



2026 Kids' Summer Camps

Registration for the classes begins on **April 28**.

To register, go to our website ballardnaturecenter.org and then go to our calendar of events to click on the classes that you want to register for. If you are wanting to register a child for multiple classes, you can add them to your cart and checkout after you have selected them all. You will have to register each child separately, but can checkout once. Payment will be made at time of registering. You can also register in person, but not until after April 29.

*Contact us for more info at 618-483-6856 or ballardnc@frontiernet.net

June Camps

June 2 or 3 – Winged Things

Kids ages 6-8
9-11am, \$15

Birds, Bats, & Insects will be studied.
We'll even catch insects to examine!

June 4 – Awesome Ants

Kids ages 5-6
9-10:30am or 1-2:30pm, \$10

They may be small, but they are mighty!
Learn all about these interesting insects.

June 9 or 10 or 11 – Ponds & Fish

Kids ages 7-10
9-11:30am, \$15

Use nets to explore pond life up close &
learn more about fish. Bring a pair of rubber boots or shoes that can get wet/muddy.

June 12 – Dive Into Pond Life

Kids ages 10-12, \$10
9-10:30am

Catch creatures from the pond, use microscopes, & learn about aquatic food webs.

June 16 – Colorful Chameleons

Kids ages 5-6, \$10
9-10:30am or 1-2:30pm
How many colors can they turn & why?

June 17 or 18 – Animal Engineers

Kids ages 9-12
9-11am, \$15

Which animals are the best architects?
We'll have our own building challenge!

June 23 – Secret Life of Bobcats

Kids ages 6-8
9-11am or 1-3pm, \$15
Learn about the elusive bobcat and its relatives.

June 24 or 25 – Nature Powers

Kids ages 7-9
9-11am, \$15
Learn about some of the most incredible animal adaptations, AKA superpowers!

July Camps

July 1 or 2 – Signs Left Behind

Kids ages 8-11
9-11am, \$15

Become nature detectives and learn how to read signs that animals leave behind.

July 8 – Scurrying Squirrels

Kids ages 5-6
9-10:30am or 1-2:30pm, \$10
Learn all about these quick little creatures & their relatives.

July 15 or 16 – Birds of Prey

Kids ages 7-10
9-11:30am, \$15
Whooo belongs in this group of birds?
We'll find this out & much more.

July 17 – Almost Campout

Kids ages 8-11
6-8:30pm, \$25
Join us for yard games, a scavenger hunt, & a campfire meal of hot dogs & s'mores!

July 21 or 22 or 23 – Kitchen Chemistry

Kids ages 7-10
10am-1pm, \$20
Explore science through fun, hands-on experiments!
Bring a picnic lunch

July 29 or 30 – Pond Birds

Kids ages 6-8
9-11am, \$15
Ducks are not the only birds that live and hunt at our ponds - learn about ducks and their feathered neighbors

July 31 – Loveable Otters

Kids ages 8-11
9-11am or 1-3pm, \$15
Learn about these fun animals and paint an adorable otter picture.

August Camps

Aug 4 – Chomp, Chase, & Survive!

Kids ages 7-9, \$10
9-10:30am or 1-2:30pm
In nature it's eat or be eaten! Learn all about predators, prey, and food webs.

Aug 6 – Slow Going

Kids ages 5-6, \$10
9-10:30am or 1-2:30pm
All about snails, turtles, and other slow movers.



Important Info

Camps are filled with hands-on activities & lessons both indoors & outdoors.

Wear clothes & shoes that can get dirty. Please no flip-flops, we take trail walks and often play running games.

Children must be walked in and walked out of the visitor center for drop off and pick up.

Class size is limited in order to provide quality programs.

Do not try to sign up until April 28, the payment system will not be engaged on the website even though the classes will be on the calendar before that.

*Kids need to be the age for the class within 8 weeks of class date.

No refunds or credits on fees.