

# Packing for Camp

Space is limited in the cabins; please keep this in mind when packing. Please make sure all items are labeled with your camper's name. We have a **few** wagons to borrow, if needed, but we strongly encourage you to **bring your own wagon** to help move belongings to your cabin.

Clothing	Shoes
<input type="checkbox"/> t-shirts/sweatshirts/long-sleeved shirts <input type="checkbox"/> shorts/pants/sweatpants <input type="checkbox"/> undergarments <input type="checkbox"/> socks <input type="checkbox"/> bathing suits *Bathing suits must cover and contain all private areas and be appropriate for the activity. Sports bra style is very popular and preferred (no string ties), please do not pack white bathing suits as they tend to be see-through. <input type="checkbox"/> pajamas <input type="checkbox"/> laundry bag/garbage bag (for dirty clothes)	<input type="checkbox"/> sneakers (required) <input type="checkbox"/> water shoes/anything that stays on their feet while swimming (required) <input type="checkbox"/> crocs/flip flops (shower shoes)
Cabin Gear	Shower/Personal Stuff
<input type="checkbox"/> pillow/sleeping bag or sheets/blankets (twin-sized) <input type="checkbox"/> twin-sized fitted sheet <input type="checkbox"/> flashlight/reading light <input type="checkbox"/> book/Sudoku/mazes/coloring books/etc. (to help fall asleep at night) <input type="checkbox"/> snacks & candy <input type="checkbox"/> water bottles <input type="checkbox"/> sunscreen/bug spray	<input type="checkbox"/> bath towels <input type="checkbox"/> beach towels <input type="checkbox"/> wash clothes <input type="checkbox"/> toothbrush/toothpaste <input type="checkbox"/> soap or body wash/shampoo/conditioner <input type="checkbox"/> deodorant <input type="checkbox"/> brush/hair ties <input type="checkbox"/> shower caddy with holes/something to carry shower stuff in <input type="checkbox"/> contacts/glasses <input type="checkbox"/> feminine products
Optional Items	What Not to Pack
<input type="checkbox"/> white t-shirt to be tie-dyed. <input type="checkbox"/> lacrosse stick, football, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> battery powered fan <input type="checkbox"/> raingear/windbreaker <input type="checkbox"/> black pens/markers to write home (hard to see pencil) & paper. <input type="checkbox"/> email response paper (from the parent portal/online community) or self-addressed envelopes. <input type="checkbox"/> comfort items (stuffed animal, journal, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> sunglasses/hat <input type="checkbox"/> medicine *to be stored in the health center* <input type="checkbox"/> lotion <input type="checkbox"/> extra batteries (flashlight & fan)	<input type="checkbox"/> any items of high personal or monetary value <input type="checkbox"/> cell phones <input type="checkbox"/> money <input type="checkbox"/> extension cords/outlet strips <input type="checkbox"/> electric fans <input type="checkbox"/> any device with Wi-Fi, 5G or other internet capabilities (tablets, iPads, Kindles, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> valuables (watches, jewelry, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> pocketknives/lighters

**A note on cell phones:** *We whole-heartedly believe in the benefits of unplugging at camp and ask that you respect this policy. Camp Stella Maris is a unique setting where kids are given the valuable resource of belonging to a community of their own. A community in which kids interact face-to-face, with positive role models who have time to listen, talk, relax, and reflect. CSM provides a safe environment that allows kids to learn what positive things to say and do when they make mistakes and face challenges. Suspending electronic interactions teaches kids not only how to read facial emotions and non-verbal cues, but how to make social adjustments to new and different people. We believe campers do their best when they are fully invested in the camp experience, and they can experience camp independently. We have often found that this separation can be harder for our parents than our campers. We encourage you to talk to your camper ahead of time about ways they can share their camp experience. Letters, journaling, and photographs are some great ways to connect while apart.*

## Packing Tips

- Have your camper pack with you. Not only will this build excitement (especially if there might be potential homesickness), but also accountability. You won't be there to help find a missing sock, so this is a great opportunity to work on responsibility and taking care of their belongings.
- Make sure your younger camper can open all shower bottles and know how much to use.
- For younger campers, we recommend packing a change of clothes for each day in separate zip lock bags.
- Bath *and* beach towels? Yes, maybe 2 of each. Beach towels tend to get sandy & dirty.
- Extra socks & underwear – you can never have enough dry socks (or underwear)!
- A couple of swimsuits – putting on a wet swimsuit is the worst!
- Extra sheets and/or blankets for accidents at night.
- Whatever you decide to pack in, remember you must carry it to and from your vehicle. We recommend plastic totes (some have wheels)! Cabins floors may get dirty, wet, and sticky. There is no right or wrong, make it practical and easy for your camper to get in and out of. We strongly encourage you to bring a wagon to carry your camper's belongings from the parking lot to the cabin.
- Candy? Really? YES! Think: baseball cards – campers get to know each other by trading/sharing their candy & snacks. Please no melty stuff – cabins can get very toasty.
- If you want it back – label it!

## Lost and Found

- CSM is not responsible for lost or damaged clothing or equipment.
- We encourage parents/guardians to check cabin clotheslines and CSM's lost & found areas prior to departure.
- Please make sure to pick up your camper's medications at the Health Center.
- We will hold lost & found items until October. Please call the main office if your camper is missing something.