

July 28 - 30

Scales and Slime

Ages 4 - 5

Turtles, frogs, and toads, oh my! Reptiles and amphibians are exciting animal neighbors! We'll leapfrog into a love of nature with hands-on experiences perfect for young learners. We'll search for tadpoles in our ponds and meet the special, slithery snakes who work at ODC.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Slither, Slink, and Slide

Ages 6 - 7

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!

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Wildly Creative

Ages 7 - 11



Saugatuck Center for the Arts and the Outdoor Discovery Center team up to offer four fabulous full days of art-making and nature exploration in this very special program. Explore the outdoors with ODC Naturalists in the morning. Then, join the SCA for afternoons of playful art-making - all inspired by nature!



9am - 4pm | \$445 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Intermediate Outdoor Skills

Ages 11 - 16

Do you want to take your survival 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 as we challenge ourselves outdoors! No pocket knives, weapons, or matches may be brought by participants. Previous experience helpful, but not required.

9:15am - 1:15pm | \$160 | Rabbit River Preserve

August 4 - 6

Enchanted Forest

Ages 4 - 5

Welcome to a world of wonder! Perfect for the imaginative child, this camp explores nature as the perfect place to play pretend. We'll find magic in the meadow, and build homes for fairies and frogs! Fantasy-inspired games and real-world exploration will keep our adventurers inspired.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Ready, Set, Go!

Ages 6 - 7

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!

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Games and Adventures

Ages 8 - 11

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!

9:15am - 12:15pm | \$110 | Rabbit River Preserve

Intermediate Archery

Ages 11 - 16

Up your archery skills with ODC experts! 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.

9:15am - 11:45am | \$130 | Outdoor Discovery Center

August 11 - 13

Wild About Critters

Ages 4 - 5

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.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Animal Adventures

Ages 6 - 7

Calling all animal enthusiasts! If your child dreams of being a zookeeper or veterinarian, or if they just love learning about wildlife, this camp is the perfect fit. We'll have special lessons with ODC animal ambassadors and naturalist experts, then track down animals in the wild. Bring your best animal fun facts!

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK)

Ages 8 - 11

Indigenous cultures of the world have long had a scientific approach to engaging with the natural world. In this camp, we will connect science and Anishinaabe ingenuity through Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK). Campers of all backgrounds can try new science and engineering skills, and learn what materials from nature can give us tools, homes, clothes, watercrafts, and more!

9am - 12pm | \$130 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Members receive a 20% discount
on all camps except Wildly
Creative and Intro to Kayaking.



Summer Camp 2026



Summer Camp 2026

June 16 - 18

Little Explorers Ages 4 - 5

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

9:15am - 12:15pm | \$110 | Rabbit River Preserve

Forest Fables Ages 4 - 5

It's storytime at the ODC! Join us each day as we dive into a classic folk tale, and maybe meet some animal characters in real life! After the story, we'll step into the world of nature to explore, play, and create our own outdoor adventures inspired by the stories we've heard.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Stories of Nature Ages 6 - 7

Once upon a time, there was a storybook camp. In this adventure, campers will read famous tales from the forest and the waters and set out to create legends of our own. We'll learn what lessons different fables have to offer and hike to find our own ODC stories!

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Cultural Handicrafts Ages 8 - 11

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.

9am - 12pm | \$130 | Outdoor Discovery Center

June 23 - 25

Nature's Hide and Seek Ages 4 - 5

Do animals play hide and seek? Play and learn about camouflage as we explore 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.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Camouflage Critters Ages 6 - 7

Discover the secret world of camouflage in our not-so-hidden camp! Learn how colorful stripes and spots help animals to blend in and explore how creatures can use disguises! We'll test our camouflaging skills and search high and low for the animals that hide around us every day.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Only the Strongest Survive Ages 8 - 11

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.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Intro to Archery Ages 11 - 16

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.

9:15am - 11:45am | \$130 | Outdoor Discovery Center



June 30 - July 2

Wild Wheels Ages 4 - 5

Join us and Velo Kids for a summer adventure! We'll get a special chance to ride bikes on the ODC Trails as our youngest cyclists practice safe mountain biking and care for trails. We'll also enjoy exploring by foot, searching for meadow critters, and playing with new friends! This camp will be split into Balance Bikes and Pedal Bikes (no training wheels).

