

## Is Your Child Ready for Overnight Camp?

A big part of camp, other than having fun and making new friends, is for girls to have a feeling of independence and confidence. And when at camp, girls are **EXPECTED** to be independent. While most girls are excited for this type of camp experience, being 'ready' for a sleep-away-from-home camp comes at different times for different girls.

That being said, when assessing readiness for your child, please take the time to consider the below points (remember, **YOUR** readiness to let her go to overnight camp can be very different from **HER** readiness to attend).

1. **No calling home!** Can your child sleep somewhere overnight if she is NOT able to call home? Your child will not be allowed to bring electronics (i.e mobile phone), and there is no camp phone. At this location mobile connect to Malaysia, not Singapore, and it is unreasonable to expect camp parents to make personal calls for you to speak with your child.
2. **Shower/Teeth-brushing...** Campers will not be told shower or brush teeth; however, cabin moms will be available to assist upon request. Is your child comfortable asking for help of authority figures they have only just met?
3. **Be considerate....** of our onsite volunteers – they will be the ones trying to comfort your child if she struggles at night. Will she be able to take nurturing/comfort from a female adult she doesn't know to get to sleep? A good night's sleep is essential for camp parents so that they can safely carry out their assigned duties during the day.
4. **Jalan Bhatara is FAR away....**if your child does not settle into camp, **and**, after the cabin moms exhaust **ALL** measures to settle her in, she continues to struggle, we may be forced to call home late at night for a pick-up. Jalan Bhatara is in the northwest corner of the island and difficult to find even in daylight.

A lot of effort is expended by all by volunteers, some of whom spend many, many hours of personal time into to ensure the camp experience is as enriching as possible for your child. Please be considerate of all their efforts and the other girls at camp. If you are unsure if she is really ready for overnight camp, please wait until next year.

## Overnight Camp Cabin Structure

**4 -5 Cabins** – 1 long bunk bed per cabin – NO mattresses. Just the wooden plank. The camp provides sanitized sleeping mats. Girls need to bring their own sleeping bag / blankets and pillow if needed. It will not be air conditioned.

### Typical Cabin Breakdown

- **25 Campers:** Girls will be mixed by ages and Troops so everyone has a chance to stay with someone they know and meet someone new!
- **3-4 Program Aides (PAs):** These are older Girl Scouts who are trained to lead younger girls and primarily supervise the younger girl scouts for the duration of camp. They spend a whole weekend preparing Kaper charts, making welcome posters and preparing ice breaker/down-time activities for the campers. They also organize the flow of mealtimes, chores, ensure girls attend each scheduled activity at camp and communicate/light enforcement of camp rules.
- **2-3 Cabin Moms per cabin:** Adults who assist PAs in enforcing rules and provide support where needed. Cabin Moms are especially needed at night, to help comfort girls who are missing home or struggling to adjust at camp.
- **1 to 4 Overnight Adults:** Adults who are volunteering at camp throughout the weekend and are staying over to ensure we meet the adult to girl ratio safety requirements.