

FIELD EXPLORERS SUMMER CAMP FAQ

CAMP INFORMATION

What are camp hours?

Camp is in session from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Do you offer before-care or after-care?

After-care is offered on a limited basis from 3:00 to 5:00 for an additional fee at the point of purchase. We do not currently offer morning pre-camp care.

Will my child be spending any time outside?

Yes, lots! Campers will spend time outside during sign in each morning and sign out in the afternoon. We have lunch outside (weather permitting) and some activities will also take place outside.

What is the child-teacher ratio?

Each group has an Instructor and two (2) TAs with them throughout the day. Support is also provided by a Camp Administrator, and a Senior Staff member who all spend time with the campers during the week. Tween Campers will also spend time with Museum Scientists throughout the program.

Who teaches the programs?

The instructors are museum education staff members or classroom teachers. Most TAs are college students majoring in education or a related science discipline. All undergo camp-specific training before camp season begins.

What are your Covid-19 policies?

Field Explorers camp program follows and adapts to CDC-guidance. Please see our camp pages for the most up-to-date information.

CAMP GROUPS AND TOPICS:

Can we sign up for more than one week of Field Explorer Camp?

Absolutely! We have a variety of options for every age to choose from. Families with campers in different age groups can sign up their children for multiple sessions without any child repeating a camp experience.

What are the age requirements?

Our youngest campers will enter Kindergarten in Fall of the next school year. The oldest campers will enter 8th grade. Field Explorers follows the Chicago Public Schools birthday guidelines, so any camper who will turn 5 by September 1st AND will be entering Kindergarten in the fall may register for camp.

***We take great care to design age-appropriate camp curriculum each summer. Campers must fall within the designated age and grade ranges specified in the descriptions. The Field Museum Camp Programs reserve the right to request a notarized birth certificate to confirm a camper's age at any time before or during camp. If this does not match with the birth date information entered at the time of registration, placement in camp will be forfeited and no refunds will be made. This policy is to ensure that all campers have the best possible camp experience.*

How do I know if my child is ready for Field Explorer Camp?

Campers are able to:

- *Take care of all restroom needs without assistance.*
- *Enjoy a very busy, active day without a nap.*
- *Follow instructions given by instructors and counselors.*
- *Separate from parents/ caregivers without distress.*

Can I request that my child be grouped with friends or relatives?

All campers registered for a specific camp are in the same group and will be together throughout that camp's session.

Does your child have developmental or medical needs that require support in a classroom setting?

We collect this information in our registration forms. If you have additional concerns or questions, please reach out to us at explorercamp@fieldmuseum.org before registering.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Can I register in person or over the phone?

Registration is only available online.

Are there scholarships available?

Yes! Scholarship tickets are \$350 for a week session, and \$550 for two-week sessions. If there are still spots available to apply, the season's scholarship application form is listed on our website.

What is your cancellation policy?

To receive a refund minus a 10% transaction fee, you must cancel your registration on or before May 15, 2022. After May 16, no refund will be given for cancellations. Cancellations can be accomplished by contacting us at explorercamp@fieldmuseum.org. Unfortunately, we cannot make exceptions in the case of illness.

All ticket purchases are subject to current federal, state, and institutional Covid policies. Any cancellations or failure to comply with those policies will not be refundable.

How does the waitlist work?

If the week you wish to register for is full, you can register for the waitlist at [this google form](#). We will contact you to offer you a spot if one becomes available, no later than one week before camp. Spots become available as cancellations occur; we cannot guarantee that your child will be offered a spot in camp.

CAMP DAY

Does Field Explorers provide lunch?

No, neither camp program will provide participants with lunch or snack. You will need to send your camper with a nut-free lunch and snack that do not need refrigeration (an insulated lunchbox is great!). Should you forget your child's lunch, please call the camp hotline when you return with it.

Field Explorers and Tween Camp is a peanut and tree nut free program.

For the safety of all participants, lunches and snacks cannot include any peanut or tree nut products.

Please share this information with anyone who might pack your camper's lunch.

What do I need to send with my child each day?

- *Peanut AND tree nut free lunch. We encourage you to add extra snacks for your child as well.*
- *Backpack*
- *Water bottle*
- *Sunscreen or sunblock that the camper can self-apply*
- *Comfortable clothing that can get messy*
- *Close-toed shoes (Open toed shoes and Crocs are NOT permitted in camp)*
- *Optional- lightweight jacket, sweatshirt (the museums may be cold inside), sun hat, rain gear*

For Field Explorers, we recommend that campers do not bring electronics or valuables of any kind. If your child needs to bring a cell phone, please keep it powered off and in their bag throughout the day. If an electronic device is needed for a medical or developmental need, please indicate this during registration.

