



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 -
Dragonflies Discovery Preschool
- 📍 Various Locations



Featured Camps

Look for this star ★ to indicate a new or
featured camp for the 2024 season.



CONTACT US



camps@outdoordiscovery.org
(616) 393-9453

SUMMER CAMPS 2024

A Note From ODC Camp Staff

We are excited to embark on our 2024 summer camp season! Included in this guide are camp descriptions, age ranges, and locations for you to start planning your summer. We have three 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. Any questions you have before then can be directed to camps@outdoordiscovery.org. We can't wait to see you this summer!



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?

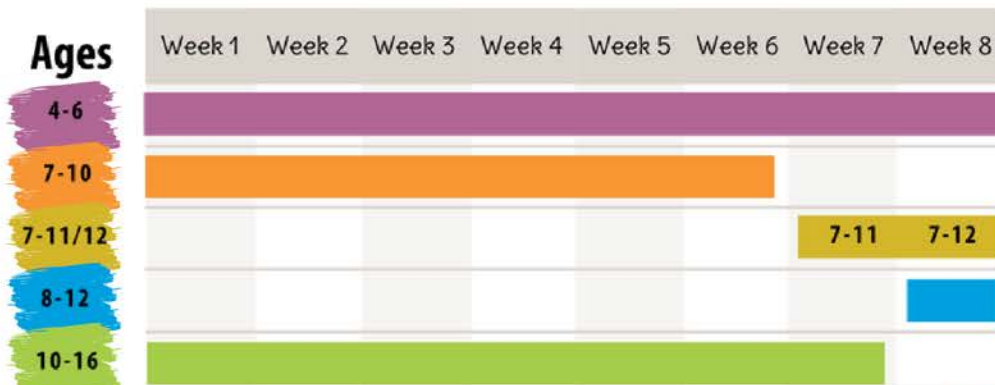
Members receive a 20% discount on all camps. You can become a member any time. If you are a member, be sure to log on BEFORE February 1st to make sure your membership information is up to date. This will help the registration process go smoothly.

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



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NEW THIS YEAR:

Jr. Scientists Camps

Dates: June 18-20 Insects Price: \$90 per session
July 9-11 Birds
July 23-25 Water

New this year! Join us to become a Junior Scientist this summer! Special ODC guest experts will help us take a more in-depth look at their favorite topics, and help us try out some experiments and community science projects. This summer we will be exploring water, insects, and birds.

**AGES
7-10**

 **Park Township @ Dragonflies Discovery Preschool (Insects)**

 **ODC (Water, Birds)**



Kids' Kayaking Series

Time: 9 am -12 pm Price: \$30 per session Dates: Monday July 8
Monday July 15
Monday July 22
Monday July 29

 **Various locations**

Join us for our new weekly kayaking series for kids ages 10-16!

Gather Mondays from 9a-12p, and travel along some of our favorite rivers with new friends and an ODC naturalist! This group is intended for kids who have already been through an ODC Network kayaking camp, or otherwise have experience paddling. Sign up for all four Mondays or pick individual days to suit your schedule! All boating materials will be provided, though paddlers are welcome to bring their own paddle or life vest.

Students should bring a snack and a water bottle.

Drop-off and pick-up may be at different locations. Detailed instructions will be sent out closer to the program date.

**AGES
10-16**



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WEEK 1: JUNE 18-20

Wild About Critters (session 1)

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

This camp is for your little ones with a love for animals! From turtles and frogs to birds and fish, we will uncover what animals are around us, and maybe catch some in our nets! Campers will meet ODC's captive wildlife up close, and get to know what makes them so special.

 ODC 9am - 12pm

AGES
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Jr Scientists: Insects

Fee: \$90 non-members
\$72 members, Park Township residents

Can bugs tell you if water is safe to drink? How do insects help grow your food? And which net works best to catch these crawlers? Explore the tiny world of insects, and learn about their giant impact on our lives as we identify and compare bugs across habitats.

 Park Township @ Dragonflies
Discovery Preschool 9:15am - 12:15pm

AGES
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Outdoor Adventures

Fee: \$110 non-members, \$88 members

Want to try it all? Practice kayaking and archery, and test your survival knowledge as we try out new skills each day. Perfect for campers who are new to nature recreation, or young outdoor experts! All materials will be provided.

 Various Locations 9am - 12pm

AGES
10-16



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WEEK 2: JUNE 25-27

Little Explorers (session 1)

Fee: \$90 non-members

\$72 members, Park Township residents

Every day is an adventure at this classic camp for youngsters! Campers will explore our trails on special hikes, get creative with craft time, and play games with new friends. Whether we're stomping in mud puddles or resting for storytime, campers will share wonderful outdoor memories.

