Packing for Pemi - Through the Years

We highly recommend your camper participates in the packing process. While this may be less efficient, partnering with your camper during this task allows campers to begin practicing organization, responsibility, and ownership with not just their personal belongings, but with their overall camp experience. Preparing and packing their belongings allows a camper to understand what items they are physically bringing into camp, which also allows them to track and manage their items more successfully over time (or understand if items go missing!) Even the youngest campers can be a part of this process. Below are some ideas for engaging your camper in the packing process!

Juniors (Ages 8-10):

- Lay out piles of socks, shorts, pants, and shirts, and have them pick the quantity for each item on the list.
- When gathering hygiene items, discuss hygiene routines at camp
- Provide narration around certain items, "this is your extra set of bedding, you will change your sheets each week at Pemi"
- Have them decide on a comfort item, like a small stuffed animal, photo, or book.
- Make it fun - see if they can find the items that are missing their name labels!

Lowers (Ages 10-12) & Uppers (Ages 13-14):

- Print the packing list. Decide on a time for packing and show your camper where they can gather and lay out their items. Explain the benefit to laying out and checking off items, before packing belongings in luggage or duffels.
- Allow your camper to gather items. Lend support with any belongings they cannot find.
- Have a conversation around clothing, and options in their luggage for different types of weather and temperatures.
- Have your camper double check their belongings are labeled with their name.
- Have your camper pack their belongings in their duffel and check off each item on the packing list.

Seniors (Ages 14-15):

- Print the packing list to provide to your camper. Let them know you are there if they need help, but packing for camp will be their responsibility. See if your camper can choose a time and self-start the packing process.
- Have your camper gather the items on the list independently, create neat piles, and document which items are still needed on the packing list.
- Have your camper label their items with their name.
- Double check your camper's items. Partner with you camper on any concerns or suggestions you might have caught in your final check.