

Eugene Science Center
Summer Camp Program Information 2026
Please Read Prior to Program Date

As an educational summer camp, we are excited to welcome campers who are curious and eager to explore scientific topics through hands-on experiments, guided activities, and playful learning. This program is best suited for students who are comfortable in a structured classroom-like environment and can remain engaged during focused learning times. While we do incorporate active play and outdoor breaks, the majority of our day is spent in small-group activities that require listening, participation, and cooperation.

Daily Schedule

Our daily schedule is as follows:

8:00 - 9:00	Arrival/Exhibit Hall
9:00 - 9:30	Classroom/Introductions & Expectations/Icebreaker
9:30 - 10:00	Planetarium Show
10:00 - 10:30	Snack & Recess
10:30 - 11:30	Block One
11:30 - 12:30	Lunch & Recess
12:30 - 1:30	Block Two
1:30 - 2:00	Snack & Recess
2:00 - 3:00	Block Three
3:00 - 3:15	Classroom & Activity Clean Up
3:15 - 3:30	Pack Up/Closing Game
3:30 - 4:30	Pick Up/Exhibit Hall

We ask families to always read and/or review the following information in this document so parents/guardians and campers attending camp this summer feel prepared and aware of all camp expectations. Also, be sure to ask summer camp staff about any clarifications or questions you may have regarding our policies. Staff contact information is listed at the end of this document.

Sincerely,
ESC Education Staff

Personal Items

Belongings: Please make sure your child's name is written clearly on any items they bring (i.e. jackets, lunchpails, water bottles, etc.). Things do get lost and left behind - help us get your belongings back to you.

Cell Phones: Children 5th grade and under are not permitted to bring their cell phones to camp. If they are sent to camp with a cell phone, it must remain off and in their backpack until parent pick-up. For Middle school aged campers, phones must remain silent and put away during instruction and then can be used during snack, lunch, and free time. If any camper is using their phone inappropriately (i.e. language, media, images not suitable for all ages in public spaces) then they will be asked to put their phone away and leave it home for the rest of the week. *If this request is met with objection, a parent will be called to either remove the cell phone or their child from camp that week.*

Other Items: We ask that campers not bring toys from home including stuffies, fidgets, and other personal items that may be distractions to them and others throughout camp. If your child needs to bring anything else from home, they are responsible for keeping up with their belongings and putting them away when asked by their instructor. Books are welcome to bring from home but must only be read during recess or after completion of lesson or activity with instructor permission. *If items become a distraction, we will hold onto them until pick-up time.*

Snacks and Meals

Lunch: Bring a lunch that does not require refrigeration or heating. We stay active, so make sure your camper has enough to eat!

Snacks: Snacks will be made available by Eugene Science Center to those who need them. Typical snacks are items like granola bars, goldfish, fruit strips, etc. *If your child has dietary restrictions/preferences, please send your child to camp with your family's preferred snacks.*

Refillable Water Bottle: Please bring a reusable water bottle to help stay hydrated.

Camp Dress Code

What to Wear: Many of our activities feature crafts and art, therefore please send kids in clothes that can get messy. *Kids should also dress appropriately for the weather.* They should wear shoes that are supportive for walks in the park. We will be spending time outside each day, so please ensure campers are prepared for the weather.

Extra Clothing: If your child tends to get extra messy, we recommend a change of clothing (this is never a bad idea). Our staff cannot help children clean themselves if they have a bathroom

accident. If the child has an accident and cannot handle cleanup, a parent will be called.

Face Covering: Face coverings are not required but are welcome if the family would prefer their camper to wear one. Instructors can help remind children to wear their masks but will not be held responsible if the child chooses not to. If your child is sick please do not send them to camp, as we want to keep everyone healthy!

Illness and Injury

Illness: A parent/guardian will be called to pick up an ill child if the following symptoms are present:

- Fever of 100.4°F (May return after being fever-free for 24 hours).
- Vomiting (May return 48 hours after last vomiting episode).
- Diarrhea
- Extensive environmental allergies which prohibit the child from successfully participating in camp activities (i.e. swollen eyes, difficulty breathing, etc.)

Please keep children home if any of the above symptoms become present before arriving at camp.

