

Summer Camp at WRNA – 2022

Schedule of Activities

Summer Nature Camp at Wagner Ranch Nature Area will be a theme-based curriculum.

Staff each day will consist of Master Naturalist Toris Jaeger, 1-3 staff, 2-4 counselors, and 2-4 CITs (counselors in training).

Campers should arrive at 8:45 each morning where they will be greeted at the gate and walked down to the dining area to share the activities of the day. Half-day camper pickup is at 12:15, Full day camper pickup is 3:00. There is a Barbeque on Friday that goes until 1:00 and the half-day campers are invited to stay if desired.

Every day has a theme and a mid-morning snack, and all the activities include an appreciation for fresh air, sunshine, and NATURE by unplugging from the grid. We will discuss sustainability and give opportunities for reusing, recycling, composting, and saving water.

Please note that times and activities are approximate and may be subject to change.

MONDAY- Welcome to Nature Camp

- 9:15-10:15 Students will participate in the ECOSYSTEM HIKE exploring WRNA using their senses. We will learn what students are especially interested in to help drive the activities for the week.
- 10:15-10:30 Snack time.
- 10:30-11:30 Create Journals / Give out bandanas.
- 11:30-12:00 Play Predator / Prey Game.

TUESDAY- Ponds and Creeks

- 9:15-10:15 Hike in Wagner Ranch Nature Creek (Usually dry in Summer)
- 10:15-10:30 Snack Time
- 10:30-11:30 Explore San Pablo Creek by conducting a scientific survey, recording measurements, etc. Create GROUP POEM by students contributing one word for their experience.
- 11:30-12:15 Pond Study / Quiet Time for Journal Writing

WEDNESDAY- Trees and Birds

- 9:15-10:15 Explore the connections between birds and trees.
- 10:15-10:30 Snack Time
- 10:30-11:30 Nature Area Wide Scavenger Hike
- 11:30-12:15 Quiet Time to reflect and write and draw in their journals.

THURSDAY- Native Plant and Non-Native Plants

- 9:15-10:15 Cultural uses of plants by Native People, Ranchos and Pioneers.

- 10:15-10:30 Snack Time
- 10:30-11:30 Use collected sticks to make walking sticks, talking sticks, and balance sticks. Use tule to make mini boats that students can float on San Pablo Creek.
- 1130-12:00 Play Sun Energy Game
- 12:00-12:15 Quiet Time / Journal Writing

FRIDAY- Garden Planting and week's end barbecue

- 9:15-10:15 Each student can plant the seedlings that are growing in the greenhouse.
- 10:15-10:30 Prepare sticks for cooking hot dogs.
- 10:30-11:30 Barbecue. Students will carve their own hot dog stick.
- 11:30-12:15 A game of Group Earth Ball. End the week with reflections.
- 12:15-12:45 Half-day campers are invited to attend the Barbeque

Additional activities for Full day campers:

- 12:15-12:45 Bag Lunch (Except on Friday when they will enjoy the barbecue), make PM choices, etc.
- Tuesdays, 12:50 – 1:40 or 1:45 – 2:30 Art with Jane Voll
- Wednesday, 12:50 – 1:40 or 1:45 – 2:30 Music with Daniel Hilsinger
- Thursday 12:50 – 1:40 or 1:45 – 2:30 Science with Dr. Dan Phillips
- 12:50 – 2:30 A variety of activities will be offered*
- 2:30 – 2:50 Gather, hydrate, debrief, pack up
- 2:50 – 3:00 Walk to gate, sign out, leave

Potential afternoon activities:

- Surveying Amphibian Boards
- Surveying Bird Homes
- Building structures with fallen logs
- Continued Journal writing
- Visiting Creeks and Ponds
- Student requests
- An assortment of crafts: bird feeders, rock painting , Nature Crowns, yarn art, etc.
- An assortment of games: Student suggestions
- Electricity, magnets, and interesting materials
- Bird Feeders
- Leaf Crowns
- Painted Rocks
- Tie Dye Butterflies
- Tree Hand Prints
- Leaf Relief Drawings
- Mr. T. Turtle
- TP Bugs

- Dove in Bird Nest and Story
- Cobra Bracelet
- Painting Terra Cotta Pots
- Quill Pen Writing
- Field of CA Poppies- Watercolor
- Three Redwoods Project
- Barn Owl on Paper Bag
- Olive Branch/Oldest Olive Tree Watercolor