

Adventure Day Camp



8 one week sessions

week 1: June 23 – June 27

week 2: June 30 – July 3 (4 day week/prices vary)

week 3: July 7 – July 11

week 4: July 14 – July 18

week 5: July 21 – July 25

week 6: July 28 – August 1

week 7: August 4 – August 8

week 8: August 11 – August 15

195 Danbury Road • Ridgefield, CT
203.431.2755 • www.ridgefieldparksandrec.org

Handbook

Adventure Day Camp Staff

Youth Supervisor- Andrea Maiorano

Camp Director- Kaitlin Stanton

Email address- campcoor@ridgefieldct.org

Camp Coordinators- Assistants to Camp Director

Head Counselors- one for each group with Asst.
Counselors based on Counselor to Camper ratio.

Counselor Specialists- Water Fun, Nature,
Arts & Crafts, Fun & Games, Pool Escort

Groups (ages 3 - 13)

Explorers- (ages 3-4) | **Pioneers-** (kindergarten)
Rangers- (grade 1) | **Rangers without Field Trips**
Travelers- (grade 2) | **Trailblazers** (grades 3-4)
Discoverers (grades 5-8)

Counselor to Camper Ratio

Explorers, Pioneers- 1:5
Rangers, Travelers, Trailblazers- 1:7
Discoverers- 1:10

Registration closes on the **Wednesday** before the start date of camp.
Please enroll in the group that your child will be entering in the fall.

Adventure Day Camp Offers...

Inflatable Water Slide & Indoor Pool Time

On various days campers will enjoy outdoor water fun with our inflatable water slide, sprinklers, or Slip 'n Slide. Older Campers will also spend time in our indoor pool with tumble buckets and experienced swimmers will get to enjoy the water slide on Fridays. Explorers enjoy outdoor water fun only. Pioneers enjoy the zero entry section of the pool for their recreational swim. Pioneers, Rangers, and Travelers will have basic camp swim lessons with a certified Red Cross instructor. Our highly trained instructors emphasize fun, water safety and life-long learning in these classes. Trailblazers have time with trained Water Safety Instructors to practice and refine their strokes through exciting games and relay races. Counselors will remain in the water with the campers and lifeguards will be on duty. Discoverers will go in the pool each day they are at the Ridgefield Recreation Center. Each week campers are given a swim test to ensure that they are swimming in the appropriate area of the pool. During recreational swim, they will play organized games such as volleyball, have tumble bucket time, and go on the slide. In addition, you have the option to register your child for the full Red Cross certified lessons held during our camp day. Our staff will be available to get your camper to his/her assigned class. The camp swim lesson and the Red Cross certified swim lesson offer different opportunities of learning. One does not replace the other.

Field Trips

Travelers, Trailblazers, and Discoverers enjoy Martin Park Beach. They will be swimming, playing on the water mat, and zipping down the Zoom Floom for a half day on Tuesdays. Counselors will remain in the water with the campers and lifeguards will be on duty. Rangers, Travelers, Trailblazers, and Discoverers will travel to age appropriate destinations on Thursdays. Explorers and Pioneers will have numerous theme days and in-house field trips. The field trip schedule is still pending due to reservation timelines. It will be posted on our website when confirmed. Younger campers will take trips to places like New Pond Farm, Fun Factor, and Stepping Stones Children's Museum. Older campers will go to places like Club Getaway, Splash Down, and Lake Compounce. **"NEW" option for Rangers - No Field Trip Group.**

Special Events & Themes

Camp will include theme days such as carnival, field day, Halloween in summer, pirates ashore, make your own sundae, and tie-dye. Visits from a magician or juggler may occur as our special events and possibly a petting zoo as one of our in-house field trips. Popular events are games like "Minute To Win It" and Gold Rush. In the past, campers have enjoyed having a talent show and team spirit day.

Camp Activities & Fun

Camp activities will include: soccer, lacrosse, obstacle courses, archery, capture the flag, group games in our air conditioned gym, and more! Your child will also explore the Recreation Center's beautiful outdoor campus through campfire parties, nature hikes, pond studies, and scavenger hunts.

