



Welcome to the Y-Explorers!

At the Magdalena Ecke YMCA, we have 5 separate Nations of Adventure Guides (fathers/sons) & 6 separate nations of Adventure Princesses (fathers/daughters). We also have mother/daughter and mother/son programs.

The Y-Explorer program is designed for boys, ages 5–10 years-old and their moms. Tribes consist of members from a general geographic area and can be from many schools.

A tribe has up to 10 or so moms. They typically meet once a month as a tribe in each other's homes on a rotating basis. Then, the tribes all come together for a nation event one weekend a month. The calendar of monthly events vary from primitive (bring your own tent, food and cooking gear) to staying in a nice camp with bunk beds and all meals provided. The cost of each event varies from about \$28-50/person for the weekend to as much as \$110/person for the weekend. Moms seem to attend about 66% of the events in any year.

The equipment needed to attend a primitive weekend event would be a small tent, sleeping bags, cooler, flashlight, clothes & sand chairs at the minimum. The tribes quite often work out their meals together and can therefore share cooking supplies. They decide ahead of time who will bring what for the upcoming event. A weekend at a full service camp would require only flashlight, clothes and a sleeping bag.

Each year a club participant pays for the annual dues of **\$55** (YMCA member price)/**\$60** (non-member price). All club members may view their nation calendar, flyers, maps and other pertinent information online, at the Magdalena Ecke Family YMCA website:

http://eckecamp.org/pub/adventure_guides/

Also, in your first year, there are other miscellaneous expenses for things like the material packet and perhaps the traditional vests and most tribes have tribal t-shirts or sweatshirts.

We encourage you and your son to attend our Welcome Back and Recruiting Picnic on **September 13th**. This event will be held from **2pm-5pm at the YMCA Aquatic park** for Y-Explorers. This event will give you a chance to meet other mothers and sons in the program. **There will be games, a craft, BBQ picnic and more!** You will be placed in a tribe on this day.

If you know someone in the program already, you can join their tribe if the tribe says it's okay.

I hope this helps. If you have additional questions, please contact Katie AhSing @ 760-942-9622 ext. 1005.

