



## Welcome to West Texas Camps and Retreats

### Summer 2026 Camper & Family Packet

*“Let love be genuine. Hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.”*

**Romans 12:9–10 ESV**

Dear Campers and Parents,

Summer is almost here — and we could not be more excited to welcome you to West Texas Camps and Retreats! We exist to provide safe, joyful, and meaningful camp experiences for children with unique needs. This summer, we are hosting two specialized sessions:

#### **ASD Adventure**

For campers on the autism spectrum

**July 21 – 24, 2026**

#### **Bold Explorers**

For campers with visual impairments

**July 21 – 24, 2026**

Each session is thoughtfully designed with your child’s needs in mind. Our trained staff and volunteers are prepared to support campers throughout every activity, and our programming is structured to be both accessible and genuinely fun.

This packet contains everything you need to prepare for a great week: arrival information, packing lists, the camp theme, party nights, the daily schedule, and our health and safety policies. Please read through it carefully and don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Contact us at:

Penny: penny@wtxcamps.org

Office: 806-319-5512

PO Box 928, Lubbock, TX 79408

We can’t wait to see you at camp!

Blessings,

**The West Texas Camps Team**

## Camp Theme: GENUINE

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This summer's theme is GENUINE, drawn from Paul's letter to the Romans. Romans 12 is a beautifully practical call to action — a picture of what it looks like to follow Christ in real, everyday life. We are called to love others with genuine, sincere love, just as Christ loved us.

Throughout the week, campers will explore what it means to live that out: to hold fast to what is good, to honor others above yourself, and to let your love be the real thing.

## Arrival & Departure

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Please respect the drop-off and pick-up times listed below. We ask that all campers arrive during the designated window so check-in can run smoothly for every family.

ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
<b>3:00 PM</b> ASD Adventure: Tuesday, July 20 Bold Explorers: Monday, July 20	<b>11:00 AM</b> ASD Adventure: Friday, July 24 Bold Explorers: Friday, July 24

### NOTE

Closing Ceremonies begin at 10:30 AM on departure day. Volunteers will assist campers to their vehicles starting at 11:00 AM.

Luggage: Please keep bags to 1–2 bags or a single trunk with no loose items. Label all bags and individual items with your camper's name.

To send a non-emergency message to your camper during the week, call 806-319-5512 or email [penny@wtxcamps.org](mailto:penny@wtxcamps.org). You are also welcome to send mail.

## What to Expect at Camp

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We want every family to arrive feeling informed and confident. Here is a quick overview of how camp works.

### Your Child's Session

Campers are grouped by session — ASD Adventure or Bold Explorers — and are not mixed between sessions. Within each session, campers are grouped into cabins by age and, where relevant, ability level, so that programming and staff support is appropriately matched to each group.

### Activities

Each day includes four structured activity blocks. Activities rotate through a mix of outdoor recreation (zip-line, giant swing, archery, swimming) and creative or team-building experiences. All activities are adapted and supported for our campers' needs. Closed-toed shoes with socks are required for the zip-line, giant swing, and archery.

### Sensory & Special Accommodations

We understand that camp can be a lot for some campers. Rest time is built into every afternoon, and cabin counselors are trained to support campers who need a quieter moment or a break from group activity. If your child has specific sensory needs or accommodations you would like us to be aware of, please contact us before camp begins so we can prepare accordingly.

### Medical Staff

A trained medical staff member is on-site throughout camp. All medications are checked in at arrival and administered by our medical team according to your camper's prescribed instructions. Please see the Medical & Medications section on the following page for full details.

### Cabin Devotions

Each morning, campers gather in their cabins for a short devotional time connected to our camp theme, GENUINE, drawn from Romans 12:9–10. These are simple, conversational, and designed to be accessible to campers at every level of faith background.

## Technology Policy

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To protect the privacy, safety, and full camp experience of all participants, personal technology will be collected at the start of the week, stored securely in the camp office, and returned prior to departure. We encourage families to leave these items at home.

# Packing List

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## Clothing & Footwear

- T-shirts (no spaghetti straps, tight-fitting shirts that expose shorts)
- Shorts or pants (no skirts or skorts)
- Swimsuit (one-piece for girls; swim trunks for boys — no Speedos)
- Jacket or sweatshirt
- Rain jacket or poncho
- Closed-toed shoes with socks (required for recreation)
- Open-toed shoes (optional)
- Shower shoes (optional)
- Socks and underwear
- Appropriate sleepwear
- Theme event costumes (see Party Nights section)

## Gear & Personal Items

- Bible, journal, and pen
- Flashlight
- Backpack
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen, hat, and sunglasses
- Bug spray
- Shower towel and pool towel
- Bedding: twin sheets, blanket or sleeping bag, and pillow (pack extra in case of accidents)
- Toiletries: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, and feminine products as needed

## Medications

All medications must be brought in the original prescribed bottle labeled with your camper's name, medication name, dosage, and frequency. Medications and supplements will be collected by medical staff at check-in. Please bring only necessary medications.

