



2021

Parent Handbook



It is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be discriminated against in hiring, assignment, transfer, promotion, termination, compensation, or terms, conditions, and privileges of employment on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status.



Thank you for choosing the AOS Summer Day Camp Program. Kids need camp, now more than ever! The freedom, fun, and individual growth of summer camp is so essential, especially this year. Arkansas Outdoor School's Summer Day Camp provides a week full of outdoor activities and theme-based programming aimed at developing the heads, hearts, hands, and health of our young campers. We believe adolescence is time for energy, exploration, and empowerment. One of the central goals of our program is to introduce our campers to new activities and interests while providing them the opportunity and encouragement to develop mastery in these new skills. We know this will have a profound impact on self-image, confidence, and passion.

In pursuit of that goal, we will host a specific theme for each week of camp, dividing enrolled students up into small groups based on age to better serve our campers and to limit exposure between groups. Each small group of students will have their own indoor space to use in case of inclement weather, but most of our time will be spent outdoors on our beautiful 220-acre campus. Program activities will be based around each week's theme, and students will leave with new friends, new skills, and new experiences.

In addition to the different session themes, each camp offers your child the opportunity to develop skills they can use throughout their lives such as communication, decision making, and teamwork.

Our goal is to provide a quality camping experience! If you have any questions or concerns, please bring them to our attention. We can be reached at (501) 821-6884 or jkirkes@uada.edu. Again, thank you for choosing the AOS Summer Day Camp program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Kirkes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Justin Kirkes
AOS Summer Day Camp Coordinator

Program Overview

Our Summer Day Camp program is divided into 8 different sessions, organized around a weekly theme. Some themes are repeated, others are a one-time offering. Each camp will have unique activities specific to the theme, but no matter which session you choose, your camper will have a chance to enjoy these core 4-H activities: canoeing, archery, swimming, rock climbing, hiking, and creative arts.

Camp Sessions

Camp 1: June 7 - 11	Outdoors Adventures Camp
Camp 2: June 14 - 18	Pioneer Camp -OR- Teen Week
Camp 3: June 21 - 25	Wilderness Skills Camp
Camp 4: June 28 - July 2	Science in Action Camp
Camp 5: July 5 - 9	Outdoor Adventures Camp
Camp 6: July 12 - 16	Sports of All Sorts Camp -OR- Teen Week
Camp 7: July 19 - 23	Wilderness Skills Camp
Camp 8: July 26 - 30	Greatest Hits Camp

Theme Descriptions

Outdoor Adventure Camp - Are you ready to step outside of your comfort zone just a little? Do you love the thrill of new and exciting experiences? Well, we have a camp just for you! Fast-paced, high-energy activities are the order of the day for this camp. Rock climbing on our 40-foot outdoor tower, riding on a zip line through the trees, orienteering, geocaching, and canoe racing are just a few of the fun things we have in store for our campers. Come have an adventure this summer!

Pioneer Camp - Not just learning history, but living it! Campers will enter into the life of an early Arkansan, experiencing the daily routine of a pioneer and learning the skills necessary to settle an untamed land. This course will be based out of our Pioneer Cabin where students will be learning how to create and build fires, cook over a campfire, make soap and candles, as well as other essential pioneer skills. Don't worry, we will still have the modern amenities of running water and electricity for some of those essential conveniences.

Wilderness Skills Camp - This camp is more than just a walk in the park. If you have ever wanted to learn how to backpack, build shelters, cook a meal over an open fire, or even how to survive in the wild, then this is the camp for you. Experienced wilderness instructors will teach campers the tools and techniques for navigating, surviving, and thriving in the wilderness. Throw in archery, animal identification, fishing, rock climbing, canoeing, and hiking for a wildly good time!

Science in Action Camp - Science in Action is all about investigating, discovering, exploring, and experimenting all session long. We'll show you how to use everyday items to answer questions such as, "Can you cook food using the sun's power?" or "Can you make a rocket out of a 2 liter bottle?" Add in our regular "core" activities of canoeing, rock climbing, and daily swim time, and you have a great opportunity to combine fun, friendship, and learning.

Sports of All Sorts Camp - Come play all day! Whether it's ultimate frisbee, disc golf, kickball, water balloon volleyball, tennis, basketball, or other games from around the world, this camp emphasizes cooperation, sportsmanship, communication, and fitness. If you like to play sports and games of all kinds, then this is your kind of camp.

Teen Week - We are excited to offer a camp for 13-15 year olds who have "aged out" of the regular day camp program, but still want to have an engaging, fun, and active summer experience. This camp will feature age-appropriate activities and challenges, including a full day in our ExCEL program. Students will have the opportunity to do our high-ropes course, including the zipline, as well as climbing, canoeing, fishing, and archery. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity for your teenager to learn more about leadership.

Greatest Hits Camp - As our last camp of the season, we are bringing out the Greatest Hits! Throughout the summer, we will ask every camper to vote for their favorite activities. These fan favorites will be included in our Greatest Hits camp. This camp promises to be an awesome time, full of fun and adventure. Come see which activities make the cut.

