

Discovery Day Camp

Spring break 2022

WHEN? March 21 - 25, 2022
Mon - Fri, 9 am-3 pm

WHERE? 29th Street Centre
4506 - 29th Street, Vernon

WHO? Children, grades 1 - 6

WHAT?

Theme: Exploring our Forests

Activities: Fun-based learning, crafts,
Cooking, sewing, games

CONTACT: Dianne Enns, director (778) 930-0150
Kathryn Hettler, assistant (250) 309-7794

Parent Information Sheet

The following information should answer most of the questions you may have about our program.

Who Are We?

We are a group of retired educators who wish to provide an exciting and inexpensive day camp for families with school age children who need activities during spring break. This is the first year we are offering the program, but we hope to extend more of these opportunities in the future.

We have chosen a forest theme for our Discovery Camp this year. Children will learn about the importance of forests, forest creatures and plants, and how we can care for the forest. The program will include a one-day field trip to a nearby forest. For a preview of our planned activities, see the attached Schedule.

Our Mission

To provide a respectful environment where child-centered, fun-based, interactive learning can flourish.

Core Values

We believe that every child has been created in the image of God and is to be valued and affirmed as a unique individual regardless of race, ability, religion, language or cultural background.

It is our desire to

- help each child discover and develop his/her innate gifts and abilities;
- provide an environment that fosters development of literacy, numeracy, and the creative arts;
- teach practical skills that would build competence and self-confidence in each child;
- support children as they build healthy relationships with their peers.

We are from a faith-based community founded on Christian beliefs, but we welcome children from all faith traditions and backgrounds. Staff members in our program will seek to model integrity, kindness, and humility. However, our program content will not include specific instruction on the Christian faith.

Our Staff

Our volunteer staff represents a wide variety of educational experience: early education, elementary, secondary, and college levels. We are an enthusiastic and multi-talented group who have a heart for children! Some student volunteers (high school age) will also be helping out with the program. (See photograph below.)



Fees

Discovery Day Camp is sponsored by Vernon Christian Fellowship, a charitable organization.

All of our staff members are volunteers.

Fees will cover some basic supplies and part of the cost of bus rental for the one-day field trip we are planning.

Fees = \$25.00 per child.

TWO-STEP REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:

- Fill out and submit the registration form: www.vcfvernon.ca/discovery-register
- You will then be notified if your child has been enrolled. Submit fees after you've been notified.

IMPORTANT: We have capacity for only 20 children. Register SOON! If we reach capacity before we process your registration form, you can be placed on a wait list if you wish.

Further instructions on the registration form will outline how to submit the fees and what to bring on Day One of the camp.

Operations and Policies

1. **Drop off and Pick up:** Children must be dropped off by 9:00 am daily and PICKED UP NO LATER THAN 3:00 pm.
NOTE: Our staff members will sign in children at drop off time. Parents are required to SIGN OUT their children at pick up time. Pick up will take place at the main entrance doors (side of 29th Street Centre building).
NOTE: For your child's safety, we adhere to strict protocols about the pick-up procedure. For example, if a parent arrives to pick up their child but seems intoxicated or impaired, the staff will talk to that parent (away from the children) and ask if they have been over-using medication or other substances. If the parent denies any of the above but the staff are still unsure about their condition, a taxi will be made available to pick up the child. If the parent does not comply, then the staff will warn the parent that the RCMP and the Ministry of Children and Family Development will be notified once they leave the building.
2. **Confidential policy:** We will keep all child and family information confidential and in a secure place. In the case of emergency, your child's photo will be shown to emergency personnel.
3. **Custody orders:** If a child is in the custody of one parent, we will ask you to provide appropriate documentation and to discuss with us the appropriate procedures and considerations. We will also need a picture of the person who is not allowed access.
4. **Child Abuse policy:** If a staff member has reasonable grounds to believe that a child is abused or neglected or in great risk, that staff member is morally and legally obligated to file a report immediately with the Ministry of Children and Family Development.
5. **No Smoking:** There is a NO SMOKING policy inside the 29th Street Centre building.

