



Summer Camp 2023 Details



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This document contains descriptions for each unique Camp Experience offered by Thorne Nature Experience. Please visit [Thorne's website](#) for [camp registration](#), the [Online Catalog](#) that lists current availability, FAQ, and more. Registration opens January 11, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

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Thorne Nature Experience * www.thornenature.org * summercamp@thornenature.org * 303-499-3647

Boulder Camps

		Session Dates & Meeting Locations					
Age	Camp Name	Session 1: May 30-June 9	Session 2: June 12-23	Session 3: June 26-July 7	Session 4: July 10-21	Session 5: July 24-Aug 4	Session 6: Aug 7 - 15
5-6	<u>Eco-Explorers</u>	Sombrero Marsh*	Sombrero Marsh*	Sombrero Marsh	Sombrero Marsh*	Sombrero Marsh*	Sombrero Marsh
6-8	<u>Wanderers</u>	Chautauqua	Chautauqua Mt. Sanitas	Chautauqua Mt. Sanitas	Chautauqua Mt. Sanitas	Chautauqua Mt. Sanitas	
9-11	<u>Pathfinders</u>	Chautauqua	Chautauqua	Chautauqua	Chautauqua	Chautauqua	
	<u>Wild Skills & Creations</u>		Mt. Sanitas	Mt. Sanitas	Mt. Sanitas	Mt. Sanitas	
12-15	<u>Birds & Bird Banding</u>	Various Locations	Various Locations				
5-11	<u>Extended Care 2:30-5:30 pm</u>	Sombrero Marsh	Sombrero Marsh	Sombrero Marsh	Sombrero Marsh	Sombrero Marsh	Sombrero Marsh

Boulder Meeting Location Details

- **Chautauqua** - 900 Baseline Road, Boulder, CO 80302
- **Mt. Sanitas** - 840 Mapleton Ave, 80304 (Mapleton Early Childhood Center)
- **Sombrero Marsh** - 1466 N. 63rd St. Boulder, CO 80303
- **Various Locations** - Various locations around Boulder County

* These camp sessions include a visit from special guest, Jeff of Jeff & Paige!

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Lafayette Camps

		Session Dates & Meeting Locations					
Age	Camp Name	Session 1: May 30-June 9	Session 2: June 12-23	Session 3: June 26-July 7	Session 4: July 10-21	Session 5: July 24-Aug 4	Session 6: Aug 7 - 15
5-6	<u>Eco-Explorers*</u>	S. Public Road Trailhead**	S. Public Road Trailhead	S. Public Road Trailhead	S. Public Road Trailhead	S. Public Road Trailhead	S. Public Road Trailhead
6-8	<u>Wanderers</u>		Coal Creek	Coal Creek	Coal Creek	Coal Creek	
9-11	<u>Pathfinders</u>			Coal Creek		Coal Creek	
	<u>Wild Skills & Creations</u>		Coal Creek		Coal Creek		
6-11	<u>Extended Care 2:30-5:30 pm</u>		Coal Creek	Coal Creek	Coal Creek	Coal Creek	

Lafayette Meeting Location Details

- **Coal Creek** - 1405 Centaur Village Drive, Lafayette, 80026 (Ryan Elementary)
- **S. Public Road Trailhead** - 420 Courtney Way, Lafayette, 80026 (Arts Hub)

* Eco-Explorers in Lafayette is not eligible for Extended Care.

** This camp session includes a visit from special guest, Jeff of Jeff & Paige!

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Camp Hours & Pricing

Camp Hours

- 8:30 am-2:30 pm Monday-Friday
- Extended Care: 2:30 pm-5:30 pm

Pricing

Standard Camps

- May 30-June 9 (9-day session for holiday) - \$809 per session
- June 12-23, June 26-July 7, July 10-21, July 24-Aug 4 (10-day sessions) - \$899 per session
- Aug 7-15 (7-day session) - \$629 per session

Birds & Bird Banding

- May 30-June 9 (9-day session for holiday) - \$539 per session
- June 12-23 - \$599 per session

Extended Care

- \$250 per session
- Extended Care prices will be prorated for the holiday on session 1 and for the shorter session on session 6.
- Extended Care is enrolled for full sessions and times only. Families may pick up early or opt-out of days, but will not be eligible for a refund.



