

# AGES & STAGES WITH ACTIVITY IDEAS

at American Village

## 8 - 12 Y.O.

May need special attention in certain areas of care (hygiene, dress, bathroom breaks).

- Starting to make groups of friends
- Appearance of "cliques"
- First feelings of competitiveness
- Boys vs Girls mentality
- Need to differentiate oneself from younger children
- Girls maturing faster than boys
- Copying counselors
- Lots of energy

1. Large-scale group games
2. Recreational athletic games
3. Simplified sports
4. Arts and crafts
5. Short hikes, nature discovery
6. Singing, dancing, acting
7. Storytelling, comic book creation

All children are equal in France and at American Village. No activities or tasks are assigned based on gender bias. Boys and girls can like the same things (sports, dance, crafts...).

## 12 - 15 Y.O.

Needs:

- initiatives and responsibility
- express self-identity
- engaging activities
- logic
- Physical changes
- Interest for elaborate creations / technique learning
- Definition of interests
- Belonging to a group very important
- Appearance of romantic feelings
- Testing limits (personal & imposed)
- Some concerns about mockery

1. Large-scale games
2. Athletic games and athletic workshops
3. Activities that introduce skills
4. Elaborate arts and crafts
5. Singing, dancing, acting
6. Nature appreciation activities
7. Teambuilding activities

## 15 - 17 Y.O.

Needs:

- independence, autonomy, choice
- logic
- opposition, debate
- discussion, reflection
- privacy
- role models
- responsibility
- Importance of self-identity
- Tendency to show "ambivalence"
- Romantic feelings and sexual awareness
- Testing limits (personal and imposed)
- Concerns of mockery & judgement

1. Specialized & technical activities
2. Debates & Logic activities
3. Singing, dancing, acting
4. Athletics
5. Leadership & Teambuilding activities
6. Camper-organised activities
7. Nature appreciation activities
8. AmVil "activities clubs" (learn or practice a skill or interest, 3 - 4 meetings over the week)

Teenagers want and need choice. Propose several activities with sign-ups. Make sure you offer activities that will interest your campers. You can even put out an ideas box!

