

# Sacramento Adventure Playground

Powered by Fairytale Town

## Program Rules and Etiquette

**Check-In and Check-Out:** Participants must sign in with staff upon arrival and sign out with staff upon departure. If desired, participants will be allowed access to a phone to notify a parent of their arrival and departure. Participants are responsible for checking in and checking out on their own and for complying with the pick-up procedures indicated on their registration form. Extenuating circumstances must be discussed with the Play Manager. Participants with walk-home privileges may leave at their own desire. If participants leave the playground, participants will be allowed one return privilege per day.

**Safety:** All participants are expected to put safety first and abide by any specific rules for any tool or activity. The Playground is designed to allow participants to take risks and engage in challenging play. Staff will be onsite to remove or stop play that has gone too far

**Allergies, Epi-Pens & Medicines:** Any allergies are to be indicated on the Registration Form. Epi-Pens should be carried by the participant. If desired, a participant's Epi-Pen may be kept on site. Medications must be in a medically labeled container.

**Clothing and Shoes:** Shoes must be on at all times. Closed-toed shoes are strongly recommended. Rain boots typically fill with water quickly and are not recommended. "Play" clothes that can get painted on or dirty are recommended.

**Maturity:** Participants must be of sufficient maturity to participate in the program, including social skills to interact positively with staff and other participants. They are to have an understanding of the program rules, basic safety concepts and willingness to ask staff for assistance.

**Phones, Electronics & Valuables:** Use of electronics or possession of valuables are not permitted in the facility. Personal phones are allowed for urgent parental contact only. Non-secured storage is available. Fairytale Town and the Sacramento Adventure Playground is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. It is highly recommended that no valuables be brought as anything left out is considered 'in play' by others.

**Closing Time & Pick-Up:** The Playground closes promptly at the listed closing time. Participants not authorized to walk home will not be permitted to leave the facility. Late fees of \$2 for every 5 minutes will be charged. (Note: Participants may not participate in the program after 10 days if they have any outstanding fees due.) Parental contact will be attempted promptly. At 30 minutes past closing time the police will be called. If police are unavailable or do not respond within 30 minutes (1 hour from closing), Child Protective Services will be called. Staff may not transport participants.

**Walk Homes:** Those with written authorization to walk home may check out with staff and leave the facility at their will. Parents may also call the facility to notify staff that they will be late picking up their children and request that their children walk home that day.

Walk home dismissal times vary according to day schedule, and possibly the season:

**Adults on Grounds:** Only parents or listed Emergency Contacts of registered participants will be permitted to enter the grounds. During the regular Adventure Playground days these adults are to observe only. The Play areas are designed for children only. A large part of adventure playgrounds is parents being absent, of which is highly encouraged. Parents are welcomed to drop in unannounced and occasional walk-throughs. Parent Area is available. Except for any special programming parents are not to participate including builds, painting or use of equipment, forts, apparatus, etc.

**Making a Mess and Destroying Things:** Part of the philosophy of this Playground is a “junkyard,” so to speak. However, that is not a green light to make a mess. There is no destroying, demolition, paint overs, etc., Forts may be added to, but nothing removed. Participants are not permitted to destroy other people’s things, create a danger or tripping hazard, or a dangerous mess in general. If there is a designated “Wreck Station” than destroying within that station is allowed.

**Take Homes:** Small craft items that a youth spent significant effort on may be taken home. All other creations stay and become part of the Playground.

**Bathrooms:** Bathrooms are not part of the playground. Misuse of the restrooms can be cause for disciplinary action.

- A single use bathroom is available for youth only. All adults are to use the staff restroom. Staff must consent to any child-to-child assistance. Any parental assistance should be done in the staff restroom. Staff may assist children as a last resort.
- Bathrooms are to be kept clean. NO MUD OR PAINT CLEAN-UP in the restroom. There is a designated area outside for this.
- At least one staff member is present inside, near the restroom for control purposes.

**Tools, Fire Etc.:** All youth are responsible to properly use all tools, equipment, paints, etc., in a safe manor, and return all to place of storage. Campfires are routinely done during the winter. All youth are to follow specific fire instructions for safety.

**Food and Water:** May be brought into the facility and stored in a cubby. Eating may be in a designated area only. Youth are to throw away all their trash. Refillable water bottles are highly encouraged (refills with fresh well water is available). Names are to be clearly written on bottles. Please no non-reusable bottles. Tap water fountains are available also.

**Suspension:** Breaking of any rules, safety violations, false accusations or any other poor behavior skills with other participants or staff, or any other problems reasonably associated with poor behavior or dangers can be cause for dismissal from the program, including up to a permanent basis, as determined by staff. Except for safety or harassment “tattle-telling” should not be done. In general, the following disciplinary measures will be followed (variations can occur, including immediate suspension).

- a) Quiet time
- b) Restriction from activity
- c) Discussion with parent
- d) Develop a contract for behavior improvement.
- e) Removal from the Adventure Playground for a designated amount of time including indefinite suspensions.

**First Aide:** In non-emergencies staff can only provide minimal first aid of band-aids, ice pack and/or removal of splinters, plus some TLC.

**Mandated Reporters:** All staff are required to report any suspicious mental or physical harm to Children Protections Services as defined by the State of California.

### **Participant Basics**

- Sign in upon arrival and sign out upon departure. Walk-Home children are permitted one reentry per day.
- Wear clothes that can get dirty or messy. Shoes must be worn at all times. Closed-toe shoes highly recommended.
- Be respectful of all including other children, staff and neighbors.
- No electronics or valuables. Phones must remain in backpacks and may only be used onsite to notify a parent of arrival or arrange pick-up.
- No playing in the bathrooms and keep bathrooms clean. Only one person is allowed in the bathroom at a time.
- No bullying.
- Participants can be suspended for inappropriate behaviors.
- Don't make a mess just to make a mess.
- Safety first. The amount of risks or injuries you can get is determined by you. We want you to explore your limits, but not at a cost of you getting hurt, or hurting someone else. Be safe when working with tools.