

Ages 8–9: Nature Ramblers

The adult:child ratio is 1:8

Full-Day Programs

Monday–Friday 9:00 am–3:30 pm | Members: \$315/week Non-members: \$350/week

**Weeks with a field trip or a visiting program have an additional \$25 fee.

Please be sure to have your camper bring a backpack containing a water bottle, a healthy lunch, snacks, sunscreen, bug spray, and an extra set of play clothes.

Bird is the Word | June 15 - 19

From feisty blue jays to majestic bald eagles, we'll learn about the distinct characteristics of local birds—what they eat, where they migrate, and how they build their nests—and break out the binoculars to see who resides in our forest. To help out our feathery friends, we will build birdhouses and create pinecone bird feeders to hang throughout the forest.

Plants and Pollinators | June 22 - 26

Fluttering butterflies and buzzing bees surround our meadows and fields as we kick off the beginning of summer. Pollinators and plants play an enormous role in our environment and even our source of food. We will take a close look at the different native plants that attract pollinators and plant our own native garden.

Mad for Mammals | June 29 - July 3**

So many mammals, so little time! Spend the week learning about a different native mammal each day and the role they play in our ecosystem. Then we'll take a trip to the Elmwood Park Zoo to discover more exotic species we don't often get to see.

Invasive Destroyers | July 6 - 10

Help save our native forest from harmful plants and insects by becoming an invasive destroyer! From spotted lanternflies to Japanese stiltgrass, we will learn about how, why, and where invasive species are taking over our landscape. Once we identify what is and isn't invasive, we will compete to collect as many as we can.

Foraging in the Wild | July 13 - 17

Scour through the forest foraging edible berries, wildflowers, and even invasive plants. This week we will learn how to identify wild edibles such as wineberries, mile-a-minute, sassafras, and more. We will snack as we hike and experiment with different recipes to take home with us.

Incredible Insects | July 20 - 24

Scientists have discovered over 925,000 different species of insects! The bountiful world of insects will keep us busy all week searching under logs, scooping in ponds, and inspecting our meadows. From pollination to decomposition and so much more, we will discover how essential these tiny organisms are to our ecosystems.

Happening Herps | July 27 - 31**

Frogs, salamanders, and snakes, oh my! Discover the world of reptiles and amphibians as we learn about all the different species that live in our forests, ponds, and streams. After observing their unique adaptations in the field, we'll end the week by meeting some of these fascinating critters up close in a live animal show.

Wet and Wild | August 3 - 7

This week it's all about water—from ponds to rivers and streams to marshes. Measure water quality in the stream, learn about the water cycle and catch fish in Wind Dance Pond. Get ready to get wet!

Animal Detectives | August 10 - 14

Whose footprints are those? Which way did they go? Step into the world of tracking as we search for clues left behind by our furry and scaly companions. Tracks, scat, fur, feathers, and more will teach us more about who is living in our forest. We'll construct a tracking pit, create our own ID guides, and make a plaster track to take home.

Wilderness Survival | August 17 - 21

Who has what it takes to survive in the wild? This week we'll master our survival skills, learning techniques for how to start a fire, construct a shelter, and navigate using a compass. At the end of the week, we will test out our new knowledge and skills in the forest.