

Camp Letter

Hello, my name is Cian Connor. I worked at camp for four summers, all in STREAMS. I'll be honest, I'm not really sure how I should start this letter. When Dan first asked me to write a letter back earlier this year I was excited to get the chance to talk about how incredible of an experience it was for me to go to camp, both as a camper and then to have come back as a counselor. I thought I would write some funny stories, and tell you all about how great of an experience I had working at the TTCC, or what I would do differently if I were in your shoes. That letter probably would have made jokes about the Master for the majority of it, or talked at length about Ethan Pruett's good looks. But then this whole pandemic hit, and I didn't know what camp would be like, if it even happened. And that if it happened you would be having a very different summer than the ones I had there. Let alone not knowing if there would be someone to read pages upon pages debunking all of the master's bigfoot claims, or about how I could spend days gazing into Ethan's soft sparkling hazel eyes, like swimming in an ocean of-. Sorry, I started to get carried away there. Anyways, after having been away for the last few months it's great to see that camp is still happening despite the current situation. That alone is a huge testament to the importance and love of camp by so many people, and it could never happen without all of you.

The biggest piece of advice I could give to anyone at camp would be to make the most of the summer you have. I know that you guys have probably heard that a thousand times, but it's true of every year not just this one. It's always easy to look back and think about how much better the last year was, or wish for certain things to be

different. But I promise you no matter what once it's over you will still miss each summer just as much. All you can do is make the one that you have right now be as great as it can be. This summer will probably be the highlight of the year for a lot of kids. And you are the ones that make it possible. You have the opportunity right now to invent the game that ends up being one of their best memories of the year. The next story you make up could be the one they retell to siblings and parents hundreds of times. The relationship that you build with these kids is gonna be what inspires them to want to come back and work at camp, and why so many do. Don't be afraid of not being good or messing up, because if you do make a fool of yourself it's all the better and the kids are probably gonna love it even more. Even the smallest things can make a big difference in how much both you and campers enjoy camp.

I could go on and on forever about camp, but Master is getting old and I would hate for him to fall asleep. I know it's hard sometimes, or even most times, but you've made this far already. It's up to you how the summer goes. Sometimes your favorite memories and stories come from the times you would least expect. After all if it weren't for camp I wouldn't have only 9 fully grown toes. Anyways, just remember, this really is the best job ever, and the people you're working with and for are pretty great too. Hope you guys have a great rest of the summer.