

First: Thank you thank you thank you!
Second: have fun!

Your basic role as a sponsor is to help enforce my ONE RULE "Be WHERE you are supposed to be, WHEN you are supposed to be there doing WHAT you are supposed to be doing, the WAY you are supposed to be doing it."

We have super-awesome students who know this rule and are really quite awesome at following it. So your job is really rather easy.

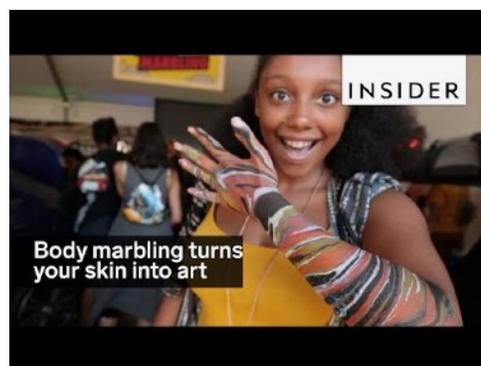
You also fill the role of a tour guide: helping to point out to the students where God is present and working in their life. Don't stress about this. The moments will present themselves and the HS will do the work for you.

THURSDAY

9:00 Meet at the church (load your stuff—quick primer on the day)

-**Rusty**, film/photo help with Marbling

-**Jeff/Jake Wendy, Leslie** please help with the **body marbling** (easy to learn)



10:00 Kids arrive

-**Wes** and **Gabe Webb** will take care the loading of the trailer as the kids arrive

-**Dylan** and **Derek** will load the camp supplies

-**Becca, Jen, Jo-An** please direct kids to **Bri** to turn in late forms and payments

-and direct kids with **medicine** to **Cherry Nelson** our nurse (I will remind them of this during the meeting)

NO BALLS OUT IN THE GYM PLEASE-Kids stay in the lobby/REVO room or Gym only please

11:00 hopefully done with the marbling will have short rules **meeting** and load.

11:15 kick rocks (**leave**)

11:45 arrive and **unload**

12:00 Lunch (will need to start setting up the three **challenges** ASAP)

Derek, John, Jake, Dylan

1:00 Orientation Ladies please help with orientation: handing out bracelets—we will have the kids write names of people they want to pray for this weekend on their bracelets—corralling the kids and setting up the paper sacks for the challenges that will be handed out right after orientation.

6 Teams Chosen (Buffs are in the paper sacks. kids will grab one as they leave orientation) teams will be gender and age mixed this year.

Sponsor teams (happy to change these upon request)

Jen/Jeff

Wendy/Me

Becca/Rusty

Jo-An/Dylan

Krystle/John

Leslie/Jake

Icebreaker—Pass the ball—(instructions will be given to you during orientation)
(need a phone for a stopwatch)
(colored ball-provided)

3 challenges —Dylan and I will run these...(Ideally it is fun to let the students take the lead for these games. See who takes a leadership role in the group. It can be hard to just sit back and watch passively just encourage your team to win win win!)

Free time/Swim

5:30 Dinner

7:00 Worship

9:00 Small group discussion with your team—questions will be provided each night

9:30 Late Night -Heads-up 7-up (yes, really)
-Super awesome ultimate ninja battle

11:00 In cabins

12:00 Lights out (You are kings/queens of your rooms with total autonomy...rule them as you see fit.)

FRIDAY

8-9:00 Breakfast

9:15 Morning Worship

9:30 Steve McKinney Devo

10:10-10:30 Quiet Time (5 minutes toggled settled, 5 mins prayer bracelets, 5 mins read, 5 mins listen)

10:30-11:00 Group Time —Questions will be provided
Ice Breaker—(Candy Pass)

12:00 Lunch—Everyone will want swimsuits on or stuff you don't mind getting colored ("color fight" after the challenges)

(WILL NEED GAME CREW TO HELP SET UP WATER GAMES—mostly filling water buckets)

1:00 Prep for Elementary to arrive.

1:20 After their orientation Elem will pick a headband and be added to your teams. (think “sorting hat”) We really want to build them up so get your team to cheer them on and make a huge fuss when their color headband gets chosen from the bag.

Quick **Icebreaker** to learn names (Red Ball, Yellow Ball)
3 Challenge games (all water activities—please no rain!!)

