

**KIDS for
the BAY**

A Project of Earth Island Institute
1771 Alcatraz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94703
kidsforthebay.org
Mandi Billinge, Executive Director/Founder

Summer Camp 2026

Youth Leader Parent Preparation Packet

Dear KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp Family,

We are really looking forward to a wonderful summer of outdoor adventures, hands-on science and caring for the environment with our Youth Leaders and our campers. We have planned many fun-filled weeks of learning, guaranteed to make this summer unforgettable! In this Preparation Packet we have enclosed some important information about camp. Please look it over with your Youth Leader.

Your Preparation Packet includes:

- Youth Leader's Daily Checklist
- Youth Leader's Roles and Expectations
- Drop-Off/Pick-Up Instructions
- Drop-Off/Pick-Up Late Policy
- Leader-In-Training/Intern Self Sign Out Form
- Recipe for a Zero-Waste Lunch
- Medication Permission Form - [*A copy of the Permission Form can be downloaded here.*](#)
- Swim Waiver for Lake Anza - please complete, sign and return to your **KftB Educator on day one of camp.** *A copy of the Waiver can be [accessed and downloaded here:](https://kidsforthebay.org/pages/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Swim-Waivers.pdf)*

Each Explorers and Adventurers group will be led by:

- KftB year-round staff members
- Camp Leaders and Junior Camp Leaders
- Youth Leader volunteers

You can read more about our [camp staff on our website!](#)

IMPORTANT: If your Youth Leader will need medication administered while participating in a KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp session, you must complete a [**Medication Permission Form**](#). Please email this form to camp@kidsforthebay.org and turn it in to your Summer Camp Leader in person on the first day of camp.

The **Drop-Off/Pick-Up Locations and maps with exact meeting places** can be found **on our website** at the **bottom of the page for each weekly theme**. You can also follow [this link](#) for more information on your special camp theme:
<http://kidsforthebay.org/summer-camp/session-themes-locations/>

Returning Camp Families: Some of our Camp Locations have changed this year! Please be sure to review the Camp Location Pick-up/Drop-off Instructions for more information.

Please remember to **bring your picture ID** to pick up your Youth Leader and sign them out of camp.

If your Leader-in-Training (LIT)/Intern will be signing themselves in and out of camp, please note that we need the completed **[Intern Self Sign Out Form](#)** returned to us **before** their first day of camp. **This is for LITs only.** Camp Rangers must be signed in and out of camp by their parents/guardians.

If you have any general questions please feel free to contact us:

Camp email: camp@kidsforthebay.org

For urgent questions only, while camp is in session please contact:

Libby Kirk, KftB Program Manager: (404) 606-3237

Neda Ibrahim, KftB Lead Program Coordinator: (909) 315-9605

Please note that cell phone reception is limited in Tilden Park and at some other locations.

We really look forward to seeing you at Summer Camp!

KIDS for the BAY

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Summer Camp 2026

Camp Location Pick-up/Drop-off Instructions

IMPORTANT: Please see our session [Themes and Locations](#) page on our website for camp locations during your session(s): <https://kidsforthebay.org/summer-camp/session-themes-locations/>

Please check the location on our [Themes and Locations Page](#) before each day of camp. We will mainly be based at Fern Picnic Area in Tilden Park, and we will have **at least two, sometimes three special location days each week**, so it is very important for you to check the website to find the location of camp for your Youth Leader (YL) each day.

PLEASE NOTE: Our locations are *best found using Google Maps*. Click on each location (blue text) and you will automatically be directed to a Google Maps Navigation that will take you to the exact drop-off location. ***Apple Maps will NOT take you to the correct location.***

Drop Off and Pick Up Locations:

Day	Date	Drop-off Location	Pick-up Location
Monday	June 15	Fern Picnic Area	Fern Picnic Area
Tuesday	June 16	Berkeley Marina, Dock M <i>(Explorers boat ride on the bay)</i>	Berkeley Marina, Dock M
Wednesday	June 17	Fern Picnic Area	Orchard Picnic Area
Thursday	June 18	Berkeley Marina, Dock M <i>*special bus field trip to Crab Cove</i>	Berkeley Marina, Dock M
Friday	June 19	Lake Anza (Drop-off is on the grassy field by the Parking Lot)	Lake Anza (Pick-up will be down the hill and through the Lake Anza Gate)

** Bus transportation for field trips is provided by KIDS for the BAY.*

Returning Camp Families: Some of our Camp Locations have changed this year! PLEASE BE SURE TO REVIEW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW!