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Camp Descriptions - Ages 5 and 6

Eco-Explorers

This Camp Experience is the perfect introductory Thorne Camp for budding nature lovers. Campers will become Eco-Explorers by tuning in to observations and using all five senses. Curiosity and love of learning abound as campers discover what it is that excites them about being outside!

During session 1 in Lafayette and Sombrero Marsh, and sessions 2, 4, and 5 at Sombrero Marsh, local performer Jeff of Jeff & Paige will visit one day to share his love of music, dancing, science discovery, and the outdoors. Campers will have a chance to participate in a live concert with Jeff and parents will be invited.

Eco-Explorers will connect with nature through daily activities like games, songs, storytelling, art creations, and most importantly, nature exploration. Each session's themes and projects will be driven by student interest, and supported by skilled instructors, so kids can return for multiple sessions and learn new things each time!

A 10:1 maximum camper-to-instructor ratio will ensure your child receives all the attention and care they need while they get used to attending camp and learning and playing in nature.

What are some of the things we will do in camp?

- Explore, search for critters on land and in the water, and have fun nature-based adventures
- Introductory activities for investigating local flora and fauna
- Creative play, nature-inspired games, music, stories, art, and much more!

Locations

- Boulder: Sombrero Marsh - *includes 4 days of field trips to nearby nature areas via school bus*
- Lafayette: Arts Hub - *includes daily walking field trips (Eco-Explorers at the Lafayette location is not eligible for Extended Care.)*



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Camp Descriptions - Ages 6 to 8

Wanderers

What is the best thing about being a kid in the summer? Getting outside in nature with friends! At Thorne, we believe every child should have a summer adventure. Whether this is building a fort, splashing in a creek, looking for wild critters, or lying in the shade of a giant tree and watching the clouds float by, these moments are priceless.

In Wanderers, our instructors will guide your child in outdoor exploration and provide mentorship in all that is wild in Colorado! The real magic happens as instructors guide campers into activities that integrate their expertise with your child's emerging passions. Tapping into the spirit of play while exploring in a variety of wilderness settings, campers will go on epic adventures. Looking for a water insect could lead to a lesson on life cycles, building a dam in a creek may develop into an experiment, or an encounter with a deer will lead the group to see new places through the eyes of an animal.

Because there is always more to discover in nature, and because children's passions continue to grow and develop, this Camp Experience can be enjoyed again and again. Each adventure will be a healthy dose of summer fun!

This Camp Experience is best suited for rising 1st-3rd graders. To accommodate the needs of younger campers, these Camp Experiences involve less than one mile of hiking per day and remain close to bathroom facilities, shade, and water.



What are some of the things we will do in this camp?

- Explore children's passions and have fun adventures in nature
- Search for critters on land and in the water
- Investigate the local flora and fauna
- Nature-inspired games and art, storytelling, and creative play
- Survival Skills and crafting
- Building, creating, and much more!

Locations

- Boulder: Chautauqua, Mt. Sanitas - *both include walking field trips and/or field trips via school bus*
- Lafayette: Coal Creek - *includes walking field trips and field trips via school bus*

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Camp Descriptions - Ages 9 to 11

These camps are best suited for rising 4th-6th graders who would like to deepen their skills and sense of connection with the natural world. These camps venture further from trailheads so that they can see and experience more.

Pathfinders

Let's get outside with our friends and explore! With over 60 years of expertise leading nature programs, Thorne combines all the things that youth love to do most in nature into one camp!

Pathfinders focuses on exploration in the wilderness of Boulder County and brings in adventure, skill-building, teamwork, and leadership. Through these experiences outside, kids will build a lifelong foundation of nature connection and self-confidence. At 9-11, kids are ready to go deeper with learning, build lasting friendships, and tap into kids' universal love of play.

Daily themes such as nature investigation, team challenges, and crafting are woven throughout activities that are designed to inspire curiosity and engagement. But the real magic happens as instructors guide campers into activities that follow the campers' discoveries and emerging interests. Because there is always more to discover in nature, this is a Camp Experience to enjoy again and again. Each adventure will be a healthy dose of summer fun!