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 **Park Township @ Dragonflies
Discovery Preschool 9am - 12pm**



Wetlands and Wildlife (Bilingual)

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Special animals live in the wetlands around the Outdoor Discovery Center. Let's go meet them! Campers will catch frogs and toads near the pond, and meet the captive reptiles, mammals, and more who help us to teach about their wild counterparts. We will be offering this camp as a bilingual English/Spanish camp with the help of our bilingual staff members!

 **ODC 9am - 12pm**

Los humedales y la vida silvestre (campamento bilingüe)

Costo: \$90 sin la membresía, \$72 para miembros

Vamos a conocer a los animales especiales que viven en los humedales del Outdoor Discovery Center. Los campistas podrán atrapar ranas y sapos cerca del estanque, conocer reptiles y mamíferos cautivos que nos ayudan a enseñar sobre los animales silvestres. Vamos a ofrecer este campamento bilingüe en inglés y español con la ayuda de nuestro equipo bilingüe.

 **ODC 9am - 12pm**

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Introduction to Kayaking

Fee: \$110 non-members, \$88 members

This camp is designed for the young paddler! Campers try out solo kayaks, learning paddle strokes and techniques, rescue skills, and boating safety. Our mix of instruction, demonstrations, and games help young kayakers learn independence and self-reliance. Exploring local waterways makes this a camp that your child will not want to miss! All materials will be provided.

 **Various Locations 9am - 12pm**



**AGES
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OPPORTUNITIES:

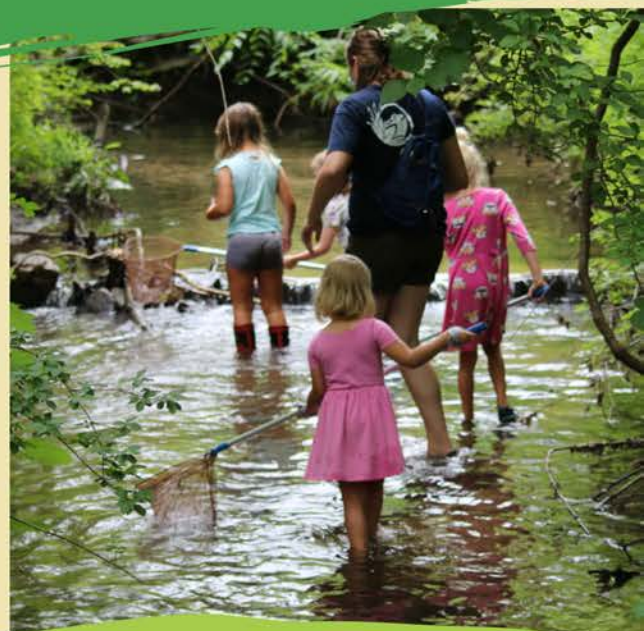


Volunteer as a Youth Leader!

Training date: June 10

 ODC 9am - 12pm

Have you been a long-time participant in ODC camps? Would you like experience volunteering outdoors? We are accepting applicants for Youth Leaders to assist with our camps. Youth Leaders will help to engage younger children in games and activities, provide additional supervision, and work to create a positive camp environment for all campers. Visit our website for more information.



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



Help out a camper in need!

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 3: JULY 9-11



Dinosaur Adventures

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Calling all dinosaur enthusiasts! From herbivores to carnivores, we will be learning about these cool creatures! Camp gets prehistoric as we check out fossils and play paleontologist for a day searching for dino signs.

ODC 9am - 12pm

AGES
4-6



Jr. Scientists: Birds

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Binoculars up! Campers become junior ornithologists as we study the lives of birds both wild and captive at ODC. We'll go behind the scenes at our Birds of Prey Center, learn from our bird care experts, and try out the techniques and tools used to keep birds safe in the wild and at home.

ODC 9am - 12pm



AGES
7-10

Introduction to Archery (session 1)

Fee: \$110 non-members, \$88 members

Practice your aim at Outdoor Discovery Center's Kuipers Archery Education Facility! Campers will be coached by a certified archery instructor to establish and reinforce good technique and form. Test out a variety of tools at our range, from English longbows to modern compound bows. All materials will be provided for the camp.

**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 4: JULY 16-18



Flying Friends

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Does your child love owls or eagles? Let their imagination soar as they explore life in the skies, and visit the feathered friends at our Birds of Prey Center. We'll also discover what's special about bats and bugs, and try out pretend wings of our own as we "fly" down our trails!

 ODC 9am - 12pm

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Peek into the Past

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Take a peek into Michigan's past! Using our newly updated Cultural History Center as our home base, we will learn about Woodland Period Odawa life, tools, and traditions, 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 work and play inside an early Dutch American-style log cabin.