Campers will be engaged in a variety of art & craft projects. A different theme will be explored each week with campers expressing themselves using paint, clay, beads, and other materials. Some planned activities will include: volcano making/erupting, juggling ball making, and more.

Times & Rates

Full-day/5 day option (M-F) 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
available to all groups

\$270 members/\$300 non-members

Full-day/3 day option (M/W/F) 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
available only to Explorers & Pioneers

\$180 members/\$210 non-members

Mornings only/5 day option (M-F) 9:00 am -12:00 pm
available only to Explorers & Pioneers

\$170 members/\$200 non-members

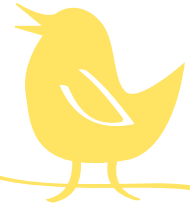
Mornings only/3 day option (M/W/F) 9:00 am -12:00 pm
available only to Explorers & Pioneers

\$130 members/\$160 non-members

Sunrise option: drop off at 7:30 am
\$25 per week/child

Sunset option: pick up at 6:00 pm
\$30 per week/child

SIBLING DISCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE.



EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

Register in March for 2 or more weeks of Adventure Day Camp and receive 10% off!

A Typical Day at Adventure Day Camp

The following schedule is an example of a typical day at the Adventure Day Camp. The times change according to the specific group so that all activities are age appropriate. Fun and Games, Nature, Water Fun and Art are run by specialists. On Tuesdays, Travelers, Trailblazers and Discoverers go to Martin Park Beach and campers entering grades 1-8 go on field trips every Thursday.

9:00 am	Arrival
9:00 - 9:30 am	Meeting & Camp Games
9:30 - 10:00 am	Fun & Games (a different activity will be run each day)
10:00 - 10:20 am	Snack
10:20 - 11:00 am	Water Fun (slip n'slides, mini pools & inflatable waterslide)
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Pool (tumble buckets, volleyball, slide time or camp swim lesson)
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 - 1:30 pm	Nature (activities such as archery, fishing, hikes and camp fires)
1:30 - 2:15 pm	Special Activity (field day, tie-dye, dance party, carnival & more)
2:15 - 3:00 pm	Playground
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Art
3:30 - 4:00 pm	Field Games
4:00 pm	Dismissal



Special Activities

There will be a special activity scheduled for each day. The following activities are some examples of the events that may occur during the course of Adventure Day Camp.

- Week 1:** Tie Dye, Juggling Act, Campfire with S'mores
- Week 2:** Dance Party, Field Day, "Minute to Win It" Game Show
- Week 3:** Gold Rush, Carnival, Pirates Ashore
- Week 4:** Tag Tournament, Messy Fun Day, Halloween Day
- Week 5:** Around the World games and culture, Talent Show, Wacky World of Camp
- Week 6:** BBQ, Fun with Water day, Egg Scramble
- Week 7:** Ice Cream Social, Sandcastle Competition, Team Spirit Day
- Week 8:** Science Day, Camper/Counselor Swap, Friendship Day

*All daily activities are subject to change based on the needs of camp.
There are limited activities for half day & part time campers due to time constraints.*

Water fun ☀ Slip n' Slide ☀ Mini Pools ☀ Field Sprinklers
☀ Huge inflatable water slide ☀

Registration Process

Parents MUST fill out the Registration Form in full.

Medical Form MUST be filled out by the Thursday before the week of camp they are attending.

- ◆ We must have a parent signature on our recreation center medical form.
- ◆ We must have a doctor's signature but it can be on our medical form OR a school form OR other physical form as long as it provides information on the health of the child.
- ◆ If using school form option, the school form must be dated within one year of start date of camp.

Registration Deadline

Campers MUST be registered and paid for by the Wednesday before the week of camp they are attending. The computer system will not let you register campers after that date. Registration Forms MUST be completely filled by parent and verified by Front Desk Attendant for emergency purposes which is why we do not allow online registration.

Camp!

We offer a structured but fun day for our campers! Counselors are trained in camp procedures and in CPR/First Aid. Lunch is provided on Fridays and might be pizza, mac & cheese, BBQ, etc. Parents may pack a lunch for their child if desired and send a note that the child does not prefer the Friday option for that week.

T-shirts

Campers will receive a yellow camp shirt on their first day at camp. They will have to wear this shirt for ALL field trips, including Martin Park Beach. Pack an extra T-shirt on these days.

