

Smiley Bunch - PreK and Kindergarten

Parents common questions and answers

(As of Monday, May 5th, 2025)



New or updated programming/notes:

1. Camp is from Wednesday, July 2nd to Friday, August 8th (5 and a half weeks).
2. One full week of camp is 160\$. This includes the camper t-shirt and any in-house or yellow bus outings on that week.
3. We have a 3-day camp on Wednesday, July 2nd to Friday, July 4th. That is 100\$ and can be registered online at smileybunch.ca.
4. Camp is from 9am to 4pm.
5. Daycare hours are 7am - 9am and 4pm - 6pm.
6. You can sign up for more weeks during the summer.
7. Your child's grade will be the grade from which he or she graduated in June 2025.
8. Registration will take place online at smileybunch.ca. When clicked, it will send you to equiperdp.com which is the city-recognized organization we have partnered with this summer.
9. Your receipt and relevant information will be sent by them to you online.
10. We are available to help with registration through phone or email.

Please note:

- On the first week of camp, you will receive a parent information booklet that has the program calendar and other information. This information will also be online a week before camp starts.
- Your child's camp T-shirt will be given out during the first week and should be worn only on outings or special events. We will notify you when.

ATTENTION

- We are always looking for sponsorship and donations! We can offer income tax receipts and publicity incentives for cash sponsorship. Please reach out to us smileybunch2000@gmail.com for more information!

ALL INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE (UPDATED ON May 5th, 2025)

Question 1: Where does my child go?

Location:

- Centre: East Hill Elementary School
- Address: 10350 Boulevard Perras Montreal, QC, Canada H1C 2H1



Question 2: How does Daycare work?

- Daycare is from 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm.
- It is supervised by the animators of the center. You can sign up for daycare anytime during the summer.
- Consistent lateness or not respecting the daycare hours registered results in a higher daycare rate.
- You must sign in and out your child at the "daycare desk".

Question 3: What should my child bring every day?

*It is important that your child brings the following items **on a daily basis** in a durable backpack.*

- Sunscreen (SPF 50 or higher) You must apply sunscreen before arriving at camp each day. We will reapply during the day.
- A healthy lunch and snacks. **NO PRODUCTS WITH NUTS.** We do not use microwaves. Please make sure your child(ren) lunches are tightly sealed and kept fresh (put an ice pack in the lunch bag if necessary).
- If lunch is forgotten, we will contact you to purchase some food for your child. You will then reimburse your coordinator.
- Pool sandals/ water shoes for water activities.
- Bathing suit and towel.
- Water bottle.
- Cap/sun hat
- Running shoes **WITH** socks. **NO SANDALS/ETC**

Please keep in mind that we are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items.

Most of the day will be spent outside with activities ranging from quiet to active, geared towards that age group. They will take breaks throughout the day and, where possible, in the shade. It's summer after all! Please note that East Hill does not have air conditioning. But the school does remain cool.

Question 4: Will the campers go swimming?

- We will use the splash pads at East Hill School
- Campers will also go in inflatable pools in the school yard.

Question 5: How is the day / week structured?

- The day will range from quiet to semi-active to active activities.
- **The week consists of theme days, sports, outings, games, songs, center events, special animation programming, and water activities.**
- Most of the activities will take place at the center and the immediate surroundings.
- Animators will follow an approved daily plan from the coordinator for the day.

Question 6: How do outings work?

- There will be 1-2 outings during the camp program.
- These mini and/or major outings can be “in house” (where an organization/recreation company comes to the center, or the center goes to a particular place (example: Biodome).
- All the outings are incorporated into the registration fee (that means they are free).
- “Major-outings” are by yellow bus.
- You will receive the outing form on the first week of camp in the parent information booklet. Please check off which outings you would like your child to attend. If anything changes, let us know the latest **TWO DAYS BEFORE THE OUTING.**
- No permission slips for major outings will be accepted on the day of the outing. It is not meant to exclude campers but rather to ensure proper supervision and space in the yellow buses.
- No campers will be allowed to stay back on our outings. If you choose not to send your child, they will have to stay home.
- Strict rules are applied by the animators and reinforced by the coordinators for all outings and public transportation. A review of safety procedures is also done with the campers.
- If an outing is cancelled or rescheduled (due to circumstances beyond our control) to another camp week, there is no reimbursement. However that money will be absorbed into theme days or special little things for the campers (example: ice cream, end of year events, etc.).
- We may allow the camper who is not registered for that week to attend the outing provided there is space available.



Question 7: How does early dismissal and absence procedure work?

- A note is required by the parent (in advance) to be given **DIRECTLY** to the animator, who then discusses it with the coordinator. Campers will only be dismissed at the center.
- In **RARE** situations, campers can be dismissed at a different site (park, pool, outing, other center...) provided the coordinator speaks to the person who is picking up the child (is verified on the registration documents) and approves it. No exceptions.
- Please share all personal matters (divorce, custody, other) about your child's safety and well-being with the respective coordinator or Theo. The more we know, the more we can provide a "SafeFun" experience for your child(ren).
- If you are aware that your child will be absent for the day, please send in a note or contact the animator/coordinator.
- **The coordinators only make phone calls to the camper's home around noon (due to busy mornings at the center).**

Question 8: Is camp from 9am to 4pm?

