ODC Summer Camp Guide

JOIN US FOR SOME FUN THIS SUMMER!

Registration

Registration begins February 1st at 9 AM
Register at outdoordiscovery.org

Questions? Call (616) 393-9453 or email camps@outdoordiscovery.org

Camp Locations

Camp locations and times are listed in the description. Camps will be held at:

- Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC)
- Park Township
- Various Locations

Featured Camps

We have 3 new camps making their debut this year along with our roster of classic ODC camps! Look for this star ★ to indicate a new camp for the 2023 season.

CONTACT US

camps@outdoordiscovery.org
(616) 393-9453

SUMMER CAMPS 2023

A Note From ODC Camp Staff

We are excited to embark on our 2023 summer camp season! Included in this guide are camp descriptions, age ranges, and locations for you to start planning out your summer. We have 3 expectations for campers who attend ODC camps: Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Adventurous. Our camp leaders help all campers to achieve these expectations, and we all strive to make each camp a fun and enjoyable experience. Once registered, you will receive an email with specific details one week prior to the start of your camp. Questions you have before then can be directed to camps@outdoordiscovery.org. We can't wait to see you this summer!

CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Frequently Asked Questions

What if registration is full?
Once all camp slots are filled, a waitlist is automatically generated by our registration system. Be sure to complete your registration to ensure your child is added to the waitlist.

What is your 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 less before the camp start date

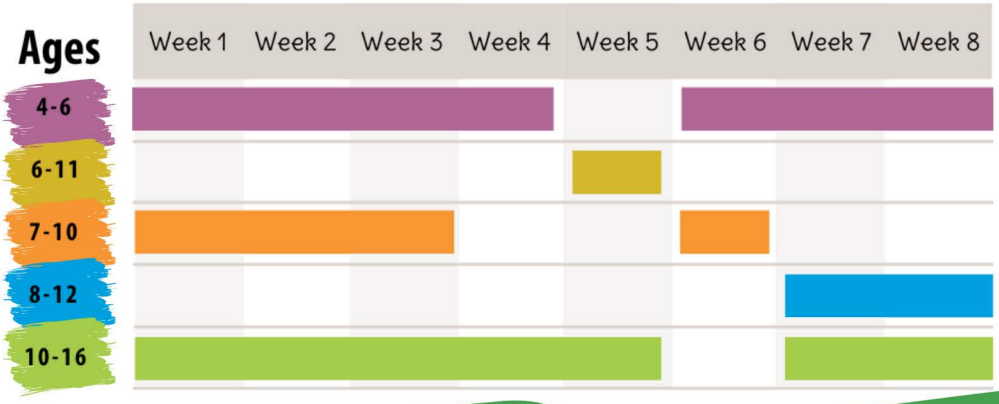
Do members receive a discount?
Members receive a 20% discount on all camps. You can become a member any time. If you are a member, be sure to log on BEFORE February 1st to make sure your membership information is up to date. This will help the registration process go smoothly.

What should I bring to camp each day?

- Reusable Water Bottle
- Snack
- Close-toed shoes that can get dirty and wet

Look for an email from your camp leader a week before the start of camp with any additional information you might need.

Camps At A Glance



CONTACT US

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WEEK 1: JUNE 20-22

Young Adventurers
(session 1)

Fee: $80 non-members
$64 members, Park Township residents

This is the perfect camp for those campers who love adventure! We will be exploring all that Park Township has to offer. We will look for animals, play games, and explore different habitats to see what kind of adventures we can have.

Park Township 9:15am - 12:15pm

AGES 4-6

Wetlands and Wildlife
(Bilingual)

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 members

Back by popular demand!

This camp is for kids who want to learn more about animals and explore where they live. Campers will get to catch animals, identify them, and learn about their lives. We will again be offering this camp as a bilingual English/Spanish camp with the help of Vanessa Gutierrez, ODC Network's Community Outreach and Inclusion Manager.

ODC 9am - 12pm

Los humedales y la vida silvestre
(campamento bilingüe)

Costo: $80 sin la membresía, $64 para miembros

¡Regreso por demanda popular!

Este campamento es para niños que quieren aprender más sobre los animales y explorar dónde viven. Los campistas podrán atrapar animales, identificarlos y aprender sobre sus vidas. Ofreceremos este campamento como un campamento bilingüe inglés/español con la ayuda de Vanessa Gutiérrez, manager de inclusión y alcance comunitario de ODC Network.

ODC 9am - 12pm

AGES 7-10

Introduction to Archery
(session 1)

Fee: $100 non-members, $80 members

In this three day camp, campers will be coached by a certified archery instructor to establish or reinforce good technique and form. Even if they have never shot before, this camp will help them learn the lifelong sport of archery. All materials will be provided for the camp.

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

ODC 9:30am - 12pm

AGES 10-16

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WEEK 2: JUNE 27-29

Little Explorers
(session 1)

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 members

Does your little one like to play in mud? Would they like to be an explorer? 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.

AGES 4-6

ODC 9am - 12pm

Nature Detectives

Fee: $80 non-members
$64 members, Park Township residents

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. It will get their hands dirty, bodies moving, and inspire curiosity about how the natural world works.

