

Tribal Chiefs



Yatahey!

Chiefs,

Welcome to the Caddo Nation Allen Indian Guides and Princess Organization. We are excited that you have taken on the role as a leader of your tribe. We promise you that the next few years will be full of memories that will last a lifetime. We put together a few guidelines, ideas and best practices to help you through the adventure to make this a fun and exciting experience for all.

The Tribe:

- The tribe usually consists of 5-10 pairs. Larger groups make meetings and outings more difficult. The recommended cap is 12 children per tribe.
- Tribe names are preferred to be based on an Indian name. (Caddo Nation Tribes: Eagles, Comanche, Pawnee, Arrowheads, etc.).
- All Participants, Father and Child, will need come up with Indian names (Be creative: too long can be hard to remember and fit on the back of a shirt).
- Shirts should be made with the a tribe logo on the front and their Indian name on the back for each participant (father and child). Many tribes use Nancy at A City Stickers for their t-shirts: www.acitystickers.com/
- All Tribes will need to have a personalized flag (2'x3' on a 6-7' pole). You can have the kids make and decorate or get one made for you. Making and decorating the flag could be a great craft for your first tribe powwow.
- All Tribes are required to create a Nation Totem Pole "Block". The blank block will be provided to you at the beginning of the year "Block Party" (The only directions are to keep the top and bottom of the block flat in order to be stacked).
- Flags and Blocks are to be present at all campouts.
- It is suggested that a wampum can or bag be established for monetary donations given by each guide/princess at the meetings.
- All Tribes will be responsible for a Tribal chant that will be presented at nation campouts.

- Tribes are urged to purchase or make vests (leather or similar) or sashes within the first year to display patches earned throughout the year.
- Each Tribe should have a Chief and an Assistant Chief. The Chief is responsible for attending the monthly Longhouse/Chief meetings. The Assistant Chief (or another member of the tribe) should be present if the Chief cannot attend.

Meetings:

- Each Tribe is responsible for holding a meeting each month (a total of 9...September-May).
- The first meeting of the new year will be held at the Chief's house and a schedule will be created for the following months. Meetings should occur monthly, at least September through May. It is a good idea to schedule meetings the second week of each month (to follow the Chief Meetings that occur the first week of each month).
- The host (father and child) of the monthly meeting will be responsible for creating a hand-made invitation that will be hand delivered to every member of the tribe (This will be part of the Honor Bear/Eagle points – discussed below).

Typical Meeting:

- 1 to 1-1/2 hrs long
- Guides/Princesses sit next to their Dad.
- A meeting "talking stick" should be created and used to keep the meeting organized and flowing smoothly. The "Talking Stick" is passed around the circle starting with the host guide/princess, and only the person who has the stick should speak.
- Scouting reports – guides/princesses each recite their Indian name, tell about something fun they've done and also a good deed/chore they performed to earn their "Wampum" to donate to the tribe (usually a \$1). This money can be used for camping supplies, end of the year party, or anything the kids desire. This practice helps the kids develop confidence, public speaking skills, and understand the significance of charity.
- Host of the meeting tells a story (something with a moral or an Indian story). Invite the kids to come close and sit on the floor in front of you. Prepared stories work best.
- Craft (hosts puts together a craft - something fun for the boys/girls). Make sure the Dads are interacting and helping out. Ideas for first craft: Tribal flag, talking stick for meetings, vests,...
- Snacks/drinks during craft time
- Dads discuss any important business while boys/girls play
- Closing ritual and optional prayer

Closing Ritual:

AND NOW (index finger pointing to the ground)

MAY THE GREAT SPIRIT (index finger circling up to imitate smoke)

OF ALL GOOD SPIRITS (arms stretched wide)

BE WITH YOU (index finger pointing across the circle)

NOW (index finger pointing down)

AND FOREVER MORE (action of shooting a bow and arrow upward toward the sky)

Nation Password:

FRIENDS FOREVER (Children will need to know the password at the campouts)

Campouts:

The Caddo nation will be going on (3) campouts this year

October(Fall)– It can vary by year

Tent \ Camping Camping (Bath House or cabin with shower)

Nation Games

Food will vary by year, talk with your Chief on food

Hiking \ Biking trails

Fishing

BB guns and Archery

January (Winter) – Collin County Adventure Camp (Anna, TX)

Heated Cabins

Meals Provided Saturday & Sunday – Cafeteria style

Canoeing, Fishing, Zip-line, Archery, BB Gun Marksmanship and more

May (Spring) – Sky Ranch (Van, TX)

AC Cabins

Meals Provided Saturday & Sunday – Cafeteria style

Swimming (slides\lake\blob\pool)

Canoeing, Fishing, Zip-line, Mini-golf, Horses and more

Typical Campout:

Friday:

Arrival – Friday 5PM-? (best to make it there before dark--especially for a Tent Campout)
Longhouse Chief meeting (8-9PM or after last scheduled activity)
Food not provided on Friday nights (Tribes cook their own meals, always speak with your Chief)

Saturday:

Activities (depending on camp)
Counsel Fire at dusk
3 meals served on campouts with food provided

Sunday:

Breakfast – provided on campouts with food provided
Chapel\Awards – ~9AM, depending on scheduled breakfast times
Pack-up and go home – camps usually stay open until 12PM

Here is sample checklist for campouts at which food is provided:

- Tribe shirt
- Tennis shoes/hiking boots (not school shoes or open toe shoes)
- Long pants (jeans) for horse rides
- Fleece/Jacket, Hat , gloves
- Crocs or flip flops for in the cabin/showers/pool
- Sleeping bag, pillow
- Fitted twin sheets for bunk beds (optional)
- Extra blanket
- Rain gear/umbrella
- Flashlights (headlamps, glow sticks, ...)
- Towel and Toiletries
- First Aid Kit
- Camera
- bug spray/sunscreen
- Camping chairs
- Fishing Gear
- Lighter fluid & Matches/Lighter
- Marshmallows/graham crackers/chocolate
- Water/Gatorade/soft drinks
- Snacks/chips
- Folding Table
- Pop-up Canopy

Honor Tribe/Honor Bear and Honor Eagle:

Each child earns points based on participation in certain activities and once accumulated, the Tribe earns a Tribe score. Top tribes will be awarded Honor Tribe status and the top individual point leaders will be recognized as Honor Bears or Honor Eagles at the end of the year. There are awards for these designations for the kids, and Honor Tribes get a special shirt.

A Tracking Chart will be sent to each chief and is also located on the Nation website. It is the responsibility of the Chief to update the chart and submit it monthly, prior to the Tribe Chief's meeting.

More extensive and detailed information can be found in the "Chief Manual" on our website (<http://allenindianguides.com/program/>). We have also posted craft ideas and other handbooks under the "Program Info and Links" Tab on our webpage. There are no set guidelines that have to be followed. Make it your own and most enjoyable for the kids. If you have any questions please reach out to anyone listed below.

We look forward to an exciting new year and glad you have decided to join us. Our main goal is the kids, and the relationship between the father and child. Remember, this is a time for you to create/strengthen those bonds between you and your kids. Be active and strive to participate in everything you can and your tribe will follow. Cherish the moments and take full opportunity of the time. As we like to say, "The more you put in, the more you get out". Thanks again and Yatahey!

Caddo Nation Longhouse