Things to bring to camp...

NUT-FREE snack and lunch. Water bottle, Sneakers, Two bathing suits, a labeled sunscreen, towel and a change of clothes. Please place name on all objects AND don't forget to apply sunscreen BEFORE camp.

Allergies

Parents MUST bring in an epi-pen in a plastic bag that has the camper's name on it. If Epi-pen is dropped off at the front desk, please place it in Camp Director's mailbox. The Epi-pen is put in counselor's medical kit to travel with camper at all times.

Drop off/ Pick Up

Camp begins at 9:00 am and ends at 4:00 pm. Please be prompt in order to provide a smooth transition for all campers and drivers. Due to limited parking it is our preferred procedure to have campers arrive and leave from the curb in front of the Recreation Center. Parents are asked to pull all the way up to the second set of glass doors along the front sidewalk and pull to the curb to let other traffic pass. Parents must stay in their driver's seat and children must unload on the curb side of the vehicle. A Camp Staff member will approach and assist your child(ren) in exiting the vehicle and your child will be brought to his/her assigned group. At the end of the day the same process will be repeated.

Parents may prefer to walk their child into camp. For safety purposes, those parents are asked to park in the parking lot and use the **crosswalk**.

A written note is needed if someone other than a registered parent/guardian is picking up a camper. Once at camp, no child is permitted to leave before dismissal without a written request from a parent. This note must state the reason for the early dismissal, the time of departure, the name and telephone number of the person to whom the child is to be released (this includes parent/guardian) and must be authorized by the Camp Director. Check in at front desk in order to pick up child early.

Late Fee

Any camper left at camp late will be charged a late fee. For first five minutes after dismissal time (either 4:00 pm for regular camp or 6:00 pm for Sunset program) the fee will be waived. After the first five minutes, there will be a charge of \$5.00 per five minutes. This fee must be paid within 24 hours of late pick up.

Adventure Day Camp Policies

Behavior Policy

Camp provides a great opportunity for all children to develop skills and self-confidence. Our camp behavior policy is intended to help all campers be their best while treating fellow campers, staff and volunteers with respect. Each week campers will be assigned to their age appropriate camp group. On Mondays the groups attend morning meeting to review their upcoming schedule. Campers must remain with their group or in areas designated for their group while at camp and on field trips. Campers are to follow the direction of their counselors.

Illness Policy

We hope and wish for all our campers to be illness free but we realize that sometimes kids get sick. As we try our best to stay healthy please remember that our policy is for children to be **symptom free for 24 hours** before returning to camp. This means fever (>100), vomiting, and diarrhea needs to be gone for 24 hours, without the help of medication, before your child will be able to return to his/her camp group. Please notify the camp director of any serious illness. A more serious illness requires a doctors note in order to return to camp (i.e., pink eye, chicken pox, broken limb) We must be considerate of all the other families attending camp and do our best not to spread illness.

Zero Tolerance Policy

We do not tolerate stealing, bullying, foul language, wandering from your group or causing physical harm to others. We reserve the right to remove your child from our camp program without refund if these behaviors are identified and not corrected by you and your child.

Strategies

Strategies for handling disciplinary problems will be addressed by the Youth Supervisor. Camp Director and counselors will implement these strategies. A camper will sit out of an activity and could have a loss of privileges as the first steps to manage behavior. He/she will then be redirected to an activity in hope to create a more positive approach to the camp day. We expect the camper to apologize immediately to involved parties when problem behaviors occur.

Contacting Parents

The decision to contact a parent will be made once a child puts others in harms way or when the camper has not exhibited an effort to correct his/her behavior. Parents will be notified when a camper has been warned about repeated offenses. The camper will be given a final opportunity to remain in camp after parent contact. Continued inappropriate behavior will result in the dismissal from camp without a refund.

Refund Policy

Programs are refundable up to 3 weeks prior to session start date and subject to administrative approval. Medical absences (verified by a physician's note) will be refunded on a prorated basis. No retroactive discounts will be applied and discounts cannot be combined other than the Sibling Discount. Transfers may be requested up to one week prior to session start date and are subject to administrative approval. A fee of \$25 will be assessed to all refunds and transfers honored per week per child.





