### Camp La Junta

### December 2019



# The Taller



WWW.LAJUNTA.COM - P.O. BOX 139 - HUNT, TX





https://vimeo.com/showcase/camplajunta2019 to see all the Summer 2019 Highlights!

#### SUMMER MEMORIES

My thoughts of this summer are filled with funny stories and touching moments. I wish I could share every one of them, but I won't subject you to all of my gushy memories. Instead, I'll force myself — against my will — to limit it to three. Drum roll, please...

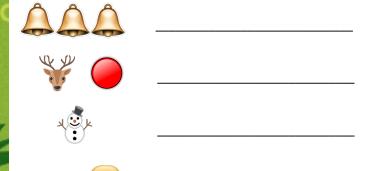
#### **Top 3 Flashbacks From This Summer:**

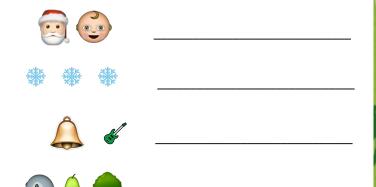
- **1. Staff Training.** Every summer, we get a new group of staff, and most summers, we go on and on about how great they are. This summer was no different. From the 1st day of staff training, their spark let us know that the summer was going to be special. They came in energetic and got camp going on a fun, wacky start.
- 2. Poker Nights. One of the things I love to do each day is walk through the cabins at night before lights out. Hanging with the kids in the cabins is always exciting, but this summer, poker nights became a popular event. (DISCLAIMER: We do play poker but just for fun. There is no real betting or exchanging of money allowed.) Normally, I'm not good at poker but compared to 9 13 year old campers, I'm awesome. There is something special about sitting around, playing card and just hanging out with great friends.
- **3. Color War.** The most colorful, fun-filled day of the summer! The whole camp in a field, over 50 pounds of color powder, more than 500 bottles of paint, 3 firetrucks spraying the kids and 40 minutes of awesome chaos. Paint was in every nook and cranny, but it was worth it.

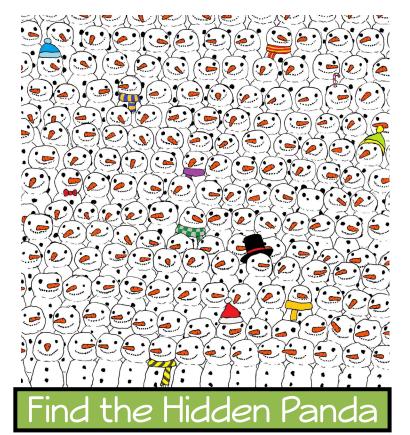
Creating a list of only three was difficult and reminded me how very blessed I am. I'm pinching myself that this is what I do for a living!

# CHRISTMAS EMOJI Song Guessing Game

Take a look at each of the emoji clues and try to guess the Christmas Song.







### Christmas Sudoku

COMPLETE THE PUZZLE USING THE CHRISTMAS OBJECTS. EACH COLUMN, ROW. AND 2X3 AREA SHOULD ONLY HAVE 1 OF EACH OBJECT.

ROW, AND 2X3 AREA SHOULD ONLY HAVE 1 OF EACH OBJECT.						
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TO EARN 50 OFF-SEASON POINTS, COMPLETE EACH CHALLENGE AND SEND A PICTURE TO CINDY@LAJUNTA.COM OR MAIL TO P.O. BOX 139, HUNT, TX 78024.



## Christmas Bob and the Mom Who Didn't Love Christmas.

Once upon a time, at least a generation ago, but not too far from here, there was a young dad named Bob. Bob, as you might guess, is a personal hero of mine. Someone's gonna assume that he's a personal hero of mine because of his beautiful yoga instructor wife and his two fine sons. Although true, it's not the reason. Some of you readers will prematurely assume that he was a personal hero of mine because, quite impressively, he learned to spell his name backwards, almost as quickly as he learned to spell it forwards. But that's not the reason either. The story, as it will unfold below, is the true and most valid reason.

Bob did indeed live happily in a relatively small town with his wife and two boys. Each year, however, Christmas made him a little sad. Not because he didn't love Christmas, but because his wife didn't love Christmas. Don't get me wrong - she loved the stories of Mary and Joseph and Baby Jesus. And of wise men, the star and frankincense. But, she was bummed every year because she thought Christmas had become too commercial. She thought that gift giving had become too competitive. Who got the most? Who got the best? Who gave the favorite gift?

Well one winter, after Thanksgiving, Bob had an inspiration that would change all of this unhappy into happy, while sitting at a soccer game with his wife, watching his oldest son, Robert play. Robert's team had all the best equipment. Cool uniforms and shiny new NIKE cleats. The team they were playing represented an inner city, private church school. They had mismatched jerseys, random colored shorts and shoes so ragged, it looked like the laces were the only things holding them together. Robert's team was running away with the score. Toward the end, Bob watched as the other team broke away toward the goal. His wife stood up, almost as if to cheer the wrong team, then sat down dejectedly as they kicked the ball out of bounds. "It sure would've made their day to score. They seem to have so much heart, but losing like this has got to really take the spirit out of them", she said. Poof. Insert Bob's idea here.

That next week Bob set out to Christmas shop for his wife. He headed straight to the sporting goods shop and bought a set of soccer uniforms and gift cards for 20 pairs of new cleats. He wrapped them each carefully, took a photo of the file of boxes and delivered them anonymously to the inner-city church for their team.

On Christmas Day he left nothing under the tree for his wife except a plain white envelope. Nothing inside but the aforementioned photo and a short note explaining how his gift to her was shoes, uniforms and happiness for a soccer team full of strangers' children. It was her best Christmas gift ever, a plain white envelope, and one that became a family tradition.

You see, that is why Bob is a personal hero of mine. Bob understands the true meaning of Christmas, Love and Neighbor. I wish I could be more like Bob. I hope this Christmas you are inspired to be more like Bob.

#### Life is Good. Camp is Better. Merry Christmas.

(This story was borrowed and paraphrased from The White Envelope Project.)

#### Late head The 12 Tokes of Christmas 1. What is the meteorologists favorite part of the holiday season? "Rain-deer" What is a snowman's favorite dessert? "Ice Crispies" 🕽 3. What do zombies eat with their Christmas dinner? "Grave-y" 4. Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas? "Santa Jaws" 5. Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing? "They always drop their needles" 6. What type of cars do elves drive? "Toy-otas" 7. What did the Sea say to Santa? "Nothing! It just 8. Who is Santa's favorite singer? "Elf-is Presley" 9. What do elves post on Social Media? "Elf-ies" 10. Why wouldn't the cat climb the Christmas tree? "It was afraid of the bark" 11. Why didn't the rope get any presents? "It was

knotty"

12. Why was the Christmas flag so cold? "Because it was on the North Pole"

Life is Good, Camp is Better... Especially when you share it with a friend!

La Many

Refer a friend to CLT and Farn 25 points.
refer 3 and earn 100!

To earn points, share the names and contact info of friends you think would like to hear about camp. Fill out the form below and snap a pic and send it to cindy@lajunta.com

)	Name	Parent Email	Address	
)	1			
	2			
)	3			

# Mark your calendars, Camp La Junta is bringing the fun to a town near you!

Austin- January 22nd
Dallas- January 30th
Fort Worth- January 29th
Houston- February 10th
Lubbock- TBA
San Antonio- February 23rd
Shreveport- February 9th

\* Stay tuned for location and times

