



At Camp Fire we have a commitment to youth voice. Our programs are both *for* young people and *created by* young people. We understand that kids and teens (as well as adults!) really thrive when we invest in who they are right here and now – not just their future potential. Part of that investment is creating an environment in which they can ask questions and express their ideas and opinions about the things that affect them every day. **This approach is called Sharing Power, which is the fifth component of developmental relationships.**

Sharing Power is an element of developmental relationships that can feel uncomfortable at first. And yet when people find a balance that works for them in their relationships, they often find those relationships to be more enjoyable and productive. Consider these approaches that can make sharing power a particularly rewarding part of a developmental relationship.

Practice perspective taking: When you and a person disagree about something, take time to understand each other's point of view. Make it clear you respect their thoughts and feelings even if you disagree. Ask questions to better understand their point of view.

Encourage voice: Invite people to share their thoughts and opinions to provide feedback. Remind them that their voices are important. Ask, "what do you think about _____?" Take in their ideas seriously.

Share responsibility: Whenever it is possible and appropriate, do things alongside others who are important to you, such as cleaning up a space together or raising your voices about an issue in the community.

Tips for Sharing Power:

1. When your child doesn't understand what you're trying to teach, try to show them in a different way.
2. Create something new together with an important person in your life that neither of you has done before. Options could include devising a new recipe, building something, painting a picture, or creating a piece of music.
3. Develop new interests based on things you learn from a family or community member.
4. The next time your friend comes to you about a large or small problem, don't provide the answers or solve the problem. Instead, say something like, "Let's see what you can do," and then ask your friend to find a solution with your guidance.
5. Respect one another's point of view, even if you disagree.

Relationship builder activity: Time Together

Select a single day or an entire vacation and let your important person help plan what you will do. Invite them to suggest ideas for the day or the trip before you suggest any of your own. Do as many of their ideas as possible. As you move through the day or the vacation, celebrate their choices and thank them for the good ideas. If they struggle to think of enough or any activities, provide them with several ideas to get started and ask them to choose one.

Click [HERE](#) for a few ways that Camp Fire programs practice sharing power with youth. See how our programs are led by young people's plans, decisions, and goals.

Camp Fire National has embarked on an initiative with the goal of ensuring that all youth participating in overnight camp feel welcome, emotionally affirmed and physically comfortable. Hannah Patterson, Evaluation Manager at Camp Fire shares how empowering young people (sharing power!) advances equity at overnight camps. **Read more about a few lessons learned and tips on engaging youth as co-creators: [Empowering Young People to Advance Equity at Camp](#).** Camp Fire looks forward to learning more as we continue to seek youth input in creating programming spaces where they can thrive!



Program Updates

We were **honored for the second year in a row as a Top Workplace in Oregon!** Exciting to see our team recognized for the community they've created here at Camp Fire Columbia. Read the Oregonian's article to learn more about our culture and why Camp Fire is a great place to work!

[Camp Fire Columbia takes pride in offering a place for everyone: Top Workplaces 2021](#)

Want to join our team? We offer full benefits, paid holidays and vacation plus you get to work with super inspiring youth! Search and [apply here](#).

Teen Programs has been back in-person for a month now and staff have been there every day supporting and helping youth navigate new COVID procedures, and new ways of socializing with friends while keeping socially distanced. Being back in school has its challenges, but on the positive side, staff have noticed a big increase in student engagement. Students are eager to jump back into Camp Fire programming at all middle school and high school locations!

In order to continue to work toward equitable practices, **Teen Program staff have agreed to focus on training opportunities, creative self-educated activities, and put new learnings to practice.** This new approach will enhance the way staff as individuals show up when working with youth. This may look like listening to the podcast "1619" by the New York Times that focuses on the history of the United States and how that history is still affecting society today. Staff then provide space to discuss these topics as a team twice or more a month as professional and personal development.

Mark your calendars, set your alarms because **Camp Namanu summer 2022 registration opens November 1st!** Need a little convincing to send your kid to summer camp? Simply immerse yourself in the joy and laughter by viewing photos and videos from this past summer.

[Camp Photos](#)

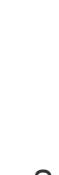
[Camp Videos](#)

Don't miss the return of Camp Namanu's annual Autumn Fest!

