



Montana Natural History Center

Connecting People with Nature

120 Hickory Street
Missoula, MT 59801
406.327.0405

www.MontanaNaturalist.org

Dear Summer Outdoor Discovery Day Camp Parent:

We are excited your child is going to be spending part of the summer with us, exploring the mysteries of Montana’s wildlife and landscapes. Please read through and save this email, containing important information to help you prepare for camp:

Meeting Location: All camps start and end each day at the Montana Natural History Center at 120 Hickory Street in Missoula.

Camp Program Hours:

Early (and free) drop off begins at 8:30 am

Camps meet from from 9:30 am-4:00 pm

After care (free) is available from 4:00-5:30 pm*

*A 1 per minute fee may apply if a child is picked up after 5:30

Children must be signed in every morning at drop off and signed out each afternoon at pick up. Please call our office if your child is going to be late or miss the day.

Emergency Phone Number: MNHC office: 327-0405. A field cell phone number will be provided at check in.

Emergency Release Form: Please visit the following website: <http://www.montanaturalist.org/summer-camp-forms-and-faqs> to download and complete an Emergency Release Form for your child. Emergency Release forms *must* be returned by the day your child starts camp.

Preparing for Adventure...

During your child’s week of camp we will be exploring our local natural areas, taking field trips, playing games, using our creative talents in art activities and making all kinds of amazing discoveries! Each camp varies by theme; a specific schedule, including field trip locations and planned activities, will be available at check in on the first day of camp. Kids can expect to be outdoors most of the time and lunch is almost always eaten in the field.

What to Bring:

We recommend that your child bring these items to camp each day; however, some (ie. rain gear if it's sunny) may be left in the classroom in the interests of making backpacks as light as possible!

- Outdoor clothing for the weather
- Clothing suitable for outdoor exploration, art activities, and play!
- Backpack
- Filled water bottle
- Sun hat
- Rain gear
- Lunch (including snacks) that can be eaten in the field

Our mission is to promote and cultivate the appreciation, understanding, and stewardship of nature through education



- Snacks to last throughout the day
- Water shoes (Something that attaches well to feet- old tennis shoes or sandals can work)
- A complete change of clothing
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Swimsuit or other clothing that can get wet
- Towel

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS WITH YOUR CHILD’S NAME

Please do not send expensive items to camp with your child (including music/game players)- we try our best, but things do get lost!

Snacks: We’ll take snack breaks throughout the day; please send your child with extra snack-able items in their lunch box to eat at snack time.

Medications: If your child is taking or needs to carry a prescription (including epi-pens and inhalers) the prescription should be labeled with the date and included in the student’s back pack. The student is responsible for carrying the prescription at all times. Staff is not responsible for lost prescriptions. Parents may instruct staff as to how and when the student needs to take the prescription. Parents should make a note of any medications on the Emergency Release Form, located at <http://www.montanaturalist.org/summer-camp-forms-and-faqs/>.

Volunteer Opportunities: Parent volunteers are welcome to participate. Contact MNHC to let us know if you would like to attend part of camp.

Special accommodations: We hope to make Summer Outdoor Discovery Day Camps great for all kids. If your child requires special accommodations (or even if you just want to let us know more about the unique and special person they are!), we encourage you to contact Stephanie Potts at 327-0405ext.209 before camp starts.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Registration fee (minus \$50 administration fee) is refundable ONLY if a cancellation is made within 30 days (thirty days) prior to the start of the camp. Withdrawals after this deadline forfeit the entire fee. Membership fees are non-refundable and must be paid at time of initial registration.

We’re looking forward to seeing your child in our Summer Outdoor Discovery Day Camps this summer! If you have any questions, or are interested in volunteering during the week your child is in attendance, please contact MNHC at 327-0405 or email Stephanie Potts, Youth Programs Coordinator, at spotts@montanaturalist.org.

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