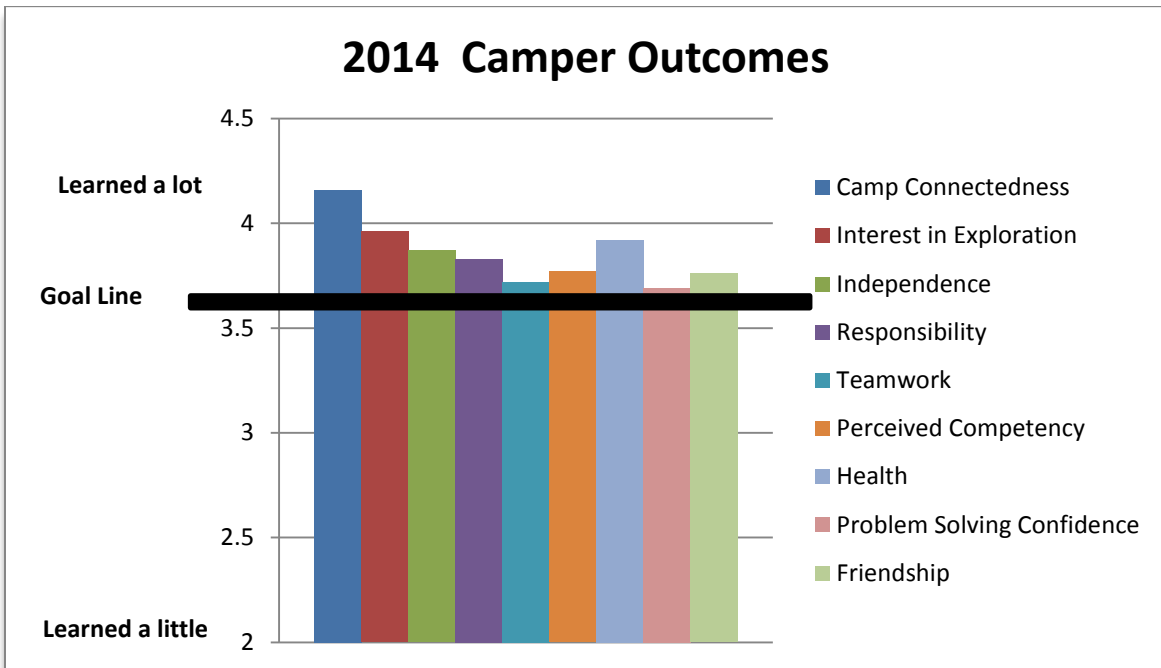




What do Campers Learn at Camp?

Every year, we survey our campers and their parents to see if what they learn, and if we are satisfied with the outcomes of camp. We want our campers to learn social lessons in our environment. We want them to be better team players, better friends, and better problem solvers. Additionally, we want them to be more responsible, and more independent. Here are the outcomes for older campers (10+) in our 2014 summer program. We are happy to report that our campers met or exceeded our learning goals in all categories!



These outcomes are measured on an easy to use, five-point Likert scale (1 – Decrease, 2 – Did Not Increase or Decrease, 3 – Increased a Little bit, Maybe, 4 – Increased Some, I am Sure, and 5 – Increased a Lot, I am Sure)

Category Definitions

Outcome Category
Perceived Competency - believe that they can be successful in the things they do
Interested in Exploration - be more curious, inquisitive, eager to learn new things
Teamwork - become more effective when working in groups of their peers
Independence - rely less on adults and other people for solving problems and for their day-to-day activities
Friendship - make friends and maintain relationships (Up from 3.33 in 2012)
Family Citizenship - encourage attributes important to being a member of a family
Responsibility - learn to be accountable for their own actions and mistakes

Survey Methodology

In order to have the most accurate results for this study, Dragonfly Forest uses the Outcome Study developed by the American Camp Association (ACA). The ACA Youth Outcomes Battery (ACA-YOB) provides camps and other youth programs with measures that focus on eight common youth outcomes. The statistically tested scales are age-appropriate tools that can be individualized to a camp, after-school program, or other youth program.

The Specific Youth Outcomes that Dragonfly Forest measures are the following Friendship Skills (i.e., make friends and maintain relationships), Independence (i.e., rely less on adults and other people for solving problems and for their day-to-day activities), Teamwork (i.e., become more effective when working in groups of their peers), Perceived Competence (i.e., believe that they can be successful in the things they do), Interest in Exploration (i.e., be more curious, inquisitive, eager to learn new things), Responsibility (i.e., learn to be accountable for their own actions and mistakes), Problem-Solving Confidence (i.e., learn to feel more confident in their problem-solving capabilities), and Camp Connectedness (i.e., do campers feel welcomed and supported at camp).

We also added our own Medical outcome which is designed to measure if a camper learns to better manage their disease/disorder.

Our outcome study was administered in four parts based on best practices from the ACA and our knowledge of Dragonfly campers, their program, and their ability to answer study questions.