AT ALL LOCATIONS: Look for the KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp sign!

Fern Picnic Area, Tilden Park:

Look for the KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp sign marking the entrance to the Parking Lot in front of Fern Picnic Area. Park in the lot and walk your camper over to the check-in area at the entrance near the picnic tables.

Lake Anza, Tilden Park:

Park in the lot right by Lake Anza. Walk your camper over to us on the grassy field.

Berkeley Marina, Dock M:

Park in the lot across the street from Shorebird Park. Walk your camper over to the check-in area on the grass fields near Dock M.

Environmental Education Center Parking Lot, Tilden Park:

Park in the main parking lot and meet us across the street from the play structure in the parking lot at the picnic tables on the grassy field.

Strawberry Creek, UC Berkeley Campus:

From the campus area on Oxford Street, drive into the campus on the half circle that connects University Avenue and Center Street. Park for a few minutes on this half circle and walk your camper over to us near the redwood trees in the grassy half circle area.

Blake Gardens, Kensington:

Park in the small parking lot at Blake Gardens and walk your camper to meet us at the event lawn. Please see the map on the gate entrance into the gardens to locate the event lawn.

Codornices Park, Berkeley:

Park on the street outside Codornices Park, across from the Berkeley Rose Garden and walk your camper to meet us on the grass near the play structures.

Lawrence Hall of Science, Berkeley:

Park in one of the lots and walk your camper to meet us near the whale outside the entrance to the museum.

KIDS for the BAY

Summer Camp

Drop-Off/Pick-Up Late Policy

Drop Off: We offer flexible drop-off every day between **8:30 am and 9:00 am**. Camp begins at 9:00 AM. We may leave the drop-off area to start our activities by 9:15 AM. We want all Youth Leaders and campers to get the most out of their day and a prompt start to our activities will help ensure this. If you plan on arriving late, please call to determine where the group will be at the time of arrival. Please be aware that cell phone reception is very limited in some parts of Tilden Park and some other camp locations.

Pick-Up: We offer flexible pick-up every day between **3:00 pm and 3:30 pm**. Please allow enough travel time to **pick your child up on time, before 3:30 pm. We will charge a late pick-up fee of \$1.00 for every minute late past 3:30 pm.**

For **Nature Club**, after camp care pick-up is **no later than 5:00 pm. We will charge a late pick-up fee of \$1.00 for every minute past 5:00 pm.**

If you are late please have a check or cash ready to pay the Camp Leader *on the day you are late.*

Thank you for your understanding!

KIDS for the BAY

Summer Camp

Youth Leader Expectations

Youth Leaders are important role models to our campers at all times, while working on developing their leadership skills.

Youth Leader Expectations

- Play and learn how to lead various camp games
- Help with equipment and activity set up and clean up
- Read camp books aloud to groups of campers and/or the whole camp group
- Lead some circle times
- Help to supervise campers during snack, lunch, and free play times.

Mentoring Campers

- Be a 'big buddy' to all campers
- Seek out any campers that are alone or having trouble getting comfortable at camp and spend extra time with them and encourage them to participate and make new friends.

Role Model

- Help reinforce KftB expectations of our campers by modeling excellent camper behavior
- Be positive, energetic, enthusiastic and helpful
- Model sitting and active listening during circle time
- Enthusiastically participate in and/or assist with all activities
- Follow all camp rules/expectations
- Use appropriate language (kind words, age appropriate words, be careful when 'joking' that the joke is appropriate for younger campers)
- Treat all campers and staff with kindness and respect.

Excellent YL choices

- Leading an age appropriate game for campers
- Helping to carry materials
- Being a buddy to a camper who feels left out
- Participating in all group activities
- Helping campers with reading material/using equipment (plant/bird guides, microscopes)
- Joining circle with campers and being a role model by listening and following instructions
- Encourage campers to participate and help guide them to be interested in the current activities
- Being really fun and kind!

Not Great YL choices

- Going off on your own with a camper - this is **never** allowed in our camp and we strictly follow our 'Rule of Three' at all times
- Being disruptive and modeling disrespectful behavior
- Carrying campers' personal items for them
- Encouraging campers to be overly competitive
- Complaining out loud in front of the group
- Having a negative attitude/being rude
- Excluding campers/ only playing with other YLs
- Allowing campers to sit in your lap, giving piggyback rides, etc.
- Unwilling to participate, being unenthusiastic about or expressing disdain for an activity.

