

Age Exceptions outside of 5 years 3 months- 10 years

Parents and caregivers, please read green boxes for overview, then proceed to yellow box on page 2 to consider if it is the right time for your child to attend Monkey Business Camp.

Info About Age Range at Camp and Minimum and Maximum Ages

The age range for kids at camp is already quite a large one, from 5.25 (5 yrs, 3 mos)-10 years, and our staff: camper ratio is 1:9. Sometimes slight exceptions to these will work out and sometimes they do not. This is where we need you, as the parent, to help out in the decision. We want to make sure that younger children feel capable and relaxed in the environment, and that older children who have been with camp still feel enthusiastic about it.

More Info about our Groups & Ages at Break Camps and Daylongs

The number of groups impacts the age component of a group. Usually, we have at least 2 groups (one w/ages 5.25-7; other w/ages 7-10). With higher enrollment, a 3rd group opens (w/ages 6-early 8s); with smaller, we might only have one group (w/ages 5.25-10). Summer groups are a bit different, as we always have 4 groups, except for July 4th shorter week or end of summer week, when we have 2.

When Ages Share Space and Time at Camp

At break camps, at Berkwood Hedge, groups share space on our yards, usually in the morning, and after lunch, for about an hour each day. We also make sure they have time separately, so they can enjoy it in a way that speaks more to their age.

At day longs in Tilden, if just one group, they will spend all day together, otherwise, if more than one group, they will each have time away from the group to explore Tilden.

Toileting for Younger Kids

It is important that younger kids have awareness and ease with toileting, even with the stimulation of camp. Staff call out bathroom breaks, usually based on another camper saying they need to go, and staff or youth leaders accompany them, following the rule of 3, so never alone with a camper. Camp has an understanding that there could be an occasional accident, aiming for not more than once a week.

Exception Considerations-we are asking parents to consider what we have shared above and below for those in ages specified.

Minimum Age exceptions: Between age 5 and 5 years 3 months

When children are younger than 5 years 3 months, they can struggle to keep up, or can be scared by older children, and it creates anxiety that can be avoided if they can wait and join a year later. At other times, they really relish being with older kids and have ease with the noise and larger bodies.

If your child is in that 3 month window, by the time camp starts, so between 5-5 yrs 3 months, and you have read the info above, and think that it is a good time to start Monkey Business Camp, please go ahead and <u>register</u>.

Maximum Age Exceptions: At age 11-12 usually

For children who will be 11 by the time camp starts, one option is our Counselor in Training (CIT) program, but some 11 year olds are not yet ready or interested.

Please reach out to Zach: programs@monkeybusinesscamp.com if you have an 11 year old very interested in being a camper, and you have checked in with them about being the oldest and they feel positive about it. They also must know that if their friend is a CIT, their friend will not be as available to play, as they have other responsibilities.

General Note: At times the camp will not be full, but will fill up for certain ages.