NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES
Conserve. Connect. Inspire.

Outdoor Adventure Camp 2027
Weekly Theme Description

Chipmunk Patrol (AM and PM) and Squirrel Scouts

Campers who are 4 and 5 years old, as well as those entering Kindergarten and first grade.

Weeks	Theme	Description
1 & 5	Earth Detectives	Put on your detective hat and get ready to investigate the natural world! Campers will dig into the mysteries of soil, rocks, plants, and the tiny organisms that help our Earth thrive through hands-on experiments, outdoor exploration, and exciting discoveries.
2 & 6	Creature Features	From crawling critters to hopping frogs, the natural world is full of amazing animals with incredible abilities! Campers will explore animal adaptations, discover where creatures live, and learn what makes each animal special through games, crafts, and up-close nature encounters.
3 & 7	Naturally Creative	Let nature be your inspiration! Campers will use colors, textures, patterns, and materials found in the natural world to create unique works of art while exploring their creativity, discovering nature's beauty, and learning how to care for the environment.
4 & 8	Pond Pals	Dive into the wonderful world of ponds and wetlands! Campers will discover the plants and animals that call these watery habitats home, explore the secrets of pond life, and splash into hands-on activities that reveal why water is so important to nature.

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Nature Detectives

Campers who are entering 2nd and 3rd grade.

Weeks	Theme	Description
1 & 5	Rocks Rock! (archery)	Get ready to dig into the amazing world beneath our feet! Campers will investigate rocks, minerals, and geological formations through hands-on experiments and outdoor exploration, then practice focus, coordination, and safety while learning the basics of archery.
2 & 6	Animal Agents	It's time to go undercover in the animal kingdom! Campers will investigate animal behaviors, adaptations, tracks, and habitats as they uncover the secrets of how wildlife finds food, stays safe, and survives in the natural world.
3 & 7	Survival Skill 101 (archery)	Are you ready to put your outdoor skills to the test? Campers will practice teamwork, problem-solving, and introductory wilderness skills while exploring topics like shelter building, navigation, and outdoor preparedness, along with learning the basics of archery in a safe, supervised environment.
4 & 8	Water Adventure	Make a splash while exploring the wonders of aquatic ecosystems! Campers will learn about ponds, wetlands, and other watery habitats, discover the creatures that call them home, and take on hands-on challenges that reveal the science and adventure of the natural world.

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Nature Explorers

Campers who are entering 4th and 5th grade.

Weeks	Theme	Description
1 & 5	Geology Rocks (archery)	Discover the incredible forces that shape our planet! Campers will investigate rocks, minerals, fossils, and geological processes through hands-on experiments and outdoor exploration, then put their focus to the test as they learn the basics of archery. Campers will also enjoy two field trips, bringing their geological discoveries to life beyond the Nature Center.
2 & 6	Wildlife Detectives	Every animal leaves clues behind—can you figure out what they reveal? Campers will investigate animal tracks, signs, behaviors, and adaptations to uncover the mysteries of local wildlife while developing their observation skills and learning how scientists study animals in the wild. Two field trips will give campers additional opportunities to explore wildlife and discover more about the natural world.
3 & 7	Survival Skills 201 (archery)	Take your outdoor adventure skills to the next level! Campers will tackle wilderness activities, practice navigation, shelter-building, and strengthen their teamwork and problem-solving skills while working on their focus and safety by trying out archery. No previous survival skills experience is needed—campers of all experience levels are welcome to join the adventure! Two field will provide even more opportunities to put outdoor skills and discoveries into action.
4 & 8	H_2o Yeah!	Get ready to dive into the science and adventure of water! Campers will investigate aquatic ecosystems, explore water quality and the water cycle, and discover how organisms survive through hands-on experiments, outdoor exploration, and water-themed challenges. Campers will also take two field trips to explore aquatic environments and water science.

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Eco-Rangers

Campers who are entering 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.

Weeks	Theme	Description
1	Adventures in Rocks (Archery)	Explore the incredible forces that shape our planet! Campers will investigate rocks, minerals, fossils, and geological processes through hands-on experiments and outdoor exploration while also learning the basics of archery. Two field trips will take campers beyond the Nature Center to experience geology and adventure firsthand.
2	Operation: Wild	Your mission is to uncover the secrets of the natural world! Campers will investigate wildlife behavior, animal adaptations, and local ecosystems while taking on hands-on challenges that put their observation, critical-thinking, and field research skills to the test. Two field trips will provide additional opportunities to explore wildlife and put their discoveries into action.
3	Survival Skills 301 (archery)	Get ready to challenge yourself with outdoor adventures that build confidence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills! Campers will explore wilderness skills such as shelter building, navigation, and outdoor preparedness while learning the fundamentals of archery in a safe, supervised environment. No previous survival skills experience is needed, and two field trips will give campers even more opportunities to explore.
4	Wetland Exploration	Discover the fascinating world of wetlands and the incredible diversity they support! Campers will investigate aquatic habitats, identify the plants and animals that depend on these ecosystems. They will also explore topics like water quality, food webs, and wetland conservation through hands-on fieldwork, scientific investigation, and a pair of field trips.