



MCKINNEY ROUGHS NATURE PARK

OUTDOOR CAMP Weekly Themes

Tonkawa Camp (Ages 5-6)

Tonkawa campers will have the opportunity to swim at Bastrop State Park, climb the rock wall and participate in a camp-wide field day. In addition, there will be guided hikes, guest presentations, field studies, games and activities related to the below camp themes.

June 19-23: WHO EATS WHOM?

How do animals protect themselves from becoming food, while also finding the food they need to survive? We'll delve into survival behavior and traits plants and animals possess to be stealthy predators or evasive prey. Gain an appreciation for reptiles, amphibians, birds and mammals by observing live animal presentations and observing them in their natural habitat.

June 26-30: HOOKED!

Plunge into the world of aquatic life! Learn the skills and science of fishing. Campers will become familiar with what makes a good home for fish including food chains and water quality while fishing at Lake Bastrop Park. At the end of the camp, campers will earn their Texas Parks and Wildlife Junior Angler Certification.

July 10-14: LIFE AMONG GIANTS

Can you navigate through a giant spider web? Morph into the creeping crawling life of insects and spiders to view life from their perspective. Microscopes, bug nets and exploration will highlight the role of insects as predator and prey. Untangle the mystery of web-making and unearth the intricate life under our feet.

July 17-21: SURVIVING IN THE WILD

Develop confidence and understanding of the natural world by learning wayfinding skills, shelter building, animal tracking and edible plant identification. Learn to feel home in nature through developing the skills of a survivalist.

July 24-28: PHOTO SAFARI

Campers will learn techniques to capture beautiful outdoor photos. Thursday, parents are invited to a photography exhibit where they can view camper's best work and watch the Golden Gator Award Ceremony.

July 31-Aug. 4: STEM-TASTIC

Perfect for the budding engineer, this hands-on, STEM-based camp will teach the role of physics in hydrology and alternative energy. Basic concepts of physics will be reinforced through team-building on the challenge course and climbing the rock wall. Campers will also design and build solar-powered cars to compete in a sun-soaked drag race.



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Aug. 7-11: X MARKS THE SPOT

Navigate overland, read a map, use the sun to tell time and create a tool to use the stars as a nocturnal guide. Build your own compass and use GPS technology to find hidden geocaches in the park and use wayfinding techniques to create a treasure map adventure.

Aug. 14-18: TEXAS POWWOW

Discover the life of early explorers. Cook mesquite cookies, learn primitive hunting techniques and construct a useful tool from the great outdoors. The week will end with a Dutch oven fruit cobbler competition!

OUTDOOR CAMP **Weekly Themes**

Comanche Camp (Ages 7-8)

Caddo Camp (Ages 9-12)

Comanche and Caddo campers will have the opportunity to swim at Bastrop State Park, experience select high elements on the challenge course and raft the Colorado River or Lake Bastrop. In addition, there will be guided hikes, guest presentations, field studies, games and activities related to the below camp themes.

June 19-23: HUNGRY GAMES

Who will survive? Campers will compete against each other in archery, on the challenge course and in other competitive games.

June 26-30: CAST AWAY

Future anglers learn the skills and science of fishing. Fly fishing, spin casting and cane poles will be used to fish Colorado River and Lake Bastrop. At the end of the camp, campers will get their Texas Parks and Wildlife Junior Angler Certification.

July 10-14: LIFE AMONG GIANTS

Can you navigate through a giant spider web? Through hands-on activities, campers will experience life of an insect. Microscopes, bug nets and exploration throughout the park will highlight the role of insects as predator and prey.

July 17-21: LOST IN THE WOODS

Build your own shelter, track animals and find food while "lost" in the woods. Campers will learn survival skills needed to rough it in the wild. Additionally, campers can participate in an all-day capture the flag game played in the back woods at McKinney Roughs Nature Park.

July 24-28: WILD ABOUT FILM

Working as directors, writers, cinematographers, editors and actors, campers will create outdoor films using infrared game cameras and digital filmmaking techniques. Thursday, parents are invited to the movie premiers and the Golden Gator Award Ceremony.



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July 31-Aug. 4: PHYSICS RULE THE WORLD

Campers will design and build a catapult for a friendly camp competition. STEM-based camp will teach the role physics plays in everyday life. Basic concepts of physics will be taught through activities on the challenge course, rafting and kayaking.

Aug. 7-11: X MARKS THE SPOT

Participate in a rafting scavenger hunt on Lake Bastrop while using a compass, GPS technology and natural clues. Campers will explore map making, geocaching and orienteering on land and water.

Aug. 14-18: TEXAS POWWOW

Discover the life of early explorers. Cook mesquite cookies, learn primitive hunting techniques and construct a useful tool from the great outdoors. The week will end with a Dutch oven fruit cobbler competition!