Frequently Asked Questions

How do I sign my child up for camp?
Select the camp session for which you’d like to register your child from the listed available sessions on the Summer Camp page of our website. Read the details and tap “Register”. You will be asked to make an account for your entire family. This step is necessary, but you will only need to do this one time, regardless of multiple children or multiple camps. Follow the prompts and submit your payment.

How will I know that my registration is complete?
Once the form and payment have been received and processed, you will receive a confirmation email. Please make sure to attach your child’s most recent physical during registration, or promptly email one to RAnnin@potterleague.org.

Is payment refundable?
A $25 administrative fee is charged for all cancellations. No refund will be issued 7 days or fewer from the start of the camp week.

Can a camper go into a session that they are too old or too young for to be with a sibling or friend or for scheduling reasons?
In certain situations, this will be allowed. The camper MUST be within one grade level of the session’s range. (For example, an incoming 5th grader may be allowed to join a session for incoming 2nd-4th graders to be with a 2nd grade sibling, but the upcoming 2nd grader would not be allowed into the camp for 5th – 7th graders.) Please call Rhiannon at 401-846-0592 ext. 120 or email at RAnnin@PotterLeague.org for more information and to discuss your situation.

My child will be attending with a friend; can you ensure that they are in the same group?
Each session is limited to just 20 campers, so we do most activities together. However, we will occasionally split the campers into smaller groups for team competitions or other activities. If you write the name of your child’s friend on the “Additional Information” section of your child’s camp registration form, then we will try to keep their friendship in mind when we split into small groups. Please keep in mind that some groups are created randomly “in the moment”, so we can’t guarantee that they will always be together.
Can I sign my child up for multiple weeks? My child came to camp at the Potter League last year; will the camp be different this year?

Each session has a theme that guides the lessons and activities that we do. Each week will include many new activities, mixed in with a few camp favorites. You are welcome to sign your child up for multiple weeks and come back year after year for many new experiences. You will need to register your child for each camp separately, but will use the same family account.

What should my child bring to camp each day?

Camp Happy Tails does not provide food, so they will need lunch, a snack, and plenty to drink. They should be wearing comfortable clothing, sunblock, and close-toed shoes when they arrive for the day. Your child may want to bring a sweatshirt (our air-conditioning can be very cool). Please label everything with your child’s name. Leave all electronics and pets at home.

What will campers do at Camp Happy Tails?

Campers will get to play games, do crafts, and learn about animals. There is daily (supervised and controlled) time for interacting with some of the shelter animals, although all our time won’t be spent directly with animals. We will learn about animal shelters and proper pet care, as well as do some service projects to help the shelter animals, like making toys and treats. Many weeks will also include visits from guest speakers such as veterinarians, animal control officers, and dog trainers. Please see the camp brochure or website for more information about themes for each week.

How much time will my child spend with animals each day?

We hope to teach children about animal care, safe animal handling, and all aspects of animal welfare. We want our campers to have a safe, fun experience while preventing any undue stress to our shelter animals. We will interact with different animals every day, do activities in the shelter, and help with animal care and socialization where possible. However, the activities we can do will depend on the current population of adoptable animals during your child’s camp week. Some animals simply cannot handle the attention of multiple children at a time, and we endeavor to teach the children to respect the needs of each individual animal.
Do I need to sign my child in and out of camp each day?

For the safety of your children, you must come inside the shelter and upstairs to the Education Center to sign-in your child each morning. Every afternoon at pick-up, an authorized adult must come up to the Education Center, present a current photo ID, and sign out the child. Campers are not allowed to leave camp without being signed out by someone listed on the authorized pick-up list. Names and phone numbers for authorized pick-up people will be entered when you create your account prior to registering for camp.

What is Extended Day?

Extended Day is supervised playtime designed to accommodate working parents or guardians who need additional time to pick their child up from camp. Extended Day is available from the end of camp until 5:00 PM, for an additional fee of $15 per day. Extended Day takes place in the Education Center, where campers may play games, do puzzles, or draw and color. Extended time after camp ends is not guaranteed to include animal interactions.

I’d like to switch my child to a different camp session, can I do this?

Camp registration is first come/first serve. We are able to switch you to a different session if the space is still available in that session. Please notify us of any switch you would like to do as soon as possible.

My child has allergies to cats/dogs/peanuts/hay; can they still attend camp?

We make every attempt to accommodate children with allergies, so please list any allergies on your child’s camp registration. However, please keep in mind that we cannot restrict the types of food that campers bring for snack/lunch or that the public brings into the shelter.

It is important to note that some of the animals in our care are provided daily enrichment that includes peanut butter. We cannot ensure that campers will not come in contact with surfaces that have trace amounts. For this reason, we do not recommend that children with severe peanut allergies attend camp.

Campers will also spend time daily interacting with shelter animals. If your child will not be able to participate in these activities due to severe allergies, Camp Happy Tails may not be the best option for them. If you’d like to discuss your child’s allergies further, please call Rhiannon at 401-846-0592 ext.120 or email RAnnin@PotterLeague.org.

If you have a camp question that was not answered here, please contact the camp director, Rhiannon Lynn Annin, by emailing Rannin@PotterLeague.org or calling 401-846-0592 ext 120.