



2022 Summer Camp

RHEUMATOLOGY, IMMUNOLOGY, AND GENERAL SESSION

► Who is this camper population?

- This is a very diverse camper population that is made up of campers who have rheumatology diagnoses like arthritis. This diagnosis can cause them to be stiff in their joints and can cause our campers pain.
- Other campers might include our immunologic population. These campers are immunocompromised, so their immune system is very weak, making them very susceptible to getting sick.
- These campers will wear their diagnosis on the “inside”. They might look very healthy on the outside, but on the inside their diagnosis requires them to take medications and be very careful of their health.
- Our general session campers may be campers who were unable to come for our other weeks. They might have physical limitations, heart diseases, rare medical conditions, or any number of diagnoses.

► How do I support my camper?

- Allow extra time in the morning, as your campers with rheumatoid diagnoses might be stiff and slower in the morning. These campers might need to take a hot shower in the morning or evening to help their joints relax. They might need to do stretches in the morning, or they might need a wheelchair to help them get around camp and not become too fatigued.
- Practice really good handwashing. We want to keep all our campers healthy, and the best way to do that is to wash our hands.



► How do I support my camper? (continued)

- No CAMPER will be kissing a fish this week. This is your opportunity to kiss a fish for your camper. It is truly a one-of-a-kind experience!
- Allow your campers to rest. If your camper becomes fatigued from all the fun activities, the Body Shop is a great location for some quiet rest and recharge time.

► What are these campers like?

- These campers are a brave group of kids who have had to spend a lot of time at doctor offices and hospital visits.
- These kids know the best jokes and can out-dance you any day of the week.
- They are in school and may have a hard time making friends, since they are missing so much school due to their illness.
- They are so excited to be at camp, to meet YOU, and have an amazing week!

