



# THE COUNTRY EXPERIENCE

• AMSTUTZ FAMILY FARM CAMP •

## Summer Farm Camp Counselors

### **Farm Camp:**

The Country Experience is a week-long sleepaway camp for 7-12 year olds on a working family farm near Galena, Illinois. Our environment has been prepared so campers can be “inside the fences” and participate in hands-on experiences with real-world tools and animals as they contribute to the farm, build life skills, and develop their character.

### **Job Description**

The Country Experience is seeking to hire dynamic camp counselors who are passionate about self-discovery, fresh air, working with youth, meaningful work and growth. Counselors will be full-time residents and guide a group of campers in weekly farm experiences including caring for animals, tending to gardens, and preparing meals. As a counselor, you will be an integral part of camp whether it be helping children contribute to the farm chores, playing capture the flag in our forest, crafting hand-tossed pizzas for the outdoor pizza oven, leading small groups in the garden or with animals, sharing a freshly harvested family-style meal, telling campfire stories, playing mud tug-of-war, or bonding with a new farm animal. Become a key member on our farm this summer and help kids learn something about themselves, and learn a great deal about yourself along the way. The ideal candidate is a fierce worker and fun to be around, has the ability to improvise, able to pick up cues and jump in to guide or help, can engage with campers and families appropriately, and thrives on overwhelming sense of accomplishment after each day.

### **Schedule, Room & Board**

Positions available starting as early as April 1 and go through October 31. Summer only contracts also available. Counselors are expected to stay on the farm as a resident for the duration of the summer with all groceries and meals provided. Camp is in session Monday-Friday--campers of the same gender will occupy your cabin during their week stay. Weekend animal feedings and camp reset necessary--time away by request. Cabins, modern showers and bathrooms, commercial kitchen use, all the fresh vegetables you can eat, and a staff-only area with wi-fi, tv and storage is in the farm house.

### **Duties & Responsibilities-**

- Guiding a wide variety of small-group activities in a way that allows for an active and confident camper role
- Helping with the meaningful work of the farm--needs of the animals, gardens, kitchen, and land alongside campers
- Chores you can choose to guide: dishes, animal feedings, garden harvesting, watering, landscaping, laundry
- Projects you can choose to guide: baking, canning, harvesting, woodworking, small/large construction, animal cleanings, health checks, rotating animals, fishing, pitting cherries, carding wool, fort building
- Garden: tilling, planting, cultivating, and harvesting the large gardens using a variety of landscaping tools
- Sleeping overnight in cabins with campers and ensuring safety and comfort (4-5 nights a week with campers)
- Cabin responsibilities: develop positive culture, facilitate journaling and nightly reflections, encouraging good practices for morning and evening routines, mid-day solo-time (nap!), helping children through homesickness and developing their character.
- Playing games with campers- sweating and getting dirty alongside them!
- Serve as a “camp parent” which includes assisting with showering procedures, first aid, sunblock, hydration, personal hygiene, rest times, and medication reminders
- Dealing with any behavioral needs and issues in a positive and supportive way
- Bonding with campers and providing guidance and leadership to campers
- Fully participating and engaging in farm-life, modeling the behavior we wish to see from our campers

**Desired Qualifications:** Applicant must have an interest in experiential learning, agricultural work, animal care, or education. Interest in Montessori and character development a plus. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Experience in farmstead living, basic small construction skills, baking, canning, and organic gardening a plus. Ideal applicants should be bright eyed and bushy-tailed, like animals, enjoy farm life and physical labor, work well with children, be patient, be a great problem-solver, and see the glass as half full.

### **How to Apply:**

[www.thecountryexperience.com/employment/](http://www.thecountryexperience.com/employment/)

### **Compensation:**

Counselors receive \$250 a week plus lodging and meals. Counselors are eligible to receive an additional \$50/week end of season bonus. You will also receive memories for a lifetime, opportunity to be creative in a large leadership role, and an earned letter of recommendation.