

Frequently Asked Questions about East Bay Dance Center Camp

What will my child be doing during the day?/How does it work?

At the **beginning of each day**, we have a “campfire” where we all meet together as a group. On Mondays we do an orientation and go over safety rules and logistics. Other days we check in, play some group games and have some free play.

At **10 AM we begin our classes**. Campers are put in age groups (typically 4-6, 7-9, 10-up) and rotate through 4 different classes. The classes are usually two or three dance classes per day and one or two of either Art, Music(Voice) and Drama. Our youngest group has an optional quiet time after lunch. The dance classes are:

- Hip Hop (every day: with two different instructors),
- Jazz (three times a week), Ballet (twice a week),
- Tap & Ballet (twice a week),
- African dance, Tumbling and Voice (once a week),
- Occasionally a guest teacher with another dance form.

There are two classes in the AM, then Lunch and free time for one hour, and two more in the PM with a half-hour free time at the end of the day.

What is student to teacher ration and supervision?/Who is teaching?

Our student/teacher ratio is 1:5. Our **teachers are professional dance educators**: most of them are on our year-round staff. In addition, we have well-trained teen-agers and young adults as counselors. Each class has one teacher and one counselor: **Classes** are typically about **10-15 campers**. In addition, there is **always an on-site director or assistant director** in case of an emergency. **All activities**, including lunch and free time, are **well supervised**. We have a **spotless safety record** and always have an eye to maintaining it. Our **Camp Director**, Miss Bonnie Sita, has a **degree in early childhood education and over 30 years teaching experience**. She personally supervises all aspects of camp and is very available to parents by phone or email.

How long have you been in business?

Twenty-three years

What if my child doesn't like camp?

We have had an amazing success rate with many many children over the years. This includes children with many different personalities. Our Director has a Master's Degree at Early Childhood Education and is very adept and committed to making camp a wonderful experience for your child.

If you are concerned that your child may not adapt to the camp experience, please call the Camp Director, Ms. Bonnie before registering. That way she can assess your child's needs and make any adjustments and recommendations.

What should my child bring?

This is covered in our welcome letter. You may download this online at <http://www.eastbaydancecenter.org/camps.htm>

What about lunch?

Children **bring their own lunch** from home and eat outside in our pleasant, fenced, safe courtyard.

What about before/after care?

Before and after care may be pre-booked and pre-paid online at the low rate of \$7.50/morning (8am-9:30am) and \$12.50/afternoon(3:30pm-6pm). You can drop off and pick up your child anytime during these before and after care hours. **During** before and after **care, supervised play, snacks, free dance, movies**, etc. are enjoyed with careful and loving care.

What if my child has no dance experience? Or lots of dance experience?

Not a problem, our classes are so varied that **everyone finds something they're good at or experienced in** and something that is a challenge. Our campers are encouraged to try everything, do their best and HAVE FUN!

Are there performances?

Yes, our fifth and tenth week of camp is highlighted by an evening performance on the Friday of that week. Other weeks, we invite parents to drop in for an impromptu presentation, usually Friday afternoon.

Will my child have fun?

YES YES YES Many campers return year after year. They have lots of fun, make new friends, learn new things and have a life-enriching and empowering experience.

If you would like to talk with a parent reference, please let us know. If you have further questions or would like to speak with the director, please call (510)336-3262 or attend our open house on June 1st.

DON'T SEE THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION? CALL OUR DIRECTOR at (510)336-3262 or send an email. We will joyfully answer.

