

JLIT PLANNING GUIDE

A Handbook for Parents and Junior Leaders in Training

Orientation Week ONLY*

DROP OFF: 12:30pm Sunday

PICK UP: 2-2:30 Friday

4617 SE Milwaukie Ave.
Portland OR 97202

*Notice this is a different pick up and drop off time than Field Training Weeks

Field Training Day Camp Week

DROP OFF: 7:30-8am M-F

PICK UP: 4pm M-F*

*JLIT's can stay with our After Camp Staff until 6pm if needed free of charge or parents can fill out an Independent Release if they would like to sign themselves out of camp each day at 4pm.

Program Parts



The Leader and Training Program has two parts:

Orientation Week: This is one week of overnight camp that takes place at Camp Trackers in the Marmot Valley of Sandy, Oregon. This week focuses on building or honing the hard and soft skills participants can use in many environments, not just in our Trackers Summer camps. We help students build awareness, flexibility, risk assessment and boundary setting, while developing competencies in skills like knife carving, safely harvesting wild plants and even the basics of being a Fairy or Magic Sorcerer.

Field Training Week: This is one week of day camp, where JLIT's practice their new skills in the field with the 4-K age group. Families choose the best weeks to participate, based on their family schedule.

You can read more about how this works inside! Read on!



Your Role as a JLIT

As a JLIT, your role is to help the instructors keep kids safe and engaged while they learn outdoor skills or exercise their imaginations. Sometimes it's helping campers tie their shoes, cross the street, find the dragon eggs, or follow instructions. Often it's having friendly and positive conversations on the bus or at check in. You are an important part of the camp experience. and can make a student's day by just paying attention to them!

Schedule your Week

Please send an email to LIT Coordinator, June Jacobson:
june@trackersearch.com

All requests should be in by May 15. Send in the following way:

- Name
- 2 Available Weeks and camp names from website, we'll confirm the best one for Trackers

Field Training Weeks

Choosing Your Weeks Junior Leaders in Training should look at our camp themes online for the 4-K age group. You can find a list in the SE Location of our website.

New to leadership experiences? Being a JLIT is a super exciting and first step to becoming a positive leader to youth and the communities they are a part. Each day may be very full and exciting, but you can go home at the end of a day to recharge and come back fresh in the morning. Please let your instructors know if you have questions or needs during the day, if you could use a rest or need to take a break away.

Confirming Your Commitment After requesting your Field Training week(see left side bar), you can expect to hear from our LIT Coordinator, June Jacobson, within two weeks to confirm. It's very rare that dates are not able to be accommodated.

Student Performance Students are expected to put their best selves forward and be willing to explore their edges of comfort during the program. We will mentor through challenges and celebrate their successes.

Communicating with Students or Staff ...Outside of Trackers

If you know a Trackers family prior to your LIT commitment with Trackers, maintain the same relationship with understanding that your role as an LIT and representative of Trackers is added to that matrix.

- If you DO NOT know the family prior to Trackers, filter all contact with them through the coordinator of your program.
- DO NOT exchange personal contact information, including Facebook friending, with students or staff.

Physical and Verbal Guidelines in Trackers Youth Programs

Appropriate Physical Contact

- High fives
- Tap on shoulder
- Quick pats on back
- Hand-shake
- Side hugs and upper body hugs only when student initiated!

Inappropriate Physical Contact

- Full body hugs
- Kissing
- Pat on head
- Pat on buttock
- Wrestling
- Rough housing
- Play fighting unless in controlled training exercises
- Sitting on laps
- Tickling

- ❑ Spitting on another person or contact of bodily fluids

Appropriate Conversations

- ❑ Keep conversations with students positive and relevant to camp. Avoid topics such as romantic relationships, sex, alcohol, drugs and realistic violent stories.
- ❑ Any remarks, actions or language deemed as racist, homophobic and otherwise bigoted are grounds for automatic dismissal

Bullying and Challenging Behavior

Bullying is when one or more people exclude, tease, taunt, gossip, hit, kick, or put down another person with the intent to hurt another.

If you witness bullying, place yourself between or near the students and do the following to the best of your ability:

- ❑ REMIND THEM THAT AT TRACKERS, WE TRY TO BE KIND, HELPFUL AND RESPECTFUL TO EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING. WE'RE HERE TO HAVE A GOOD TIME AND LEARN TOGETHER AND FROM EACH OTHER.
- ❑ DO YOUR BEST TO DISTRACT THEM FROM THEIR CURRENT SITUATION. ASK THEM WHAT THEY'RE EXCITED ABOUT, THINGS THEY'RE INTERESTED IN, OR SHOW THEM SOMETHING INTERESTING.
- ❑ LET THE CLOSEST INSTRUCTOR OR COORDINATOR KNOW ABOUT THE SITUATION AS SOON AS YOU ARE ABLE. QUIETLY REQUEST TO SPEAK TO THEM ABOUT A SITUATION YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT AND STEP AWAY FROM THE GROUP WHEN SHARING THIS INFORMATION. IF YOU WERE ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY REDIRECT THE SITUATION AND ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE SAFE, YOU MAY WAIT TO TELL THE INSTRUCTOR UNTIL THE NEXT TRANSITION INSTEAD OF IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ACTIVITY. DON'T FORGET!

If a student is having trouble following directions and is not responding to positive redirection:

- ❑ You should let an instructor know right away. This is a matter of the behavior not functioning for the group and potentially creating an unsafe situation for all.