6. Illness policy: We follow the same policies as the public school. If your child becomes ill at the day camp, you will be asked to pick up your child or arrange to have them picked up.
7. Covid policy: In accordance with government regulations, all staff and children will be required to adhere to current guidelines. If masks are required, please provide your child with his/her own masks. If your child has covid-like symptoms, please keep him/her home.
8. Toys and electronics from home: Please do not allow your child to bring electronic devices or toys. We encourage activities that do not require screens.
9. Bathrooms: Two bathrooms are available. Children must communicate with a staff member when they wish to use the bathroom.
10. First Aid: At all times, there will be a staff member with first aid training present. The staff will fill out an incident report and give the parents a copy.
In the event of a serious accident, the parent will be contacted immediately. If the parent is not available, we will contact the emergency contact person listed in your contact information. Please make sure that person knows he/she is responsible to pick up your child in the event of an emergency.
11. Lunch and Snacks: Please provide your children with a snack and a lunch. They will have access to water all day as needed. The children will be learning cooking skills during the week and hopefully will bring home some nice treats!
NOTE: On Thursday, the day of the field trip, please send water along with your child.
12. Extra Staff: Our day camp program does not have extra staff to accommodate children who require an educational assistant at school.

Behavior Policy

All of us deserve to be treated with respect. Our staff is committed to treating your children with respect and kindness and will seek to model this behavior at all times. We ask your children to treat both the person and property of the staff members and their peers with respect. We also ask that they treat the 29th Street Centre building with respect.

Many times a child's inappropriate behavior can be corrected with a simple conversation. For some misbehavior, a child may receive a natural consequence. One of the most common tools that the staff will use to help your child behave is re-direction, eg. a time away in a quiet place. If a child struggles with adapting their behavior to fit in with the program or has a difficult incident which requires more than just a reminder, he/she may receive a Behavior Reflection Sheet, which is to be completed at home and brought back to school the day after the incident.

If your child has a behavior care plan respecting behavioral guidance, please ensure that the staff members are aware of this plan.

Behavior Reflection Sheet

If your child receives a Behavior Reflection Sheet, you will be notified by email or when you pick him/her up. We ask that parents take the time to help their child fill out this form. See a sample of a Behavior Reflection Sheet below.

Dear Parent / Guardian.

You have hopefully found an email or had a conversation with a staff member that describes the situation involving your child today.

We ask that you as parent/guardian work through this Behavior Reflection Sheet with your child. You may need to explain the questions to your child and help them write down their answers.

This page needs to be completed and returned to a staff member in order for your child to attend the day camp program tomorrow.

1. Recognize the inappropriate behavior / attitude. Refer to the earlier conversation to help your child remember. "What did you do today that was inappropriate?"

2. Why did you act the way you did? What does this tell you about yourself?

3. What is a better behavior / attitude?

4. What will you do next time?

Thank you! We look forward to a fresh start tomorrow!

SCHEDULE OF DAY CAMP EVENTS

NOTE: As you can see, we have some exciting events and activities planned! However, there may be minor changes made to this schedule as the need arises.

	MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
9:00	Orientation		Games Physical activities		Games Physical activities		BUS LEAVES FOR FIELD TRIP	Games Physical activities	
9:30	Make forest wall mural		Build bird houses		Paint bird houses		Eagle Rock Nursery tour	Interior Logging Association van tour	
10:15	SNACK		SNACK		SNACK			SNACK	
10:30	GR 1-3 Fun-based learning	GR 4-6 Cooking class	GR 1-3 Art class	GR 4-6 Cooking class	GR 1-3 Fun-based learning	GR 4-6 Cooking class	Thomas Hayes Ecological Park	GR 1-3 Fun-based learning	GR 4-6 Cooking class
11:30	Unstructured play		Unstructured play		Unstructured play			Unstructured play	
12:00	LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH	LUNCH	
12:45	GR 1-3 Cooking class	GR 4-6 Fun-based learning	GR 1-3 Cooking class	GR 4-6 Fun-based learning	GR 1-3 Cooking class	GR 4-6 Fun-based learning	Thomas Hayes Ecological Park	GR 1-3 Cooking class	GR 4-6 Fun-based learning
1:45	GR 1-3 Crafts	GR 4-6 Art class	GR 1-3 Fun-based learning	GR 4-6 Crafts	GR 1-3 Crafts	GR 4-6 Art class	(2:15-2:30) Begin bus trip back to Vernon	GR 1-3 Crafts	GR 4-6 Crafts
2:45-3:00	Clean up and dismissal		Clean up and dismissal		Clean up and dismissal		3:00 PICK UP	Clean up and dismissal	