



PREVIEW Camp Belongs on Your Resume:

A Practical Guide for Translating Summer Staff
Work into Professional Success

Why Camp Belongs on Your Resume

Camp work has often been seen as a “fun summer job” — and while that’s certainly true, it’s also so much more. Yes, some careers require very specific preparation — you can’t become a doctor without clinicals or design an aircraft without engineering labs — and camp can’t always replace those necessary steps. However, choosing camp and pursuing your career path doesn’t have to be an either/or decision.

The truth is, serving at camp develops critical professional competencies like leadership, communication, adaptability, conflict management, and creative problem-solving — the very skills that today’s employers consistently rank as top hiring priorities across industries. This guide will help you identify, articulate, and translate your camp experience into language that stands out to hiring managers so you can confidently say, “Yes — what I did at camp matters. And here’s why.”



Did you know?

At age 16, future Disney CEO Michael Eisner spent a summer as a camp counselor in Vermont, earning just \$100 for eight weeks. More valuable than the paycheck were the lessons—working with others and discovering what it meant to lead as part of a team.

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Your Next Steps & Tools

1. Explore Internship Credit Opportunities

With your academic advisor and camp leadership to see if your role can count toward degree requirements.

2. Ask for a Recommendation

Connect with a camp leader or mentor before or after the summer ends to request a letter or LinkedIn recommendation.

3. Refine Your Resume Bullets

Draft 3–5 examples from your camp role. Show them to a mentor, get feedback, and revise until they sound clear, professional, and measurable.

4. Keep Building Your Network

Stay connected with fellow staff and mentors — you never know when a camp contact might open your next career door!



I learned countless life skills during my years with WinShape Camps. I learned how to work and communicate well on a team, stay organized through fast-paced projects, and approach everything with excellence. Most importantly, camp taught me how to discover my 'why' in all the work that I do, a lesson that continues to shape how I lead and serve through Teael Creative.

Tatianna Repstock – Owner of Teael Creative –
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Ready to put it all together?

Turn your camp experience into resume-ready examples with the “Camp-to-Career Résumé Worksheet” on the next page.