Ridgefield Parks & Recreation Adventure Day Camp Medical Form

PLEASE FILL OUT ONE MEDICAL FORM FOR EACH CHILD. THE INFORMATION REQUESTED IS FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A SAFE AND FULFILLING CAMP EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR CHILD. THIS INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE CAMP DIRECTOR AND SELECT MEMBERS OF THE CAMP STAFF, AS NECESSARY. THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE PARENT/GUARDIAN AND PHYSICIAN AND RETURNED TO THE RECREATION CENTER BY THE THURSDAY BEFORE YOUR CHILD ATTENDS CAMP. YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND CAMP IF THIS FORM IS MISSING OR INCOMPLETE.

NAME OF PARTICIPANT	DATE OF BIRTH	NICKNAME	
MOTHER'S NAME	HOME PHONE	DAYTIME	
FATHER'S NAME	HOME PHONE	DAYTIME	
STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
EMERGENCY CONTACT #1 (OTHER THAN PARENT)	PHONE	RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD	
EMERGENCY CONTACT #2 (OTHER THAN PARENT)	PHONE	RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD	

TRYING TO GO PAPERLESS. PLEASE GIVE BEST EMAIL TO CONTACT YOU

DO YOU WANT YOUR CHILD PLACED WITH A FAMILY/FRIEND? WHO?

I GIVE PERMISSION TO THE ADC COUNSELORS TO APPLY PARENT PROVIDED SUNSCREEN 1X DAILY.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PLEASE PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION THAT MAY BE HELPFUL TO OUR COUNSELORS AS THEY MAKE CAMP FUN, ENJOYABLE AND SAFE. THIS MAY INCLUDE INFORMATION SUCH AS ALLERGIES, FEARS, BEHAVIORAL CONCERNS/STRATEGIES, PHYSICAL/SOCIAL LIMITATIONS, IEP, ETC.

ALL CAMPERS MUST BE SELF SUFFICIENT IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIBED AND OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS. OUR STAFF MEMBERS WILL NOT ADMINISTER MEDICATION OR PROVIDE SERVICES OF A PERSONAL NATURE. I RECOGNIZE THAT BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THE SUMMER DAY CAMP ACTIVITIES, MY CHILD MAY SUFFER AN INJURY. IN THE EVENT OF AN INJURY TO MY CHILD, I GIVE PERMISSION TO THE DAY CAMP STAFF AND TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RIDGEFIELD PARKS & RECREATION TO SEEK MEDICAL ASSISTANCE. I GIVE PERMISSION TO ANY EMERGENCY PERSONNEL AND TO ANY ATTENDING PHYSICIAN TO RENDER EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT TO MY CHILD. I HEREBY RELEASE THE RIDGEFIELD PARKS & RECREATION, ITS EMPLOYEES, INSTRUCTORS AND THE ADVENTURE DAY CAMP PROGRAM OF ALL LIABILITY. I HAVE THOROUGHLY READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS MEDICAL RELEASE.

GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

<p>IF APPLICABLE, PLEASE SIGN HERE IF YOU GIVE PERMISSION FOR AN IEP OR PERTINENT INFORMATION TO BE DISCLOSED FROM THE B.O.E. PLEASE KNOW THE INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AND ONLY USED TO APPLY STRATEGIES TO BETTER SERVE YOUR CHILD.</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____</p>

SECTION 2: GENERAL HEALTH RECORD (TO BE FILLED OUT AND SIGNED BY THE CHILD'S PHYSICIAN)

PHYSICIAN'S NAME _____ PHONE _____ ADDRESS _____

DOES THIS CHILD HAVE ALLERGIES? YES / NO IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN _____ IS THIS CHILD ON A SPECIAL DIET? YES / NO IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN _____

IDENTIFY ANY KNOWN MEDICAL CONDITION OR EMOTIONAL DISORDER THAT WOULD CURRENTLY POSE A RISK TO THEMSELVES OR TO OTHER CHILDREN OR WHICH WOULD AFFECT THE CHILD'S FUNCTIONAL ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE SAFELY IN A DAY CAMP SETTING.

