NATURE DETECTIVES
DAY CAMP
PARENTS GUIDE
to camp at Rum Village Nature Center
PARENTS GUIDE TO CAMP

Thank you for registering for Nature Detectives Day Camp at Rum Village Nature Center. We are looking forward to a fun week of nature exploration. This guide contains important information regarding your camper’s experience with us.

We look forward to meeting your camper this summer!

Sincerely,

Hannah Teshka
Camp Director
574.235.9455
hteshka@southbendin.gov

2020 CAMP INFORMATION

Address:
Rum Village Nature Center
2626 S. Gertrude Street
South Bend, IN 46614

Emergency Numbers
In the event of an emergency while your child is attending camp please call:
• Rum Village Nature Center: 574.235.9455
• Mon – Fri 8:30am-4:30pm
• If staff at the Nature Center are unavailable, please call Howard Park at 574.299.4765 and ask them to contact the Director of Nature Detectives by cell phone.

Meadow Mice
(6 year olds)
Mon – Fri 9:00am-12pm
June 15th – 19th
Cost. $60

Ramblin’ Raccoons
(7 & 8 year olds)
Mon – Fri 9:00am-2:30pm
June 22th – 26th
Cost. $85

Forest Foxes
(9 & 10 year olds)
Mon – Fri 9:00am-2:30pm
July 6th-10th
Cost. $85

Eager Eagles
(11 & 12 year olds)
Mon – Fri 9:00am-2:30pm*
July 13th – 17th
Cost. $105

*With one day at Potato Creek State Park and a 2-hour adventure at Edge Adventure Aerial Park (at Rum Village). A permission slip will be sent home on the first day of camp.

Camp minimum is 10 participants. We reserve the right to cancel the camp if fewer than 10 campers are registered by the preceding Monday. If the camp is canceled by us, full refunds will be given.

We do capture images throughout camp and will post them at the end of each camp. Like us to see all the wonderful photos!

facebook.com/rumvillage
PARENT CHECKLIST
Before the first day of Nature Detectives:
☐ Make sure your child is registered for the correct age group.
☐ Complete the Health Information & Medical Release Form (found online) and return to Camp Director.

Prior to each day of camp:
☐ Help your camper pack for each day! (Please see the What to Bring section for more details!)
☐ Make sure everything that your camper brings to camp is labeled with first and last name.
☐ Have medications* ready to turn into camp staff at check-in.

*Medications must be in their original containers. Please make sure the Authorization to Administer Medication Form has been completed and turned in to camp staff.

WHAT TO BRING
The following is a list of suggested items. Please keep in mind that most of our time will be spent outdoors. Have your camper wear clothes that can get dirty. Please label everything with your child's name. Each camper will have a cubby where they may keep a spare change of clothes.
☐ Comfortable walking shoes (no sandals or flip flops)
☐ Comfortable clothes (that can get dirty during outside play and crafts)
☐ Reusable water bottle
☐ Raincoat and/or rain boots (on rainy days)
☐ Sunscreen/Bug spray (optional)
☐ Hat/Cap (optional)
☐ Sack lunch (that does not require refrigeration) *this is only for camps lasting until 2:30 pm.
☐ Change of clothes (optional)

WHAT NOT TO BRING
In order to ensure an enjoyable camp experience the following are not allowed at camp: portable electronics (iPods, video games, etc.), toys, and valuable items. These particular items can be distracting and have the chance of being lost or stolen. Rum Village Nature Center is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

WEATHER INFORMATION
Camp will be held rain or shine, so please be sure your child is dressed appropriately. We do not cancel camps due to inclement weather. In the event of thunder, lightning or other serious weather conditions, all outdoor camp activities will be moved indoors immediately for the safety of our campers. If rain is in the forecast, we recommend sending your child with a raincoat and rain boots. We will do our best to make sure we get outside every day!

CANCELLATION POLICY
A 50% refund will be given if camp is canceled by the participant five working days prior to the first day of participation. No refund will be allowed after this time. A full refund will be given if the camp is canceled by us for any reason. Refunds are not given for missing part of camp.

FOOD
Campers are expected to wash their hands before and after lunch and snack. Campers with extreme food allergies will be allowed to sit at a special table during lunch time. Parents wishing to bring in food to share with the camp, like cupcakes for a birthday celebration, should have those items approved by the Camp Director beforehand.

