Field

KEEP GROWING AND EXPLORING

Summer Specialty Camps

Is your child a budding artist or a LEGO guru? We offer a variety of specialty camps for children with specific interests or hobbies.

Each Y is unique and diverse, just like your child, so programs will vary by location.
Please contact your local branch for sports and specialty camp offerings, schedules, and pricing.

the YMCA

For a better us.®

FIND YOUR FUN. FIND YOUR Y.

GREATER JOLIET AREA YMCA

2023 Summer Day Camp

SAVE ON CAMP

Did you know that Y members receive the lowest rates for camp? Ask us about membership today.

United Way
United Way of Will County and Grundy County

SUMMER HAPPENS HERE

REGISTRATION

March 4

Registration begins on Saturday, March 4 for YMCA Facility Members.
Registration begins on Saturday, March 11 for Community Members.

REGISTER EARLY! Space is Limited.

REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!

Register for summer day camp by March 20, and pay a $0 registration fee – a savings of $45.

YMCA summer day camps offer an action-packed, adventure-filled experience, where young people can make new friends while having a whole lot of fun! At camp, kids laugh, learn, explore, and grow, while creating memories and friendships that last a lifetime.

The Y's summer camp program creates opportunities for kids to learn new skills, be creative, build self-confidence, and gain independence in a safe, fun, and nurturing environment. For these reasons and so many more, hundreds of area children attend summer day camp at the Y; to belong, achieve, and build relationships.

OUR MISSION

To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

OUR DAY CAMP PHILOSOPHY

Fostering friendships is vital to the camp experience. To ensure campers develop meaningful relationships, they are grouped by age and each group participates in frequent teambuilding and leadership activities. We are committed to creating a camp community that promotes healthy friendships amongst all campers and staff.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

We believe that the values and skills learned early on are vital building blocks for life. At the Y, children and teens learn values and positive behaviors, and can explore their unique talents and interests, helping them realize their potential. That makes for confident kids today and contributing and engaged adults tomorrow.

Each day, parents look to the YMCA to provide a safe and secure environment where children can learn practical social skills and develop positive values. Our **low staff-to-child** ratio also allows our team to give each camper the attention and guidance necessary to create a positive and safe environment.

Our reputation for consistency and safety, as well as our focus on youth development, gives parents the confidence they need to trust us with their children.

OUR STAFF TEAM

At YMCA camp, caring and professional role models are committed to helping kids build confidence and character. The dedication and professionalism of our highly trained staff is extraordinary. All YMCA Day Camp staff are 16* years of age or older and have been trained or certified in the following:

- CPR
- AED
- First Aid
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Prevention/Recognition of Child Abuse
- Sexual Harassment Prevention
- Camp Safety

*Certain eligibility requirements must be met for 16 and 17-year-old candidates.

DAY CAMP HOURS

7 a.m.–6 p.m.

WHAT TO BRING EACH DAY TO DAY CAMP

Children should wear simple, non-restrictive clothing and gym shoes. Campers should dress for the weather, as most camp activities are held outside.

Every day camper gets a free t-shirt and backpack.

Please remember to label all items. Unclaimed lost items will be donated to a local charity at the conclusion of camp.

AMAZING LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Safety Around Water Program

The YMCA has been teaching kids how to swim for more than a century, providing lessons about water safety in a fun and safe environment. As part of the Y's Safety Around Water Program, children will have the opportunity to develop this essential lifeskill while enrolled in YMCA summer camp.

Each week, summer day campers must participate in a swim test before entering the pool. Based on their swimming abilities, campers are given a red, yellow, or blue wristband. To earn a blue wristband, swimmers must have enough strength, skill, and confidence to jump into the deep end of the pool, tread water, and swim the length of the pool using a front crawl stroke without stopping.

To improve their swimming skills, all red and yellow wristband campers will participate in 15-minute swim lessons several times a week. Our goal is to help all non-swimmers and intermediate swimmers "Go Blue" by the end of summer.

