



the **S.E.A.L.** project

Code of Conduct

A youth development initiative of The Resource Initiative for Safe Kids (www.riskids.org)

We really are excited you are a part of the Social Ecology Aquatic and Leadership (S.E.A.L.) Project' USDA Summer feeding program. The following rules have been adopted to make this a positive experience and a safe place for everyone. We hope these guidelines will help you enjoy being part of our youth events and activities. Bring your friends and invite others. All youth in attending a Resource Initiative for Safe Kids (RISKids.org) event, activity or special off-site event will be expected to follow these guidelines for personal conduct.

Overall GOAL: To sustain a safe and Secure Environment for Youth and Adults in S.E.A.L. Biblical principle: But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way - Know KJV 1 Corinthians 14:40

Rules of conduct

Every child is expected to learn and follow the rules of conduct, which are in accordance with the Resource Initiative for Safe Kid's general rules of conduct. The methods used in dealing with chronic inappropriate behavior include parent conferences, suspension and releasing a child from the program.

Note: Adults attending or participating in S.E.A.L. youth activities are expected to conduct themselves according to the rules of conduct and to assist and support youth in their efforts to adhere to the rules of conduct. Additionally, the staff/volunteers of the S.E.A.L. program encourage parent involvement and we look forward to seeing you at any time while your TEEN/Tween is enrolled in the program. All parents and guardians are required to attend an orientation for the program. If you cannot attend the general orientation meeting, staff will arrange to meet with you individually.

PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED/ WELCOME TO:

1. Participate as activity volunteers and/or help organize a community service project for participants.
2. Provide input on how to improve the program.
3. Encourage your youth to follow the rules and to cooperate with staff and volunteers.
4. Bring their concerns/issues (preferably in writing) to the attention of the staff and administration first/only.

PARENTS ARE NOT ENCOURAGED/ALLOWED TO:

1. Be rude, angry or disrespectful towards staff/volunteers or administration – FOR ANY REASON.

General Guidelines

The following are not permitted at RISKids.org / S.E.A.L. sponsored programs, activities, or events:

- ✓ Possession, consumption or distribution of alcohol.
- ✓ Possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs.
- ✓ Possession or use of all tobacco products.
- ✓ Sexual activity of any kind/manner (including kissing).
- ✓ Boys in girls' rooms and girls in boys' rooms or lodging/camping areas.
- ✓ Theft, destruction, or abuse of property.
- ✓ Violation of an established curfew.
- ✓ Unauthorized absence from program site.
- ✓ Physical, verbal, emotional, or mental abuse of another person.
- ✓ Possession or use of a weapon. *
- ✓ Possession or use of a harmful object with the intent to hurt or intimidate others.
- ✓ Any other conduct deemed inappropriate for the youth development program by an Program manager; a designated S.E.A.L /RISKids.org administrator, board, or staff member; or a volunteer leader

A suspension will mean a child cannot participate in **Summer S.E.A.L.'s** for a specified period of time (one day to two weeks). Releasing a child from the program will mean that the child is no longer able to participate in **S.E.A.L.'s**

Procedures for Suspension & Release of a Child from the Program. If the rules of conduct are violated, the following steps may be taken:

1. *First Offense - Verbal warning to child and parent.*
 - a. The adult leaders for the youth involved in the violation will be made aware of the situation.
 - b. All chaperones are responsible for all youth at an event /activity.
 - c. When a violation occurs at an S.E.A.L. and/or affiliate/partner event /activity, S.E.A.L. members/participants may be disqualified from the event /activity. Involvement in later event /activities may also be barred. This will be determined by the event chair/coordinator; a designated administer, board, or staff member; or a volunteer leader.
 - d. If any laws are violated, the case will be referred to the police.**
2. *Second Offense - Conference with program Coordinator and parent*
 - a. The adult leaders for the youth involved in the violation will be made aware of the situation.
 - b. All chaperones are responsible for all youth at an event /activity.
 - c. When a violation occurs at an S.E.A.L. and/or affiliate/partner event /activity, S.E.A.L. members/participants may be removed from the event /activity. Involvement in later contests may also be barred. This will be determined by the

event chair/coordinator; a designated administer, board, or staff member; or a volunteer leader.

d. If any laws are violated, the case will be referred to the police.