AGES 7-10

Park Township 9:15am - 12:15pm

Introduction to Kayaking

Fee: $100 non-members, $80 members

This three day Kayak Camp is designed for the young beginner paddler. The camp begins with an introduction to kayaking on a pond. 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 camp your child will not want to miss. All materials will be provided.

AGES 10-16

Various Locations 9am - 12pm

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WEEK 3: JULY 11-13

Flying Friends

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 members

This camp is for your little ones who are wild about animals that fly! Whether it's birds, bats, or insects, there are a lot of creatures that can fly! We will go on daily explorations with tools in hand to help us uncover what flying animals live here and discover just how amazing they are.

AGES 4-6

ODC 9am - 12pm

Peek Into The Past

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 members

Take a peek into Michigan's past! In this camp, we will explore a recreated Woodland Period Indigenous Peoples summer village, try our hand at axe throwing and fire making with flint and steel like a 1700's French Voyageur, and travel back to the 1800's to explore a log cabin and discover how to work and play like a Pioneer child. This hands-on camp will include lots of activities and games to keep campers engaged and active.

AGES 7-10

Various locations 9:15am - 12:15pm

Introduction to Archery
(session 2)

Fee: $100 non-members, $80 members

In this three day camp, campers will be coached by a certified archery instructor to establish or reinforce good technique and form. Even if they have never shot before, this camp will help them learn the lifelong sport of archery. All materials will be provided for the camp.

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

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ODC 9:30am - 12pm

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WEEK 4: JULY 18-20

Wild About Critters

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 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.

AGES 4-6

ODC 9am - 12pm

Introduction to Outdoor Skills

Fee: $100 non-members, $80 members

Hone your outdoor skills! 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, including the take-home survival kit.

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

ODC 9:15am - 12:15pm

AGES 10-16

Camp Financial Assistance

APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Our ODC Network community recognizes that while camps should be fun opportunities for all kids to enjoy, financial barriers could limit participation. Our donors have made it possible to offer financial assistance to help families register for camps.

If financial assistance could help your child(ren) to attend an ODC Summer Camp, please apply online to receive up to an 80% discount on the cost of a camp.

Apply at outdoordiscovery.org/programs/camps

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WEEK 5: JULY 25-27

Intermediate Archery

Fee: $100 non-members, $80 members

This camp is for participants who have attended a previous ODC Network archery camp or 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 judgment. All materials will be provided for the camp.

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ODC 9:30am - 12pm

AGES 10-16

Creative State

In Partnership With The Saugatuck Center for the Arts

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Dates: July 25 - 28 Price: $340 ODC

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Get into a creative state while celebrating our beautiful Michigan at the Outdoor Discovery Center in Holland! In this very special 4-day program, the SCA has partnered with the ODC to offer four full days of nature and art. Explore nature and see some native Michigan wildlife up-close with an ODC Naturalist in the morning from 9:00-12:00, and join the SCA in the afternoon from 12:00-4:00 with art-making centered around our Michigan landscape.

Students must bring a morning snack, lunch, and a water bottle. A healthy afternoon snack will be provided by the SCA.
Drop-off will be at the ODC at 9:00 am, and pick-up at the ODC at 4:00 pm.
On Friday only, Pick-up will be at the SCA at 4:00 pm for a closing exhibition of student art.

AGES 6-11

SAUGATUCK CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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WEEK 6: AUGUST 1-3

Yuckology

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 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.

ODC 9am - 12pm

AGES 4-6

Animal Caretakers

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 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 home. Campers will have the opportunity to help care for some of the animal ambassadors by learning about their different habitat, food, enclosure, and enrichment needs.

ODC 9am - 12pm

AGES 7-10

Want to help out a camper in need?

DONATE TODAY!

Donate to our Camp Financial Assistance Program!

We are thankful to our ODC Network donor community that allow us to help minimize financial barriers to our summer camp program.

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WEEK 7: AUGUST 8-10

Little Explorers
(session 2)

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 members

Does your little one like to play in mud? Would they like to be an explorer? 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.

AGES 4-6

ODC 9am - 12pm

Games and Adventures

Fee: $80 non-members
$64 members, Park Township residents

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!

AGES 8-12

Park Township 9:15am - 12:15pm

Intermediate Kayaking

Fee: $130 non-members, $104 members

Campers who have already been through an ODC Network kayaking camp or 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 4 hours each day, breaking for lunch midday. This camp will meet at the launch sites. All boating materials will be provided, though paddlers are welcome to bring their own paddle or life vest.

AGES 10-16

Various Locations 10am - 2pm

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WEEK 8: AUGUST 15-17

Young Adventurers
(session 2)

Fee: $80 non-members
$64 members, Park Township residents

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Park Township 9:15am - 12:15pm

AGES 4-6

Lights, Camera, Animals!

Fee: $80 non-members, $64 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.

ODC 9am - 12pm

AGES 8-12

Intermediate Outdoor Skills

Fee: $130 non-members, $104 members

Have you taken the ODC Outdoor Skills Camp and want to take your skills to the next level? If you want to build a better shelter, make fire without matches, safely drink "wild" water, and not get lost on your next excursion, then this is the summer camp for you. You will build on the skills that you learned in our introductory camp and gain a better foundation in outdoor skills and wilderness survival. All materials will be provided for this camp unless otherwise requested.

ODC 10am - 2pm

AGES 10-16

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