9am - 12pm | \$160 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Wheels and Wonders Ages 6 - 7

It's time to ride! Join us and our friends at Velo Kids as we practice beginner mountain biking skills at Dragonflies Discovery Preschool and Cooper-VanWieren Park. We'll explore the trails on wheels, all while learning good biking habits and safety, then play camp games and explore nature back on two feet. Confident riders only (no training wheels or balance bikes).

9:15am - 12:15pm | \$160 | Dragonflies Discovery Preschool

Hike and Bike Ages 8 - 11

Get peddling with Velo Kids in our newest partner camp! Spend half your morning training mountain biking skills and take on new challenges as we ride! The rest of your morning we'll explore trails by foot and enjoy some of our favorite camp games and ODC activities.

9:15am - 12:15pm | \$160 | Dragonflies Discovery Preschool

July 7 - 9

Nature Artists Ages 4 - 5

Little artists will make their own masterpieces as we enjoy the beauty of nature, from the colorful flowers to the shapes of clouds! We'll learn about animal artists along the way and see how they create their own works of beauty! Campers will return home with art projects inspired by the outdoors.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Art Outdoors Ages 6 - 7

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.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Conservation Kids Ages 8 - 11

Ever wonder what it takes to work at the ODC? Campers get to try hands-on projects as we explore what conservation work we're doing in our community! Learn about habitat restoration, ecosystem monitoring, and more as we meet special ODC guests. We'll dive into how we can all protect our local habitats, and share nature fun across our preserve!

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Intro to Kayaking Ages 11 - 16

Thanks to Allegan County Parks and Recreation we are able to offer this program at a highly discounted rate! This camp is designed for the young paddler! Campers will learn kayaking paddle strokes, techniques and boating safety. Our mix of instruction, demonstrations, and games help young kayakers learn independence and self-reliance. All materials will be provided.

9:30am - 12:30pm | \$30 | Various Locations

July 14 - 16

Wet n' Wild

Ages 4 - 5

Splish splash into summertime fun with everything water! Youngsters get to try fishing, search for water bugs, and even create art using water during this puddle-stomping camp! We'll learn how we can help to protect our ponds and meet some of the animals that call these waters home.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Water World

Ages 6 - 7

What's life like under the water? We'll dive into the world of aquatic life in this camp and wade into the lives of the fish, amphibians, and water bugs that fill our ponds. Using tools like fishing poles and nets and playing plenty of water games, we'll be splashing into a good time!

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Intro to Outdoor Skills

Ages 8 - 11

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.

9am - 12pm | \$130 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Wild Art

Ages 11 - 16

Get inspired as we break out the classic art materials as well as more straight from nature! We'll work with our ODC Art Specialist to develop your artistic skills in the beauty of nature. Whether you're a budding artist or looking for more advanced techniques, you're welcome here! Let the creativity flow!

9:15am - 12:15pm | \$110 | Rabbit River Preserve

July 21 - 23

Super Critters

Ages 4 - 5

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Super Critters! Animals have some amazing super powers – super strength, speed, and even flight! Join our amazing team of young heroes as we learn what makes these animals unique, and how we can become nature heroes in our own way!

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Habitat Heroes

Ages 6 - 7

Our animal friends need help, so it's brave campers to the rescue! Our Habitat Heroes will meet the animals who live at ODC, and learn what makes a good animal home. We'll explore different habitats like the forest, meadow, and pond, and use our helping hands to keep them safe.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Guardians of the Wild

Ages 8 - 11

Our campers are just the heroes we need! We'll connect with amazing animal species and learn about how their extraordinary skills inspire superhero stories! Then, we'll learn what powers we have, so we can save the day in real life! With our powers combined, we'll make a super team.

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center

Animal Allies

Ages 11 - 16

Love learning about animals? Want to work with mammals, birds, or reptiles someday? This camp showcases how ODC cares for our captive animals, and how people help wildlife to thrive in our Michigan habitats! Meet ODC experts and animal ambassadors, then try hands-on animal care and conservation projects as we learn how we can make a difference!

9am - 12pm | \$110 | Outdoor Discovery Center



Description



Summer Camp
Youth Volunteer

Ages
13 - 18

Application