Injury: First Aid will be administered by camp staff when needed. In the case of extensive injury, a parent/guardian will be called to pick up the injured child. If the situation requires emergency services, 911 and then the parent/guardian will be called immediately. Camp staff are CPR/First Aid certified and can provide basic first aid and respond appropriately to emergencies. Aside from soap, water, ice packs, or bandaids, we will not apply any topical medications to scrapes and bumps that occur at camp.

Medication: If your child needs to take medication during camp, you will complete a medication form during drop-off. Our staff cannot directly administer medication (e.g., placing pills in mouths, giving injections aside from assisting with epi-pens), and there is no nurse on staff. Any medication left for administration during camp must be in its original container with the child's name and original label.

Drop-Off, Pick-Up, and Late Fees

Drop-Off: Takes place between 8:00 and 9:00am. Sign-in will be in the lobby of the museum. Due to initial paperwork on Mondays, please anticipate additional time for camp sign-in. During Monday sign-in, we will confirm emergency contact information, discuss any pertinent medical or behavioral information, and have parents/guardians sign a photo release.

Pick-Up: Takes place between **3:30 and 4:30pm**. *Our staff has been instructed to check ID for all pick-up persons.* Please do not forget to sign your child out. If you need to make changes to your list of authorized adults for pick-up, please let us know.

Parents/guardians may enter the building to communicate with guest relations and camp staff. Families of campers must pay admission or have an active membership to explore the exhibit hall. *If you are running late* please give us a courtesy call at 541-682-7888 so we know when to expect you. You can also email info@eugenesciencecenter.org with this information.

Please call 541-682-7894 or email us at education@eugenesciencecenter.org ahead of time if dropping off after 9:00 am or planning to pick up before 3:30 pm.

Late fees: *Late pick-up in the afternoon will result in a fee of \$15.00 for every 15-minute block.* For example, if picking up at:

- 4:31pm - 4:45pm = \$15.00 charge
- 4:46pm - 5:00 = \$30.00 charge, and so on.

Behavior Expectations

Behavior Policy: Please review the behavior policy with your child before they attend a program. Eugene Science Center behavior expectations will be reviewed daily and are as follows:

1. Respect Yourself: Children are expected to be patient with themselves and open to trying new things. Children are expected to use kind language as they would wish to be spoken to in return. Children should keep track of their items brought to camp such as lunchboxes, jackets, backpacks, waterbottles, and so on.

2. Respect Others: Children are expected to engage in safe and kind play with others. Children are expected to listen to and follow instruction and safety reminders. This is a hands-off camp with very little tolerance for rough housing and aggressive use of bodies. Children are expected to participate in a safe and welcoming learning environment while at camp.

3. Respect the Equipment and Environment: Children should be careful with all program materials and Science Center exhibits and not engage in any behaviors that could damage the equipment or environment. They should also respect all aspects of the grounds and Alton Baker Park by following "leave no trace" policies: clean up all trash, making no alterations to the natural environment, and respecting the homes of local wildlife and nesting birds.

Process for Behavioral Misconduct

Here is how our staff correct behavior.

1. Explain the problem and redirect behavior

2. Cool down break
3. Warning
4. Meeting with Education Manager
5. Discussion with parents and Education Manager
6. Expulsion

Breaking the same expectation after being corrected leads to escalating consequences. These consequences are given compassionately and with the intent to help the camper be successful during camp.

A camper who engages in intentional physical violence or threatening language towards another individual or themselves may face immediate expulsion.

Incident Reports

Incident reports are meant to document behaviors, serious injuries, and violations of Eugene Science Center camp expectations. Families will be contacted to review and sign any incident report. Multiple incident reports involving serious behaviors or expectation violations may lead to expulsion from our camp program. Incident reports are kept confidential and copies will be made for the family's records.

Cancellation Policy

Refunds:

- Cancellations made at least 4 weeks prior to the start of a program are eligible for a 100% refund or credit, minus a \$30 processing fee.
- Cancellations made at least 2 weeks prior to the program start date are eligible for a 50% refund or credit.
- No refund or credit will be given if a cancellation is made less than 2 weeks before the start date of a program.
- No refund will be given for campers immediately expelled from the program.

Contacting Staff

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us!

Education Department: education@eugenesciencecenter.org or at 541-682-7894

Front Desk: info@eugenesciencecenter.org or 541-682-7888