- Yes. Dismissal is at 4pm. We ask all parents to be present five minutes earlier to notice your child as they leave the center.
- **DO NOT DOUBLE PARK AT THE SCHOOL! THIS SELFISH ACT IS VERY DANGEROUS!**
The police will be doing check-ups and giving tickets on a regular basis. Blatant and repetitive parents who double park will annul their child's camp registration with no refunds given.

If you're late...

- Some animators will be with the dismissed campers outside as they wait for the child to be picked up. However, please keep in mind that the animators have other duties to attend to after camp and they cannot continue to animate after 4pm.
- If you won't be able to make it for 4pm, please contact your child(ren)'s center. Make sure to have your child's center number saved on your phone.
- Please call if you will be late. Consistent lateness will result in a "supervision/daycare" fee to be paid directly to the coordinator and a recommendation to register for daycare.
- **If the parent is late, we will bring the child back inside the center (around 4:15pm). We will not leave a child alone to wait outside.**
- **Make sure you write down on the registration form ALL THE PEOPLE that can pick up your child from camp.**



Question 9: Does my child have to wear the camp t-shirt every day?

- No. Camp T-shirts MUST be worn on all outings. This is to enhance identification, safety, and supervision during an outing.
- In some cases, we ask the campers to wear their camp T-shirt on special events (e.g. last day of camp, etc...)
- A t-shirt of the same color may be worn (or one of previous years) if the camp T-shirt of this year is dirty or for other reasons.
- The t-shirt is included in the registration fee. Sizes may be a little big on your child (never smaller). We “guesstimate” the sizes according to age. At times, we can replace them if we have extras.
- A replacement fee for a lost t-shirt during the camp season is 20\$ cash and no receipt.

Question 10: What is the Code of Conduct on the registration form?

- The Code of Conduct is the way in which we expect campers to behave while at summer camp. It is also a tool that the camp staff can use to encourage transparent and stronger communication and assistance to parents.
- In particular,
 - with campers who choose not to listen to their animators,
 - who express their frustration with aggressiveness and/or foul language,
 - or who abuse others.
- **We are not able to keep any camper we feel we are not equipped to handle, nor can we keep a camper who has repeatedly ignored the code of conduct. If this is the case, you will receive a partial reimbursement.**
- This is to ensure the safety of other campers and the staff as a whole and to not diminish the opportunity for an enjoyable summer camp EXPERIENCE FOR ALL CAMPERS AND STAFF.
- The more we know, the more we can help! This is why we strongly recommend an open and honest communication between parents and staff. Speak to your child(ren)'s coordinator.

Question 11: Do you accept children with special needs?

- As with the code of conduct, you will see on the registration form a section to fill out if you know or feel that your child has a special need or requires special attentiveness.
- Your honesty and assistance helps to ensure a safer and more enjoyable camp experience for your child and the center as a whole.
- We are aware of the challenges and difficulties it is to secure and ensure a safe space for your child during the summer. But it is important that you do not mislead the camp director, coordinators and animating team.

- We will do our best to accommodate and assist if we feel we're able to ensure a "SafeFun" experience for all involved.
- If you have a specialized/experienced special needs animator that can work with your child at camp, we will certainly consider it. However, they must be **paid by you** or through your school, city, CLSC, government agency, personal or another type of grant.
- Please speak to us by emailing us at smileybunch2000@gmail.com.

Question 13: Do we get an official camp receipt?

- You will receive a Releve-24 if your invoice has been paid. All relevant information will be issued by equiperdp.com (our community collaborator for this summer).
- If there are any issues, we will direct you towards Equipe RDP's team to ratify the situation.

Question 14: What is SAFEFUN and who are the animators?

- This is the philosophy of our camp. Our objective is to make sure that the safety of our campers will never be compromised for the sake of fun.
- All our animators go through a city-recognized training, participate, and agree to our "Safe Environment" protocols. All are first aid certified, and the majority are known to us through our programming and go through a police check (18 years and over).
- We are also accredited by the Quebec Camp Association.
- Theo Vecera has been leading the camp structure and overall programming since 1997.

Please note that this year's structure is under Equipe RDP's general supervision and accountability. Smiley Bunch camp for this summer, is considered a specialized camp service being offered by them, in collaboration with Theo Vecera.

Theo Vecera, the Smiley Bunch coordinator and animating team, is responsible for the day-to-day coordination and supervision of the campers and staff and for ensuring successful camp programming.

If you have any questions or comments or can sponsor goods, items and equipment, please email us (both) at theovecera@gmail.com and smileybunch2000@gmail.com.