Lunch
(Ramblin’ Raccoons, Forest Foxes, & Eager Eagles camps only)

Children must bring their own labeled lunch in a sturdy bag or lunch box. Refrigeration is not available. It is extremely important for children to stay hydrated during the summer. Please be sure to send a refillable water bottle with your child even if you send other beverages. Please note that we are not a nut-free facility, we will have a nut-free table for campers with allergies.

Camp Snacks
Rum Village Nature Center provides a snack and drink for each camp session. If your child has food allergies or health concerns, we invite you to send a separate snack with your child each day. We do our best to accommodate everyone.
HEALTH AND SAFETY
We take the health and safety of our campers very seriously. Campers will not be admitted without a completed Health Information and Medical Release Form. If you need assistance completing this form, please contact Hannah at 574.235.9455.

Medical Care
The health and wellbeing of every camper is our first priority. All staff is trained and certified in First Aid and CPR. If your child becomes ill while at camp or requires medical assistance beyond basic First Aid, you will be contacted immediately by the Camp Director. If you cannot be reached, we will call the individuals you have designated as emergency contacts on your Health Information & Medical Release Form. Please make sure all information provided is accurate. In the event of a serious emergency, Day Camp staff will call Emergency Medical Services.

Medication at Camp
We strongly discourage administering medication at camp unless medically necessary. If possible, please ask your physician to write the prescription so that the medication can be given outside of camp hours. If your child needs any medication while at Day Camp, you must fill out and return the Authorization to Administer Medication Form. Medications must be brought in, should only contain enough needed while at camp. Please drop-off any necessary or prescribed medication for your child at the check-in table on your first day of camp. All medications must be in their original containers with the medication, dosage and administration instructions on the bottle and in a clearly labeled bag with the camper’s name. Day Camp staff administers all medications and keeps them in a separate, secure location. Exceptions to this are inhalers and epi-pens for severe allergies, which may be carried by the staff in case of emergency.

MOTHER NATURE
Insect Repellent
Typically, there are plenty of mosquitoes during camp season. We will have insect repellent and will spray your camper before heading outside for the day. Please make sure you initial for approval to spray your child in the Health Information & Medical Release Form. We use an insect repellent that has DEET in the ingredients. If you prefer to use your own, please send it with your camper labeled with their name.

Sunscreen
Please apply sunscreen to your child prior to arriving each day as you see fit. We will be spending a good portion of our time at camp outside. Our trail system is heavily wooded, but we will venture out into non-shaded areas. We do not supply sunscreen. If you send sunscreen with your child, we will remind them to reapply it throughout the day. Please make sure it is clearly marked with your child’s name.

Ticks
Insects are always abundant here including ticks. We strongly recommend that you check your camper daily for ticks.

DROP-OFF/PICK-UP
It is important for your camper’s safety, that you check-in and check-out your camper each day. Please make sure that the pick-up permission section in the Health Information & Medical Release Form is filled in completely. The person(s) will be required to present identification at pick-up. Please inform them of this!

Drop-off
☐ Camp staff will be available with a clipboard and the check-in sheet. It is the parent’s responsibility to approach the staff person to check-in for the day.
☐ Parents need to allow extra time to check-in their child daily.
☐ All medications must be signed in/out daily.

Pick-up
☐ Campers needs to be checked-out by a parent daily. Please make sure staff is aware that the camper is leaving.
☐ If someone other than the parent is picking the camper up, please make sure their information is listed on the Health Information & Medical Release Form.
☐ If an emergency arises and you will be late picking up your camper, please call us and let us know.
CAMP BEHAVIOR
Camp is thoughtfully designed to be an enjoyable, educational and safe environment for everyone. We expect campers to respect the staff and other campers, to listen, and to follow the rules. Nature Detectives staff reserves the right to send home any camper who exhibits unsuitable or consistently disrespectful behavior. Serious infractions such as bullying or fighting will result in immediate dismissal from camp.

CAMP MEMORIES
It is tradition that on the last day of camp, camper receive a Nature Detective Award. If you would like to see your child receive their award, please arrive 10 minutes early on the last day of camp.