

# 2025 Summer Camp Important Information

We're looking forward to the 2025 Summer Camp Season!

**Please make note of the camp you just registered for!**

**Location for the Camps?** All camp offerings are held at the Nature's Classroom site:

13100 Verges Road, Thonotosassa, FL 33592

*(The Water Adventure Camp will be transported one day to Crystal Springs Preserve for a Field Study at that site)*

**Who Can Attend?** Camps are based on the grade the student will be attending in the 2025-26 school year **AND students must meet the age parameters of the School District as designated by the table below.**

Birth Dates		Academic Years	
From	To	2024-25 (This School Year)	2025-26
8/31/2018	9/1/2019	KG	1
8/31/2017	9/1/2018	1	2
8/31/2016	9/1/2017	2	3
8/31/2015	9/1/2016	3	4
8/31/2014	9/1/2015	4	5
8/31/2013	9/1/2014	5	6
8/31/2012	9/1/2013	6	7
8/31/2011	9/1/2012	7	8

**Do all camps go on a field trip?** Only the Water Adventure Camp will leave the property to visit Crystal Springs Preserve on the third day of camp. **We do require that ALL CAMPERS, regardless of which camp they attend, complete and provide the original signed and notarized Field Trip Medical Release Form on the first day of camp** (even though the form is for out-of-state or overnight trips).

**Sales:** All students will receive a Nature's Classroom T-shirt. Please be very purposeful when filling out the registration to be aware of choosing the correct ADULT or YOUTH size. Additional shirts may be purchased through your Nature's Classroom instructor (\$15.00 cash only). **Students will only receive one shirt throughout the summer, even if the student attends for multiple weeks.**

We may be selling ice pops at the end of the day, Tuesday – Thursdays, **\$2.00 cash only.**

**Why is the Water Adventure Camp only \$15.00?** This camp is generously sponsored by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). Students attending this camp must live within the boundaries of SWFWMD.

**Do you have scholarships or discounts?** No, we do not.

**Transportation:** During this day camp, there will be a car line method used. Please remain in your car with your student(s) until you are within the appropriate designated area to unload/load.

**What do we do when we arrive?**

Drop off: The entrance gate will open at 7:45. There is no early drop off. Please remain in your car. Your student will be guided to their camp.

Pick up: Please remain in your car. The students will be brought to the loading zone by their instructor at 3:00. There is no after-care service.

**Do students bring their own food?** The School Nutrition Department will provide breakfast and lunch each day. Your students are welcome to bring snacks and alternative food items for these times if they choose. Please look for information from your camp instructors: some will request your students to bring items for a cookout (with applicable camps). **Students should have a refillable water bottle to use daily.**

**Who are the instructors?** The summer staff are all Hillsborough County Public School employees.

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**What happens if it is bad weather?** We take every precaution to keep your students safe. Students can expect to get wet if it is a rainy day, but we will bring students into a building if there is lightning in the proximity. Please make sure your students are prepared to have a raincoat during camp. Please, no umbrellas.

**How should students dress?** Students are expected to follow the school dress code. Please, no tank or cropped tops, or short shorts. Students will be outdoors all day or for most of the day. Light clothing for Florida heat is important.

**Fully closed shoes are a must.** Did you forget proper footwear? We will gladly provide a temporary pair of water shoes that will need to be worn for the day. **NO crocs or sandals.**

Hats, sunglasses, and raincoats are acceptable. **No umbrellas.**

Check the weather forecast before your visit and dress accordingly for an all-day, outdoor experience.

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

We are a Hillsborough County Public School site. Therefore, all students and adults are expected to follow School District policies and procedures.

Keep hands to self – this includes each other, plants, and anything that is not yours.

**\*\*Any student demonstrating aggressive behaviors to another student, causing or potentially causing harm to another student, site property or animal in our collection will be removed from the session and may need to be immediately picked up from the site.**

Keep up with the group while moving from place to place.

Stay in the center of the trails to keep trails from being overly trampled.

Be kind and courteous to each other for a pleasant four days at Nature's Classroom.

**PHONES:** Our site is a **No Phone Zone** – during activities as well as during lunch. Our camps encourage building connections with their surroundings and part of that connection is to disconnect from technology. **Cell phones are to be left out of sight and always silenced.** Appropriate photos can be taken when instructors allow them during activities.

Personal gear will be stored in bins for each camp. Refrain from bringing extra backpacks or electronics. We cannot be responsible for these items.

## HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

**Medications:** Please communicate with us about any medication needs. These will be kept in the administrative office or with the instructor, depending on the circumstance.

**Weather and Dress:** Check the weather forecast before your visit and dress accordingly for an all-day, outdoor experience.

**Bug Spray:** **Aerosol Insect repellent / Sunscreen is to be applied prior to leaving homes.** These will not be allowed to be applied on site.

**Universal Restroom:** A universal restroom is in the main office for students wishing to use such facilities. Notify us upon arrival and we will gladly direct them to those facilities if there is a need.

**Drinking Water:** **All students should bring drinking water each day in a reusable/refillable bottle. Please be Earth-wise and refrain from disposable water bottles.** Water (only) may be carried to our activities. We encourage refilling reusable bottles. We have water refill stations for their use.