Please note that if you are interested in applying for our Junior Camp Leader or Camp Leader paid positions in the future, we will consider your performance as Youth Leader during the selection process for these positions.

KIDS for the BAY

Summer Camp

Youth Leader Daily Checklist

Remember to WEAR the following things each day:

- Layered clothing (it can be a little chilly in the morning so a long-sleeve and short-sleeve shirt are recommended)
- Long pants (this is tick-season and long pants will help prevent any tick bites)
- Clothing and closed-toed shoes that can be dirtied
- Sweatshirt/light jacket
- Sunscreen (Please have your YL apply before coming to camp. Camp staff have zinc/zinc oxide based children's sunscreen available for re-application if needed.)
- Sunhat

Remember to BRING the following things each day:

- Backpack
- Nutritious, hearty lunch and morning/afternoon snacks *
- Full water bottle
- Small-sized, personal bottle of hand-sanitizer (staff will provide extra if needed)
- A bandana for camp games (optional)
- Any needed medication.

Please note: You must notify camp staff of any medication your child needs during camp, and you must provide a completed [Medication Permission Form](#).

*Please **DO NOT** pack anything for swimming on bay and ocean field trip days. Our campers will not be swimming on these days, they will be exploring and hiking. We want to avoid campers' backpacks becoming too heavy. You may pack a small, lightweight towel for campers to sit on the beach if you choose.*

Remember to BRING the following things on Friday for Lake Anza:

- Swimsuit and towel (in a separate bag)

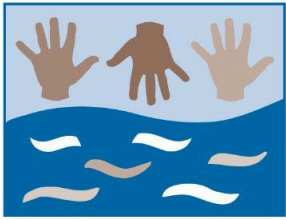
**** We encourage camp families to pack a Zero-Waste Lunch. Please use reusable and recyclable products when possible! Please see the KftB Recipe for a Zero-Waste Lunch.***

Please LEAVE the following items at HOME:

Toys, money, candy, games of any kind (trading cards, video games, etc.), and science/nature equipment (the equipment needed for each activity will be provided to all campers).

PLEASE NOTE: Youth Leaders are responsible for their own belongings! Camp staff will give groups frequent reminders to make sure they have everything they came with, but it is each individual's responsibility to keep track of their things.

In Case of Rain/Inclement Weather: Our camp is conducted outdoors. If rain is predicted for the following day, we will notify you and give you instructions to prepare for the upcoming rainy day. In case of unexpected, ongoing heavy rain during a day of camp, please be prepared to pick up your child if we call you.



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Medication Policy

Dear Summer Camp Families,

If your child will need medication administered while participating in KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp, you must complete a [Medication Permission Form](#) to turn in to the Camp Staff along with the **medication and/or medical device(s)** on the first day of camp at check-in.

You may be asked to demonstrate to Camp Staff how to administer the medication and/or use the medical device at that time.

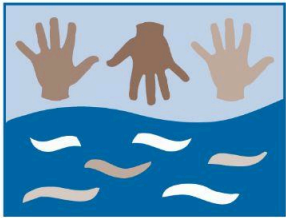
Thank you in advance for complying with our medication policy. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our medication policy further, please feel free to contact me.

We look forward to a wonderful and safe summer!

Libby Kirk, KftB Program Manager: (404) 606-3237
Neda Ibrahim, KftB Lead Program Coordinator: (909) 315-9605

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camp@kidsforthebay.org

Everyone Is an Environmentalist!



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Medication Permission Form

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Camper Name: _____

I, _____, am a parent/guardian of the above-named Camper. I give full permission to KIDS for the BAY (KftB) Summer Camp Staff to administer the following medication(s) and/or medical device(s) to my child (the "Camper") while they are participating in KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp from the dates of _____ to _____ :

Medication/Medical Device Name	Dosage Amount and Timing	Reason for Administration

I will provide the above medication(s) and/or medical device(s) to the KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp Staff. I will provide training on how to administer the medication and/or use the medical device to the Summer Camp Staff upon my or KIDS for the BAY's request.

Note: Please attach any additional information or notes to this form.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

I acknowledge receipt of this permission to administer the above-indicated medication(s)/medical device(s) to the above-named Camper.

