

Brown Hill Creek Defence Family Camp – 19-21st April 2024 – Recap

From the 19th to – the 21st of April The Y ran the Brown Hill Creek Defence Family Camp. 11 families attended.

On Friday, Families checked in to Brown Hill Creek Caravan Park. Families had some time to explore the area. Brown Hill Creek is located at the base of the Adelaide Hills and on the edge of the city. The campsite is right next door to the Brown Hill Creek trail making for a scenic autumn getaway. Once families were settled they arrived at Puruna Spencer Newton Centre. Puruna is a newly built facility as part of Scotch College. The Y is fortunate to have access to the site, outside of college hours, to run programs in the swimming pool, stadium, pilates and dance studio. We started the evening with an Ice Breaker game to get to know families. We got to learn that most families prefer sweets over savoury and there was a great divide on whether pineapple belongs on pizza. Families then had dinner which was hot chips and rolls. It was then time to play some board games and have cookies and doughnuts for dessert. Finally, it was time for swimming. The kids enjoyed the heated indoor pool with a few parents also jumping in. After swimming it was time to head back to the campsite for some much-needed sleep ready for an actioned pack Saturday.

Saturday morning started with breakfast in the camp kitchen. Andy & Kylies toasted croissants were the fan favourite. After breakfast families were given some time to prepare for the day before heading back to Puruna, but this time we were meeting at the two-court stadium.

The morning was spent playing a bunch of different stadium games including musical bean bags, In & Out, Capture the Flag, Team Rock Paper Scissors, and others! There was even the ultimate challenge of kids vs parents' dodgeball. The Kids ended up winning! Go Kids! The stadium games were very popular with a few of the families picking it as their favourite activity from the camp. After a tiring morning, families had the opportunity to either head back to the campsite or head out and explore the area using their YMCA Guide to Brown Hill Creek.



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After a break, families had the option of meeting up at Carrick Hill. From there they had the choice of either taking on the challenge of the family hike or walking the Story Book Trail. The Hike saw families walk to the top of Carrick Hill. At the top, they were greeted with a picture-perfect view of Adelaide. Those who walked the Story Book Trail got to see features from storybooks such as Wind in the Willow, The Hobbit, The Jungle Book, The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe and others.



After the walk, we headed to McElligott Reserve to take on the ninja course, play some cricket & see the sunset.

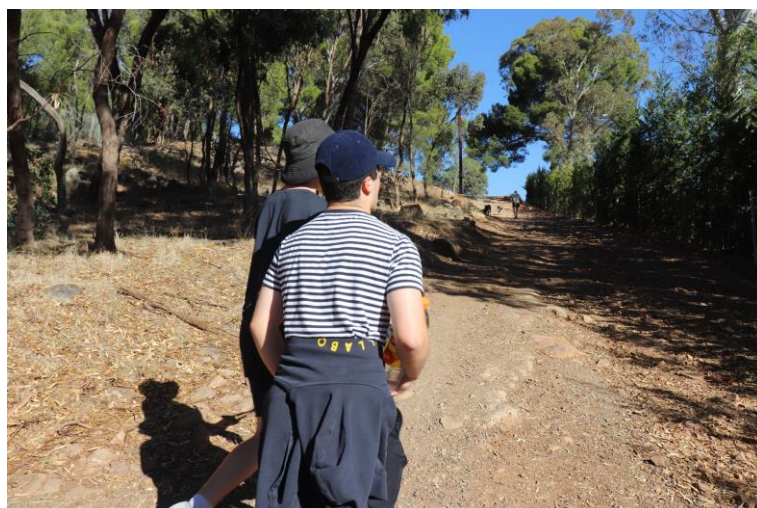
Before we knew it was time for dinner at the campsite. Dinner was sausages, chicken skewers and salad. After dinner, it was time for the much-anticipated cupcake decorating competition. The kids were super excited for this one. Many were too excited to enter the competition as their cupcake looked too good not to eat straight away. There were so many talented cupcake decorators making it impossible to pick a winner. Take a look for yourself at some of these amazing cupcakes. After an action-packed Saturday, it was time to head to bed.

Sunday morning started with some cereal in the camp kitchen for the earlier risers. It was then time to check out of the cabins and head to Heywood Reserve for our final outing of the camp. Heywood Reserve is home to a nature playground with another ninja course. We spent the morning enjoying a breakfast picnic and having a play at the reserve. We then said our final goodbye to our families. Thank you to everyone who attended.

To find out what The Y is running next for Defence Families head to our website: [Defence Communities | YMCA SA](https://www.defencecommunities.org.au) or email: youth@ymcasa.org.au



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