

Camp Readiness Quiz



Take this simple interactive quiz to help determine if your child is ready for overnight camp. Check the scores at the end of the quiz for recommendations.

Note: this quiz was developed for families considering overnight camp for their daughter. Adjust the readiness expectations according to the distance and rigor of the overnight adventure you're considering with your troop.

Indicate the grade of your camper.

- A. 2nd– 3rd
- B. 4th– 5th
- C. 6th and up

How many times has your camper spent the night away from home?

- A. 0-5 times
- B. 5-10 times
- C. 10 or more times

How many nights, in a row, has your camper spent away from home?

- A. 0-1 nights
- B. 2-3 nights
- C. 4 or more nights

How does your camper feel about wildlife, dirt, bugs, and nature in general?

- A. She's frightened or very unsure about nature.
- B. She has some hesitation or fear about bugs or wildlife but is otherwise pretty comfortable in nature.
- C. She's just as likely to have an earthworm in her hand as a crayon.

Has your camper ever gone camping?

- A. No, not yet.
- B. Yes, in a modern cabin setting.
- C. Yes, in tents or rustic cabins.

How does your camper react to a new situation (first day of the school year, first day of a sports season, new environment or playground, etc.)?

- A. She is very hesitant and clings closely to me.
- B. She is hesitant at first but usually gets over it fairly quickly with a little reassurance.
- C. She's off and running before I can even say goodbye.

How does your camper interact with her peers?

- A. She has trouble communicating with them and relies on adult help.
- B. She interacts positively with her peers with little interference from adults.
- C. She interacts positively with her peers and usually solves conflicts without adult help.

Can your camper do her own daily self-care such as tooth brushing, hair brushing, hand washing, buttoning pants and tying shoelaces?

- A. She cannot do most of these things without adult help.
- B. She needs minimal adult help with any of these things.
- C. She doesn't need any adult help, other than a reminder to do these things.

How well does your camper follow instructions?

- A. I and other adults in her life usually have to repeat instructions many times before she will do it.
- B. She usually follows instructions but sometimes has to be reminded.
- C. She is very good at following instructions and will ask questions if she's not sure.

When you talk about the possibility of summer camp, how does your camper react?

- A. She gets nervous and seems concerned.
- B. She has a lot of questions but seems interested in the idea.
- C. She's begging to go.

What is your gut feeling about how she will do at summer camp?

- A. I'm just not sure; I think she might not be ready.
- B. It could go either way, but I think she'll be fine.
- C. I'm confident that she will be okay.

Add 1 point for each question you answered A, 2 points for each question you answered B, 3 points for each question you answered C.

- **11-16 Points:** Talk with your child more and see if overnight camp is the appropriate choice for her this year. If your camper is really interested in going, but scores low on this quiz, review your answers and see what you can do to change her score. Can you teach her to tie her own shoes? Can she try some overnights with her troop or some friends to practice being away from home? Can you go with her to the library so she can learn about bugs and wildlife she may encounter so she's not so frightened? If not, you may want to try Girl Scout day camp as a first time Girl Scout camp experience.
- **17-25 Points:** Overnight camp, day camp or both...take your pick! A great way to make sure she's prepared is by inviting her to be part of the planning process by looking through the web pages together and picking the camp that fits your schedule and her interests.
- **26-33 Points:** It's time for camp! Encourage her to be part of the planning process by looking through the website together and picking the camp that fits your schedule and her interests. Invite her to take a helping role in preparing for camp. With your help, she can shop for supplies and pack her own bag. See you this summer!