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WITH SUMMER RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, IT'S TIME TO PLAN FOR SUMMER CAMPS

Poll Shows Camps Help a Child's Development

Orlando, Fla. – (March 2004) – During the summer, the closest some children get to an animal interaction is fighting off mosquitoes or swatting away flies. At SeaWorld Orlando Adventure Camps, hanging out with penguins and swimming with dolphins are just a few of the incredible animal encounters campers can experience.

Not only do SeaWorld Orlando Adventure Camps create unforgettable memories for participants, but according to a recent poll conducted by RoperASW for SeaWorld and Busch Gardens, 85 percent of Americans agree that attending summer camp helps improve a child's social and personal development, and nine out of 10 Americans agree that a summer camp that features hands-on experiences with animals is likely to inspire a lifelong appreciation for wildlife and the environment (87 percent).

“Attending overnight camps or day camps, like those offered at SeaWorld, can help shape young people's lives – from building self-esteem and essential social skills to gaining a unique appreciation for the environment and even building a career,” said Karen Branding, vice president of Adventure Camps for Busch Entertainment Corp.

SeaWorld Adventure campers and their parents have more than 20 different programs to choose from, ranging from half-day visits to overnight adventures to weeklong excursions.

SeaWorld Resident Camps

For teenage campers, the adventure goes beyond SeaWorld Orlando with four- to five-night expeditions to the crystal clear waters of the Florida Keys and the pristine beaches of Florida's Atlantic coast during the “**Florida Keys Adventure**” or the “**Ultimate Florida Adventure**” programs.

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These extended excursions submerge snorkeling campers into the realm of Florida's endangered coral reefs to encounter rays, barracudas and even sharks. Canoeing campers glide along the state's scenic waterways in search of manatees and dolphins.

Campers can also dive into a dream-come-true experience and discover the rewards and challenges of working with marine mammals during the "**Summer Splash!**" program.

Select Adventure Camps also include a special bonus: one full day filled with up-close animal interactions at the nearby Discovery Cove, SeaWorld's dolphin-swim sister park.

SeaWorld Day Camps

During select day camps, young campers can experience behind-the-scenes tours of SeaWorld's animal areas and witness everything from animal enrichment sessions to training techniques. They'll also learn about rescue and rehabilitation efforts that give manatees, sea turtles and other endangered animals a second chance for survival. SeaWorld offers programs for campers in pre-school through 8th grade.

SeaWorld Family Sleepovers

SeaWorld sleepovers extend the camp excitement into nightfall. Offered year-round, sleepovers offer friends, families and groups quality time together while sleeping next to manatees, polar bears or beluga whales.

Campers and their families can even spend the night at Discovery Cove during "**Dolphin Lover's Family Sleepovers.**" Participants sleep in cozy tents next to the dolphin lagoon and awake to a day filled with snorkeling among rays and tropical fish, feeding exotic birds and swimming with dolphins.

The official kick off for the 2004 SeaWorld Adventure Camp season begins on June 7 for day camps and June 14 for resident camps.

SeaWorld Adventure Camps are accredited by the American Camping Association and offer a safe, fun environment for children – and adults – to discover the world of marine animals and conservation.

Prospective SeaWorld campers looking for more information on all SeaWorld camps may visit www.seaworld.org or call 1-866-4SW-CAMP.