Signature of KftB Camp Staff Member

Date

Name of KftB Camp Staff Member

KIDS for the BAY

Summer Camp

LIT Intern Self Sign-Out Form

LIT/Intern Name	
Parent/Guardian Name	
Session(s) Enrolled	

I give permission for _____ to sign themselves out of KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp. I understand that from the time my child signs themselves out of Camp, I am responsible for the whereabouts and well-being of my child.

In consideration of allowing my child to participate in KIDS for the BAY Summer Camp and to the fullest extent permitted by law, I agree to hold harmless KIDS for the BAY, its employees, and its volunteers and assigns from and against all claims arising out of or resulting from my child's participation in camp upon release. I hereby voluntarily hold harmless and release KIDS for the BAY and Earth Island Institute (KIDS for the BAY's parent organization), its trustees, officers, employees, agents and volunteers from any and all claims arising out of or incident to my child's release from Summer Camp, which may be made on behalf of me, my child, my personal representatives and my heir or assigns.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

Recipe for a Zero Waste Lunch

Sustainable, Reusable, Recycled, Reduced Waste, Zero-Waste Lunch

Disposable, Single-Use, More Waste Lunch

Reusable lunch box



Plastic or paper lunch bag



Reusable or Recycled food containers



Plastic sandwich bags & plastic wrap



Reusable bottles



Single-use plastic bottles / juice boxes



Buying food in bulk



Buying individually packaged food



Reusable Silverware



Plastic utensils



Cloth napkin, bandana



Paper napkin



EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

Waiver and Release of Liability. In consideration of being allowed to use and participate in activities at East Bay Regional Park District’s facilities, including but not limited to its pools, lakes, shorelines and swimming lagoons (“Recreational Activity”), I, for myself and my spouse, my child, heirs, personal representatives, next of kin, and assigns, voluntarily agree to release, waive, discharge, and promise not to sue the East Bay Regional Park District, its officers, directors, agents, volunteers, and employees (collectively the “District”) from any and all liability for any accident, illness, injury, death, wrongful death, or property damage/loss arising out of my participation in the Recreational Activity and/or use of District facilities and equipment (along with the use of transportation provided, arranged, or paid for by the District, including such transportation for medical treatment), whether occurring on or off District property, and whether caused by any negligence of the District or otherwise, excepting only to the extent caused by District’s gross negligence.

Assumption of Risk. I understand that participation in the Recreational Activity and the use of District facilities, equipment, and transportation carry inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injury. These risks may result in injuries that include, but are not limited to, disease, cuts, eye injuries, blindness, broken bones, concussions, heart attacks, heat stroke, dehydration, joint or back injuries, slipping on uneven surfaces, brain injuries, drowning, paralysis, and death, as well as damage/loss of personal property. I also understand that these risks might arise for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to, actions, inaction or negligence of other parties, participants, or the District. I further understand that there may be other risks that are not known to me or reasonably foreseeable at this time. **By signing below, I acknowledge that participation in the Recreational Activity and the use of District facilities, equipment, and transportation is voluntary and that I knowingly assume any and all risks, known and unknown.**

Indemnity Agreement. In consideration for the District’s permission to participate in the Recreational Activity, I voluntarily agree to indemnify and hold harmless the District from all claims, demands, and causes of action brought by me or anyone else as a result of my participation in the Recreational Activity and/or use of District facilities and equipment (along with the use of transportation provided, arranged, or paid for by the District, including such transportation for medical treatment), whether caused by any negligence of the District or otherwise, and agree to reimburse the District for any resulting costs, expenses, and attorneys’ fees

Severability. I understand and acknowledge that this Agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by law. If any portion of this Agreement is deemed **invalid**, it is agreed that the remaining portion of the Agreement shall continue in full legal force and effect.

Minor Participants. If Participant is under 18, Participant’s custodial parent or legal guardian must sign below, warranting that he or she is the Participant’s custodial parent or legal guardian, and is agreeing to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, on both his or her and the Participant’s behalf. **Parent or legal guardian acknowledges by their signature that they are giving up the same rights for the minor as they would be giving up if they signed this Agreement on their own behalf.**

I have read this Agreement and understand that I am giving up substantial rights by signing it, but do so voluntarily and intend to completely release the District from the liability described above to the greatest extent allowed by law. I also understand that this Agreement is legally binding on me and my child (if applicable), spouse, heirs, personal representatives, assigns, and next of kin.

Participant’s Name _____
(Print)

Name of Custodial Parent or Guardian (if Participant is under 18): _____
(Print)

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Participant Signature (if over 18) or Custodial Parent or Guardian Signature