



Washington Hands & Voices



# Summer Camps



How to keep our kids safe and included

# 5 Steps for Teaching our kids independence

- + Step 1: Make Realistic Assessments
- + Step 2: As a Family, Learn and Practice 'People Safety' Skills Together
- + Step 3: Co-pilot to Field-test Skills in the Real World
- + Step 4: Conduct Trial Runs with Adult Backup to Develop Independence
- + Step 5: Keep the Lines of Communication Open

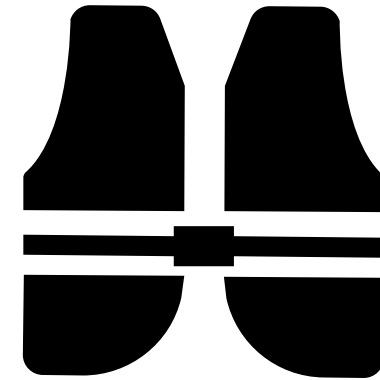


Kid Power <https://www.kidpower.org/library/article/preparing-independence/>



# What is Safe?

- + **When someone feels comfortable, happy, loved, and capable.**



7 Kidpower Strategies for Keeping Your Child Safe – Video Series

<https://www.kidpower.org/library/videos/7-kidpower-strategies-for-keeping-your-child-safe/>



# Preparing for an away camp



**The biggest safeguard is knowing where your child is and what they are going to be doing.**

How to make sure the people running the camp are truly on the same page as you are:

- + Drop in and see it in action
- + Talk with parents whose children have attended there before.
- + Inquire how camp leaders inform you of any changes (small or large)

## Further Reading

Parents of Children with Disabilities and Summer Camp Planning: 3 Things to Know

<https://northeastada.org/blog/parents-of-children-with-disabilities-and-summer-camp-planning-3-things-to-know>

10 Tips to Help Prepare Your Child for Summer Camp

<https://pulse.seattlechildrens.org/10-tips-to-help-prepare-your-child-for-summer-camp/>



# Trusting your intuition



- + A child's safety comes before your own feeling of being uncomfortable or embarrassment
- + Asking questions: We need to model this for our kids.
- + There are no Secrets

O.U.R Children Safety Project

<https://www.handsandvoices.org/resources/OUR/index.htm>



# What does ADA stand for?

Americans with Disability Act (ADA)

## + Title III (Public Accommodations)

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability by Public Accommodations and in Commercial Facilities

- + This title prohibits private places of public accommodation from discriminating against individuals with disabilities. Examples of public accommodations include privately-owned, leased or operated facilities like hotels, restaurants, retail merchants, doctor's offices, golf courses, private schools, day care centers, health clubs, sports stadiums, movie theaters, and so on. This title sets the minimum standards for accessibility for alterations and new construction of facilities. It also requires public accommodations to remove barriers in existing buildings where it is easy to do so without much difficulty or expense. This title directs businesses to make "reasonable modifications" to their usual ways of doing things when serving people with disabilities. It also requires that they take steps necessary to communicate effectively with customers with vision, hearing, and speech disabilities. This title is regulated and enforced by the U.S. Department of Justice.
- + [More information and events related to ADA Title III \(Public Accommodations\).](#)



# What does the ADA say?

## Helpful tips for summer camps:

- + Camps must evaluate each child on an individual basis.
- + Parents cannot be required to pay the cost of the reasonable modifications necessary for their child to fully participate in all camp activities.
- + Camps should train staff in the requirements of the ADA. Camps must train staff to administer daily medicines required by campers with disabilities, such as insulin (via pump or shots) and emergency medications.

**A summer camp must make reasonable modifications for children with diabetes, including those who are insulin-dependent.**

**Camps must train staff to monitor and supervise campers with diabetes just as they do for children with severe allergies.**

<https://www.justice.gov/file/campadaflyerpdf/download>



# More ADA information

## Camps may not charge extra for the accommodations

- + [Short Success Stories - Health Club Chain Becomes More Accessible for Everyone](#) (by the ADA National Network)
- + [Disability Law Index - Public Accommodations: Surcharges](#) (by the Southwest ADA Center)

## Camps provided by religious organization (such as churches) are exempt from the ADA

- + [Religious Entities Under the Americans With Disabilities Act](#) (by the ADA National Network)

Washingtonians can direct their questions to the U.S. Department of Justice, which is the federal enforcement agency for camps provided by the state, county, city, or private business or nonprofit: 800-514-0301 (voice) 800-514-0383 (TTY)





# ADA Parent Tips

- + Summer programs that receive federal funding must provide appropriate accommodations for your child.
- + Contact your City Parks and Recreation Program
- + Inquire about the program by contacting the manager or ADA coordinator.



# Summer Camps 2022!

## + Camp Talaoli, OR

It hosts a summer camp programs for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and youth. For kids who are DHH, Codas and siblings.

For more information: <https://www.taloali.org/>

## + Deaf Teen Leadership Camp, WA

Partnering with the Washington State Association of the Deaf (WSAD), the Association of Washington Student Leaders (AWSL) serves students in the Deaf community, grades 8-12, with its summer camp, Deaf Teen Leadership, and its winter outreach program A Taste of Deaf Teen Leadership. June 27th - July 2, 2022

For more info: <https://awsleaders.org/dt>

## + Gallaudet Summer Camp List

<https://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/national-resources/info/info-to-go/national-resources-and-directories/summer-camps.html>

## Northwest Youth Corps

DAY PROGRAM FOR AGES 15-19

Youth Community Program is a non-residential, day program for 15 to 19 year olds.

<https://www.nwyouthcorps.org/m/OurPrograms>



# Tools for explaining hearing levels

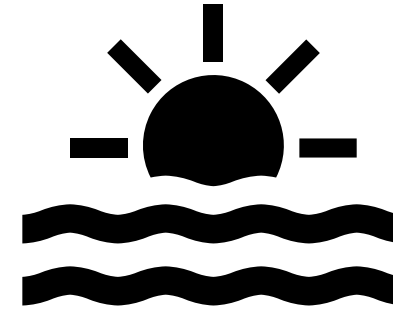


## Template: Hearing and Me PowerPoint Presentation

- + For elementary aged and teens
- + PowerPoint template that helps share information about your child's hearing with camp leaders, coaches and teachers.
- + Click this link to access the templates
- + <https://www.phonak.com/us/en/hearing-aids/hearing-aids-for-children/classroom-resources/hearing-and-me.html>



# Hearing Devices and the Summer



- + **Moisture is the enemy.** Sunlight and heat aren't the only dangers your hearing aids face during the summer months. Water is just as bad if moisture finds its way inside your **hearing aids**, permanent damage can occur. Take them out (and store them in a protective case) before hitting the surf or taking a dip in the pool. Be aware of excess humidity and sudden downpours, too – these can catch you off guard. You might want to purchase a dehumidifier to wick moisture away from your devices when they aren't being used.



# What are some things you've done to help your child?

Post in the comment section below



# Questions or Concerns?

## Contact us at Washington Hands & Voices

Christine Griffin-Guide By Your Side Program Coordinator

Email | [gbys@wahandsandvoices.org](mailto:gbys@wahandsandvoices.org)

call/text | 425-268-7087

[www.wahandsandvoices.org](http://www.wahandsandvoices.org)

