

# Lake Aurora High Five Contract

## 5 tips for creating a great camp atmosphere

*Who doesn't love a high five?* What better way to help celebrate campers experience and reinforce the positive lessons that campers have each day than a high five? As campers go through their day, even with 100's of other campers and counselors around, it is so important that each camper is challenged and then celebrated.

The High Five Contract takes this interaction between campers and counselors to a new level that allows us to keep the basics of camping in mind. ***Safety First, Respect, Love, Try and Have Fun!***



### Safety First!

1. Safety First - Always. In everything we do. While Lake Aurora's mission is to meet all campers where they are and lead them to Christ. We have no greater job each and every day than to ensure our campers physical and emotional safety. Creating an environment where every child is recognized as a child of God and helping them see the beauty in themselves is the goal of every Lake Aurora program and should be the goal of every interaction between campers and counselors. Add this philosophy to the risk management procedures we already have in place and we can create a safe place for kids to be themselves.



### Respect!

2. Respect - This is simply respecting the 3 P's. Person, privacy and property. Creating a place where campers are not only loved but respected as individuals AND as decision makers, we are able to have a maximum impact on those campers. Campers are also encouraged to respect each other. Campers should be free from bullying and peer pressure in a camp environment.



### Love!

3. Love - Love is the basis of our Faith. It is what Jesus showed in every interaction he had with people. Therefore, we should love all campers. Especially the ones that are hard to love. As we show love and acceptance to all campers equally, so will they reciprocate that love to one another.



### Try!

4. Try - At Lake Aurora we always "challenge by choice". We use this phrase to allow campers to realize that anything risk they take is by choice and that we are here to simply support them. Getting campers out of their comfort zone allows them to build trust with others and with God.



### Have Fun!

5. Have Fun! - This is the most critical part of the High Five Contract. If the other 4 components are there, then this is the easy one. In an atmosphere where campers are safe, respected, loved and challenged, they can't help but enjoy every minute of their camp experience and then take that experience, along with the lessons they've learn, back home to impact their homes, schools and churches.