



Champion Zone is a State Licensed Child Care Program offering after school care and summer care services for school-aged children. Champion Zone was established in 2011 and continues to grow in the community by expanding services to area public and private schools. Our programs are unique

because we give back to the community where we are located with a portion of our proceeds benefitting local schools and communities.

The activities children and youth engage in outside of school hours are critical to their overall development, highlighting the need for quality afterschool programs in all communities. The demand for afterschool programs is strong, with nearly 10.2 million children and youth who participate in afterschool programs annually. Make every minute count by choosing Champion Zone After School for your school age child!

**Team and Character Building** - Champion Zone staff have developed a fun learning based curriculum to encourage children to communicate and work together effectively in a group setting. We strive to provide opportunities to model positive relationships and behaviors that empower children and give them the skills they need to be successful in relationships and communication. It is our goal to implement intentional lessons on being a team player and belonging to a group in a healthy and positive way. We believe **T**ogether, **E**veryone, **A**chieves **M**ore.

**Field Trips** - Champion Zone does not take field trips during the school year. We do offer field trips in our summer programs and camps. Children are transported by Champion Zone staff in the company van. All staff transporting children are required to obtain licensing training hours and safety training before transporting children. Children that are required to legally be in a booster seat or car seat will be responsible for providing a seat the day of the field trip. Our ratios for field trips are 2 staff members to 12 campers. Our van holds 12 campers in the back, and 2 adult staff in the front. We will follow all safety guidelines set forth by CCL while enjoying time away from campus. Parents will be notified on Monday of the weeks trips that may be scheduled. We like to do outdoor field trips. Some of the past trips we have enjoyed; Waco Wetlands, Cameron Park Zoo, Area Parks and Splash Pads, Waco Dam, outdoor bike rides for experiences bike riders, Cameron Park, Hewitt Park, Poague Park, Baylor University, McLennan Community College Campus, Texas Dynasty and we are always looking for ways to be of service in our community. We did not take field trips for the 2020 Essential care camp or 2021 due to Covid 19 restrictions and recommendations. We are not sure at this time what our field trip schedule will look like for the 2022 Summer Program.

**Outdoor Play** - Today's children on average spend a large amount of their time on electronics. This can include time at school while learning and at home. At Champion Zone we encourage outdoor play because research has shown the positive effects of being outside and learning through play in open spaces. Outdoor activities are so vital in developing the following

- Motor skills.
- Emotion regulation.
- Group leadership skills.
- Creativity.
- Cognitive flexibility.

Our outside time at Champion Zone is a good time for children to relax and unwind from the school day. In our summer programs you will see kids playing team sports and doing activities to encourage exercise and physical activity. We enjoy hiking, art activities outside, gardening ,community projects and so many more activities that can just be even better outside!

**Arts and Crafts** - Our craft area is designed to allow creativity in so many ways! Our summer programs have themed art activities and allow children to explore and create in their own unique way. We love having hands on activities with a wide variety of materials and encourage children to create their own MASTERPIECE! You will often see our facilities covered in art projects!

**Science and Discovery** - Explore. Experiment. Discover! Our Science and Discovery learning includes tons of hands on experiments and encourages kids to learn in the most creative ways possible. Sometimes that means creating an erupting volcano and learning about landforms across the world. Building a catapult as a team, or other times it means discovering nature while on a scavenger hunt with friends. Our summer curriculum includes many ways for children to get involved in a fun educational way!

**Community Service** - Volunteering is the best way to make the most of your community and in return making the world a better place for everyone. At Champion Zone, our community service projects are centered around helping those in need locally. We have a community garden that is available and the children work in the garden to help harvest vegetables for the community. We also enjoy making crafts for homebound neighbors and delivering small care packages to residents in local nursing homes. Our efforts in the community may also include clothing drives, pet supplies and food donations for local shelters and hands on working at the camp facility to take care of our space.

**Cooking and Nutrition** - At Champion Zone we have a full-time nutrition specialist that prepares meals and snacks for our campers. The children often sign up to be “kitchen helpers” and serve in the lunchroom during mealtime. Our curriculum for cooking and nutrition consists of basic education on healthy meals and snacks and allows children to participate in learning skills related to cooking. We incorporate as much hands-on experiences as possible and allow children to learn by doing!

**Bible Study** - Bible is only incorporated into our summer programs. Bible is typically taught 1-2 times per week for each group. Curriculum consists of basic Bible stories, a related craft and music. Scripture memory and fun games that enhance Bible learning are a big hit with our summer campers.

**Makerspace** - What is makerspace? A makerspace is defined area that consists of various supplies, tools and components, allowing children to work alone or collectively to enter with an idea and leave with a complete project. We encourage imagination and creativity in leaving open ended opportunities for learning and fun! This area may include STEM activities, building, group projects, new ideas and the world’s next engineers may be right within our reach!

**Physical Development** - When kids participate in different physical activities, they are helping their bones and muscles to strengthen. At Champion Zone we keep kids moving and active. In after school programs on school sites we use gymnasiums and outdoor playground equipment regularly and encourage movement in a fun and creative way. We also provide structured games, relays, competitive sports opportunities and a curriculum to allow development of a variety of skills imperative to the growth and development of young children. At our summer camp programs, we have gym space and outdoor space for developmentally appropriate physical development activities. We like to get moving and stay active at Champion Zone!

**Sensory Exploration** - Sensory play includes any activity that stimulates a child’s senses: touch, smell, taste, movement, balance, sight and hearing. At Champion Zone we enjoy many activities allowing kids to just be kids! We encourage getting dirty and involved with hands on experiences to be creative. Research shows us that using as many senses as possible and getting fully engrossed in activities is the best way enhance brain development and is overall helpful in unmeasurable ways! Our curriculum is developed to make the entire day a sensory learning experience for young children.

**Health and Wellness** - Our health and wellness program includes curriculum based on the physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of childhood. At summer camp we introduced the “Fruit of the Spirit” Love, Joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We have structured time to learn about general health concepts and making and keeping a healthy body.