For Tween campers, electronic devices are allowed, and in fact will be used during the course of the day. However, we will be using these for camp activities and purposes or during lunch only, and not for other purposes during camp.

The Field Museum and its staff are not responsible for electronics or valuable items.

How do we Sign In and Sign Out?

Sign in begins at 8:30am. Sign out is at 3:00pm. To sign out a camper, an adult must be on the authorized pick up list AND have a valid photo ID every day. There are no exceptions to this policy. An adult must check in and out daily: campers may not be dropped off from the car or sent out to you. More detailed information about sign in and sign out, including a map, will be emailed to you closer to camp.

Museum Campus has many visitors and events during the summer, and traffic can be unpredictable. We encourage camp families to use public transit to minimize traffic and to avoid having to wait in the pick up line.

I have more questions about Field Explorers. How can I get in touch?

Before camp, please email explorercamp@fieldmuseum.org with any questions or additional information you need to communicate.

During camp, please use the above email for all non-urgent communications. For urgent communications, please give us a call at 312-665-7200. These lines are monitored by Camp staff during business hours.

Field Explorers Camp Calendar

Summer 2022

	Grades K & 1	Grades 2 & 3	Grades 4 & 5	Grades 6, 7, 8
JUNE				
13th - 17th	A Tooth of a Tale	Jurassic Oceans		
20 - 24th	Feathers on Display		Puzzles from Prehistoric Worlds	Earth's Story by the Drop
JULY				
27th - July 1	Wild Color	Biomechanics of Flight		Making your Case
4th - 8th				
11th - 15th	Jurassic Oceans	Wild Color	Earth's Story by the Drop	Jurassic Oceans
18th - 22nd	Jurassic Oceans	Jurassic Oceans		
24th - 28th				
AUGUST				
1st - 5th	Wild Color	Jurassic Oceans	Puzzles from Prehistoric Worlds	Jurassic Oceans
8th - 12th	A Tooth of a Tale	Jurassic Oceans		Making your Case
15th - 19th	Feathers on Display	Wild Color		Jurassic Oceans

Feathers on Display

K/1 CAMPS

A Tooth of a Tale

Pick a feather from a hat and it could be fluffy or flat, bright blue or pale yellow, sturdy & strong or light & tiny. With each feather we can imagine a different bird with a whole new story to tell & explore. In this camp, we will get up-close with feathers of all kinds & uncover stories for each.

Explore how different teeth have different purposes and are better at different behaviors--not all of which are specifically for chewing, and what we can learn from an animal's teeth.

Eating to Eat

2/3 CAMPS

Biomechanics of Flight

Moving like the wild ones do and testing out just how to find and successfully eat a meal, campers will investigate how we all have to spend energy to get more of it--and how it makes sense that the largest animal alive today can survive by eating some of the smallest.

Just as incredible as the record-breaking speeds of a peregrine falcon dive are the distances & diversity of bird flight found all over the world. This session, campers will learn about the shapes & behaviors that birds use to reach those heights... all while testing just how they can study an animal whose details are found far above any lab space.

2-week session

Puzzles from Prehistoric Worlds

Fossils hold not only stories and mysteries from the past...but they also suggest that the possibilities for structure can extend, and sometimes even escape from, what we imagine could ever be possible.

4/5 CAMPS

2-week session

Earth's Stories by the Drop

While we may not always be able to notice it, the small, constant activity of plants and animals, rocks and weather, are always shaping a changing environment. Campers will focus on the question: "Was Lake Michigan always there?" and use hands-on activities, art, and experiments of their own to understand what interactions shaped its story, and the parts that we can and already play in that neverending story.

TWEEN CAMPS

2-week session

Making your Case

In this two-week camp, campers will get a look at both what the scientists of the Field Museum collect and choose to exhibit and learn from the professionals who make those collections into the dynamic displays and interactions you see in the Field's halls. Using the skills developed in this camp, they'll go on to design and create their own displays to be shown in a one-time-only exhibition.

SPECIAL EXHIBITION CAMPS

SESSIONS OFFERED FOR ALL AGE GROUPS

Jurassic Oceans

Wild Color

Many of the animals & plants of the world's ancient oceans are long gone, but their descendants & fossils remain. In our one-week camps, each age group will explore the Jurassic Oceans exhibition, engage with how scientists unearth the workings of ancient ocean biology, & draw their own conclusions to connect the deep past to today's deep waters.

The Field Museum's collections cover a broad spectrum of animals, plants, civilizations, & geologic. In our one-week camps, each age group will explore all facets in the exhibition before branching out to other museum halls as well as their own home environments to tell a their own multi-colored story.