

EDUCATIONAL PROJECT SPECIFIC TO AMERICAN VILLAGE CAMPS

In 1994, NACEL opened its first American Village camp in France: a linguistic immersion in English that combines the three components of bilingualism...

- 1 no access to the mother tongue
- 2 duration
- 3 personal implication

"The main objective [of a stay] is to learn and improve English language. The second objective is to give young people the opportunity to experience a different environment. These objectives will enable them to take on responsibilities, develop their autonomy, confront differences in language, culture, lifestyle and social situations, and exploit the richness of diversity. This will enable them to become more open-minded and mature, and build self-confidence."

- Exerpt, **Projet Educatif de Nacel**



A CARING IMMERSION EXPERIENCE AT AMERICAN VILLAGE

As soon as youth enter the camp, they are cut off from the French language for several days. They are surrounded by English speakers from morning to night. As its name indicates, the aim is to cultivate a village atmosphere, not to recreate a scholarly environment.

FROM DAWN TO DUSK, THE COUNSELORS ONLY SPEAK IN ENGLISH

We believe that learners should explore different ways of communicating. The counselor maintains English immersion, adapting his speech and gestures to the child. In this way, each child can participate and gradually overcome apprehension about speaking in English in front of others.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PLEASURE AND JOY IN LEARNING

We believe that an engaged child will participate frequently, surpassing his or her fears as the session progresses. The camp's atmosphere, activities and quality relationships all contribute to creating a pleasant environment that therefore is conducive to learning.

A CARING LINGUISTIC SETTING

We're convinced that the teacher's attitude can play a key role in motivating learners to learn a language. That's why our counselors are responsible for guiding each child with enthusiasm and kindness.

OBJECTIVES FOR AMERICAN VILLAGE CAMPS

The program is made up of different daily activities that are fun and stimulating for the child. The counselor and the child must make efforts to understand each other...

1. Spark the child's interest in learning the English language
2. Enhance understanding of language (comprehension)
3. Develop speaking skills (elocution)
4. Assist each child in finding their place in the group

THE AMERICAN VILLAGE PROGRAM

90% OF LEARNING HAPPENS OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

Daily recreational activities provide a playful context for practicing English, as children have fun, develop their skills, exercise and bond. "Congress" is a funny and participative presentation of the day's theme through different expression activities like song, dance, theater and drama.

THEMES AND ICONIC ACTIVITIES

The American Village program is rooted in its iconic themes and activities. Through a variety of activities such as games, activities and classes, participants discover Anglo-Saxon culture from different angles: geography, history, famous personalities, sports and much more.

ENGLISH CLASSES

Based on the CLT (Communicative Language Teaching) method, which emphasizes useful communication, our English courses aim to develop oral expression. Counselors incorporate language-learning ESL games to make each lesson fun and engaging.

Our course model is P-P-P-P: Presentation, Practice, Production, Play

BUILDING INDEPENDENCE

The children participate in collective responsibilities, such as setting the table, clearing the table, tidying their room and the classroom. The child will benefit from one hour of free time every day to spend alone or with friends.

INTERNAL REGULATIONS AT **AMERICAN VILLAGE**

Despite the language barrier, the American Village counselor establishes a caring relationship with each child, taking into account his or her distance from home and the use of a foreign language. The learning environment must be reassuring, therefore the counselor team helps each child, through gestures and expressions, to adapt to this new environment.

All American Village Camps are governed by a set of Internal Regulations, ensuring a clear and structured educational approach that guarantees the well-being and English language learning of every participant. The camp director also has an Administrative Annex. Each team member also receives an American Village Counselor's Guide.

AMERICAN VILLAGE STAFF VALUES

EQUALITY

- Recognize every child's efforts to communicate in English.
- Combat any form of discrimination or violence.

JOY AND IMAGINATION

- Integrate humour and laughter in the learning process.
- Captivate the learner through his imagination. Through play, we can help learners overcome fears about making mistakes.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

- Participate in the campers' activities. Lead by example.
- Adapt your language. Illustrate words with gestures and actions.

SUPPORT

- Cultivate a non-competitive ambiance around English.
- Encourage children to help one another.

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

- Correct errors constructively and without judgement.
- Build and maintain good relationships with the children.