Welcome to the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum Summer Camp!
The camp team is eagerly awaiting your arrival to make lifelong camp memories! We plan to explore the outdoors, create nature crafts, scout the museum, encounter live animals, play imaginative games, and so much more.

Please read and discuss this packet with your camper before camp. This document will be updated periodically and is subject to change.

Best,
Becca and Nicole (Camp Directors)

Camp Start / End Times

Camp for 4 year-olds
9:00am-1:00pm
Drop-Off: 8:45-9:15am
Pick-Up: 12:45-1:15pm
Aftercare from 1:00-3:00pm*
*must register prior to the start of camp

Camp for 5 to 11 year-olds
9:00am-3:00pm
Drop-Off: 8:45-9:15am
Pick-Up: 2:45-3:15pm

Please notify all approved pick-up persons to bring a valid photo ID everyday.

You are invited to our Summer Camp Open Houses!

Please, attend one open house BEFORE the start of your camp session and the one DURING your camp session. For more information, see the “Open House” section on page 2.

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Family Open Houses

Our open houses allow camp families to learn about and prepare for camp, build relationships with camp staff, connect with the Nature Museum, and make memories together!

To build a great camp community, your family is encouraged to participate in two open houses:

1) One BEFORE your child’s camp session
2) One DURING your camper’s session: on the 2nd Tuesday of each session

A small snack will be shared during open houses!

During these events, staff is not able to provide child care or supervision. Siblings are welcome to join in the fun but must remain under parent/guardian supervision the entire time.

Looking for something fun to do with the family? Join us for as many additional open houses as you like! Come play on North Lawn, see what other campers are up to, and stay in touch with your camper’s friends and counselors.

Mark Your Calendar:

Check the two Open House dates you’ll be attending, and add them to your calendar. All Open Houses will be held in North Gallery.

- Monday, June 22 • 9:00-10:30am
- Thursday, June 25 • 5:00-6:30pm
- Tuesday, July 7 • 3:30-5:30pm
- Tuesday, July 21 • 3:30-5:30pm
- Tuesday, August 4 • 3:30-5:30pm
- Tuesday, August 18 • 3:30-5:30pm

All of your camper’s information can be filled out online! Be sure your CampDoc profile is complete and up to date with your camper’s information as soon as possible.

You will be locked out of—and unable to change your camper’s health profile—one week before the start of the camp session.
Communication

Camp families will get a Daily Camper Page email with updates, notes, and pictures from our camp day! These emails will be sent to the email address listed when you registered. Please contact the Camp Directors to update the email address on file.

Reminders and camper updates will also be communicated to the authorized pick-up person at the end of the day.

Schedules

To help our campers develop a deep connection to nature, campers will spend over half of their day outside. This will include planned activities as well as child-led play time with plenty of materials to engage with on Nature Museum grounds. Campers will remain under the supervision of counselors at all times, and outdoor time will be rescheduled in the event of unsafe weather conditions (heat advisory, thunderstorm, etc.) or other unforeseeable factors. Please make sure your camper comes dressed for the weather, including wearing sunscreen and closed-toed shoes. Campers will also be encouraged to reapply sun block and bug spray before afternoon outdoor activities.

While each day (and age group) is unique, here is an example of a day in the life of a 5 to 6 year-old camper at Nature Museum Summer Camp:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45 – 9:15</td>
<td>Camper drop-off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 – 10:10</td>
<td>Indoor Activities- art, music/movement, and group games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:10 – 10:15</td>
<td>Bathroom break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 – 11:15</td>
<td>Outdoor Exploration- trail hike, habitat exploration, and water play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 – 11:30</td>
<td>Bathroom break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 12:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:45</td>
<td>Indoor museum exhibit activities and nature play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45 – 1:00</td>
<td>Bathroom break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 – 1:30</td>
<td>Snack and free play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 – 2:30</td>
<td>Outdoor Exploration- group challenges and scavenger hunts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 – 2:45</td>
<td>Prep for pick-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 – 3:15</td>
<td>Camper pick-up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Snack

A healthy snack will be provided in the afternoon for all campers. Snack will not replace a balanced lunch. An alternative snack is available for campers with special dietary needs. Please alert the Camp Directors of any dietary restrictions on your camper’s Camp Doc health profile.
What to Bring

Campers should come to camp dressed in:
- weather appropriate “play” clothing
- camp t-shirt (On the first day of camp and for all field trips, and any other day you like!)
- closed-toed shoes (Open-toed shoes and flip flops are not permitted at camp!)

