



2025 ODC Summer Camp Guide

JOIN US FOR SOME FUN
THIS SUMMER!



Registration

Registration begins February 3rd 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
- 📍 Rabbit River Preserve
- 📍 Dragonflies Discovery Preschool
- 📍 Various Locations



Featured Camps

Look for this star ★ to indicate a new or featured camp for the 2025 season.



CONTACT US



camps@outdoordiscovery.org
(616) 393-9453

SUMMER CAMPS 2025

A Note From ODC Camp Staff

We are excited to embark on our 2025 summer camp season! Included in this guide are camp descriptions, age ranges, and locations for you to start planning your summer. 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!



Camps At A Glance

Ages	June 17 - 19	June 24 - 26	July 8 - 10	July 15 - 17	July 22 - 24	July 29 - 31	August 5 - 7	August 12 - 14
4-5	x2						x2	
6-7								
8-11						(7-11)		(8-12)
10-16								



Important Camp Information

Registration Changes

Our new registration system requires us to do waitlists differently than in previous years.

A completed registration does not guarantee a place in camp, but does guarantee a place on our waitlist. We will reach out to those that made the roster as soon as we are able. There will be a 14 day window to finalize registration after which time we will move to the next camper.

We will communicate as quickly and efficiently as possible. Any questions or concerns can be directed to camps@outdoordiscovery.org.

Member Discount

Members receive a 20% discount on all camps. Your membership must be active at the time of registration. Please confirm your membership is up to date prior to registration day.

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

Camp Details

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

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OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer as a Youth Leader!

Training date: June 10

 ODC 9am - 12pm

Are you interested in being a part of camps while gaining leadership skills? Would you like experience volunteering outdoors? We are accepting applicants for Youth Leaders ages 13 and up 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 can 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 FOR



FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE



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.



DONATE



TODAY!

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JUNE 17 - 19

Little Explorers

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

Every day is an adventure at this classic camp for youngsters! Create lasting memories of exploring the outdoors, hiking our trails, making fun crafts, and playing with new friends. Whether we're searching for worms or resting for storytime, we're in for a camp to remember.

 ODC 9am - 12pm

**AGES
4-5**



Nature's Hide and Seek

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

Do animals play hide and seek? Play and learn as we camouflage in different habitats and find which animals are blending in with trees, leaves, and flowers all over! We'll create our own camouflage critters and practice spotting the animals that hide right before our eyes.

 ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
4-5**

Camouflage Critters

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

How do stripes and spots help animals to blend in? Why are so many frogs green? Learn about the colorful world of camouflage in our not-so-hidden camp! We'll test our camouflaging skills and search high and low for the animals that hide around us every day.

 ODC 9am - 12pm

**AGES
6-7**



Intro to Outdoor Skills

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

Hone your outdoor skills with us! Campers will learn to read a map, use a compass, build a fire, and more! All materials will be included for this camp, including a take-home survival kit. No pocket knives, weapons, or matches may be brought by participants.

 Rabbit River Preserve 9am - 12pm

**AGES
8-11**

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JUNE 24 - 26

Dinosaur Adventures

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

Discover T-Rex, Triceratops, and Stegosaurus, too! Our dino feet will stomp around ODC while we learn about giant, ancient beasts. Roar into fun as we enjoy dinosaur themed games, crafts, and adventures!

 ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
4-5**



Dino Days

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
6-7**



Only the Strongest Survive

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

Are you fast or strong, creative or clever? Learn how animals survive in the wild, and test your skills in the ultimate animal challenge! Campers will observe animal adaptations at work, and try them out as we put ourselves in the shoes of both predator and prey.

 ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
8-11**



Intro to Archery

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

Practice your aim at our archery facility! Campers will be coached by a certified archery instructor to develop proper 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.

 ODC 9:15am - 11:45pm

**AGES
10-16**

CONTACT US



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JULY 8 - 10

Nature Artists

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

Little artists will make their own masterpieces as we enjoy the beauty of nature, from the green grass to the blue sky! We'll learn about animal artists along the way, as we let creativity be our guide. Campers will return home with new skills and projects inspired by the outdoors.

 ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
4-5**



Art Outdoors

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

Art is everywhere - especially outdoors! 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.

 ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
6-7**

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 Anishinaabe life, tools, and traditions, try our hand at axe-throwing and fire-making like a French Voyageur, and cook food just like an early Michigan Settler!

 ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
8-11**



Intro to Kayaking

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

This camp is designed for the young paddler! Campers will learn paddle strokes and techniques, rescue skills, and boating safety. Our mix of instruction, demonstrations, and games help young kayakers learn independence and self-reliance. All materials will be provided.

 Various Locations 9am - 12pm

**AGES
10-16**

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JULY 15 - 17



Bikes and Bugs

Fee: \$130 non-members, \$104 member

Join us and Velo Kids for a summer adventure at Dragonflies Discovery Preschool and Cooper-VanWieren Park! We'll learn safe mountain biking, care for trails, and search for speedy bugs in the meadows and forests. Campers must be confident riders (no training wheels). See website for more info.



Dragonflies Discovery Preschool
9:15am - 12:15pm

AGES
4-5



VELO KIDS



Wheels and Wonders

Fee: \$130 non-members, \$104 member

Spend half your morning with Velo Kids learning mountain biking around Dragonflies Discovery Preschool and Cooper-VanWieren Park. Then join ODC Naturalists to discover what animals may be hiding in these places. Confident riders only (no training wheels). See website for more info.



Dragonflies Discovery Preschool
9:15am - 12:15pm



AGES
6-7



Mad Scientist

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

Grab your lab coat - let's experiment with science! Mini bottle rockets will spark curiosity, and hands-on projects will help our ideas come alive! Whether you already love science, or are interested in learning something new, this is the place to explore the -ologies!



ODC 9am - 12pm

AGES
8-11



Intermediate Archery

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

Up your archery skills with this us! Campers will practice their archery proficiency, focusing on improving their shooting with greater aim and distance judgment techniques. This camp is designed for those who have used a bow and arrow. All materials will be provided for the camp.



ODC 9:15am - 11:45pm

AGES
10-16

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JULY 22 - 24



Forest Fables

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

It's storytime at the ODC! Join us each day as we dive into a new adventure, meeting familiar friends and exciting new characters. After the story, we'll step into the world of nature to explore, play, and create our own outdoor adventures, inspired by the tales we've heard.



Dragonflies Discovery Preschool

9:15am - 12:15pm

**AGES
4-5**



Conservation Kids

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

Ever wonder what it takes to work at the ODC? Campers get to try hands-on projects as we explore what conservation looks like here in Michigan. Meet special ODC guests, and dive into how we can all protect our local habitats and share nature fun all over!



ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
6-7**



Cultural Handicrafts

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

Explore local indigenous culture through Anishinaabe craftsmanship! Our Cultural Educator will lead campers in traditional and modern techniques, like beadwork and using natural dyes. Campers of all backgrounds are encouraged to get creative, and will return home with their own artistic works.



ODC 9am - 12pm

**AGES
8-11**



Intermediate Outdoor Skills

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

Do you want to take your outdoor 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. No pocket knives, weapons, or matches may be brought by participants.



Rabbit River Preserve 9am - 1pm

**AGES
10-16**

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JULY 29 - 31



Scales and Slime

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

Turtles, frogs, and toads, oh my! There are reptiles and amphibians all over the ODC. How many can we find? We'll leapfrog into a love of nature with hands-on animal experiences. Search for tadpoles in our ponds, and meet special, slithery snakes.



ODC 9am - 12pm



AGES
4-5



Slither, Slink, and Slide

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

Are you team reptile or team amphibian? Get to know some of the animals who call ODC home as we become junior herpetologists. Campers will get to search for the scaled and the slimy out in nature, and help to care for our resident turtles, toads, and more!



