

# For Ranch Crew Leaders Only

Most of the time, things will go smoothly for your crew, but every once in a while, you may run into a dilemma. Here's some advice on how to handle different challenges.

## IF MY CREW WON'T STAY TOGETHER



Encourage your Ranch Guide to come up with creative ways to travel. Or work with your Coach to come up with cheers to say as you travel.

## IF OLDER KIDS ARE UNHAPPY BEING GROUPEd WITH MIXED AGES

Highlight their helping role. Encourage them to help younger kids with crafts and other activities. Acknowledge them by telling younger kids, "[Name of older child] is really good at that. Why don't you ask him [or her] to help?"



## IF I HAVE A CLIQUE IN MY CREW

Cliques can make the Ranch Crew experience unhappy for the outsiders. Encourage friendships among all crew members by pairing kids with partners they don't know very well during games and crafts.

## IF A CREW MEMBER WON'T PARTICIPATE

Help shy children feel welcome by calling them by name and asking them questions directly. Respond to their questions with a smile and a statement such as "That's really interesting!" Also try giving children special jobs. For example, assign them the

task of finding a place for your crew to sit at each station.

If someone doesn't want to participate in Horseplay Games, that's OK. Avalanche Ranch can be tiring! Let children rest until they're ready to participate.

## IF PEOPLE IN MY CREW DON'T GET ALONG



Quietly take the children aside. Tell them you've noticed that they're not getting along. Let them know that although they don't have to be best friends, they do have to be together all week, so things will be a lot more fun if they can at least be kind to one another. (Use the daily Bible Points for these teachable moments!)

## IF I HAVE AN OVERLY ACTIVE CHILD

Pair this child with yourself during partner activities, and suggest that he or she sit with you during quiet times. Try to make sitting still a game by saying, "Let's see how long you can sit still without interrupting. I'm timing you. Ready? Go!"

If the child is really uncontrollable, ask your director if you could have an Assistant Ranch Crew Leader to help.

## IF MY CREW GETS TOO BIG

Avalanche Ranch is a blast, so it's likely that kids will want to bring friends. However, the activities at Avalanche Ranch are designed to work with a mixed-age crew of *no more* than five kids. If you have a small crew, you'll welcome a few additional friends into your crew family. But if your crew grows past five children, talk with your Avalanche Ranch Director as soon as possible. He or she will need to form a new crew so kids can have the best experience possible.