On Water-Wednesdays, campers should come dressed:
- In their swim items/ swim suit* (if they want to play in the water)
- In closed-toe water shoes or closed-toe sturdy sandals*

*All campers will be asked to wear a t-shirt or tank top and closed-toed shoes during water play.

On Water-Wednesdays, campers will need to pack:
- A towel
- Additional t-shirt and full change of clothes*
- Additional closed-toed shoes*

*All campers will be asked to wear a t-shirt or tank top and closed-toed shoes during water play.

In a zippered backpack, please bring the following labeled with your camper's name:

Lunch - Campers must bring a lunch every day. Nature Museum Camps have a strict no peanut or tree nut policy. Please feel free to send labeled soy nut or sun butter as an alternative. We strongly encourage using re-useable lunch containers to help reduce waste! Make sure lunch containers and bags are labeled with your camper’s name. See page 3 for information on snack.

Water Bottle - Please pack a reusable water bottle. Campers will have access to water jugs and fountains for refills.

Extra Clothes - Camp activities happen outdoors whenever possible, so send your camper prepared and dressed for the weather. Include an extra shirt, socks, and shorts or pants. For younger campers, please include underwear, in case of an accident. Make sure all clothes are labeled with your camper’s name.

Sunscreen - We recommend applying sunscreen before camp. Campers will need to apply sunscreen themselves during camp. Camp staff can help to distribute sunscreen into hands, but staff will not apply it for campers.

Bug Spray - (Optional) We ask for deet-free products at camp. Bug spray will only be allowed to be applied outside.

Zip-closure Backpack - Clearly labeled with your camper’s name.

Your ID for pick-up - The designated pick-up person should bring their ID every day for pick-up. We require the pick-up person to show their ID for your child’s safety.

Remember: All items brought to camp should be labeled with the camper’s name and must be taken home at the end of the day.
What to Leave at Home

Electronic Devices - Please leave electronic devices at home, including cell phones, MP3 players, video games, etc. In case of emergency, camp staff has access to a radio and phone at all times.

Valuables - Please leave anything of particular monetary or sentimental value at home. The Museum is not responsible for any lost, broken, or stolen items.

Toys - Please leave toys at home. Campers will have plenty to do at camp and it helps avoid distraction! However, in certain situations, exceptions can be made.

Please be sure to alert one of the Camp Directors ahead of time if:

- your camper would like to share a topical book or other object with fellow campers.
- your camper needs a security item such as a family photo or stuff animal.

Weather

All Nature Museum Summer Camp sessions have an indoor space; however, outdoor activities will still take place except in cases of extreme heat and thunderstorms. Please send your camper with appropriate clothing and gear for the day’s forecast. See the “What to Bring” section on page 4 for more details. On days when heat indexes are over 90 degrees, campers will take indoor water breaks on a rotating basis. Field trips, including beach days, will be rescheduled to the best of our abilities if weather conditions are unsafe.

Health and Wellness

The Nature Museum Summer Camp staff is trained by the Red Cross in CPR and First Aid, in the administration of EpiPens, and to recognize the signs of a severe allergic reaction.

For injuries or for illness, camp staff will notify the primary guardian, followed by the secondary guardian, and then the emergency contact (in the order listed on the registration form) until a contact is notified. Other camper updates will be shared with the authorized pick-up person at the end of the camp day.

Please be sure to note any allergies, medications or medical conditions on your camper’s registration form. If your camper has an EpiPen, provide the details of their emergency action plan on the registration form.

If your camper is taking medication during camp, add it on the registration form and send the medication in the original container. Nature Museum Summer Camp staff members are able to remind campers to take medications but are unable to dispense medications of any kind*. Any medications brought to camp must be taken home at the end of the day; the Nature Museum cannot keep or store medications overnight.

*with the exception of prescribed EpiPens
Water Wednesdays

Each Wednesday, we welcome some “splish-splashing” fun to our outdoor time!

- **Campers aged 4 to 6** are encouraged to build their own outdoor water play space using sprinklers, hoses, and buckets on the North Lawn.
- **Campers aged 7 to 11** will enjoy a walking field trip to Fullerton Beach, just north of the volleyball courts, where they can splash around in the posted life guard section.

See the “What to Bring” section on page 4 for more information about Water Wednesday attire and necessities. Please select swim wear and clothing that will allow for comfort and sun protection!

