

Welcome to Little Explorers Camp – AM session (9am-12pm)

Tuesday July 25th - Friday July 28th @ Flag Ponds Nature Park

Dear Parents and/or Guardians, welcome to *Little Explorers Camp*! To help ensure that your child has a safe and fun time please go through the following information before camp begins.

LOGISTICS:

Park Gate: When you arrive at Flag Ponds each day, stop at the entrance station to tell Flag Ponds staff you are here for summer camp. If there is a line at the gate, please do not go around. Proceed to the main parking lot (in front of the Education Building) – staff will meet you out in front of the building for check in and out.

Sign In/Out: Please sign your child in and out every day (with your full name) and let us know if someone else will be taking them home. You will need to sign an authorization for your child to be picked up by anyone besides yourself or your emergency contact person.

Help Make Check-In Faster: Camp forms are due **two weeks BEFORE** the first day of camp. Let me know if you have things to send in and I will send you an encrypted email that you can reply to with your forms. You may need these forms if: your child will need to bring ANY medication to camp, if you are carpooling with another family, or if your child has a severe allergy. All our camp forms can be found here: [Calvert Nature Society - Summer Camp Forms \(calvertparks.org\)](http://calvertparks.org).

Tips for Making the Drop-Off Less Stressful: Before camp, talk about the fun things they will get to do (arts and crafts, catching animals with nets). At camp, after signing them in, you can help them find their seat. Allow staff to show you some of the fun opening activities, including journals. Once your child gets started on an activity, give them a quick hug/kiss and a prompt goodbye.

We will be having a drop in “Meet the Camp Leaders” open house on **Tuesday July 18 from 10:00-11:00AM and 2:00-3:00pm at Flag Ponds Nature Park education building. This will be an opportunity for you and your camper to drop in and meet us, ask any questions about camp, and have your camper become comfortable spending the week with us! **

Clothing: Wear OLD CLOTHES that can get wet, dirty, and/or painted. Please provide a full change of clothes in a Ziploc bag. Comfortable shoes are a must, since we will be walking quite a bit throughout the day. For safety reasons, we ask that campers do not wear flip flops or crocs.

Safety:

Inclement weather: Our camp activities will be both indoors and out - camp will be held rain or shine. Please check the weather forecast every morning before camp to plan your child's attire. If there is rain in the forecast, please pack a poncho or rain jacket- no umbrellas. In the case of severe weather, campers will be brought to an indoor shelter.

Poor air quality: Due to the Canadian wildfires, we have had several already days this summer where our air quality was considered poor. If this happens during camp, we will alter our planned activities to accommodate more indoor time.

****If your camper is at all feeling unwell – please keep them home****

Ticks: Please check your child closely for ticks after camp every day.

We have enjoyed preparing for this camp and can't wait to explore the outdoors with your children. We look forward to meeting everyone this summer; please don't hesitate to email any questions or concerns to tania.gale@calvertcountymd.gov

Sincerely,

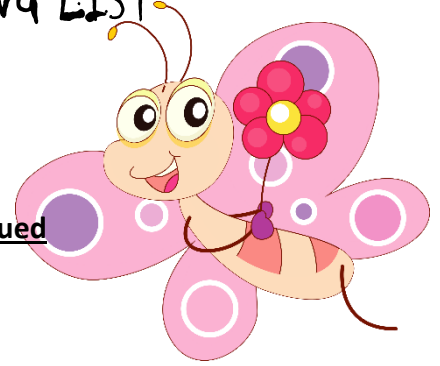
Tania Gale, Naturalist

Amber Ewing and Alex Caniglia, Summer Interns



Little Explorers Summer Camp **PACKING LIST**

****Wear these things****



Tuesday:

Main Activity: practice being an "explorer"

- Sunscreen (wear and bring extra)
- Insect repellent
- Old clothes to wear while exploring
- Old sneakers or well-fitting water shoes (no flip flops or crocs)
- Hat
- Raincoat/poncho
- Backpack (no wheels)
- Change of clothes/shoes in a Ziplock
- Plastic bag for wet clothes
- Towel
- Refillable water bottle
- Snack

Wednesday:

Main Activity: Forest exploration

- Sunscreen (bring extra)
- Insect repellent
- Old clothes to wear while exploring
- Old sneakers or well-fitting water shoes (no flip flops or crocs)

Wednesday continued

- Hat
- Raincoat/poncho
- Backpack (no wheels)
- Change of clothes/shoes in a Ziplock bag
- Plastic bag for wet clothes
- Towel
- Refillable water bottle
- Snack

Thursday:

Main Activity: Swamp Trail Exploration

- Sunscreen (bring extra)
- Insect repellent
- Old clothes to wear while exploring
- Old sneakers or well-fitting water shoes (no flip flops or crocs)
- Hat
- Raincoat/poncho
- Backpack (no wheels)
- Change of clothes/shoes in a Ziplock
- Plastic bag for wet clothes

Thursday continued

- _ Towel
- _ Refillable water bottle
- _ Snack

Friday:

Main Activity: Bay/beach Adventure

- _ Sunscreen (bring extra)
- _ Insect repellent
- _ Old clothes to wear while exploring (long pants for hiking)
- _ Old sneakers or well-fitting water shoes (no flip flops or crocs)
- _ Hat
- _ Raincoat/poncho
- _ Backpack (no wheels)
- _ Change of clothes/shoes
- _ Plastic bag for wet clothes
- _ Towel
- _ Refillable water bottle
- _ Snack

