

## Frequently Asked Questions About Humane Kids Camp

### **How much animal interaction will there be?**

We try to have at least one animal visit camp each day. This could be a cat, dog, reptile, rat, etc. Opportunities for hands-on socialization with PSPCA animals are dependent upon the availability of appropriate animals. Our primary concern is always the safety of the campers as well as the animals.

### **Will the campers be working with or taking care of the animals that are available for adoption at the Placer SPCA?**

While it is possible that campers may be able to interact with a couple of animals available for adoption, they will not be feeding, grooming or working with them in any way. For safety reasons, those activities are performed by highly trained staff and volunteers.

### **What types of activities will the campers be doing?**

We try to vary the activities each day with some type of animal related craft activity, an educational game and/or video, discussion time and animal time. We also attempt to schedule a guest speaker for each day, however, we have no control over emergencies or other circumstances that may preclude a guest speaker from participating. It is also possible that some days there may be more than one guest speaker. Our guest speakers **may** include an Animal Control Officer, an animal behavior specialist, a wildlife care expert, dog agility trainer, horse expert, reptile expert, Veterinarian or Veterinary Technician. Each week of camp may be different depending upon the age group and the availability of speakers.

### **What happens if I register my child for camp but then have to cancel?**

If you find it necessary to cancel your child's participation in summer camp, how it's handled depends on when you notify us of the cancellation and whether or not we are able to replace your child in that session of camp. If you cancel more than 30 days prior to the first day of camp and we are able to replace your child in camp, you will receive a full refund of all fees paid minus a \$25.00 handling charge. If you notify us of the cancellation after that time, or if we are unable to replace your child in camp, we will not be able to offer any refunds.

### **Will the campers be able to watch an actual spay or neuter surgery?**

It is possible that the older campers (10 – 12 years of age) **may** be given the opportunity to watch a spay or neuter surgery in our on-site spay clinic. We strongly recommend that campers, who would like to participate in this activity, watch a surgery on T.V. or on the internet prior to attending camp. If this activity is available, campers will be given the

option as to whether or not they would like to participate. **Please let us know if you don't think your child will be able to comfortably watch a surgery.** Campers who choose not to participate in this activity will be given an alternate activity.

### **Is financial help available?**

If we have received donations to help with camp fees, we may be able to offer some discounts. We do not receive these funds very often and we are never able to offer full scholarships. To inquire about financial assistance, please call the Humane Educator at 916-782-7722 ext. 253 or 530-885-7387 ext. 253 or e-mail at [humaneedu@placerspca.org](mailto:humaneedu@placerspca.org).

### **Will refreshments be available during camp?**

Yes, a small snack and water will be provided each day. Available snacks may be cookies, crackers, chips, granola bars etc. Campers may bring their own refreshments to camp, however, no refrigeration or cooking facilities will be available.

### **Can a parent stay for the camp session?**

Parents are more than welcome to observe camp sessions any time they would like. However, we are unable to accommodate any additional children that may want to accompany a parent.

### **Does the same person have to drop off and pick up my child every day of camp?**

No, however, for your child's protection, whoever does drop off or pick up your child will be asked to sign your child in and out of camp. Please feel free to make arrangements with us before the start of camp if you would like to specify the person or persons authorized to pick up your child.

### **What if I can't pick up my child at the specified time, can I arrange to have my child picked up later?**

Unfortunately, children are not allowed to be in the Animal Care Center unsupervised and we do not have the staff available to watch your child after the time specified. If your child can not be picked up by the specified time, we will not be able to accommodate your child in camp.

### **What if my child has allergies or fears about some types of animals?**

We regret that we will be unable to accommodate children with allergies to dogs, cats or rabbits. If your child has allergies to any other type of animal, food, material etc., we will do our best to accommodate them. **Please be sure you discuss allergies and any**

**fears about animals with the Humane Educator prior to registering your child.**

**Will the campers be doing activities indoors or outdoors?**

Most activities will take place indoors, however, we are planning to have some activities (such as agility training) outdoors. We purposely planned camp for the morning hours so that outdoor activities could take place before it gets too hot. We suggest that your child bring a sweatshirt or light jacket on cool mornings.

**What if my child can only attend a few days of camp? Is there a discount?**

Humane Kids Camp is designed to be a progressive learning experience. If your child will not be able to attend all of the days scheduled, they may not be able to participate in some of the hands-on animal activities. No discount or refund will be available for missed days of camp, regardless of the reason your child can not attend.

**What about a child with physical or behavioral challenges?**

As it is our goal to provide a safe, respectful and caring environment for each camper, we ask that you discuss any physical or behavioral challenges that your child has with the Humane Educator prior to registering your child.

**And the question we are asked most - Can I sign my child up for camp again next year?**

As a non-profit organization we are constantly attempting to raise funds that would allow us to offer additional programs. We certainly hope that we will be able to continue to offer this very popular summer program. If you would like to be notified when next year's registration materials are available, simply let us know by providing the following information:

- ❖ Parent's name, telephone number and e-mail address
- ❖ Child's name and date of birth