

Camp counsellor, Camp America

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In the summer I spent 7 weeks working at Camp Westmont, through Camp America. Through this experience I also got to go travelling for 3 weeks after. I would recommend this experience to anyone who is ever so slightly tempted by the idea, because it was the best summer I've had.

My role was called a General Counsellor. As a General Counsellor, the role was spent 24/7 because you lived in bunks with the children. My group of children were aged 10 to 11, and there was 50 of them. I would take my group to different activities throughout the day, participate in the sports with them, sit with them at meal times and make sure they were being behaving properly and were always safe. Furthermore, I got to go to water parks and theme parks with the children as well. No two days at Camp were ever the same, so you were always kept busy and enjoying life.



The skills that I have taken away from doing Camp America are endless. Firstly, and I personally believe most importantly, is that I have come back much more confident. This is from social situations to academic work, because I believe in myself more. This will help me going forward because my grades will be improved, as well as help in situations like a job interview. To confidence gained from my overseas work experience is built up through other skills being enhanced.

Camp America revolves around your communication skills because it is about creating friendships with your co-workers and the children there. Through the experience you learn how to deal with an extreme variety of characters and situations. This is from a child feeling homesick, to children fighting and making sure the children are having fun. This can translate into future life because you are a better people person, and can strike up good relationships with clients and your co-workers.

In addition, another key skill learnt from Camp America, is time management, because of how much we fit into a day at Camp. We were up at 7:30 every day, and did activities until bedtime at 10:00. This will help me greatly in third year because students do waste a lot of time, and leave essays and revision till last minute. Therefore, this year I will be more organised, allowing me as well to do more improved pieces of work.

My leadership, time management and patience were tested at Camp, but they were immensely improved. This is because you always had to make sure the children were safe, especially on the day trips out with them. This is because you were left alone with five children. This will help in the future, because you will not be in many situations that rely on your leadership more.



I worked at Camp Westmont; however, I got the job through Camp America as they organised the job fairs, where you go up to the Camps on offer and sell yourself to them.

Camp America:

https://www.campamerica.co.uk/?gclid=Cj0KCQjww7HsBRDkARIsAARsIT6S1daYL3Kb7dJ3oIKvGGiCv6SQzZ2_rFwSnzAc_RCBmQyCBXSV-QYaAgE0EALw_wcB

Camp Westmont:

<https://www.campwestmont.com/>