What are some of the things we will do in camp?

- Explore the wilderness with fun nature-based adventures and challenges
- Track critters on land and in the water
- Investigate and learn about the local flora and fauna
- Nature-inspired games, team building, art, and storytelling
- Survival skills/scouting skills
- Building, creating, and much more!

Locations

- Boulder: Chautauqua - *includes walking field trips and field trips via school bus*
- Lafayette: Coal Creek - *includes walking field trips and field trips via school bus*



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Wild Skills and Creations

Thorne's Wild Skills and Creations camp takes love of outdoor adventures to the next level! Campers will take on the wild as they practice essential survival skills and use nature as an inspiration for creative projects. Through interacting with nature to find the things humans need to survive, campers will develop self-confidence and an appreciation for the bounty that the natural world provides. Wild Skills and Creations is for campers who love to work with their hands, create, and share their nature experiences in inventive ways. Because there is always more to discover in nature and skills to hone, this is a Camp Experience to enjoy again and again. Each adventure will be a healthy dose of summer fun!

What are some of the traditional skills we will learn during camp?

- Fire and primitive tool building, how to identify plants and local wildlife, wilderness cooking and water filtration, building debris shelters, and wilderness navigation

What else will we do in camp?

- Track critters on land and in the water
- Creative projects with natural materials
- Learn about indigenous knowledge of this region and much more!

Locations

- Boulder: Mt. Sanitas - *includes walking field trips and field trips via school bus*
- Lafayette: Coal Creek - *includes walking field trips and field trips via school bus*



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Camp Descriptions - Ages 12 to 15

Birds and Bird Banding

Join us for our final summer of Birds and Bird Banding with Thorne's Founder and Master Bird Bander, Dr. Oakleigh Thorne, II. This two-week Camp Experience is focused on one of Oak's greatest passions – birds! Under the guidance of our founder and an additional Thorne educator, campers will develop knowledge of Colorado birds and gain skills in bird banding



research. The emphasis in week one is on watching birds, identifying birds, catching and handling live birds using a variety of techniques, and practicing banding birds. In week two, the emphasis is on gaining proficiency in bird banding by maximizing time spent handling birds and contributing to Oak's long-term research project banding Cliff Swallows. Birds & Bird Banding is a prerequisite for joining Thorne's new Bird Banding Apprenticeship Program, which is held during the school year.

This Camp Experience is best suited for rising 7th-11th graders who possess the maturity and patience to handle wild birds. This camp is not eligible for Extended Care.

Locations

- Meets at various locations around Boulder County
- Specific sites cannot be determined before migrating birds return, so the Thorne educator will send an email before camp finalizing most meeting sites

Times

- Camp runs from 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Registration for Birds and Bird Banding will open by February 1, 2023.

[Sign up for our email list](#) if you would like to receive updates on this camp.

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Extended Care - Ages 5 to 11

Extended Care 2:30 pm-5:30 pm

Thorne's session-long Extended Care option allows campers to spend the whole day with Thorne in a safe, fun, and educational environment. Parents can pick up their kids any time between 3:15-5:30 PM, leaving time to run errands, work, exercise, or simply relax knowing that their children are having fun with friends.

Campers participating in Extended Care spend the first portion of the day at their morning camp, then continue their explorations in the afternoon Extended Care program. Extended Care offers camper-driven outdoor investigations as well as respite from the elements indoors. Extended Care campers explore nature, play games, tell stories, and make nature crafts, all under the guidance of an experienced Thorne instructor. Please note, snack is not provided by Thorne and families should plan to send an extra snack for Extended Care.



Extended Care is limited and frequently reaches capacity, so if you think you might need to register your child, it is best to register in advance! Prorating is not available for partial sessions.

Locations

- Boulder- Sombrero Marsh
 - Campers from Chautauqua and Mt. Sanitas are transported by school bus each day following their morning Camp Experience. Pick-up is at Sombrero Marsh.
 - 12-15-year-old camps are not eligible for Extended Care.
- Lafayette- Ryan Elementary
 - Available only for campers at Coal Creek location.
 - Eco-Explorers camps in Lafayette are not eligible for Extended Care.

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