

2021 Summer Camp Guide



We are excited to embark on our 2021 summer camp season. While it may look different due to COVID-19, we will continue to follow the guidelines provided by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Center for Disease Control, and the American Camp Association like we did last summer to give your camper the safest camp experience possible.

Included are descriptions of camp offerings and which ages they serve. We strive to make each camp a fun and enjoyable experience while being age appropriate. See you this summer!

Registration begins February 1st at 9 AM

Register at outdoordiscovery.org

Questions?

call 616-393-9453 or email odc@outdoordiscovery.org



Refund and Cancellation Policy

100% refund 30 days before the camp start date

50% refund 29-14 days before the camp start date

0% refund 13 days or fewer before the camp start date

Have you checked your membership status?

Don't forget to log in before registration day to check if your membership is still active, or to renew your membership. This will make registration day easier for you!

Questions?
call 616-393-9453



Camp locations are listed in the description. Camp will be held at

DeGraaf Nature Center (DeGraaf),

Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC),

or **Park Township**

unless otherwise stated

What should I bring to camp each day?

- Water bottle
- Snack
- Closed toed shoes or sandals that can get dirty or wet
- A lunch if required

Wild About Critters

Ages: 4-6 yrs old

Session 1: June 22-24

Location: DeGraaf

Time: 9:15 - 11:45am

Session 2: August 10-12

Location: ODC

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

This camp is for your little ones who are wild about animals! From turtles and frogs, to birds and fish, we will go on daily explorations with tools in hand to help us uncover what animals live here.



Yuckology

Ages: 4-6 yrs old

Session 1: July 6-8

Location: DeGraaf

Time: 9:15 - 11:45am

Session 2: July 20-22

Location: ODC

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

Campers will explore some of the strange, gruesome, 'yucky' things animals do to survive. Throughout the week your little one will sift through the mud, dissect an owl pellet, and play a variety of games that teach them about why animals do the icky things they do.



Little Explorers

Ages: 4-6 yrs old

Session: July 27-29

Location: DeGraaf

Time: 9:15-11:45am

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

Does your little one like to play in mud? Would they like to be an explorer for the day? In this camp, we will do all that and more! We will spend our time outside listening to stories, creating crafts, hiking, and exploring different habitats.



Wild About Water

Ages: 4-6 yrs old

Session: August 3-5

Location: DeGraaf

Time: 9:15-11:45am

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

Water, water, everywhere! This camp will take campers on a journey exploring all that water has to offer. We will look at animals that call water home, talk about what makes water so special, and probably get wet each day! This camp will be ideal for kiddos that never want to leave the water.

Wetlands and Wildlife

Ages: 7-10 yrs old

Session: June 22-24

Location: ODC

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

Campers will get to catch aquatic animals, identify them, and learn about their lives. We will discover animals both caught in the wild and from the Center's captive animal collection including insects, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, and birds.



Animals Caretakers

Ages: 7-10 yrs old

Session: July 6-8

Location: ODC

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

This camp is for kids who love animals and want to learn what it means to take care of those that call the Outdoor Discovery Center or DeGraaf Nature Center home. Campers will have the opportunity to help care for some of the animals at the ODC/DeGraaf by learning about the different animal's habitat, food, enclosure, and enrichment needs.

Nature Detectives

Ages: 7-10 yrs old

Session 1: July 13-15

Session 2: August 10-12

Location: ODC

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

Does your camper think they have what it takes to uncover clues and get to the bottom of daily nature mysteries? In this camp we will study the evidence and gain a deeper understanding of nature in order to solve mysteries. Campers will get their hands dirty, bodies moving, and be curious about how the natural world works.



Water Wonders

Ages: 7-10 yrs old

Session: August 3-5

Location: ODC

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

Water, water, everywhere! This camp will take campers on a journey exploring all that water has to offer. We will look at animals that call water home, talk about what makes water so special, and probably get wet each day! This camp will be ideal for kiddos that never want to leave the water.

Crafting With Nature

Ages: 7-12 yrs old

Session: June 29-July 1

Location: ODC

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members,
25% off for Members



Creativity will flow through this camp as campers will learn how they can use nature around them to make beautiful art, even through unconventional means. We will be creating art using natural materials and through the inspiration of plants, animals, and the world around us.

All materials will be provided.

Lights, Camera, Animals!

Ages: 8-12 yrs old

Session: July 27-29

Location: ODC

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off
for Members



Star in your own Nature TV episode! Campers will channel famous TV personalities such as the Wild Kratts and Jeff Corwin as they work on episodes of "Lights, Camera, Animals". Campers will put their wild knowledge to use in an entertaining and educational video. You will be sent a copy of the final cut to share with family and friends.

All materials will be provided.

Kayak Camp

Ages: 9-14 yrs old

Session 1: June 29-July 1

Session 2: July 13-15

Location: ODC, other sites TBD

Time: 9-12pm

Fee: \$80 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

This three-day Kayak Camp is designed for your beginner paddler. Campers will learn to paddle their craft solo and develop skills that emphasize independence and self-reliance. Campers learn skills through a mix of instruction, demonstrations, games, and trips. The instructors demonstrate and discuss paddle strokes and techniques, rescue skills, and boating safety. The opportunity to explore local waterways from ponds to rivers makes this an exciting adventure your child will not want to miss.

