SUMMER CAMP
at Ijams Nature Center

Weekly summer camp programs for ages 3-12.
Located minutes from downtown Knoxville on 315 acres of beautiful woodlands with nature trails, winding creeks, mysterious forests, colorful meadows and numerous interesting ponds, Ijams Nature Center offers a unique setting for day camps for a variety of ages throughout the year. The goal of Ijams camps is to grow individual confidence, group cooperation, outdoor skills and environmental responsibility in all of campers.

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

• Week-long day camps from June 8 to July 31.

• Camps are designed by experienced educators and naturalists with your child’s enjoyment and safety in mind.

• Small group sizes allow for hand-on learning and a great bonding experience (camper-to-staff ratio of 7.5:1 or lower).

• Every camp features animal encounters and outdoor exploration.

• Ijams provides a combination of outdoor adventure and nature discovery that is unlike anything else in Knoxville!

• Ijams strives to give you the greatest value a summer day camp can offer.
The Nature Preschool Day Camp will focus on child-led, age-appropriate, and experiential learning for children ages 3-5. Most of the day will be spent outdoors, exploring nature and making a strong connection with the environment. Campers investigate nature each day through trail walks, live animal encounters, puppet shows, games, art projects and more. Not only will children develop a solid foundation for lifelong learning, but they will also cultivate a love of nature that is the basis for a conservation ethic later in life.

Ages: 3-5*
*Children must be at least 3 years of age and fully potty-trained at the start of camp.

Preschool Summer Camp meets Monday-Friday each week at the Ijams Miller Building. Camp is held from 9:00 am — 12:00 pm.

Ijams Nature Adventure Camps are anything but your ordinary, run-of-the-mill day camps. At Ijams, campers end each day worn out, dirty, and excited to do it all over again the next day. At Ijams, campers are able to experience the magic and activities typically associated with overnight camps, but at half the cost and with all of the conveniences of a local daycare. Alongside traditional activities like canoeing, camp-wide competitions, and silly songs, Ijams campers experience the transformative power of outdoor adventures and nature exploration, igniting a lifelong passion for learning.

Ages: 6-12*
*Children must be at least 6 years of age or have completed Kindergarten before the start of camp.

Preschool Summer Camp meets Monday-Friday each week at the Quarry Camp Outpost. Camp is held from 9:00 am — 4:00 pm.

To register, visit the Ijams website at ijams.org/camps.
Ijams is thrilled to announce the third year of our Nature Preschool Day Camp!

The Nature Preschool Day Camp will focus on child-led, age-appropriate, and experiential learning for children ages 3-5. Most of the day will be spend outdoors, exploring nature and making a strong connection with the environment. Children will learn through play, discovery, and inquiry. Not only will children develop a solid foundation for lifelong learning, but they will also cultivate a love of nature that is the basis for a conservation ethic later in life.

Preschool camp will be held Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Available weeks:

Week 1: June 1-5
Week 2: June 8-12
Week 3: June 15-19
Week 4: July 6-10
Week 5: July 13-17
Week 6: July 20-24

Cost:

$130 for Ijams members
$140 for non-members.

SAVE SOME GREEN!
Discounts available, including Early Bird Discount and Member Discount. Learn more online at ijams.org/camps.

Nature Preschool Day Camp Guidelines:

- Children must be fully potty-trained at the time of camp.
- Children must be at least 3 years of age at the start of camp.
- Registration is for individual weeks, and you may register for multiple weeks. All weeks of camp are the same, and children signed up for multiple weeks will be repeating activities.
- The Nature Preschool Day Camp meets Monday-Friday each week at the Ijams Miller Building. Camp is held from 9:00 am — 12:00 pm
- Camp doors will not open until 8:55 am; early drop-off is not available.
- Camp is contingent on minimum registration; if minimum registration is not reached at least 7 days in advance, the session will be cancelled and parents will receive a full refund for that week.
Nature Adventure Camp
Ages 6-12

During campers’ journeys through Ijams camps, our experienced staff members support and inspire campers to push their comfort zones, build new friendships, and foster resilient spirits.

In each session, campers discover a whole new world in nature through:

- Canoeing
- Pond/Creek Exploration
- Rock Scrambling
- Insect Collection
- Bird Watching
- Hiking
- Dip Netting
- Bouldering
- Team Building
- Fishing
- Wilderness, Survival, and Outdoor Skills
- Live Animal Presentations
- Arts and Crafts
- Camp games, skits, songs and more!

PLEASE NOTE: Although we try to include all of the above activities in each week of camp, there will be some variation based on theme, weather, and other factors.
Staff & Philosophy

As with all Ijams camps, Nature Adventure Camps are led by an amazing staff that loves to teach and recreate in the outdoors. It is our goal to reconnect children with the natural world, all the while fostering individual confidence, group cooperation, outdoor skills, and environmental responsibility among our campers.

Age & Eligibility Requirements

Ijams Nature Adventure Camps are open to children ages 6 to 12 years old. Children must either be 6 years old, or have already COMPLETED one year of Kindergarten to attend. Younger campers are invited to participate in our half-day Preschool Summer Camp.