(Will need help handing out the Camp Shirts)

The kids will change into their white camp shirts and have a color fight. (safety glasses will be worn)

Camp Picture

Will need your help to collect the shirts after the picture; hang them on hangers, soak them in vinegar (spray bottles); and hang them to dry. (this is to set the ink, otherwise it washes out)

3:30-5:00 Free Time/Swim

5:30 Dinner

7:00 Worship

9:00 Group discussion

9:30 Late night —Knocker Balls!

will need some guys to help air up the knocker balls during the group discussion (John, Rusty,?) also to set up the tiki torches and glow sticks

11:00 Campfire or cabins

12:00 lights out

SATURDAY

8-9 Breakfast

9:15-9:30 Worship

9:30-10:00 Gabe Webb Message

10:10-10:30 Quiet time

10:30 Group Time —What is your emblem/Henna ideas

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:30 Zipline/free time/swim/Henna for anyone who wants it.

(You are free to zipline as well if you would like)

5:30 Dinner

7:00 Worship

9:00 Group time-

9:30-10:30 Light up: Volleyball, Bocce, ultimate frisbee
(will need to set up the lights on the volleyball net during group time)

11:00 Campfire/Cabins

12:00 Lights out

(I usually try to pack as much as possible from the chapel Saturday night to save time on Sunday)

SUNDAY (this day is always super-manic trying to get everything together.)

8:00-9:00 Breakfast (we usually try to rush the students a little to get everything loaded as early as possible)

9:00 Luggage outside the bunkhouse and on the trailer

9:30 Leave Sky Ranch

10:00 Arrive at RFC

We will put EVERYTHING in the gym and then have the students sit down in the Sanctuary, Front sections will be roped off For them.

(I have asked that the coffee station not be set up. If it is though, PLEASE, DO NOT LET THE STUDENTS GET COFFEE OR HOT CHOCOLATE.—I don't want that to be in the sanctuary. We don't really have time, and something will get spilled.)

We will do our traditional service of Elementary first, then MS/HS giving testimonies.

Head home and SLEEP!

A few Tips for Leading Small group discussion:

1. Remember the goal: Discussion. Your role is to prompt discussion and thought. Don't feel any need to teach, but let the students work some things out together. (it is okay to answer direct questions, but even more "okayer" to redirect the questions to the group instead. we REALLY REALLY REALLY want the kids to talk during this time.

2. Give students permission to talk. Emphasize that this is a safe place to share. Students don't have to share their deepest things with the entire group, but encourage them to talk with someone with whom they feel safe.

3. Allow time to answer. Our tendency is to answer the questions we ask. Two seconds of silence can seem like an eternity. A good practice is to ask a question and then mentally count to five. It will seem awkward at first, but it will allow for people to think and answer when they are ready.

4. Rephrase effectively. If you wait several seconds and it seems no one understands the question, then you can rephrase it, but do so carefully. Keep the question open-ended. Do not answer it or change it to a “yes or no” question. Questions with one-word answers do not promote processing. For example:

If the question is, “After what you saw today, how do you feel?”

- Do not rephrase it to “Do you feel sad about what you saw?”
- Instead, rephrase it to “What do you think about what you saw today?” (This helps students transfer abstract feelings to concrete thoughts and keeps it open to a wide range of possible answers.)

5. Redirect when necessary. While abandoning your plan when youth are engaged in great group discussion is important, stay keenly aware of the tone of the conversation and redirect if the group wanders into unhelpful territory. As the facilitator, you should pull the conversation back by gently jumping in (trying not to interrupt but waiting for a break) and reframing the conversation.

6. Listen. You can only know where your youth are at and understand the direction of the conversation if you are giving full attention to the group. Do not plan your next question or your next announcement while students are sharing. Let your students’ responses shape the movement of the discussion. Be a good and compassionate listener, and be ready to care for students who express hurt, uncertainty or strong emotion related to their own journey.

7. Don’t force conclusions or answers. There is a time to teach and a time to listen. Before you or your fellow leaders jump in with the right answer, let students grapple with hard questions on their own. **Injecting your answers into discussion will silence productive conversation.**

8. Show respect. Set boundaries for listening to one another. For some groups (especially junior high students), it is a good idea to have an object represent which person has the floor. For example, a stuffed toy can be passed as people share. If you do not have the toy, you are not talking; rather, you are listening to the person with the toy.

9. Dig deeper. Listen for underlying beliefs/opinions/feelings and help bring them out. Give permission for questions to be discussed. Help students go a bit deeper by asking, “What are some reasons for that?” or “Can you explain why?” Repeat answers. Turn conversation towards others: “Did anyone else see/notice that?” or “What do all of you think?”

10. Follow up with students. After the discussion is over, don’t miss your opportunity to follow up with students about what they said. Ask a student if he still has questions. Invite further conversation. Tell a student that you appreciated what she said. Small group discussion can lead to incredible one-on-one conversations.