



Summer Camp Handbook

WELCOME TO CAMP DISCOVERY! Don Harrington Discovery Center would like to start by saying thank you for entrusting us to provide your child with a quality summer camp experience.

Don Harrington Discovery Center makes science exciting, relevant, and enjoyable to all types of learners by providing interactive exhibits and programs that actively engage children, adolescents, and their families. Our mission is to create moments of discovery that reveal the inner workings of our world to learners across the High Plains. The Discovery Center's innovative programs spark curiosity, inspire lifelong learning through play, and coax the individual genius within each of us to engage confidently in our world.

Parent Responsibilities:

Parents must follow all established policies and procedures outlined in the Camp Handbook, including but not limited to the pick-up policy, supervision policy, medication policy, behavior policy, etc. All participating campers and families are expected to behave respectfully toward others at all times.

With so many exciting weeks to choose from, the learning opportunities are endless! Campers will learn on their level with a science-based curriculum and qualified teachers.

Customize Your Experience

3 and 4 year olds: 9am – 12pm

Kinder: 9am - 12pm or 9am - 4pm****

1st – 4th grade*: 9am – 4pm

Access to both pre-care and after-care available (see below)

*Classes are separated into age-appropriate pairings that allow students the best environment for learning!

****Kinder:** To register for the full day, please check the *Full Day Camp Add-On* under the Session Options. This option is to help meet our Kindergarten campers where they're at, with the option to go home and rest or continue on with an afternoon of fun and learning.

FAQ / CAMP DETAILS

Age Policy

Please enroll your child for the grade THEY ARE IN FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR. By enrolling your child, you agree to the age guidelines set by DHDC.

To enroll in a full-day camp (9am-4pm), **Campers must be 5 years old** on or before their first day of camp. Campers who do not meet this criteria will need to sign up for half-day camps.

If it becomes clear that your child does not satisfy the age guidelines, they may be dismissed without a refund.

How much does camp cost?

- **Full-Day Camp**
 - \$175/week for members
 - \$225/week for non-members
- **Half-Day Camp (9am-12pm)**
 - \$90/week for members
 - \$115/week for non-members
- **Kinder Camp Add-On (12pm-4pm)**
 - \$85/week for members

- \$110/week for non-members

Member discounts are for DHDC Family, Family-Plus, or Grandparent memberships ONLY. One + Guest members pay non-member camp fees.

*Pre-Care: 7:45 am – 9:00 am (\$30/week)

*After-Care: 4:30 pm -5:30 pm (\$30/week)

*Pre-Care and After-Care are available to buy bundled together for \$50/week

What to Bring and What to Expect

Full-day campers must bring a sack lunch and drink that DO NOT need to be refrigerated or heated. DHDC provides morning and afternoon snacks, or you may send your child snacks if there are dietary restrictions.

Please bring a filled reusable water bottle every day.

Send your child in play clothes. Some of our camps can get messy!

Label your child's items to help identify lost items, and be sure to check lost and found before you leave.

Send your camper with closed-toe shoes to make playing outside safer.

Please have your child use the restroom before dropping them off.

Please apply sunscreen or bug spray (if needed) before drop-off. On Wildcat Bluff days, please send sunscreen with your child to reapply.

Wildcat Bluff Day

Camps 1st grade through 5th grade will include one day per week at Wildcat Bluff Nature Center. The campers will be dropped off and picked up at Wildcat Bluff on the days scheduled for that grade.

Scheduled Wildcat Days:

- 1st Grade — Tuesday
- 2nd Grade — Wednesday
- 3rd through 5th Grade — Thursday

Please be prepared to send sunscreen and a water bottle with your campers on that day. We will reach out and remind you closer to your camper's date. Campers should dress in lightly colored clothing that can get messy and have a light jacket on days that may get cool. Also, comfortable, closed toed shoes for hikes on the trails help the explorations to go more smoothly.

In the event of inclement weather, camps may meet at the Discovery Center and be notified via email.

Medication and Medical Policies

Camp Staff are not allowed to administer any medication to campers. Parents are welcome to come to the Discovery Center and/or Wildcat Bluff to administer medication as needed. Any concerns can be addressed with the Director of Education.

Due to licensing, DHDC staff are unable to assist with toileting or personal care.

In the event of an injury, camp staff will notify the emergency contacts and take appropriate action as needed.

Personal Items Policy

The Discovery Center is not responsible for any valuables or lost personal items. Please have your child leave all personal items at home unless absolutely necessary. We have so many fun things planned that they won't even miss their toys from home.

Remember to check the lost and found at the end of your camp for jackets, bottles, etc.

Late Policy

A charge of \$10 plus \$1 per minute will be incurred after 4:30 pm. (After 5:30 if enrolled in After Care)

Refund Policy

Cancellations made by the customer 14 business days before the start of camp will be refunded minus a \$10.00 processing fee. Cancellations within 14 days, missed camp days, and missed pre or after-care will NOT be refunded.

Supervision Policy

Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian except when under the direct supervision of camp instructors. Children may not be left unattended before or after camps.

Parents must sign their child in at the front desk, where camp staff will verify registration and camp staff will escort them to their classroom.

Campers should be checked in no more than 10 minutes before start time unless enrolled in Pre-Care.

Campers should be picked up promptly at the end of each camp. For your child's safety, we will release your camper only to those listed on the registration. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Please bring a photo ID when you pick up your child so we can identify you.

Behavior Policy

The Discovery Center is committed to providing a safe and friendly environment where campers can learn. Any dangerous, disruptive, or unkind behavior will be subject to behavioral consequences.

Unacceptable Behaviors:

- Bullying
- Fighting
- Threatening others
- Using profanity or slurs
- Stealing or damaging property
- Leaving a program or activity without permission
- Endangering anyone's health or safety

Behavior Consequences:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Time out (1 minute for each year old)
3. Teacher and Parent Conference
4. Director of Education involvement
 - a. Suspension for the remainder of the day
 - b. Suspension for the remainder of the week
 - c. Expulsion from camps

A refund will not be issued if a camper is suspended or expelled. DHDC reserves the right to begin disciplinary actions at any step deemed necessary according to the severity of the behavior.

Active classroom management will be used along with positive behavioral supports in order to limit behaviors. Teachers will use strategies such as clear expectations, redirection, positive reinforcement, and active monitoring.

I have read and understand the Discovery Center Camp Handbook. I agree to abide by Discovery Center policies as outlined in this document.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____