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***Sample Interview Questions***

Start the interview with information about AAUW and Tech Trek:

Tech Trek is a week-long science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) summer camp designed to develop interest, excitement, and self-confidence in young women who are entering the eighth grade. The camp is hosted by [lead entity] and is a program of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Since 1881, AAUW has been the nation’s leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Tech Trek began in 1998 and is being expanded across the U.S.

There are no correct answers to any question. All candidates are being evaluated to be a good fit for the Tech Trek camp.

**Suggested Questions:**

The following are suggested interview questions for the student.

1. Why do you think your teacher nominated you for a STEM camp?
2. Do you think you would like to have a job someday that has to do with science, technology, engineering or math? If so, what would that be?
3. When you are confronted with a new challenge at school do you tend to back away from it or do you jump right in?
4. Do you help other kids in your class or school with their homework?
5. How do you feel about staying on a college campus for a week? Have you ever been to a college campus? If so, what did you think about the campus?
6. Have you attended any other summer camps? If so, tell me about experiences at other camps you’ve attended. What did you like or not like?
7. Will you be attending any other camps this summer? (If student does not know, ask parent/guardian)
8. Have you ever been away from your family for a week or more? How do you feel about spending a week away from home with other kids you don’t know?
9. You will not be able to use your cell phone while at camp unless there is an emergency. Will this be a problem for you?

At this point interviewer should ask student if they have any questions about the camp.

**Suggested Questions for Parents/Guardians:**

1. What does it mean to you that [student’s name] was selected by her teacher for Tech Trek science, technology, engineering and math camp?
2. Do you talk about math, science or engineering careers related to these fields of study in the home?
3. How do you feel about [student’s name] going away to camp for a week? Can you commit that she will attend for the whole week?
4. Can you furnish transportation to and from camp? Who will pick her up and drop her off from [insert location]?  
   \*If parents cannot furnish transportation, inform camp director to identify potential carpool option with other campers.
5. Are you aware that there is a $50 fee for a student to attend Tech Trek? The other costs of the camp are raised by the national office of AAUW and [lead entity].  
   \*If parents are unable to pay the fee discuss with the camp director to determine whether you can waive their fee.
6. Does [camper name] have any medical conditions that would prevent her from participation in Tech Trek or special needs the camp should plan to accommodate if selected?

The parent/guardian interview answers are used in conjunction with the student interview answers to evaluate whether the student is a good fit for Tech Trek.

**Recommended Scoring Rubric:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Score** | **Excellent candidate = 1** | **Good candidate = 2** | **Poor candidate = 3** |
| **Student interview** | * Interested in STEM subjects * Interested in STEM career options * Is not concerned about being away from family * Excited to take on new challenges * Looking forward to being on a college campus * Not concerned spending a week with new people * Has/will not have the opportunity to go to a STEM camp outside of Tech Trek | * Somewhat interested in STEM, likes science and math even if they are not a favorite subject * Potential interest in a STEM field * Hesitant about being away from family but still willing to go * Sometimes takes on new challenges * Somewhat concerned about being with new people but still excited * Has attended STEM activities but not a STEM camp | * Not very interested in STEM subjects * Has not thought about a career in a STEM field * Nervous or anxious about being away from home * Does not like to try new things * Worried or apprehensive at the idea of being with many girls she doesn’t know and meeting new people * Has attended many other STEM camps and/or plans to do so during the course of the summer |
| **Parent/**  **guardian interview** | * Excited that student has been chosen to attend Tech Trek * Has talked about STEM at home and is supportive of student’s interest * Is not concerned about child being away from home * Able to provide transportation to camp | * Glad student has been chosen, but not overly interested * Somewhat concerned about child being away * Not sure about ability to provide transportation to camp | * Shows little interest in student being chosen to attend Tech Trek * Little support at home for trying new things * Hesitant to let child stay at camp for the week * Cannot provide transportation to camp |