Campers not wishing to participate in the water play will ALWAYS be offered the opportunity to play in a water-free zone, including on beach trips.

Field Trips

Campers enrolled in our 7 to 11 year-old camps will take field and beach trips to a variety of locations throughout the city and suburbs. Prior to the trips (including beach days), a reminder email will be sent out to parents and guardians. **Campers are required to wear their camp shirts on field trip days.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7 to 8 Year-Olds</th>
<th>9 to 11 Year-Olds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Pond Naturalists: June 29-July 10</strong></td>
<td><strong>Conservation Rangers: July 27 - August 7</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 1: Beach Day</td>
<td>Wednesday, July 29: Beach Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 8: Beach Day</td>
<td>Thursday, July 30: Field Trip TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 9: Field Trip TBD</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 5: Beach Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nature Detectives: July 13 - July 24</strong></td>
<td><strong>Academy Scientists: August 10 - 21</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 15: Beach Day</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 12: Beach Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 22: Beach Day</td>
<td>Thursday, August 13: Field Trip TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 23: Field Trip TBD</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 19: Beach Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water Warriors: July 27-August 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Earth Ecologists: August 10– August 21</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 29: Beach Day</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 12: Beach Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, August 5: Beach Day</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 19: Beach Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 6: Field Trip TBD</td>
<td>Thursday, August 20: Field Trip TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 to 6 year-old campers stay at the Nature Museum at all times.
Behavior Policy

The Chicago Academy of Sciences/Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum strives to offer exceptional educational programs for children. In order to provide a positive summer camp experience for all campers, the Nature Museum Summer Camp has the following behavior policy for the campers. Please review this policy carefully with your camper, and keep a copy for occasional reference if necessary. Campers attending our Nature Museum Summer Camp will be expected to adhere to the following behavior guidelines:

1. **Be Respectful:**
   - Campers are expected to treat Nature Museum staff members and other campers with kindness and respect.
   - Campers are encouraged to offer positive comments toward fellow campers. Negative or demeaning commentary will not be allowed.
   - Campers are expected to listen to camp staff and follow their instructions.
   - Campers are expected to show respect to animals. Campers are expected to follow Nature Museum staff directions on how to appropriately interact with the animals in the Nature Museum’s living collection.

2. **Be Responsible:**
   - Campers are expected to care for their own belongings.
   - Campers are expected to exhibit respect and care for the Nature Museum’s objects and facilities.
   - Campers are expected to clean-up after themselves following camp activities and snack.

3. **Be Safe and Be Kind:**
   - Violence of any kind (shoving, hitting, pushing, etc.) will not be tolerated. Additionally, violent imaginative play (war games, imaginary guns/weapons) will be redirected by staff. Please discuss appropriate play topics for the camp setting with your child.
   - Swearing and foul language are not tolerated at camp.
   - The Nature Museum camps strive to be a “bully free” zone, one that encourages positive camper interactions and various social support systems. In support of this culture, we encourage your camper to alert camp staff to any bullying they may be experiencing/witnessing so that we may best address these issues as quickly as possible.

The following guidelines will be used to address behavior issues. This policy is designed to address the issue at hand and assist the parent/guardian and child in dealing with the behavioral incident. The goal is to help the child become a positive contributor to the Nature Museum’s environment. The counselor, followed by the Summer Camp Directors, will determine when a behavior issue requires further attention.

**First Incident** – Staff will address the behavior issue with camper. The counselor may elect to remove the camper from camp activities for a brief period of time. The counselor may choose to use this consequence multiple times before proceeding to the next stage of disciplinary action.

**Second Incident** – If a disruptive behavior continues, the counselor will inform the Summer Camp Directors or Assistant Director. An incident report may be completed describing the camper’s behavior. The issue will be discussed with the parent/guardian by the Summer Camp Directors.

**Third Incident** – If similar behavior persists, parent/guardian will be notified and an incident report will be completed. The camper will then be suspended from one full day of camp. A refund will not be issued.

**Fourth Incident** – The Summer Camp Directors and Assistant Director will discuss the appropriate action. The objective is to help the child and parent/guardian resolve the behavioral issue. If necessary, the child will be removed from the Summer Camp. Should the Summer Camp Directors elect this course of action, a refund will not be issued for any of the remaining days of camp.
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum Summer Camp
Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

Please notify all approved pick-up persons to bring a valid photo ID.

