



What are the age groups?

Grades 1 & 2 will be in Shelter 3, grades 3 & 4 in Shelter 2, and grades 5 & 6 in Shelter 1.

What do kids do each day?

We are outside all day, every day - dress for the weather and to get dirty! Camp days are filled with outdoor fun: sports and rec games, arts and crafts, swimming for grades 3 to 6, and water days for grades 1 & 2, nature lessons, hikes, special and community guests, and unstructured free time. During free time, there are always several options, ranging from arts and crafts, board games, gym class games, and various open-ended toys.

What happens at the pool?

Grades 3-6 swim every Tuesday and Thursday morning, under the supervision of multiple certified lifeguards and counselors. On the first swim day, interested children will need to pass a swim test before being allowed in the deep end (with the diving board and rock wall). Under the direction of the lead lifeguard, each child will need to swim a certain distance in the pool and then tread water for a set time. If the child passes both components, they are given a bracelet and can go to both the shallow and deep ends. Children who do not complete both tests need to stick to the shallow end. They can try the swim test again, either that day or at a later swim day. If a child does not want to swim, there are other activities for them to do around the pool area (sports equipment, drawing, arts and crafts, etc).

Children in grades 1 & 2 do not go to the pool to swim, but will have several "water days" scheduled through the 6 weeks (weather dependent). Children will have access to a bathroom to change into a suit, but this can be difficult for this age group. We recommend you send your child dressed in a suit or in clothes that can get wet.

Please do not send your child with large pool toys or flotation devices without first consulting camp staff. Goggles are allowed. If you have concerns about your child's swimming ability, we can keep them in the shallow end of the pool. Be sure to include this information in your child's registration or communicate this with Camp Directors Jessica and/or Katie.

When are drop-off and pick-up?

Drop-off begins promptly at 9 am. Children cannot be dropped off before 9 am. Most children are dropped off by 9:45 am. If your child is going to be later than ~10:30 am, let the counselors know the day before or by contacting the camp directors via TeamReach. Throughout the day, the groups may travel to different places in the park and may not be at their assigned shelter for the entire day. Pick-up begins at 2:45 pm. If you are running late and will arrive after ~3:10 pm, please let the camp directors know via TeamReach.

What if I need to pick up my child early?

If possible, communicate this directly to the counselor at drop-off with the approximate time. This can also be communicated on TeamReach. If the counselors and children are not at the shelter when you arrive to pick them up, call the Park Ranger at 724-854-1137.

Do I need to let the staff know when my child is missing days?

No need to let staff know upfront. Missing days are not a problem. Many families sign up for all six weeks for flexibility and miss days for vacations and other needs. Your child is not expected to be at camp every day. Five days a week is tiring for many kids, and we encourage rest days at home to recover! We play hard at summer camp.

How do I get updates about camp and communicate with camp staff?

We use TeamReach to communicate with families about the weather, camper needs, and other important information. Download the app to join the group. **Please be sure to turn on notifications!**

Group Codes:

Campers entering Grades 1 & 2: SC-BP-12

Campers entering Grades 3 & 4: SC-BP-34

Campers entering Grades 5 & 6: SC-BP-56

Where does my child eat lunch?

After washing their hands, children each have lunch in different locations depending on their shelter group. This may include at the shelter or picnic-style under shade trees.

Is there a lost and found?

Each shelter group has its own lost and found bin. Please be sure to label as many belongings as possible (especially towels, lunch boxes, and water bottles). Remember to leave valuables at home. Park staff is not responsible for lost or stolen items. At the end of the summer season, any remaining lost and found items will be donated or disposed of.

Can my child bring a cell phone?

We understand the desire to send children to camp with a cellphone, but in most circumstances, we strongly discourage this. Phones can be a major distraction to both your child and the children around them. Phones can easily be damaged with all the fun your child is having at camp. If you need to communicate with Camp Staff or Counselors during the day, you can do so via TeamReach.

Can my child bring a toy to camp?

We understand that some toys are comfort items and can help a child feel good about being at camp. We strongly encourage your child to leave toys of this nature in their bag for safekeeping. We discourage children from bringing other toys to camp because they often cause disagreements between kids, and toys can easily be broken.

What if someone new needs to pick up my child from camp?

Make sure they have a copy of your child's membership card (print or digital, both work). If they do not have a copy of the card, we will need to call you.

What about severe weather?

Remember, our primary location for this camp is the park shelters. We do not have indoor spaces that could accommodate all campers. We can wait out brief showers and plan water days or less strenuous activities for heatwaves. We do reserve the right to cancel the camp day if the forecast shows a high likelihood of storms, a day of 100% rain, extreme heat, or poor air quality. We may also send a message in TeamReach to pick up early if dangerous storms develop or the heat/air quality becomes unbearable.

All families must have a backup plan for weather like this. We will give as much notice as possible, but please understand that the weather can be unpredictable. In the event that we cancel camp multiple days in one week, we will attempt to move weekly registrations to a later week, subject to staff availability. We cannot refund for weather-related cancellations.

What if my child has a severe food allergy or needs medication during the day?

While all counselors are CPR and First Aid certified for emergencies, we do not have any medical staff on-site to give medications, store EPIPENS, etc. If you are sending your child with any type of medicine, such as eye drops or an inhaler, please communicate that with Camp Directors Jessica and/or Katie. There is also room in the registration process to include allergies or other concerns. Children bring their own lunches and cannot guarantee an allergy-free environment.