



Center design is an ancient Nez Perce symbol called a whirlwind (Sa'plis). Other indigenous cultures use it as well. Its origin pre-dates any

History

The first Nez Perce Cultural Camp was held in August 2000. The concept was discussed for many years as a way to involve youth in a fun and educational gathering. An average of 100-110 students attend each year. This will be our **25th annual camp!** In 2020, we couldn't hold camp.

Again in 2025, we will benefit from participation of multiple partners, with lead coordination by the tribal Cultural Resources and Education departments. Additional support will come from NPTEC Youth Affairs Subcommittee, Nez Perce Local Education Program Fund, Nez Perce Circle of Elders, various private foundation grants, and other tribal and community sponsors and supporters.

Mission Statement

To give youth a greater appreciation of the heritage of the Nez Perce people so they can continue the culture in the future. Overall, we want to increase the number of cultural bearers of the Nez Perce Way of Life (Nimiipuunewit), with special emphasis on Language.

The Cultural Camp appreciates the diversity and unique expression of culture that exists among the Nez Perce people, historically and today. We do our best to convey this to the students and promote respect for All Ways.



Camp Sites

We will have 2 different sites. The older students will travel to Montana for tribal ceremonies at West Yellowstone and Big Hole. The younger students will stay at the YMCA Horsethief Reservoir Camp near Cascade, ID. Traveling from the Nez Perce reservation in Idaho, gives the students an appreciation of the beauty, size, and diversity of terrain of the traditional tribal homeland and distribution of different bands of Nez Perce.

CUT & RETURN THIS SECTION

Application Due Date:

Monday, 7/28, 4:30 p.m.



Deadline is important so we can make the extensive arrangements for each youth. Late applications may be possible if accommodations are available.

Turn application in: Education Services, Lapwai, ID,

Mail: P.O. Box 365, Lapwai, ID 83540

PH: (208) 621-4610

FAX: (208) 843-7387, Email: joycem@nezperce.org

Name _____ Age _____

DOB _____ Ph No. _____

Mailing Address _____

Physical Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Required essay, turn in w/ application:

★ **How did the Nez Perce travel in their homeland and know how to get around without a map?**

★ **Why are the events of 1877 important to the Nez Perce people? Share a story that you've heard about 1877.**

Application is incomplete without essay.

Grade in Fall 2025:

____ 4th ____ 5th ____ 6th ____ 7th
____ 8th ____ 9th ____ 10th ____ 11th ____ 12th

T-shirt Size: Circle Size

Child: M LG

Adult: SM M LG XL XXL XXXL

Please list:

Medical Conditions _____

Medications _____

Allergies _____

Does your child need a medical release to participate?

____ Yes ____ No **If "yes," please provide a copy.**

In case of an emergency contact:

Name _____
Ph1 _____ Ph2 _____
Relationship _____

Name _____
Ph1 _____ Ph2 _____
Relationship _____

RELEASE

I, _____, the parent/guardian of _____, a minor, hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Nez Perce Tribe and members of each sponsor, from all claims, losses, expenses, fees, including all attorney fees, costs, and judgments that may be asserted against the sponsors as a result of the acts or omissions of the sponsors, its employees, representatives or agents, in the performance of their activity of transporting and chaperoning youth to the Nez Perce Cultural Camp in Montana (multiple sites) or near Cascade, ID, on August 6-9 or August 12-14, 2025. I give permission to the Cultural Camp staff to seek medical attention for my child and consent to necessary medical treatment if the emergency contacts listed or me cannot be immediately reached.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Student:

I, _____, understand that while participating in the Nez Perce Cultural Camp, I will be expected to represent myself and my family with dignity and will respect others, including their property. I will not leave the company of the chaperones without asking first. I will follow the rules and expectations of the chaperones and be responsible to the group. I will take personal responsibility for my attitude and behavior.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____



*A Memorable Experience
As relates to Nez
Perce culture:*

Education: Language, History, Legends, Customs, Leadership, Health, Wellness, etc.



Enrichment: Crafts, drumming, dancing, storytelling, etc.

Recreation: Swim, Basketball, Volleyball, GaGa Ball, Icebreakers, etc.

ACTIVITIES

NOTIFICATION:
We will send letters to confirm registration and give more details about attending the camp.

Contact Person:

Joyce McFarland
Education Dept
PO Box 365
Lapwai, ID 83540
PH: (208) 621-4610
FAX: (208) 843-7387

NEZ PERCE CULTURAL CAMP 2025



**Montana (wk1) &
Salmon River (wk2)**

First Camp:

August 6-9, 2025

Entering grades 8-12

Second Camp:

August 12-14, 2025

Entering grades 4-7