- If you wish to add an approved pick-up person either:
  - Using the parent/guardian email address on file, email camps@naturemuseum.org using “CAMPER PICK-UP” as the subject line. Include the approved pick-up person’s full name, relationship to the camper, and phone number OR
  - Add the approved pick-up person to your camper’s CampDoc profile.
- A charge of $.50 per minute will accrue for each camper picked up after 3:15pm.
- Any camper arriving after 9:15am or leaving before 2:45pm must be signed in or out with camp staff in the Museum lobby.
  - A Guest Experience team member can contact camp staff who will meet the you in the lobby to complete sign-in or sign-out.
  - For drop-off, parent/guardian must wait with camper.
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum Camp
Pick-Up and Drop-Off Information 2020

Please notify all approved pick-up persons to bring a valid photo ID.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 year-olds</th>
<th>7 to 8 year-olds</th>
<th>9 to 11 year-olds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nature Explorers (NE)</td>
<td>North Pond Naturalists</td>
<td>Conservation Rangers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windy City Wonderers (WCW)</td>
<td>Nature Detectives</td>
<td>Academy Scientists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aftercare: NE</td>
<td>Water Warriors</td>
<td>Earth Ecologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aftercare: WCW</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Drop-Off and Pick-Up: The Tent in the Permeable Paver Plaza

Drop-Off: 8:45-9:15am
Pick-Up: 2:45-3:15pm

4 year-old Pick-Up (if not in aftercare): 12:45–1:15pm

- Enter the Permeable Paver Plaza from Cannon Drive.
- If driving, park your vehicle and come to the sign-in/out table at the tent.
- Campers must be signed in and out every day.
- Please notify all approved pick-up persons to bring a valid photo ID.

5 to 6 year-olds

Habitat Voyagers | Earth Inspectors | Outdoor Adventurers | Curious Critters

Drop-Off: 8:45-9:15am, West Side of Cannon Drive along the mulch path (just North of Museum)

- If driving, park your vehicle and bring your camper to the sign-in table.
- Campers must be signed in and out every day.

Pick-Up: 2:45-3:15pm, West Side of Cannon Drive at the Bison Statue (in front of the Nature Museum Main Entrance)

- If driving, park your vehicle then pick-up your camper near the Museum entrance off of Cannon Drive.
- Campers must be signed in and out every day.
- Please notify all approved pick-up persons to bring a valid photo ID.

Sibling Pick-Up

All siblings in different camp age groups (including 5 to 6 year-old campers) will be picked up together from the Permeable Paver Plaza.

NEW Parking Option Available!

This year, parking passes for the Diversey Harbor Lot across the street are available for purchase. Passes are valid Monday to Friday during camp drop off (8:45-9:15am) and camp pick up (2:45-3:15pm) only. Passes are not valid on July 4 or August 16. See page 10 for more information.
NEW Parking Option Available!

This year, parking passes for the Diversey Harbor Lot (2431 N. Cannon Drive) are available for purchase.
The entrance to the parking lot is directly across from the Museum entrance on the east side of North Cannon.

Passes are valid Monday to Friday during:
- camp drop off (8:45 to 9:15 am)
- camp pick up (2:45 to 3:15 pm) only.
Passes are not valid on July 3 or August 14.

MORE INFO COMING SOON
Passes are not yet available for purchase.

The number of passes is limited and passes are non-refundable. This lot is operated by a third party.
2020 FAQ Sheet

Registration

Q. What age groups are available?
A. The Nature Museum camps accepts 4 to 11 year-olds.

Q. How do I register?
A. Nature Museum Camps partner with CampDoc.com for registration. Register online by going to naturemuseumcamp.org/summer-camp and clicking the “Register my camper” button to create your CampDoc account. Once your forms and registration are completed online, you will receive an email from register@campdoc.com. The CampDoc.com site is secure, encrypted, and password protected. Only Nature Museum Camp Staff will have access to camper health information.

If you registered through CampDoc for camp with us in the past, you can log into your CampDoc account using your same email and password. You’ll have access to your account and camper profile which will streamline your registration!

Q. Do you have a waitlist?
A. Yes. Once a camp session is filled, we immediately begin a waitlist. If your child is placed on the waitlist, we will contact you if a spot becomes available. Payment will only be processed if you choose to accept the spot.