PLEASE LIST ANY PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS THE CHILD WILL BE TAKING DURING CAMP

I HAVE EXAMINED THE CAMPER AND HIS/HER HEALTH CARE RECORD AND IT IS MY OPINION THAT HE/SHE IS ABLE TO ENGAGE IN ALL CAMP ACTIVITIES EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED ABOVE.

PHYSICIAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Top Ten Things for Adventure Day Camp Parents to Know

1. Pack everyday:

Two bathing suits, towel, nut-free lunch, nut-free snacks, water, sneakers, extra clothes, sunscreen, goggles, and a plastic bag for wet items. Morning only Explorers and Pioneers need snacks but not a lunch. Pack the provided recreation center yellow t-shirt for all field trips including ones to Martin Park Beach. If trip is water related, pack a shirt in addition to the camp shirt. Optional: ice cream money for truck on Friday afternoons. Please do NOT pack toys from home. Do NOT pack money for vending machines or field trips.

2. Label everything!!!

Especially clothing, towels, and sunscreen. If an item is lost, check with your child's counselor. If it is not in the camper's homeroom, look in Lost and Found at the end of the hallway past the pool. There is also a Lost and Found on the pool deck.

3. Forms

A medical form is due the Thursday before the camper's start date. Campers may NOT attend if medical form is not on file. We accept a copy of a school form if handed in with the parent portion of our medical form. We also need a permission slip signed if your child is attending a field trip.

4. Arrival/Dismissal

Curbside drop-off (8:50am-9:10am) and pick-up (3:50pm-4:10pm) is offered for your convenience. Please pull as far forward as possible while not blocking the crosswalks or handicap spaces. Camp staff will approach and assist campers into/out of vehicles on the Curb Side ONLY. Please do not drop your child off unless a staff member is present and please do not leave your vehicle. For safety, please drive slowly and use your directional while pulling away from the curb as cars will be passing on the left side.

5. Alternate Pick-Up Person

Parent should write a note (include: child's name, authorized pick up person, date) and give to child's counselor.

6. Early pick-up

Parent should write a note (include: child's name, person picking up, time of departure) and give to counselor. Check-in at front desk when arriving to pick up the camper. Child(ren) will be brought to you at the front desk.

7. Sunscreen

Please apply sunscreen before camp. Sunscreen will be reapplied one time daily IF you have signed the medical form to give permission and have packed a labeled bottle of sunscreen.

8. Communication

Theme day information will be emailed to parents the week prior to their camp week. Weekly flyers will be given out on Monday afternoon. Also, follow us on Twitter (@RfldRecDayCamp) and Facebook (Ridgefield Rec Day Camp) for information on theme days, weather cancellations, and other camp updates.

9. Please let us know...

of any accommodations or strategies that work well with your child. Insights about your child, such as fears, allow our counselors to provide a better day for the campers. Counselors appreciate updates throughout the summer. We want everyone to have a safe and fun day here at the recreation center!

10. If you have any further questions...

please review our Handbook and FAQs on our Ridgefield Parks and Recreation website. Feel free to contact Kaitlin Stanton, the Camp Director, at campcoor@ridgefieldct.org or Andrea Maiorano, Youth Supervisor, at 203-431-2755.

*Additional Information on website at ridgefieldparksandrec.org

Follow us at:



Twitter: @RfldRecDayCamp

Facebook: Ridgefield Rec Adventure Day Camp



Adventure Day Camp

Frequently Asked Questions

What do the children need to bring to camp?

Full day campers should bring a **nut-free lunch & snack**, water bottle, sneakers, two bathing suits, sunscreen, hat & towel every day. **Morning only** campers should bring a nut-free snack, bathing suit, towel, hat, sunscreen and change of clothes.

Apply sunscreen before camp. Full-day campers may bring their own sunscreen bottle (clearly labeled with name) for touch-ups as needed throughout the day. Our staff does not apply sunscreen unless parent gives permission on our medical form. Otherwise, campers need to be able to apply it themselves.

Please label ALL personal belongings with your child's name. Please also put your child's name in the yellow Recreation Center t-shirt that he/she receives on the first day of camp attended.

Do I have to fill out a medical form?