Counselor in Training (CIT) Leadership Program

The summer camp environment provides a unique opportunity for youth to build leadership skills by gaining hands-on experience assisting our fantastic team of camp counselors with our younger campers. Open to registered summer day campers entering grades 7-8, the goal of the YMCA's Counselor in Training (CIT) Program is to teach teens leadership skills that can be used at school, home and in the community. Interested campers must fill out an application.

Teen Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers play an important role in the success and quality of YMCA programs. Area high school students, entering grades 9-12, are invited to volunteer in a variety of capacities during summer camp. Prospective volunteers must submit a volunteer application.

Programs vary by location.

To learn more about these opportunities, please contact the Camp Director at your local YMCA branch.

A TYPICAL DAY AT YMCA DAY CAMP

- **Campers Arrive**
- **Opening Ceremonies**
- **Group Activities–** Including teambuilding, arts and crafts, active play and STEAM activities
- **Lunch**
- **Swimming** (at select locations)
- **Reading Time**
- **Closing Ceremonies**
- **Group Activities**

For weekly themes and field trip schedules, please contact your local YMCA branch.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT THE Y

At the Y, no one is turned away due to the inability to pay. In keeping with our mission, the Greater Joliet Area YMCA provides financial assistance, as funds are available, to those who qualify, based on a sliding fee scale. DHS funds are also accepted. To learn more about the Y's Financial Assistance Program, please visit www.jolietymca.org or stop by your local branch today.

BEST SUMMER EVER

Teen REACH Summer Day Camp Grades 6–8

All campers will be provided with water safety lessons every week they attend camp!

the YMCA

For a better us.®

This summer, the Y will be offering a FREE summer day camp program for junior high school students in Joliet and the surrounding communities. At Teen REACH Camp, students will learn to respect themselves and others, work out their differences, and discover the value of true friendship. Campers will also enjoy up to 10 weeks of summer fun full of swimming, sports, outdoor exploration, field trips, and more.

DAY CAMP LOCATIONS:

Two locations to choose from:

1. **Messiah Lutheran Church**
   40 Houbolt Road, Joliet, Illinois 60431
2. **Salvation Army Community Center**
   300 3rd Avenue, Joliet, Illinois 60433

CAMP DATES:

June 5 –August 11 | Monday–Friday

Families can also register for pre-camp and post-camp child care. **Pre-camp and post-camp is offered at Galowich Family YMCA only.**

Pre-camp: May 30–June 2
Post-camp: August 14–15

Every day camper gets a free t-shirt and backpack.

CAMP HOURS:

7 a.m.–6 p.m.

ALWAYS HERE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The Y's Teen REACH (Responsibility, Education, Achievement, Caring, and Hope) Summer Day Camp program is made possible thanks to a generous Department of Human Services grant from the State of Illinois.

WEEKLY CAMP THEMES:

Week 1: June 5–9	Fired Up
Week 2: June 12–16	3..2..1.. Blastoff!
Week 3: June 19–23	Havin' a Y-ild Time
Week 4: June 26–3	Burning off STEAM
Week 5: July 3–7	Par-tay in the U-S-A!
*Week 5 pro-rated for 4th of July	
Week 6: July 10–14	Submarine Dream
Week 7: July 17–21	Take Me Out to the Ballgame...
Week 8: July 24–28	Let the Magic Happen
Week 9: July 31–August 4	Chillin' n Vibin'
Week 10: August 7–11	Peace Out, Summer!

FLICK N' FLOAT CAMP KICK-OFF

May 19 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.
Free Community Event

Join us for a movie in the pool and get your Summer Camp questions answered. Pre-registration is required.

SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

Summer day campers will receive a complimentary breakfast and lunch each day as part of the Summer Food Program, a nationwide initiative designed to combat childhood hunger. Supplied by District 86 Nutrition Services, this wonderful program provides nutritious meals to camp locations across the country to keep kids healthy, active, and well-nourished all summer long.

To learn more about Teen REACH Summer Day Camp, please contact:
Stephen Franklin, Teen REACH & Teen Achievers Director
Phone: (815) 782-0808
Email: sfranklin@jolietymca.org