All materials provided though paddlers can bring their own paddle or vest.



Outdoor Adventures

Ages: 10-16 yrs old

Session: June 22-24

Location: ODC

Time: 9:30-12pm

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members



Have you heard of our Kayak, Archery, and Outdoor Skills camps? This camp is a way for you to try them all! Each day we will experience some highlight activities from each of these separate camps for your camper to try out. This is a great camp for the kid who wants to do it all!

All materials will be provided for the camp.

Sorry, no bows from home may be used until inspected by our range officer.

Introduction to Archery

Ages: 10-16 yrs old

Session 1: July 6-8

Session 2: July 20-22

Location: ODC

Time: 9:30-12pm

Fee: \$80 Non-Members, 25% off for Members



In this three-day camp, campers will be coached by certified archery instructors to establish or reinforce good techniques and form. Even if your child has never shot before, this camp will help them learn the lifelong sport of archery. They will experience using a variety of tools from ancient atlatls to modern compound bows at the ODC's archery range.

All materials will be provided for the camp.

Sorry, no bows from home may be used until inspected by our range officer.

Intermediate Kayaking

Ages: 10-16 yrs old

Session: July 27-29

Location: Sites TBD

Time: 10-2pm

Fee: \$110 Non-Members, 25% off for Members



Campers who have already been through an ODC Network kayaking camp or who have experience paddling will enjoy this next level of kayaking! This camp will have the group visiting three different area kayaking sites including the Macatawa and surrounding watersheds. Campers will solo paddle their boat all three days for 3-4 hours each day. This camp will meet at various launch sites. Details will be shared before the first day of camp.

All materials provided though paddlers can bring their own paddle or vest.

Intermediate Archery

Ages: 10-16 yrs old

Session: August 3-5

Location: ODC

Time: 9:30-12pm

Fee: \$80 Non-Members, 25% off for Members



This camp is for participants who have attended a previous ODC Network archery camp or have been through lessons with one of our staff. The camp is designed to build on the skills learned in the Introduction to Archery Camp and improve the archer's shooting proficiency at greater distances and improve distance judgement.

All materials will be provided for the camp.

Sorry, no bows from home may be used until inspected by our range officer.

Park Township Camps

We are excited to be offering camps this year in partnership with Park Township! Camps will be held near the Park Township offices and will make use of one of the former airport hangars and Cooper–Van Wieren Township Park. Anyone can register. A discount is available to Park Township residents. Contact us for details at 616-393-9453.

Games and Adventures

Ages: 8-12 yrs old

Session: June 29-July 1

Location: Park Township

Time: 9:15-11:45

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

Have you ever played camouflage in a meadow or capture the flag in a forest? Or crossed the chocolate river on giant marshmallows? These games and more will be played during this great camp experience. Occasionally, we will take breaks from these fun large group games to explore nature and see what adventures we can get into. You never know what the day will bring!



Young Adventurers

Ages: 4-6 yrs old

Session: July 13-15

Location: Park Township

Time: 9:30-11:30

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

This is the perfect camp for those campers who love adventure! We will be exploring all that the Park Township has to offer. We will be on the lookout for animals, play games, and discover different habitats and places to have fun.



ODC Olympics

Ages: 7-10 yrs old

Session: July 20-22

Location: Park Township

Time: 9:15-11:45

Fee: \$60 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

White-tailed deer high jump, leopard frog long jump, and an animal themed obstacle course are just some of the activities planned for the ODC Olympics! This camp is great for your active camper or your camper who wants to know which animals hold the record for the longest jump, fastest speed, or other feats. Campers will get to learn about some of these record-holding animals and test their skills to see how they measure up.



Outdoor Skills

Ages: 10-16 yrs old

Session: August 10-12

Location: Park Township

Time: 9:15-11:45

Fee: \$80 Non-Members, 25% off for Members

Hone your outdoor skills at Park Township! While on daytime hikes, campers will learn to read a map, navigate, practice wilderness survival skills, build a fire and more! This camp is geared toward those who aren't afraid of a little adventure.



All materials will be included for this camp.

- This includes a take-home survival kit.

No pocket knives, weapons or matches may be brought by participants.

June 2021		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
22 Wild about Critters Session 1 Wetlands and Wildlife Outdoor Adventures	23	24
29 Games and Adventures Crafting with Nature Kayak Camp Session 1	30	July 1

July 2021		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
6 Yuckology Session 1 Animal Caretakers Introduction to Archery Session 1	7	8

- 4-6 Year Old Camps
- 7-10 Year Old Camps
- 7-12 Year Old Camps
- 8-12 Year Old Camps
- 9-14 Year Old Camps
- 10-16 Year Old Camps

July 2021		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
13 Young Adventurers Nature Detectives Kayak Camp Session 2	14	15
20 Yuckology Session 2 ODC Olympics Introduction to Archery Session 2	21	22
27 Little Explorers Lights, Camera, Animals! Intermediate Kayaking	28	29

August 2021		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
3 Wild About Water Water Wonders Intermediate Archery	4	5
10 Wild About Critters Session 2 Nature Detectives Session 2 Outdoor Skills	11	12

Check our website this summer
for additional afternoon activities!