

SAMPLE ACTIVITY SESSION FOR OLDER CAMPERS

#ThanksToCamp Social Media (Photos)

Name of session: #ThanksToCamp

Length of session: 45 min to 60 min

Target Audience: Camp Staff

OBJECTIVES

1. For older campers to feel inspired by their own learnings and experiences at camp to share their own personal #ThanksToCamp stories.
2. For camps to collect #ThanksToCamp content created by campers for their own campaign.

MATERIALS

- Paper
- Markers
- Camera(s) or cell phones with a camera

ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN

Set up: Choose a space that is conducive to reflection; try to avoid high traffic areas with a lot of noise if possible. Try to do this activity towards the end of a session.

TIME	WHAT
Opening – 3 minutes	Introduce the activity: Tell campers what we’re doing and why. You can also share your own #ThanksToCamp story as an opening.
O – 5 minutes	Invite them to choose a place to sit and to think of their answer to one of the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- “Why did I choose to come to Camp this summer?”- “What do I love most about being at camp?”- “What am I proud of doing at camp this summer?” Have participants in small groups of 2-3 share their answer to the question. Then, come back as a whole group and ask a few participants to share.
Middle – 15-20 minutes	Give instructions for the activity they are about to do. Alone or with a partner, brainstorm what their own #ThanksToCamp stories are, and write them on a paper. Write everything that comes to mind! If they are struggling, invite them to think about <ul style="list-style-type: none">- what skills they have learned at camp;- what the relationships they have built at camp have brought them;- how they have grown at camp;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What they are proud of themselves for at camp - What do they love most about being at camp <p>Remember, they can think about their experiences in other camps if they have attended other camps.</p>
M – 5 minutes	After the 15-20 minutes of brainstorming, have them switch partners and share a few of their ideas and pick their favourite #ThanksToCamp story for themselves.
M - 10 minutes	Take paper and markers and ask participants to write their #ThanksToCamp on the paper. You can print our template, make your own or use blank sheets of paper!
M – 10 minutes	Take photos and videos of the campers holding their thanks to camp signs. You can have them share with the group and snap the photo right after, so that campers stay engaged in the activity even if they are waiting for their photo to be taken. You could also have a few staff members (depending on group size) walk around with cameras and take the photos as campers finish their signs, as some will take more time than others.
Conclusion – 5 minutes	Thank campers for participating and sharing their stories. Tell them when and where their photos will be shared. Be mindful of your policy for sharing images of campers and of if some parents have not agreed to their child’s image to be used in marketing or online.

Variations:

1. Try taking silent videos instead of photos; have the campers hold their sign and look into the camera or try to make them naturally laugh (if the tone of their #ThanksToCamp story matches!). This can make more dynamic posts for social media!
2. Have them write their #ThanksToCamp story on something other than paper - an old piece of camp equipment, a t-shirt, or anything you can think of!