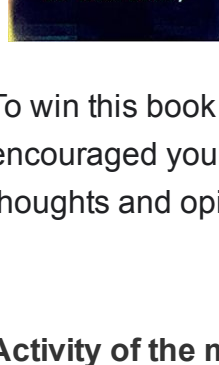
October 23rd from 11am to 3pm. Join us for a festive fall day full of family fun activities to enjoy: cider press, pumpkin painting, costume parade, trick or treating, and more! The camp store will be open to stock up on Namanu gear. Buy a mug and get a free cup of cocoa! [To register click HERE.](#)



We began Before and After School Programming in McMinnville! Programs are open at Buel and Grandhaven with launch of program happening later in the month for other schools in the region. Portland and West Linn programs have almost 500 students enrolled across 15 schools, and will be offering Full Day Programming come November. To learn more about dates and registration deadlines visit: campfirecolumbia.org/full-day-programming



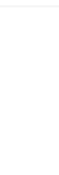
Fun Activities!



Book of the month: *Social Justice Parenting: How to Raise Compassionate, Anti-Racist, Justice-Minded Kids in an Unjust World* by Traci Baxley. An empowering, timely guide to raising anti-racist, compassionate, and socially conscious children, from a diversity and inclusion educator with more than thirty years of experience.

To win this book reply to this email and share with us how someone encouraged you to use your voice, OR how you invited others to share their thoughts and opinions.

Activity of the month: Peep science!

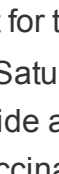


Events

BooBash! At the Hands on Children's Museum: October 22 - 31 from 10 am - 5 pm at Hands on Children's Museum. Admission is \$2 - \$15.95. Don your costumes and bring your superheroes, princesses, and monsters to the Hands on Children's Museum for a Spooktacular good time. Enjoy Halloween-inspired fun and exciting activities without the fright. Special event activities vary depending on days of the week and visitation levels, please see the events calendar for updated information. Online reservations required. hocm.org/event/boo-bash/

Open Saturday at Pearson Field Education Center: October 23 from 10 am - 4 pm at Pearson Field Education Center. Come experience STEM education through aviation. Featuring a flight simulator lab, vertical wind table, glider building, historic airplanes and collections on display, and various educational programs. thehistorictrust.rezdy.com/408356/open-saturday

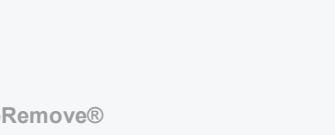
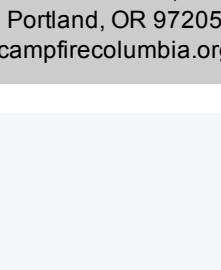
Nelson Mandela – The Official Exhibition: Now through February 2022 at OMSI. The Official Exhibition is the major new global expedition that explores the story of world's most famous freedom fighter and political leader. Walk through Mandela's inspiring life and understand how his values and commitment to making the world a better place remain as vital now as they were during his lifetime. omsi.edu/nelson-mandela



Friends of Namanu Corner

Come help put Camp Namanu to rest for the winter. Volunteers ages 15 and up are welcome to come to Namanu on Saturday, October 30th from 9am to 3pm. Lunch will be included. There are inside and outside projects for all skill levels! Bring gloves, rain jackets, proof of vaccination, masks, and be ready to work! To volunteer contact Janette "Pickle" Kunkel jkunkel@campfirecolumbia.org

Calling all former candy sellers! Do you have experience selling Camp Fire candy? We are bringing candy sales back to help fund camperships for young people who otherwise couldn't afford to attend Camp Namanu. 100% of alumni sales will go to camperships. Youth will have the opportunity to sell candy to reduce their own fees AND help another young person attend. If you are interested in volunteering and/or advising on relaunching candy sales contact Michael De Farias Moura at mmoura@campfirecolumbia.org.



(503) 224-7800
1411 SW Morrison St, Suite 300
Portland, OR 97205
campfirecolumbia.org

Share this email:
[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#)

Manage your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove®
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
View this email [online](#).

1411 SW Morrison Street #300
Portland, OR | 97205 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.