

Monkey Business Camp — Youth Leader Prep Guide

Welcome to the Youth Leader (YL) team! We're so glad you'll be joining us this season. Whether MBC is familiar or new to you, this guide will help you know what to expect in your role and feel ready for camp. Review the Handbook at least twice, using the Review Questions (see Step 2) to help guide you, and practice a few songs and games.

Before Camp

1. Review the [Youth Leader Handbook](#)

New Youth Leaders:

Take your time going through it so you understand what a day at camp is like, what Youth Leaders do, and how you can help.

Returning Youth Leaders:

Review it again, noticing anything new and where you'd like to practice or take on more leadership this year.

2. Complete the [Youth Leader Review Questions](#) once per season (Autumn–Summer).

If you've already completed the current version this season, you're all set!

Due: Autumn—Nov 1 | Winter—Dec 1 | February—Feb 1 | Spring—Mar 1 | Summer—May 10 | *Joining after a deadline? Complete them as soon as you can.*

3. Practice a Few Camp Activities

Before camp, have a few things you feel comfortable jumping into and helping with:

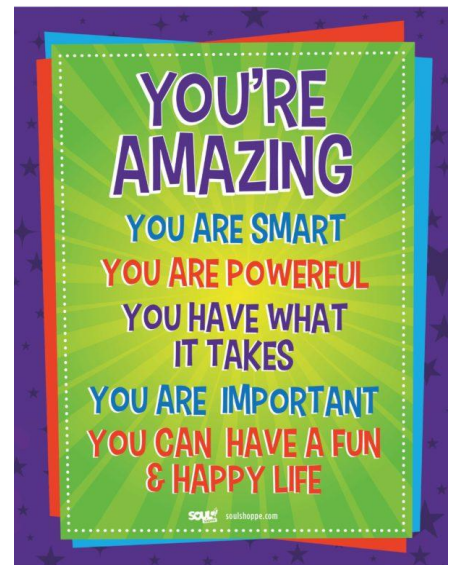
- Practice a few songs or chants
- Know a few games or activities
- If you're returning, learn something new that you can help lead

Helpful resources: [songs and chants](#) | [games and activities](#) | [nature connection](#)

 You don't need to be an expert—just willing to jump in and try.

4. Bring Each Day

- Lunch + 2 snacks
- Water bottle (required)
- **Wear an MBC T-shirt each day and wear/bring an MBC hoodie for changing weather**
 - **First 2 days:** both should be green YL gear (*Winter Camp: first 2 days of each week*)
 - **After that:** other MBC shirts and hoodies are welcome
 - **Wacky Wednesday:** MBC gear is optional—join the theme or wear something wacky



and fun! Just make sure you can still move, play, and participate comfortably.

Break Camp themes

- Closed-toe shoes
- Optional: sunscreen, hat, book or quiet activity

Phones/electronics: Please keep them turned off and in your bag throughout the camp day, including breaks.

Come fed, rested, and ready for a full day. Getting your things ready the night before can make mornings easier.

5. Know Your Hours 🕒

YL day: 8:25–4:35

As noted at enrollment, the Youth Leader commitment includes attending all scheduled days and daily hours of the session.

Arrive a few minutes early so you have time to get settled, put your things away, and be ready to join your group at 8:25.

Plan to stay through 4:35 each day.

6. What Matters Most 🌟

You don't need to have everything figured out before day one. **You'll learn a lot of your role by doing it, with support from staff.**

At camp, what matters most is to:

- **Connect** — Get to know campers, help them feel welcome, and include others.
- **Participate** — Join games and activities, bring your energy, and be willing to try.
- **Help** — Notice what needs doing, support your group, and jump in with set-up and clean-up.
- **Learn** — Listen to staff, ask questions, try out feedback, and keep growing.
- **Lead** — As you gain experience, take more initiative and help create the kind, fun community we want at camp.

💬 **Questions Before Camp?**

Closer to camp, we'll send your family your group information and any other details you'll need. If you or your family have questions before then, reach out:

programs@monkeybusinesscamp.com.

We're excited to have you at camp!

~ Zach Bigelow & the entire MBC Team