Tiered Pricing

We realize that families have differing abilities to meet the costs of our program, so AOS offers a three-tier pricing structure. This is a voluntary system in which families have the freedom to pick the tier that is most affordable for them. Paying higher tiers helps cover expenses so that more families can afford camp.

Tier 1: This tier represents our historically subsidized rate and does not reflect the full operating cost of camp.

Tier 2: This tier represents a partially subsidized fee.

Tier 3: This tier more closely reflects the actual operating cost of a camp, including materials costs, staff salaries, and fees to the 4-H Center.

	Standard Camp Hours	Early Drop Off
	9 am - 3:30 pm	7:30 am - 3:30 pm
Tier 1	\$220	\$250
Tier 2	\$250	\$290
Tier 3	\$300	\$350

Refund Policy and Financial Obligations

No refunds will be given for cancellations made within 2 weeks of a camp's starting date. If cancellations are made prior to 2 weeks from the start date, we will issue a full refund, minus the \$50.00 deposit. Camp enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis. Due to COVID-19 considerations, most camps have a maximum enrollment of 20 campers. Any registration received after the maximum enrollment is reached will be placed on a waiting list or given the option of enrolling in a camp that has not yet filled.

Final Payments are due May 25. If you have questions or need special consideration, please contact us.

In the event we are able to expand the number of campers in our camps, we will fill first from the waiting list, then offer available spots to the public.

Daily Schedule

Every camp will have the same core format. Camps will run Monday-Friday. Programming activities will change based on theme and age.

7:30 am	Early drop-off <i>(must be registered)</i>
9:00 am	Camper drop off
9:30-11:30	Morning activities
11:30-12:00	Lunch
12:00-1:30	Afternoon activities
1:30-3:00	Swimming and snack
3:30 pm	Camper pick-up

Changes in the daily schedule may occur due to weather or other considerations.

Please understand we do not have a sliding pick-up and drop-off schedule. Drop-off is either 7:30am or 9am.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedure

The drop-off and pick-up location is Feland Hall (See attached map). Please drive slowly on 4-H Center property. Drop-off times will be either 7:30am or 9am, depending on the option you have chosen at registration. We must have the name of all authorized persons who will be picking up your camper in writing. Campers must be signed out every day before leaving the camp property. Pick up will be at 3:30pm.

Early Pick-Up

We ask parents/guardians to please wait until the end of the camp day to pick up campers. If you need to pick up your camper early, please give us advanced notice. It is most helpful to let us know at the beginning of the session which day(s) and at what time you will need to pick-up your camper early. Thank you for your assistance.

Late Pick-Up

Due to the increased need to clean facilities this year, we will not be offering late afternoon pick-up. **Please be aware: There will be a late charge of \$10.00 assessed for every 10 minutes a camper's ride is late.**

- 3:30-3:39pm = \$10.00
- 3:40-3:49 = \$20.00
- 3:50-until pick-up = \$30.00

Code of Conduct

It is our goal to provide a safe, respectful camp environment. Each camper will be asked to abide by our Code of Conduct while at camp. We will go over the Code of Conduct at the beginning of each camp session and we also encourage you to review these rules with your camper to ensure they fully understand what is expected of them while at camp. Thank you for your assistance.

Rules

- I will respect my fellow campers.
- I will take care of my own things and respect the property of others, including Camp property.
- I will listen to the instructors and follow their instructions.
- I will follow safety rules and make sure my fellow campers are safe.
- I will do my best to be an example for my fellow campers to follow.

Consequences

- 1st offense - The staff member and camper will speak with parents. Together, we will determine suitable consequences.
- 2nd offense - Camper will stay home one day.
- 3rd offense - Camper will be taken out of that session with no refund.

What to Bring to Camp

Please have your campers bring the following items each day to camp: a lunch, a drink for lunch, a water bottle, a swimsuit and towel, a bag to carry their things in, bug spray, and sunscreen. We recommend sun protection with an SPF of 30 or higher.

Students may bring hats, sunglasses, and cameras (but not those attached to phones or game systems). We ask that your camper dress in comfortable play clothes that can get dirty and, at times, wet. We also ask that your camper wear closed toe shoes (like tennis shoes) for all activities. Students may bring sandals or other shoes to change into for swimming or other water activities. Please make sure your camper's name is on all their personal possessions.

What Not to Bring to Camp

We ask that your child **NOT** bring any of the following items to camp: a knife, firearms, matches or lighter, live animals, money, cell phones, video games, medications (unless needed), or anything valuable or irreplaceable.

Medication Policy

As a staff, we do not administer medication to campers. This includes over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol or Advil. If your child takes any daily prescriptions that need to be administered during the camp day, he or she will self-administer under close adult supervisor.

Safety Procedures

In the event of an accident involving a camper, we will provide necessary medical attention, contact the people listed as emergency contacts on the camper's application, and, if necessary, call 911.