## Do Not Bring

- Cell phones, iPads, iPods, or music players (see Technology Policy below)
- Cameras (our media team will capture everything!)
- Weapons of any kind, including concealed firearms, knives, or sharp objects
- Expensive jewelry or large sums of money
- Snacks, gum, soda, or candy
- Alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco products (including vaping devices)
- Explicit or inappropriate content

*West Texas Camps & Retreats is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items.*

## † Dress Code Note

Clothing must be modest and appropriate for an active camp environment. When in doubt, aim for comfort and coverage.

## NOTE

Items collected at check-in include: cell phones, smart watches, car keys with Bluetooth or smart functions, iPads, iPods, and personal music players.

Exception: Primary communication devices for campers with special needs are permitted and will be accommodated by staff.

Our media team will document the fun throughout the week. Photos will be shared with families following camp.

## Daily Schedule

Below is a typical daily schedule. Activity blocks rotate through outdoor recreation, creative experiences, and team-based fun — all adapted for our campers.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
<b>3:00 PM</b> Camper Arrival	<b>7:30 AM</b> Rise and Shine	<b>7:30 AM</b> Rise and Shine	<b>7:30 AM</b> Rise and Shine
<b>5:45 PM</b> Camper Welcome	<b>8:30 AM</b> Breakfast	<b>8:30 AM</b> Breakfast	<b>8:30 AM</b> Breakfast
<b>6:00 PM</b> Dinner	<b>9:15 AM</b> Cabin Devotions	<b>9:15 AM</b> Cabin Devotions	<b>9:15 AM</b> Cabin Devotions
<b>6:45 PM</b> Carnival Night Party	<b>10:00 AM</b> Activity 1	<b>10:00 AM</b> Activity 1	<b>10:30 AM</b> Closing Ceremonies
<b>9:30 PM</b> Lights Out	<b>11:15 AM</b> Activity 2	<b>11:15 AM</b> Activity 2	<b>11:30 AM</b> Departure
	<b>12:30 PM</b> Lunch	<b>12:30 PM</b> Lunch	
	<b>1:15 PM</b> Rest (Backs on Bunks)	<b>1:15 PM</b> Rest (Backs on Bunks)	
	<b>2:30 PM</b> Activity 3	<b>2:30 PM</b> Activity 3	
	<b>3:45 PM</b> Activity 4	<b>3:45 PM</b> Activity 4	
	<b>4:45 PM</b> Cabin Time	<b>4:45 PM</b> Cabin Time	
	<b>5:30 PM</b> Dinner	<b>5:30 PM</b> Dinner	
	<b>6:15 PM</b> Dress for Messy Games	<b>6:15 PM</b> Dress for Cross Carry	
	<b>6:45 PM</b> Messy Games Night	<b>6:45 PM</b> Cross Carry / Fields of Faith	
	<b>10:30 PM</b> Lights Out	<b>10:30 PM</b> Lights Out	

### NOTE

Activity blocks rotate through zip-line, giant swing, archery, swimming, creative activities, and more. All activities are adapted for each session's campers.

## Party Nights

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Three evenings feature themed parties filled with games, dancing, and fun. Plan your costumes in advance — and get creative! Below are theme ideas to help you pack.

Night 1 It's the 70s	Night 2 Game Night	Night 3 Reflections
Tie-Dye Shirts Head bands Bell Bottoms	Your favorite team's Jersey Be the Referee Favorite Ball Camp	Polo shirt + khakis or jeans Dress or skirt Casual and nice

## Health & Safety Policies

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The well-being of every camper is our highest priority. Please read the following policies carefully.

### Illness Policy

- If a camper is showing signs of illness, they will be seen by our on-site medical staff, monitored in the clinic, and isolated from camp activities for 24 hours following the last sign of symptoms.
- If a camper has a fever, they will be isolated and monitored. They may return to activities after being fever-free for 24 hours without the aid of medication.
- If a fever persists beyond 24 hours, a parent or guardian will be contacted and will need to pick up the camper within 8 hours.

### Behavior Policy

West Texas Camps and Retreats is a camp environment, not a mental health or crisis facility. While our staff are trained to support campers with autism and visual impairments in all routine camp settings, we are not equipped to manage acute behavioral health crises. We want to be transparent about this so that families can plan appropriately.

- If a camper's behavior poses a serious risk of harm to themselves or others, our staff will first attempt to de-escalate in a calm, supportive way. If the behavior continues or escalates, the camper will be separated from camp activities and a parent or guardian will be notified immediately.
- In that situation, the parent or guardian will be asked to make arrangements to pick up the camper within 8 hours.

- If a parent or guardian is unreachable or unable to respond, West Texas Camps and Retreats will contact emergency services to ensure the camper receives care from qualified professionals.

We recognize this may feel like a difficult thing to read, and we want to be clear: this policy exists to protect your child and every other camper in our care. If you have concerns about how your child's specific needs may intersect with these situations, we encourage you to reach out to us before camp so we can talk through it together.

## Contacting Your Camper

For non-emergency messages during the week, please call 806-319-5512 or email [penny@wtxcamps.org](mailto:penny@wtxcamps.org). You are also welcome to send mail. Outside of emergencies, please trust us to love and look after your child well — campers thrive when they have space to be fully present at camp.

## We Can't Wait to See You!

*Questions? Contact us any time.*

[penny@wtxcamps.org](mailto:penny@wtxcamps.org) | 806-319-5512 | PO Box 928, Lubbock, TX 79408