ACTIVITY GUIDE

Waterskiing

What families should know before camp

Waterskiing is an exciting opportunity to learn a new skill on Lake Winnipesaukee. Because the activity takes place in open water, comfort in the lake is just as important as swimming ability.

Swimming ability guidance

YMCA Swim Levels 2 and 3 have historically been useful reference points for our waterskiing program to determine if a camper is ready to participate if they desire to do so:

- Level 2 - Water Movement: developing basic floating, short-distance swimming and treading water for about 10 seconds near a wall.
- Level 3 - Water Stamina: swimming independently for longer distances and treading water for about 1 minute.

A level is a guide, not a guarantee

Pool-based swimming skills do not always reflect a camper's comfort in open lake water. Our staff will consider each camper's comfort and readiness when determining participation.

What happens when a camper falls?

Falling is a normal part of learning. Campers wear a life jacket and must be comfortable waiting in the open water while the boat circles back to assist them or set up another attempt.

Talk with your camper

- Would they feel comfortable floating in a life jacket away from shore?
- Would they be willing to wait calmly in the water for the boat to return?
- Are they excited to try, even knowing that falling into the lake is expected?

Other Important Information

- Waterskiing is an optional specialty program for an additional fee.
- Advanced registration is encouraged (during enrollment) as space is limited and not guaranteed.
- Waterskiing, if selected, will be one of your child's program periods, one program period is dedicated to mandatory swim lessons, and the final four program periods will be selected during the all-camp activities fair on the first Monday of Camp. Please review the North Woods Camp Brochure and/or the Pleasant Valley Camp Brochure to get a better understanding of the schedules and activities offered.
- Specialty program fees are non-refundable once the camper's session begins. LITs are eligible to participate; CITs are not eligible due to their leadership responsibilities supporting counselors and younger campers.