ODC 9am - 12pm



AGES
6-7

**4 Day, Full
Day Camp!**

Wildly Creative

Fee: \$419

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 with ODC Naturalists in the morning. Then, join the SCA in the afternoon for playful art-making inspired by the wild!



ODC 9am - 4pm

AGES
7-11



REGISTRATION



INFORMATION



SAUGATUCK
CENTER FOR THE ARTS



Outdoor Adventures

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

Want to try it all? One day of archery, another testing out your survival skills, and yet another with Velo Kids mountain biking out on trails. Perfect for campers of any skill level! All materials will be provided, but bringing your own bike is preferred.



Various Locations 9am - 12pm



AGES
10-16

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AUGUST 5 - 7

Wild About Critters

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 animal ambassadors up close and get to know what makes them so special.

 ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
4-5**



Wet n' Wild

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

Splish splash into summertime fun with everything water! Young campers get to try fishing, search for water invertebrates, and even create art using water. We'll learn how to help protect our ponds and appreciate water in our summer adventures!

 ODC 9am - 12pm



**AGES
4-5**

Ready, Set, Go!

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

On your mark, get set, game time! Camp is the perfect place for learning new games, and enjoying old favorites. We'll mix high-energy fun with calmer classics for a camp that will have kids running, jumping, and being their silliest selves!

 Dragonflies Discovery Preschool
9:15am - 12:15pm



**AGES
6-7**



Games and Adventures

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

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, and work with your new teammates on fun challenges. Every day brings something new!

 Rabbit River Preserve 9am - 12pm

**AGES
8-11**

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AUGUST 12 - 14



Habitat Helpers

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

Do you know who lives in our different habitats? Our Habitat Helpers will meet wild animals and ODC animal ambassadors, and learn what makes a good animal home. Find out who is sneaking through the forest, swimming in the pond, and hiding in meadow!



Dragonflies Discovery Preschool

9:15am - 12:15pm

**AGES
4-5**



Sky Explorers

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

Bats and beetles, birds and butterflies, they all love to fly! Campers explore a world of flight, meeting expert flying friends, and searching for surprising ways that the wind can carry plants and animals away. No airplanes needed for us to soar into fun!



ODC 9am - 12pm

**AGES
6-7**



Duck Stamp Camp

Fee: \$210 non-members, \$168 members

Calling young artists - it's time to prepare for the annual federal Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest! In preparation for our art pieces, we will explore different species of waterfowl, their unique habitats, and how we can help them thrive. All artistic skill levels are welcome!



ODC 9am - 1pm

**AGES
8-12**



**JUNIOR DUCK
STAMP**



INFORMATION

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SPENDING THE SUMMER WITH YOU!!!

CONTACT US



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CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

Camp Partners



SAUGATUCK
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

For a third year, Outdoor Discovery Center and Saugatuck Center for the arts team up to run a four day, full day camp!

SCA



WEBSITE



We are newly partnering with Velo Kids for three of our camps! We are excited to have our campers experience nature on their own two feet and their own two wheels.

VELO KIDS



WEBSITE

Park Township Discount

Park Township partners with the ODC Network to support many programs including some of our camps! If you are a park township resident you can receive a 20% discount for :

Forest Fables - Age 4-5 - July 22-24

Ready, Set, Go - Age 6-7 - August 5-7

Habitat Helpers - Age 4-5 - August 12-15

In order to receive this, please reach out to camps@outdoordiscovery.org before February 3rd for a discount code.



Specialty Camp Staff Highlights

Annabel Cieply



Annabel, formerly an art teacher at West Ottawa Public Schools, is excited to go beyond her preschool teacher role and lead Duck Stamp Camp.

Mikaela Sterenberg



Mikaela, our art specialist, will be supporting all ODC run art camps. Her work can be seen across our property including revamping our beloved green frog statue.

Myriah Williams



Myriah Williams is a member of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and our Cultural Educator. She will share her knowledge at Cultural Handicrafts camp.

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