 Various locations 9:15am - 12:15pm

AGES
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Introduction to Outdoor Skills

Fee: \$110 non-members, \$88 members

Hone your outdoor skills at ODC! 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.

 Various Locations 9am - 12pm

AGES
10-16



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WEEK 5: JULY 23-25



Nature Artists

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Leaves, flowers, and mud are our art supplies! Creative campers will discover nature through an artist's lens, and find how the creatures around us can serve as inspiration. Campers will return home with their own gallery of projects made from both standard and natural materials.

AGES
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ODC 9am - 12pm



Jr Scientists: Water

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Lakes, rivers, and wetlands need our help! Join up with the ODC Land & Water team to get hands-on with science. Campers will survey pond health through fishing, use real scientific equipment, and protect our waterways from alien invaders!

ODC 9am - 12pm

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7-10

Introduction to Archery (session 2)

Fee: \$110 non-members, \$88 members

Practice your aim at Outdoor Discovery Center's Kuipers Archery Education Facility! Campers will be coached by a certified archery instructor to establish and reinforce good technique and form. Test out a variety of tools at our range, from English longbows to modern compound bows. All materials will be provided for the camp.

****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 6: JULY 30 - AUGUST 1



ODC Jr. Olympics

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Are you as fast as a falcon? Can you jump as well as a frog? Campers will learn about record-winning critters, and move like our animal competitors in fun-focused camp games. They'll even bring home a gold medal!

AGES
4-6

ODC 9am - 12pm



ODC Olympics

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

The gold medal goes to the animal with the longest jump, fastest speed, and most impressive strength! Campers will test their skills against some record-holding animals, and compete in our own Camp Games. Be ready to work together as one Olympic team in special challenges!

ODC 9am - 12pm

AGES
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Intermediate Outdoor Skills

Fee: \$140 non-members, \$112 members

Have you taken the ODC Introduction to Outdoor Skills Camp and want to take your skills to the next level? Prepare to build a better shelter, make fire without matches, safely drink "wild" water, and use more advanced navigation techniques. Campers will build on introductory skills, and gain a better foundation in wilderness survival. All materials will be provided for this camp unless otherwise requested. No pocket knives, weapons, or matches may be brought by participants. Please pack a lunch each day.

Various Locations 10am - 2pm



AGES
10-16

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WEEK 7: AUGUST 6-8

Little Explorers (session 2)

Fee: \$90 non-members

\$72 members, Park Township residents

Every day is an adventure at this classic camp for youngsters! Campers will explore our trails on special hikes, get creative with craft time, and play games with new friends. Whether we're stomping in mud puddles or resting for storytime, campers will share wonderful outdoor memories.

**AGES
4-6**

 **Park Township @ Dragonflies
Discovery Preschool 9am - 12pm**



Wildly Creative

In Partnership With The Saugatuck Center for the Arts

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Dates: August 6-9 Price: \$410



For a second year, Saugatuck Center for the Arts and the Outdoor Discovery Center team up to offer four fabulous full days of art-making and the great outdoors in this very special program. Explore and play outside and meet wildlife up-close with Naturalists from the ODC in the morning from 9:00 am -12:00 pm. Then, join the SCA from 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm for playful art-making inspired by the wild!

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
7-11**

Intermediate Archery

Fee: \$110 non-members, \$88 members

Up your archery skills with this intermediate camp! Designed for those who have attended a previous ODC Network archery camp or been through lessons with one of our staff, this camp will build off of beginner skills. Campers will practice their archery proficiency, focusing on improving their shooting with greater aim and distance judgment techniques. All materials will be provided for the camp.

**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 8: AUGUST 13-15

Wild About Critters (session 2)

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

This camp is for your little ones with a love for animals! From turtles and frogs, to birds and fish, we will uncover what animals are around us, and maybe catch some in our nets! Campers will meet ODC's captive wildlife up close, and get to know what makes them so special.

AGES
4-6

 **ODC** 9am - 12pm



Lights, Camera, Animals!

Fee: \$90 non-members, \$72 members

Star in your own Nature TV show! Campers will channel famous TV personalities such as the Wild Kratts and Jeff Corwin as they create an episode of "Lights, Camera, Animals!". This camper-led project will have kids learning, directing, and acting as they make their entertaining and educational video. Campers will be sent a copy of the final cut to share with family and friends. All materials will be provided.

 **ODC** 9am - 12pm

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7-12

Games and Adventures

Fee: \$90 non-members
\$72 members, Park Township residents

Ready, set, adventure! Get all of your classic camp fun as we play our favorite camp games, explore further on our trails, and get to know new friends. Try out Capture the Flag or Camouflage, or puzzle your way through riddles. Every day brings something new!

 **Park Township @ Dragonflies**
Discovery Preschool 9:15am - 12:15pm

AGES
8-12



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