Q. What is your cancellation policy?
A. Cancellations received 60 days or more prior to the first day of your session will receive a 90% refund. Cancellations received 15 to 60 days prior to the first day will receive a 50% refund. Cancellation within two weeks of the first day will not receive a refund.
Camp Logistics

Q. What are the camp times and dates?
A. Camp is offered in two week sessions. Camp is not offered on July 3, 2020. For 4 year-old campers: camps run from 9:00 am-1:00 pm. For 5 to 11 year-old campers: Camp run from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Schedules are available on the main Summer Camp page and on the registration form.

Q. Do you offer after-care for the four year old group?
A. Yes. After-care is offered from 1 - 3 p.m. for an additional $145/session. Campers explore the museum and have time for additional outdoor play with their counselors.

Q. What should my camper bring each day?
A. In a zippered backpack, please label the following with your camper’s name:
   - lunch - (We have a strict no peanut and tree nut policy.)
   - extra clothes - younger campers should come with a change of clothes including an extra shirt, pair of shorts, and underwear in case of accidents. All clothing should be labeled with your camper’s name.
   - reusable water bottle - labeled with your camper’s name.
   - sunscreen
     (Please note: camp staff is not permitted to apply sprays or lotions to campers. We recommend applying it before drop off; campers are given time after lunch to apply additional spray or lotion.)
   - Bug spray (optional)

Camps should come to camp wearing:
   - weather appropriate “play” clothing
   - camp t-shirt (On the first day of camp and for all field trips, and any other day you like)
   - close-toed shoes (Open-toed shoes and flip flops are not permitted in camp.)

On Water-Wednesdays, campers will need to pack:
   - a towel
   - additional t-shirt and change of clothes
   - closed-toe water shoes or sturdy sandals

On Water-Wednesdays, campers should come wearing:
   - their swim suit under their clothes (if they want to play in the water)
   - closed-toed shoes

Remember: The designated pick-up person should bring their photo ID every day for pick-up

Q. What is Water Wednesday?
A. Every Wednesday, campers the have opportunity to explore water through active outdoor play. Campers not wishing to join the water play will have the opportunity to play in a water free zone.

Q. How are the camps staffed? How many staff members will be with my camper?
A. Our summer camps are supervised by the Camp Directors, who are full time members of the Museum staff, and the Assistant Camp Director. Head Counselors (college-aged) and Counselors (high school and college-aged) lead activities and supervise the campers throughout the day. For the 4 year-old campers, our staff to child ratio is 1:5. For the 5 to 8 year-old campers, the ratio is 1:7. For the 9 to 11 year-old campers, the ratio is 1:9.
Q. What is your bathroom policy?
   A. All campers must be fully potty-trained and need no assistance when using the restroom. Campers will be offered several bathroom breaks throughout the day. A camp staff member will always be stationed at the public restrooms during this time.

Q. Is the camp staff trained in first aid?
   A. Yes, our Summer Camp staff is certified in CPR and First Aid by the Red Cross and trained to recognize the signs of a severe allergic reaction and in the administration of EpiPens. If your camper has an EpiPen, be sure to include that in your camper’s Health Profile. The Camp Directors will contact you prior to the start of camp to discuss the action plan for emergency administration.

Q. Will my child be spending any time outside?
   A. Yes! The majority of your camper’s day will be spent outside interacting with natural elements and exploring the nature of Chicago at their own pace with tools chosen (or built!) by them. Please dress your camper for the weather and be prepared to pick up a muddy, grass-stained, happy camper at the end of the day! We will absolutely play in the rain, but campers will participate in indoor activities in the event of inclement weather, including extreme heat and lightning.

Q. What if my child has special needs?
   A. Please note any special needs your child has on the registration form. The Camp Directors will contact you prior to the start of camp to discuss any strategies or accommodations the staff can implement to best support your child during Nature Museum Summer Camp.

Q. Should I pack a lunch? Does my child need a snack?
   A. Yes, you must send your camper with lunch. For the safety of all participants, we have a strict no peanut and tree nut policy. A healthy afternoon snack will be provided. Gluten-free and dairy-free options are available upon request for those campers with allergies and/or food sensitivities.

Q. Is there anything my camper should not bring?
   A. Campers should not bring electronics (including cell phones), valuables or other games/toys. If needed, a small comfort item can be packed (e.g., a small stuffed animal, or family picture), but please do not pack items with significant meaning. Keep in mind that camper items may be misplaced. Nature Museum camp staff is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Q. Does the Nature Museum Summer Camp have a Behavior Policy?
   A. Yes. All campers are required to review the camp behavior policy and contract with their parent or guardian prior to their first day of camp. The complete policy can be found in the Orientation Packet on page 7.