

I am pleased to recommend Katie as a teacher in any capacity. I have known her for 20 years through our church and its' many children and youth programs. It has been a delight watching her grow up into a young woman who is self-confident and true to her ideals and values. I knew her first in my role as Children's Program Co-ordinator and day camp director. Katie participated in the day camp first as a camper, then as a Leader-in-Training, a Counsellor for a few years, and eventually took on my role as the director for one year. During this time she was an active participant in our middle and high school youth group activities. She also helped with Sunday School, hospitality, and was able to showcase her creative writing and theatrical skills with a Christmas play script, directing, and assisting with the children's' theatre group.

When Katie was a camp leader, she was punctual, appropriately dressed, and spoke with respect to the campers, their parents, and the rest of the leadership crew. She would easily take on the role of the team leader, but also be supportive as others took their turns leading.

Katie was an avid learner in the Leadership Training sessions. Each year there was a steady progression in her acquired skill set. Daily and weekly planning, as well as managing the other members on her team, was an essential part of the Counsellor job. This requires patience, time management, and the ability to encourage others to take on leadership roles. The other members of her team appreciated her interest in hearing their ideas and letting them be able to practise their skills.

The younger children felt very comfortable with Katie. Her patience and respect for them is what makes activities both fun and safe. Katie is able to design a rotation of activities that keep children engaged while learning. She knows there needs to be a balance of quiet activities, as well as physically active ones. And that not all children enjoy, or flourish, with every kind of activity, so you have to adapt to the child, but without disrupting everyone else.

Katie herself has an artistic and creative side. I think this is an excellent way to connect with children, as some respond more easily to expressing themselves with drawing, painting, or writing a story.

On a personal level, I have always found Katie to be optimistic, energetic, and very enjoyable, whether one-on-one, or as part of a team. She is very responsible, well spoken, and extremely dependable. She ensures tasks get done, even if it means doing more than her share. She is also very discreet. Working with church groups, many things are confidential in nature.

Sincerely,
Trudy Johnson