



SUMMER CAMP

Overview

Summer Camp is an outdoor nature camp focused on getting children excited about and engaged with the natural world. Each week-long session will explore a different theme with a series of age-appropriate hands-on investigations, field studies, art projects, games, and more. Each day in camp will feature time for campers to participate in free choice activities, create, engineer, explore, and discover. A day at camp runs 9:00AM – 3:00PM, with different activity blocks throughout the day during which campers will investigate different habitats, ecosystems, and wildlife species at the garden. An indoor classroom space is used throughout camp, but campers will spend as much time as possible outside exploring, investigating and participating in noncompetitive games, songs, and creative activities.

What to Pack

Summer Camp is held mostly outdoors with an indoor classroom that will act as a home base and will be utilized during inclement weather. Children should dress according to the weather conditions. We will often be hiking and exploring over areas of uneven terrain and will spend as much time outdoors as possible. Close toed, waterproof shoes are highly encouraged. Children should also bring a **refillable water bottle, and a non-perishable, nut-free snack, and lunch**. It is also recommended that you pack a light jacket or raincoat, extra socks, and a change of clothes in case of shifts in the weather or accidents that require children to change clothes. Please apply sunscreen and insect repellent before arrival and pack extra for reapplication throughout the day if you prefer for them to use a specific brand. Our staff will also have extra sunscreen and bug spray if needed. In addition to their backpack, children may want to bring a smaller knapsack or drawstring bag to use for their water or snack while hiking the trails and exploring the gardens.

Daily Schedule

8:50-9:15AM	Drop-Off & Morning Activities (Classroom C)
9:15AM	Group Games
10:00AM	Daily Schedule and Snack
10:30AM	Morning Program/Hike*
12:00PM	Lunch and Free Play at Ramble
1:00PM	Afternoon Special Workshop**
2:45PM	Closing Circle
3PM	Pick-Up in <i>The Court: A Garden Within Reach</i> (or front lobby if it is raining)

**Morning programs include nature hikes, gardening activities, outdoor games, trails crafts, and more.*
***Afternoon Special Workshops are focused on a specific topic and usually include a science or art make-and-take component.*

Note: We will play water games during one afternoon at the end of each week using sponges, misting bottles, and water toys. The day before, all campers (and adults) will be reminded to bring an extra change of clothes, they can also choose to bring a bathing suit, quick dry clothes, water shoes, and/or a towel.

Drop-off & Pick-up

There is a 25-minute drop off window each morning from 8:50 to 9:15AM. When dropping off for the Summer Camp program, a parent or guardian must accompany your child to the designated drop-off location in Classroom C, inside the main building. Front Desk staff can direct you downstairs to the classroom. Once in the classroom the Summer Camp staff will check you in. Please see a map on next page for a highlighted route to Classroom C, which is located downstairs.

Pick-up will be at *The Court: A Garden Within Reach* at 3pm every day, highlighted on map on next page. If it is raining during pick-up time, we will do pick-up in the main lobby. Only authorized individuals listed on the Heath and Registration Form will be allowed to pick-up your child. You may add authorized individuals at any time through a written notice to the Manager of Youth Education at youtheducation@nebg.org. When picking up your child please advise all authorized individuals to please bring their driver's license or another form of identification. New England Botanic Garden instructors will be checking to ensure the parent or guardian has been authorized for pick-up for that child.

Health Information

In May, the Health and Registration forms will be sent to all parents and guardians. Please complete the Health and Registration Form for each child that is enrolled in Summer Camp and submit their immunization records.

To prevent the spread of infection please keep your camper home if they have a fever or had a fever in the last 24hrs, have diarrhea, are vomiting, or feel too sick to participate. We want kids to be happy and comfortable during the program, and we want to limit infection and health risks to other participants. If your child becomes mildly ill while at New England Botanic Garden, we will notify you of the camper's condition, monitor them, and discuss next steps. In the event of a major medical injury or incident, 911 will be called and you will be notified immediately.