

The Camp Nellie Huckins Love

By:Lillie Rosa

The scent of pine trees wafting in the air. The steps up to the cabin creaking. The glimmer of the sunlight bouncing off the lake through all the pine trees. The sound of laughter in the distance. This is what Camp Nellie Huckins is all about, and this is why every girl should go to Camp Nellie Huckins. There's fun activities, beautiful memories, and the best friends you could ever make.

The splash of fun in the lake, the far off crinkle of paper from the craft house, and the zing of the arrow from the archery range. These are the wonderful activities you will be able to participate in if you go to Huckins. For instance, my personal favorite of all the activities are the water activities such as kayaking, canoeing, paddleboarding, water skiing, fishing, and swimming. The lake provides all of these wonderful activities for campers of all ages [camp starts when your going into 4th grade]. Another activity is going to the craft house, and making everything from a clipboard to your cabin's new mailbox. In addition to all those other activities there is another fun activity at camp which is archery. The archery range always is filled with the sound zing as the arrow deploys from the bow, and the boom as the arrow hits the bullseye, and then then counselor yelling the command to say it's okay to go get your arrows. Those sound a lot more fun than activities from where I live and another reason why ever girl should go to Camp Nellie Huckins.

If you listen very closely you can hear the "boom boom stomp" of the feet dancing on the tables after meals, the crackle of the fire at the candlelight ceremony, and the laughter of the people having cabin activity. These are the kind of memories you have at Huckins, and these are memories you can't find anywhere but Huckins, and another reason why every girl should go to Huckins. For example, one of my favorite memories is one night we had cabin activity and we went out on one of the camps catamaran's [a party boat], and we went to a sandbar in the middle of the lake where the was a public volleyball net and we played water volleyball with some of the older girls [seniors], and had a lot of fun. This is when I realized Huckins is the place for me. The most beautiful memory of all to me is the candlelight ceremony. It happens on the last night of camp and the whole camp gathers at the outdoor theater and the Jody [the camp director] makes a speech about how the Huckins love will burn forever, how wonderful this place is, how lucky we are to have this place, and to be together, then she lights a candle, and the flame gets passed on from candle to candle until the whole camp has a flame, and at

taps [the bedtime bugle] we blow out the candles as if saying camp is over. It's very sweet, and saddening at the same time, and it makes you realize that everything the Jody had announced was true. In addition to all those great memories, one of my favorite memories is after every meal we stand on the tables, and dance, and sing our little hearts out 3 times a day, and all the camp songs are so funny we all end up laughing. Those are the kind of memories I will cherish forever and those memories made me realize that Huckins was the place for me, and why every girl should be there to experience that.

The last, and most important thing which is the most important to me is the friendships you make at Huckins with everyone around you. The first reason the friendships are the best and unlike the friendships in the world outside of camp is are people come from all over to have the Huckins experience so there are very different people who have different opinions, and beliefs so a lot of people gel, and become friends outside of camp or are opened up to new ways of life by new friends who live a different way than them. I have a friend who came all the way from San Francisco, California to Freedom, New Hampshire! Also you live with all of your friends so you become super close, and learn things you might not have learned otherwise if they were just any other person. Furthermore, the last thing about your camp friends is one day after camp has ended, and your super bored write a letter to your camp friend! Do you know in school when there's a pen pal project? That's what this is! It's fun to write letters because that's what you do at camp to communicate with people in the world outside of camp so it brings back old memories from the previous summer. Those are the best friends you could ever make and you know why? Because they're Camp Nellie Huckins friends and those are the true friends.

Are you convinced now? You should be after hearing about all the amazing activities, beautiful memories, and the best friends that you can ever make. Every girl should go to Camp Nellie Huckins, that is the truth. I know it, now you know it, too. I'll be there next summer, and so will you. Don't ignore the truth, it's all we got. So, give Camp Nellie Huckins a shot.