

Time of my life

First off I would like to say congratulations to all of you for having the greatest job you will ever experience. Not only do you get to run around, play games, go hiking, experience nature at it's most beautiful times, but you also get to do the most important thing of all, help possibly change a child's life for the better. What some of you might not understand or recognize yet is that you could possibly be some of the only good influences that these kids have in their lives right now. You will go on to be many of these kids heroes, so buckle up because for the rest of the time that you live in the newfound area, you will be living under a microscope, constantly being watched by not only those kids, but also the parents. This is NOT to scare you, but rather to encourage you and challenge you all to become better people yourselves. I was fortunate enough to have been a counselor for 7 amazing years, spending time in each camp. PLAY, you are being entrusted by these parents to take away their children, many of which may have never been away from home for long periods of time yet. That's a HUGE responsibility that you all need to step up for and be prepared to communicate effectively with all of their parents. That's what the parents want the most, constant communication. So go meet the parents, talk to them, they won't bite, well they might. STREAMS, you guys are probably the hardest working camp, dont take that as me saying the best, cause we all know KNOTS is. Take it as this, no matter how tired you are at the end of the day, dont sit on the job. Keep going, keep up with the kids, there are no breaks. They will try to run you into the ground, but you need to be ready for that. That's the age of these kids, all they want to do is go go go, and you need to be willing to do that as well. Be Superman (or woman). Go all HULK rage and tackle every single day with such intensity that these kids will remember it forever as the best summer of their lives. KNOTS, you guys are the bread and butter of the summer programs. The term counselor, in my opinion, is by far the best term for what your purpose is. These kids have now reached that age that every parent might dread. They are going to push your buttons every day. They will get under your skin till you cant take it anymore. BUT YOU HAVE TO KEEP GOING! These kids NEED you. Many of them are at their most vulnerable they will ever be, many of them just need someone to talk to. That might mean not even saying anything back, just being an ear to listen. So be that ear for them. Be the COUNSELOR you were hired to be. You guys have one of the GREATEST men of all time at your lead. If you yourselves ever need to talk to anyone, Master will always be there ready to help you and listen to you. So be that for the kids, model yourselves after him. To EVERYONE, enjoy this summer as if it was your last one. I promise you this job will have more of an impact on your life than you could ever imagine.

Forever a Counselor at Heart,
Zach Robison