

Dear Staff,

Congratulations on getting set to work the best job you'll ever have. There's nowhere else that you can work where you, in the same day, can peg kids with dodgeballs, get a tan at the beach and go on an awesome field trip. It's truly an experience like no other and I must say that I'm quite jealous that you get to do it.

But while it is the best job in the world there will be challenges as the summer goes on. Days will get longer and hotter, kids and staff will get tired and the thought of going back to school will begin to haunt everyone involved. When this becomes the scenario it's your job to remain resilient, leave those feelings at the door, and go into work everyday and kick some rear-end! To help you do this, I offer you five tips based on my past experiences that I hope can help you as the summer goes on.

- **Tip #1: When life gives you lemons, make root beer.** Sometimes at camp you're not always going to have materials available to keep kids occupied. The best thing you can do is think outside of the box and come up with some creative way to keep the kids entertained. Creating a game, a song, or some trivia questions are all good options. It could be as simple as calling a dodgeball a "fireball" and creating some game around not getting hit by the fireball.
- **Tip #2: Send it!** When asked to do something, just do it. I promise you that for both staff and kids if what is asked of you is safe and within reason, doing it will create both the best experience and the best memories to look back on. Look no further than Cian downing some mango hot sauce from Domino's because he was challenged too. Something I will never forget.
- **Tip #3: Go Deep!** I challenge you to go in the deep end every day that you go to the beach. Or at the very least go swim with the kids. The water is cold, but the kids will be appreciative of you doing it. And on the brightside, eventually you may get so cold that your body goes numb and you won't even feel the cold!
- **Tip #4: Miguel Gustafa.** The story of Miguel Gustafa was born far after the children were asleep and far past the time the counselors should've been asleep as well. If you want the story, or the movie version, I can probably dig it up from somewhere. But the story of Miguel Gustafa illustrates that laughing and having fun with your staff is important. The best thing that you can offer the kids is a staff that gets along and seem like best friends (regardless of if you are or not). You will remember every single person you work with and you may even become friends. The stronger the staff relationship, the better the camp experience will be for kids. Additionally, Miguel Gustafa illustrates that making up a story is enjoyable for everyone. So be a master storyteller!
- **Tip #5: Don't eat Haribo Gummi Bears. Do eat with the kids!** When you look back on your camp experience you will remember the kids that you get to know. Lunchtime is the best time to do this so I can't recommend enough to eat with the kids. Each kid comes from somewhere different and getting to know them may help you better understand them as a person. It's a chance to build a relationship and truly solidify yourself as a role model to the kids. And of course, if you are wondering about the gummi bears, see page 2.

Have a great summer! If you ever need something or need an appearance feel free to reach out.

Best,

Mattman



## Official Amazon Review of Haribo 5lb. Gummi Bear Bag

By: Douglas Pope

"I didn't feel the need to plan my weekend around 5 small gummybears. But if you fail to plan, you plan to fail.

It began with a noticeable change in the viscosity of my saliva. Within minutes of consumption, my mouth had filled with a thick foamy slime. Though I was in a cool climate controlled room a salty sweat broke out, and I felt my heartbeat quicken as my body threw itself into fight or flight.

The animal noises broadcasting from my pelvis were an ominous warning of the violent acts that were to follow. I shouldered my way into the bathroom, clawing at my belt, moaning with pain. The smell came first. It started sweet, almost tangy. That was quickly overpowered by a cloying chemical perfume. The first volley of feces hit the water like soda cans and nickles. The resulting splash drenching my bottom in foul brackish water, but this was quickly becoming the least of my worries.

After another moment, the noises in my core hit a fever pitch and I was struck rigid with pain. The sweat was now running into my eyes, but the room had turned ice cold and my hands began to spasm.

I felt an insidious burning flooding my escape hatch. I gasped. Hot yellow poison began spraying from my rear, changing in pitch and echo as the stream of diarrhea whipped around the toilet bowl, creating a nightmarish Doppler effect that can only be appreciated in hindsight.

My legs fell asleep sitting on the toilet. I couldn't have stood up if I wanted to.

Wiping was a no-go. Toilet paper simply became a vile paper mache'. My hands were quickly soiled. A full blown shower was needed, and all of my towels had to be burned.

So happy with my purchase, would recommend to friends and definitely buying again!"