Yes. Your child will not be admitted to camp unless this is returned to us by the deadline and is complete. **The deadline for submitting your child's medical form is the Thursday prior to your child's start date at camp.**

Blank medical forms are available at the Recreation Center Front Desk or on our summer camp website.

Please note that there is a section on the form for you, the guardian AND your child's physician. Both sections must be filled out and signed. Please allow plenty of time for this step because most medical practices have many such forms to complete. We will also accept a copy of your child's school health form if it is **dated within one year** of the camper's start date.

Please return the medical form to the front desk at the Recreation Center OR fax to (203) 431-2761 Attn: Kaitlin Stanton.

How do you handle allergies?

First, we strictly enforce our nut-free food policy by not allowing campers to unwrap or eat a food brought from home that we suspect contains nuts. Please check all packaging such as granola bars, popcorn, etc. for traces of nut products. Campers are not separated at snack- or lunch-time according to their allergy status.

Second, epi-pens should be clearly labeled with your child's name. They are stored in the medical bag assigned to each group's head counselor and travel with the group as that group moves from activity to activity. Additionally, this bag goes on all field trips, as does all medical forms.

If your child has an allergy, please be sure to clearly note this on both the medical form and the registration form. You may also request a pre-camp meeting with the Camp Director to discuss your child's specific allergy-related needs.

What time does camp begin and end?

The full day programs begin at 9:00 am and ends at 4:00 pm.

The Explorers and Pioneers morning programs begin at 9:00 am and end at noon.

Is there an extended-day option?

You may extend your child's day from 7:30 am – 6 pm with the "Sunrise/Sunset" option, which is offered every day.

Before-camp care opens at 7:30 am at a cost of \$25 per week per child, whether using one or five of the days. For the safety of your child, please walk your child to the designated room and be sure to notify the counselor of your arrival. Do **not** drop your child off **before** the designated start time, as staff will not be available.

After-camp care stays open until 6:00 pm for the additional weekly fee of \$30 per week per child, whether using one or five of the days in the week registered. There will be a fine for tardiness after 6:05 pm and potential exclusion from future use of this program. There is a \$5 discount if your child is enrolled in both the Sunrise and Sunset service within the same week.

May I drop my child off at the curb?

Yes, and in fact, this is our preferred procedure for campers arriving at and leaving from camp due to limited parking. Curbside drop-off begins at 8:50 am. We also provide curbside pick-up at noon and 4:00 pm. Parents are asked to pull all the way up to the second set of glass doors and pull to the curb to let other traffic pass. Our senior counselors use walkie-talkies to facilitate the process. Parents must stay in their driver's seat and children must unload on the curbside of the vehicle. **Make sure a counselor is present when you drop off your child.**

Parents may prefer to walk their child into camp. For safety purposes, those parents are asked to park in the parking lot and use the **crosswalk**.

What if I want to pick up my child early from camp?

We require that any child who will be leaving camp early bring a note stating the time of departure, the reason for the early dismissal, and the name and phone number of the person picking up the camper, even if that person will be the parent or guardian. The note should be signed and dated by the parent or guardian and authorized by the Camp Director. Check-in at the front desk when picking up early.

How is Adventure Day Camp organized and staffed?

Campers are organized into age groups and do age-appropriate activities together. Our experienced Camp Director and Coordinator are responsible for planning activities and trips each week of camp. Each age group has a Head Counselor who handles most of your child's needs on a daily basis. This highly experienced staff member is your best resource for questions during camp. Campers should learn their Head Counselor's name. There are also assistant counselors for each group.

We provide the following staff-to-camper ratios:

Explorers and Pioneers: 1:5 Rangers, Travelers and Trailblazers: 1:7 Discoverers: 1:10

We reserve the right to combine age groups or cancel specific age groups due to low enrollment.

What type of outdoor activities will my child do at camp?

Outdoor activities include utilizing outdoor areas of the Recreation Center campus for nature studies (pond visits, nature walks, etc.), outdoor water fun, relay games, sports, scavenger hunts, playground time, walks/hikes on our paved trails, and barbecues. Special events are also planned for all groups. Travelers, Trailblazers and Discoverers will visit Martin Park Beach once a week.

How often will my child visit Martin Park Beach and/or the pool?

It depends on which age group your child is in.

