

Adventure Guides and Princess Program

Program Principles and Value- Discussion

Why Adventure-Guides?

Extraordinary Fathers raising Extraordinary Children

Are there any Fathers here who did Indian Guides with your Father?

What are your fondest memories with your Father?

Fathers who “don’t want to miss” all the special stages of their child’s growth from small children to adolescents.

Fathers who don’t want their children’s preparation to navigate adulthood left to chance.

“Unselfishness” and “Patience”

Promise between each Father and Son and each Father and Daughter:

Fathers, I know each of you has the best interest of your Sons at heart or you would not be here before me tonight. But there is one trait of character that may ruin your success in this program—and that is selfishness. I ask each of you to sacrifice that trait so that you can work with your Sons. When you throw the kernel of corn into the fire, you show that you want to burn selfishness out of your heart and put thoughtfulness in its place. Are you prepared to make this sacrifice?

Sons, you see your Fathers ready to sacrifice selfishness. This means that they resolve to find time to do things with you. But that does not mean they will always do things when or where you want them to do them. You must have patience.

Each of you has been given a kernel of corn as a symbol. When you throw the corn into the flames you must remember to burn impatience out of your heart and replace it with patience. Are you prepared to make this sacrifice?

Philosophy

In today's world, a child and a father rarely have time together - to talk, to laugh, to really get to know each other and become friends.

A sage Ojibway Indian once said that "the white man spends time building cities, but the Indian spends time building men." By "men" the wise Indian meant "Character". Fathers have an important role in the development of their children's character by word and by deed.

That sparked the idea for the formation of a father-child organization centered around American Indian values - Dignity, Patience, Endurance, Spirituality, Feeling for the earth, and Concern for the family - the model for the present YMCA Guides program.

Why Native American Theme?

The Native American Culture has many attributes worthy of being the "True North" of personal behavior and character.

Personal Honor and dignity

Love and self- sacrifice for Family and Community

Courage and Bravery

Resourcefulness and Problem solving

Long term Thinking- Wisdom, Self-Discipline, Persistence, Patience

Appreciation and reverence for Nature- Humility

The Native American Theme offers opportunities for appreciation of diversity in cultures and a treasure trove of Creative inspiration for activities.