



MCKINNEY ROUGHS NATURE PARK

Turtle Camp (Ages 5-6) | **Buffalo Camp** (Ages 7-8) | **Eagle Camp** (Ages 9-12)

Turtle campers climb the rock wall and participate in a camp-wide field day, while Buffalo and Eagle campers take on the challenge course and raft the Colorado River or Lake Bastrop. All campers swim at Bastrop State Park pool and explore the week's theme through activities such as guided hikes, presentations, field studies or experiments, nature play and games. Educational content is adapted for each age group.

POLLINATOR POWER (June 14-18)

Campers learn about the varied and amazing adaptations of bees, butterflies, bats and hummingbirds, as well as the critical role they play in an ecosystem. We dive into the insect world through field exploration and direct observation. Campers learn about the importance of native plants and nectar plants in the park and then conduct a pollinator bioblitz, or a biological survey, to contribute to citizen science data. We build a bee habitat and create a beeswax product to take home.

WATER WONDERS (June 21-25)

We dip into the aquatic world and experience its macro and micro wonders. Campers engage in science experiments to understand water's properties and water quality and peer through microscopes to view water teeming with life. Turtle and Buffalo campers use underwater viewers to examine live aquatic animals and then create an artistic memento of their observations. Eagle campers explore Lake Bastrop from kayaks and stand-up paddle boards.

MAKING THE MARK (June 28-July 2)

This week's intrepid explorers navigate using wayfinding tools and sharpen archery skills on the range. Campers learn about the Lewis and Clark journey through a historical reenactment and follow in their footsteps by observing and documenting nature. Turtle and Buffalo campers find hidden caches while geocaching and letterboxing. Buffalo campers practice taking a compass bearing and use a GPS to find a waypoint. Eagle campers practice advanced orienteering techniques using a map and compass and then create a treasure hunt for others to follow.

WILDERNESS SKILLS BASICS (July 12-16)

Campers build shelters using natural materials, purify water, make emergency signals, start fires without matches, learn how to "stay found" in an emergency situation and identify edible, medicinal and useful plants. Eagle campers participate in a capture-the-flag style scavenger hunt while zombies attempt to steal resources. Turtle and Buffalo campers take part in an adventure race for survival resources.

Camps will operate in accordance with Texas Department of State Health Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.



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NATURE MAKERS *(July 19-23)*

After foraging for edible, medicinal and practical plants, campers then transform their harvest. We explore how to utilize foraged plants, such as using Mustang Grapes for jelly, Yaupon for tea and syrup and flowers for a healing salve, and even how to create a pouch for valuables from a cactus pad. Campers set up a primitive forest camp and create a marketplace to trade their wares. Camp will culminate in a celebration of art, craft and food.

BUSHCRAFT AND TRACKING *(July 26-30)*

Campers grow their wilderness survival skills as they learn how to prepare and cook food without utensils, track animals, navigate backcountry, read the landscape to find water and make rope from natural fibers. Eagle campers participate in a capture-the-flag style scavenger hunt while zombies attempt to steal resources. Turtle and Buffalo campers take part in an adventure race for survival resources.

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