Explorers will not go to the pool or beach. However, we will cool off with outdoor water games played with sprinklers, the Slip and Slide, mini pools, and outdoor water slide. Please apply waterproof or water-resistant sunscreen at home (and send sunscreen with child each day that they can apply themselves).

Being a bit older, Pioneers will have basic camp swim lessons with a certified Red Cross instructor as well as time in the Zero Entry Area of the pool. They will enjoy all of the other water activities on campus as described above. Rangers also enjoy the outdoor water activities. The Rangers will be scheduled for pool time three to four times a week. There is a swim ability test each week. You may speak to the Camp Director with any questions or concerns.

Travelers, Trailblazers, & Discoverers will have time for fun at Martin Park Beach on Tuesdays. On alternate days, they will enjoy outdoor water fun with our inflatable water slide and sprinklers. They will also use the Recreation Center pool and enjoy water games, tumble buckets and the indoor water slide. Swim ability tests will be given by the aquatic staff to determine skill level at both the beach and pool.

Will my child be receiving swim lessons?

Every camper has the option to register for one of our full Red Cross certified lessons held during our camp day. Our staff will be available to get your camper to his/her assigned class. If your child is a Pioneer, Ranger, or Traveler then basic camp swim lessons will be included in his/her camp day. Trailblazers have time with trained Water Safety Instructors to practice and refine their strokes through exciting games and relay races. One does not replace the other.

What is the benefit to having basic camp swim lessons?

To be a good swimmer, your child should swim year round. Our basic camp swim lesson will emphasize fun, water safety, and life-long skills. These lessons are a support to and build upon the Red Cross certified lesson within a larger group. A full Red Cross certified lesson is based on a standardized curriculum providing more individualized attention within a smaller group.

All regular beach and pool regulations will be enforced by our staff and followed by our campers. It is important that you inform the Head Counselor if your child uses ear plugs or nose plugs or has any other special water-related needs.

What types of field trips will my child go on?

Each Monday, specific information about the week and field trip permission slips for that week will be sent home with your child. ALL campers are given a bright yellow shirt to wear on all field trips, including visits to Martin Park Beach. All field trips are weather permitting. Once booked, exact field trips for each age group are posted on the Recreation Center website.

Rangers and Travelers will enjoy field trips each week to places such as Fun Factor, Pump It Up (indoor bounce houses), nature centers, etc. Trailblazers and Discoverers take longer trips, to locations such as Splash Down Water Park, Lake Compounce and Brownstone Quarry.

Some of our field trips are weather sensitive and we may not always be able to go another day because of reservation limitations. In the event of poor weather, you may call the Front Desk the morning of the trip for updates. There are no refunds for cancelled field trips. However, we make every attempt to replace a cancelled field trip with a social and age-appropriate activity.

What if I do not want my child to participate in a particular field trip or they are unable to attend part of it?

This child would have to stay home that day. All of your child's counselors will be leaving the building and children may not join another group. This sometimes comes into question when a child has an afternoon doctor's appointment or morning summer school. No refunds are given in these situations. However, we offer a "Rangers with no field trip" group.

My child is at the younger end of your age range. Does he/she need to be potty trained?

All campers need to be fully potty trained and three years old by the camper's start date. No exceptions will be made.

What if my child has a special need?

Both the registration form and the medical form ask for information about your child that counselors should be aware of. Please share information about any special needs your child may have (i.e.: prone to ear infections, allergies and carries a kit, has a hearing deficiency, has an IEP, physical/social limitations, etc.) on both forms. Feel free to attach additional sheets if necessary. Provide as much information as possible so that we may accommodate your child to ensure his/her camp experience is positive and fun. You may also arrange a pre-camp meeting to discuss any special needs/requests with Barbara Carvalho, at 203-431-2755 x142.

Who should I speak to about my individual concerns?

If you have questions or concerns that we have not addressed in our printed materials or on our website, please call the Recreation Center Front Desk at (203) 431-2755. Our staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have. If you still have questions or concerns, please ask to speak with the Camp Director, Kaitlin Stanton or the Camp Coordinator. You may also choose to walk your child into camp the first day or two to personally discuss any specific concerns with the Camp Staff.



195 Danbury Road • Ridgefield, CT
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