3. *Third Offense - Suspension or release child from program*

- a. The adult leaders for the youth involved in the violation will be made aware of the situation.
- b. All chaperones are responsible for all youth at an event /activity.
- c. The parent(s) may be called and arrangements made for transportation home at the parent's expense.
- d. The S.E.A.L member may have their membership in S.E.A.L. revoked.

Objective 1: Show interest in other youth

Biblical principle: *Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

Know KJV Philippians 2:4

How do we do this?

- 1. Welcoming new youth
- 2. Participating with the group
- 3. Valuing the opinion and feelings of others
- 4. Including everyone in the activity

Objective 2: Treat others how you want to be treated

Biblical principle: *So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.*

Know KJV Matthew 7:12.

How do we do this?

- 1. Encourage those youth who are struggling
- 2. Listen while others are talking
- 3. Speak words that build up others
- 4. Ask forgiveness if you've done something wrong

Objective3: Control your tongue

Biblical principle: *Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful in building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*

Know KJV Ephesians 4:29

- 1. An uncontrolled tongue includes, but is not limited to...
- 2. Name calling
- 3. Gossiping
- 4. Making fun of others
- 5. Pulling jabs on others
- 6. Swearing or other inappropriate language

Objective 4: Be respectful of the group

Biblical principle: *For as churning milk produces butter, and as twisting the nose produces blood, so stirring up anger produces strife Proverbs 30:33.*

Disrespecting the group includes, but is not limited to...

- 1. Throwing or breaking things
- 2. Disrespecting / Disobeying adult leadership
- 3. Disrespecting peers
- 4. Talking during talks or messages
- 5. Causing anger in someone else
- 6. Physical abusiveness, fighting, violence, threats.
- 7. Being out of the sight of Adult Leadership.

e. If any laws are violated, the case will be referred to the police.



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Please read, sign and return to us, copy will be made and forwarded for your records.

I the undersigned (parent/guardian) do hereby agree to follow the rules as outlined in the S.E.A.L. Project Code of Conduct Training. From time to time new rules may be added which will further enhance the S.E.A.L. Project's ability to provide a positive and safe experience. I fully understand these rules and have had the opportunity to discuss them with my youth.

As parent/guardian I understand that the Resource Initiative for Safe Kids (RISKids.org) dba The Social Ecology Aquatic and Leadership (S.E.A.L.) Project and USDA Summer Feeding Program (i.e. the organization) operates as an open site facility where, by written policy given to and signed by a parent do hereby understand that my child is free to enter and leave the premises without permission or supervision. It is further understood that neither RISKids.org nor The S.E.A.L. Project is under no obligation to provide any service arrangement with the youth's parent.

Moreover, I authorize the Organization, Inc., to [photograph/record my voice/prepare recordings of my child's / youth participation in S.E.A.L. Project USDA Summer Program. The Organization may use such recordings in any media, whether through exhibition, distribution, reproduction, or otherwise, and may include my name, likeness, image, voice, appearance, and performance. The Organization may edit such recordings as it wishes and may use the recordings or excerpts there from for promotional and any other purposes. The Organization shall hold and own all right, title, and interest in and to the recordings.

I waive all rights under privacy, publicity, defamation, and proprietary rights relating to the recording. The Organization may transfer or license any of its rights hereunder, will release and hold Organization harmless against all claims, liabilities, and expenses arising out of the breach of this representation.

Finally, the undersigned parent/guardian releases the organization and agents, representatives from any and all liability, causes of action, suits for property damage, bodily injury, death and all other claims arising out of participation in Organization's program.

The organization has no liability regarding adequacy of medical care, equipment, supplies, or lack of evacuation capability, but will in case of emergency transport participant youth to nearest medical facility.

The organization is/ shall be released from claims for harm caused by other participants.

At sole discretion of the organization staff, changes in program may be made and any student, participant may be excluded for safety, medical, other reasons.

I have read, understand, and have discussed the terms and conditions of this release with my child/youth.

Youth Name Print: _____ **Sign:** _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Name Print: _____ **Sign:** _____ **Date:** _____

Emergency contact #(s) _____ **Preferred Medical Facility** _____