

WHAT ARE SKILLS?

Skills are a core part of the camp experience, giving campers the chance to choose and participate in a wide variety of activities that match their interests. Each morning, campers rotate through three 45-minute skill blocks, engaging in the activities they selected during sign-ups. Skill sessions are split into two parts each week:

- 1) **Monday–Wednesday**
- 2) **Thursday–Saturday** (*Saturday only for 2-week campers*)

The goal of Skills is to help campers discover new interests, build confidence, and grow through hands-on learning, play, and exploration whether they're trying something for the first time or deepening a passion.

SKILL DEFINITIONS

Adventure Challenge (AC):

This skill area allows campers to stretch their comfort zones in a safe, controlled environment. Campers reach for new heights on the climbing wall, high ropes course, and team challenge course. With each success self-confidence and willingness to try things grows. Every camper has the opportunity to participate in all three areas during their skill sign up.

Age Restrictions: Eight years of age for the team challenge course. Eight years of age climbing wall. Eleven years of age high ropes course.

Skill demonstration requirements: Ability and willingness to follow detailed directions and work cooperatively with a group of campers.

Crafts:

Regular Crafts: The arts and crafts program allows children to comfortably express their young, creative minds through a wide variety of crafts. Each day, campers do a different craft with the opportunity to do take-home projects. Project examples: candles, bracelets, shrinky dinks, scratch art, and dream catchers.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstration requirements: Willingness to have fun and be creative.

Theatrics: Campers do different creativity exercises and work together while designing a skit to do at the closing campfire. Drama is a great way for more creative campers to express themselves with other creative campers.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: None

Games n' Ranges (GNR):

Air Rifle: Mainly developed for campers under 12 for them to learn gun safety, gun parts and care, and the principles of marksmanship. Children learn range rules, gun parts, and shooting strategy as they try to earn a Sharpshooter award.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstration requirements: Progression of scores per bull's-eye and position. To be designed similar to the NRA rifleman qualification program.

.22 Rifles: This skill introduces the beginner to the safe use of a .22 caliber rifle. Campers 12 and older will learn safe gun handling for at home and on the range, gun care, principles of marksmanship, position techniques, and develop skills and strategies to achieve the Sharpshooter Award.

Age Restrictions: 12 years and older

Skill demonstration requirements: Progression of scores per bull's-eye and position. To be designed similar to the NRA rifleman qualification program.

Archery: Campers learn safe bow and arrow handling, bow care, principles of marksmanship, and various accuracy techniques. Older kids will have the opportunity to learn about compound bows and work toward their Master Archer Award.

Age Restrictions: 8 years and older

Skill demonstration requirements: Progression of scores per shooting series at various distances.

Frisbee Golf: Campers learn about aerodynamics, accuracy, and how to throw a Frisbee. They learn about the new and growing sport while practicing their game. Then they challenge themselves and others on our own nine-hole course as they ready themselves for the many courses around Milwaukee.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstration requirements: Progression of scores per round.

Ultimate Frisbee: Campers learn about a growing sport while learning about working as team and aerodynamics as they participate in Ultimate. Kids will learn basic strategy as the play and practice on our sports field.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstration requirements:

Soccer: Run by experienced high school and college soccer players, campers work on skills, strategy, and being part of a team.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Running drills and learning skills to compete on the field.

Basketball: Campers learn and practice basic and advanced skills while learning strategy and to be part of a team.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Running drills and learning skills to compete on the court.

Flag Football: Campers learn and practice basic and advanced skills while learning strategy and to be part of a team.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Running drills and learning skills to compete on the field.

Volleyball: Campers learn and practice basic and advanced skills while learning strategy and to be part of a team.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Running drills and learning skills to compete on the court.

Corral:

Regular Corral: Campers get the opportunity to meet a variety of our barn animals, including the: horses, chickens, goats, donkeys, and sheep. Campers will learn about how to care for the animals and safely interact with them.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: None

Riding: Campers learn the basics of riding and grooming horses. They will be able to ride horses with the potential of more advanced movements like courses and trotting later in the week.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Comfortability around horses.

Wilderness Skills Area (WSA):

Camp Crafts: Campers learn various camping skills. They learn knife safety and proper handling in order to earn their knife card and the opportunity to buy a Minikani knife in the store. Children also learn fire building, wilderness cooking, water purification, and shelter building. A great skill for campers to become comfortable with the outdoors and camping during their stay at Camp.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Increased knowledge and skills in outdoor environments.

Nature: Campers learn about the world around them as they explore our bog, forests, and lakes. They will learn about the various trees, insects, birds, and other animals at Camp as they identify and track them around our 150 acres. Staff encourages stewardship as campers learn about their natural world.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Increased knowledge and skills shown in the Nature Olympics.

Fishing: Campers love pulling fish out of Amy Belle Lake! They learn how different bait on how to put it on the hook, casting, and fish identification as they practice catch and release.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Demonstrate the ability to bait a hook, safely cast, a basic knowledge of what bait to use to catch what fish, and basic fish identification.

Waterfront (WF):

Boating: Under the guidance of a lifeguard and experienced staff campers learn boat safety, the parts of a boat, and basic strokes. They then take boats out on the water to earn their boating band and have fun.

Age Restrictions: Intermediate Band

Skill demonstrations requirements: Show the ability row in the chosen direction; turn smoothly, nomenclature, and safety.

Canoeing: Under the guidance of a lifeguard and experienced staff campers learn canoe safety, the parts of a canoe, and basic strokes. They then take canoes out on the water to earn their boating band and have fun.

Age Restrictions: Intermediate Band

Skill demonstrations requirements: Show the ability row in the chosen direction; turn smoothly, nomenclature, and safety. Campers should be able to safely get in and of the canoe as well as empty a swamped canoe.

Tech Diving: Campers learn to safely dive, flip, and more off both the diving board and the high platform. Kids set goals and staff help them to work with the three step approach and to do their first flips.

Age Restrictions: Advanced Band

Skill demonstrations requirements: None

Sailing: Campers learn the basics of sailing. This includes safety, rigging/derigging, knots, techniques, reading the wind, parts of a boat, capsizing procedures, and points of sail.

Age Restrictions: Advanced Band

Skill demonstrations requirements: None

Skin Diving: Children learn the basics of snorkeling. Staff focuses on safety, including clearing a mask and snorkel. Campers learn strokes, surfacing, surface

dives, equipment care, and hand signals. They do all this while exploring an extremely clear Amy Belle Lake.

Age Restrictions: Advanced Band

Skill demonstrations requirements: Campers should show proper care of equipment, proper surface diving, proper surfacing, and hand signals.

Swimming: Campers work in small groups with instructors who provide them with basic lessons on strokes, floats, and breathing techniques. Beginning campers have the opportunity to become more comfortable in the water and work toward retaking their swim test. More advanced swimmers work on new strokes and energy saving techniques as they work toward swimming across the lake in PFDs.

Age Restrictions: None

Skill demonstrations requirements: Proper strokes, treading, and a general safety and competence in the water.