

The Eliot Program

Mornings

Mornings are the most structured part of Eliot. After breakfast there is an all-camp ingathering with a short worship and music program for all ages. Following the ingathering, children and youth go to their programs.

Theme Speaker: Each morning after ingathering, the theme speaker will present his/her program.

Morning Discussion Groups: You will be assigned to a small discussion group which meets daily for the duration of the camp session. After the theme program and a coffee break, you will meet with your group each morning. Your group facilitator will help direct the discussion. These groups are a great opportunity to open up and really get to know some of your community. It is also a chance to explore in more depth the themes of the morning.

Afternoons

After lunch you can rest, play, swim (in summer) or get involved in all kinds of creative, artistic ventures. Most afternoon activities are organized by volunteers. Please respond to the calls for volunteers. It's a great way to meet people and to help make this a wonderful experience for all.

Evenings

Evenings are filled with intergenerational activities, games, and worship. A concert, talent show, dance and coffeehouse are often scheduled.

Sample Daily Schedule (summer & winter)

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 - 9:15	Ingathering and music (intergenerational)
9:15	Morning Program
10:30	Coffee break - Youth/Children Snacks
10:45 - Noon	Small Group Discussions (Summer and Winter)
Noon	Children at flagpole - parents pick up children under age 6
12:15 pm	Lunch
2:00 - 5:00	Waterfront open (summer only)
4:00 - 6:00	Bookstore open (usually in Maples)
5:00	Social hour (usually Maples patio in summer, Pines in winter)
6:00	Dinner
7:00 - 8:30	Intergenerational Activities in Meeting House
8:30 - 9:00	Worship (Meeting House)
9:30	Late night activities
10:00	Quiet time - no noise that may be heard off grounds or which may disturb sleepers
11:00	Children's curfew
1:00 a.m.	Extended curfew for youth ends - all youth in their assigned rooms. (Note: parents and/or deans may set earlier curfew.)

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Life with Children and Youth

After the morning session, children are the responsibility of parents, guardians or sponsors. In practical terms, this means that children under age 6 should always be with a responsible caretaker. You can hire a baby sitter (check with youth), or swap childcare. But, since this is a family camp, we urge you to take advantage of all the things you can do with your children.

Older children and youth may become very independent of their parents or guardians. Eliot can provide a chance to give them some freedom. Please consider, however, what is age-appropriate and supervise them accordingly. Safety is the number one concern.

Some parents become concerned that they are not seeing enough of their older kids. Different families handle this in different ways. Some eat at least one meal together or have a daily check-in time. Feel free to set rules for your family that meet your needs.

Eliot Traditions

This is a list of many of the Eliot traditions. Not all of them happen at every camp.

- Art Show:* Eliot artists display their creations.
- Boat-burning:* This New Year's Eve ceremony allows us to write down things we want to leave behind and to watch them burn on a boat in the lagoon.
- Choir:* Each camp has a choir with daily practices and several chances to perform.
- Concert:* Eliot musicians perform for an appreciative audience.
- Costume Parade & Contest:* At some camps the children (and a few adults) dress up in costume and enjoy the admiration and applause of other campers.
- Dance:* Eliot volunteers organize a variety of dancing events for all ages, often with instruction.
- Encore:* This popular Eliot game requires teams to pick a card and sing a song that contains the word or subject of the card.
- Firelight:* Music, songs, stories and jokes for all ages are often shared at the fire pit near the swimming dock. At Winter Eliot, Firelight may be held by the fireplace in the Inn Lobby.
- Grandpa Ray's Ice Cream Social*
- Watermelon Polo:* Strong swimmers compete in this vigorous slippery floating fruit game.
- New Year's Eve Feast:* At Winter Eliot, the New Year's Eve celebration is capped off by the first meal of the year, a hearty feast served just after the midnight countdown.
- Polar Bear Club:* Early morning lagoon swims and screams.
- Salmon Bake:* For one dinner during summer camps at Seabeck, we'll have a special salmon bake dinner on the beach.
- Social Hour:* Adults gather before dinner for an hour of beverages and appetizers. At Seabeck, bring your own beverage and snacks to share. At Naramata, beverages are provided (no-host), so bring snacks to share.

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<i>Talent Show & Coffeehouses:</i>	Everyone is welcome to perform. Watch for the sign-up list.
<i>Tie Dye:</i>	Learn to tie dye cotton clothing with brilliant colors.
<i>To Tell the Truth:</i>	A panel of three volunteers tell stories of their lives. The audience votes to guess which panelist's story is true.
<i>Triathlon:</i>	This swimming, boating, and running competition is for individuals and teams of all ages. (Modified at Naramata, where boats are not available.)
<i>Worship:</i>	There is usually a worship service each evening and a brief worship ingathering before the morning program. The worship coordinator will bring interested people together and help with materials and support. Watch for meeting times or sign-up lists. In August, one worship service will include a remembrance of Hiroshima with lighted boats on the lagoon.

Thank you to Eliot Board member Jordan Michels for creating the Survival Guide and to Joan Lawson and Carolyn Hayek for assisting with revisions.