While we make every attempt to group campers with other children of similar ages, we cannot guarantee that this will be the case. Depending on enrollment, we may choose to mix age groups in order to build community and encourage mentorship among campers. Camper groupings are always at the discretion of Ijams staff.

In addition to age, registration and attendance for Nature Adventure Camps are based on participants being able to reasonably meet the requirements listed in our Essential Eligibility Criteria (available online at ijams.org/nature-adventure-camp-2020/).
Camp Hours

Regular hours each session throughout the summer are Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. each day.

Before Care sessions are available each morning from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. After Care sessions are available each afternoon from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. All Extended Care sessions consist of both structured and self-guided activities.

If you need Extended Care hours during the week, please be sure to purchase the Extended Care Package when you register for camp. The fee is $60 and covers all Extended Care sessions for both morning and afternoon hours throughout the session.

NOTE: If you do not purchase this package prior to the start of camp, you will be billed $15 per instance of late pick-ups or early drop-offs that occur during Extended Care hours.

Camp Fees

The weekly fee for each session of Ijams Nature Adventure Camps is $260 if registering online or $275 if registering in-person or over the phone.

This year we are also offering 2 summer sessions of Branching Out!, which provides campers with opportunities to access Navitat’s tree-based adventure park. The weekly fee for these sessions is $285 if registering online or $275 if registering in-person or over the phone.

Ijams members (Family Level or higher) will receive a $15 discount. Please note that there is a $35 change fee for switching weeks after registration is completed.

Camp fees include:
• All activities
• Use of all necessary recreation equipment

NOTE: Lunch is NOT provided as part of camp. All participants must bring a lunch and 2 snacks to camp each day.

To register, visit the Ijams website at ijams.org/camps.
**Survival of the Fittest**

Do YOU have what it takes to survive in the wild? Plants and animals utilize some of the most creative approaches to get ahead in the game of life. Campers draw inspiration from these wild strategies as they learn and practice wilderness survival techniques of their own, including fire and shelter building, water purification, basic navigation skills, knot tying, and more. Campers also tackle challenges designed just for kids on Ijams’ brand new Primal Playground. Throughout the session, campers must learn how to both cooperate and compete in order to “outwit, outplay, and outlast” other groups during Ijams’ version of “Survivor.”

**Weeks:** June 8-12 & July 6-10

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**H2Olympics**

With all of the excitement surrounding this summer’s Olympic Games in Tokyo, and with typical East Tennessee temperatures soaring to the tops of thermometers in late June, what better way to beat the heat than by holding our own water Olympics? During this session, campers try their hands at a number of water activities including giant Slip N’ Slides and Ijams’ legendary water version of Gaga Ball. Throughout the week, campers also explore aquatic environments (including Ijams’ underground cave system), taking special note of the various creatures that have perfected their routines of living in and/or under the water. To close out the week, campers compete in a final series of events that make even fish look dry! “Wat-er” you waiting for?

Register now! **NOTE:** At this time, swimming is not one of the activities offered at Ijams’ camps.

**Weeks:** June 15-19 & July 13-17
**BRANCHING OUT**

Campers are bound to grow to new heights during this “tree-mendous” week of camp! NEW IN 2020, Ijams is branching out into new territory (and into the trees) by teaming up with Navitat Canopy Adventures to provide this session’s campers with a 3-hour experience in Navitat’s aerial adventure park. During this activity, campers leap, traverse, and zipline their way through the treetops of our forest. Campers also branch out beyond the trees this week by investigating hidden sections of Ijams’ property and local waterways, making new friends, and trying new things and new ways of doing our traditional activities.

**S. Knox Summer Safari**

There’s no need for a passport when you can explore the forests, wetlands, and caves in your very own backyard! Instead of collecting trophies on this safari, campers venture out on foot, in canoes, and by headlamp in hopes of catching glimpses of the wild animals that make their homes near humans. Along the way, campers identify and follow tracks, detect different forms of animal communication, search for scat and other signs of wildlife, and get up-close-and-personal with Ijams live education animals. We’re not “lion” when we say it’s going to be a wild time!

**Weeks: June 29-July 3 & July 27-31**
HOW TO REGISTER

Online registration: Those that register through our online registration system will have the opportunity to pay for camp in multiple installments, providing greater flexibility for our families. Access online registration at ijams.org/camps.

In-Person or Phone registration: Registration information can be taken in-person or over the phone during regular business hours. However, for phone or in-person registrations, payment installments are NOT available (i.e. PAYMENT IS EXPECTED IN FULL AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION), and an administrative fee of $15.00 will be added to your total cost. Please call (865) 577-4717, ext. 114 to register.

SAVE SOME GREEN!

Early Bird Discount: Parents registering by March 15, 2020 will save 5% on total summer camp fees.

Ijams Member Discount: Current Ijams members can receive a $15 discount per individual registration for summer camp programs.

Multi-session Discount: When registering for multiple sessions of Nature Adventure Camp, save $10 on each additional session registered for by a participant.

Multi-child Discount: When registering multiple children in Nature Adventure Camp, save $10 on each additional child in the same household.

Learn more at ijams.org/camps.

For more information contact Youth Programs Manager Tyler Edmondson at (865) 577-4717, ext. 114 or tedmondson@ijams.org.

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