

SPRING & SUMMER BREAK

Art + Enviro Day Camp 2025

Mariposa Arts Council + Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Family Handbook

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Introduction

Welcome to Day Camp! The Art and Environmental Education Day Camp is a place-based outdoor education program for students in TK to 6th grade in Mariposa County. This program is a collaboration between the Mariposa County Arts Council, Sierra Foothill Conservancy (SFC) and the Mariposa County Unified School District (MCUSD) Expanded Learning Opportunity Program.

One week of Spring Day Camp & Six weeks of Summer outdoor activities led by naturalists, scientists, Indigenous culture keepers, and teaching artists allow students to safely explore and celebrate preserved natural landscapes near to where they live.

This Family Manual provides information to help you and your child have a successful camp experience. Please read everything carefully, and let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Communication

During the program, dedicated staff will be available during drop-off and pick-up to talk with families. We will be using the *Procare* platform to send important updates about field trips, communicate about your student, and contact families immediately in case of emergencies. You can also use this system to contact us. Please look for an email from us to learn more about participating in *Procare*. If you are not able to use *Procare*, you can email June McCrory at june@sierrafoothill.org. If you cannot email, please call the Arts Council office at (209) 966-3155.

Program Dates and Times

The Day Camp program will run from 8:00am - 5:00pm One week of April Spring Break and the first six weeks of the District's summer break. Students may enroll in all six weeks but need to register for each individual week of the program. Please note that because of federal holidays, not all weeks run Monday through Friday.

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| Spring Break | April 21 - 25 |
|--------------|---------------|

Summer Day Camp :

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| Week 1 | June 9th - 13th |
| Week 2 | June 16 - 18 (Off June 19th & 20th for Juneteenth, a federal holiday) |
| Week 3 | June 23rd - 27th |
| Week 4 | June 30th, July 1st & 2nd (Off July 3rd & 4th Holiday) |
| Week 5 | July 7th - 11th |
| Week 6 | July 14th - 18th |

Daily Program Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

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|--------------------|---|
| 7:45 - 8:15 am | Drop off at Mariposa Elementary School |
| 8:15 - 8:30 am | Theme introduction and group activity |
| 8:30 - 8:45 am | Separate students into grade groups and ride a bus to Mariposa Creek Parkway. On Wednesdays & Fridays bus to Field Trip locations. Thursdays at Mariposa Library. |
| 8:45 am - 12:00 pm | Morning instruction with snack breaks |
| 12:00 - 12:30 pm | Lunch |
| 12:30 - 1:00 pm | Free play |
| 1:00 - 5:00 pm | Afternoon activities with students in grade groups rotating through stations. |
| 5:00 pm | Students Depart |

Wednesday

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 7:45 - 8:15 am | Drop off at Mariposa Elementary School |
| 8:15 am | Bus departs for Yosemite Valley |
| 9:30 - 10:00 pm | Theme introduction and group activity at Yosemite Valley School |
| 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | Yosemite Instruction with snack breaks |
| 12:00 - 12:30 pm | Lunch |
| 12:30 - 2:45 pm | Yosemite Instruction |
| 2:45 - 3:00 pm | Gather at Yosemite Valley School |
| 3:00 pm | Bus returns to Mariposa Elementary School |
| 4:30 pm | Group wrap up at MES |
| 5:00 pm | Students depart |

Field Trips

There will be field trips each week of camp on Wednesday and Friday. On Wednesdays, the students will travel to Yosemite Valley on buses leaving at 8:15am and returning at 4:30pm. We will let you know through Procare if your child is going on the Field Trip. On Fridays, the students will go to the Stookey Preserve at Triangle and East Westfall Road. Buses will leave MES at 8:30 and return at Noon.

Arrival and Departure

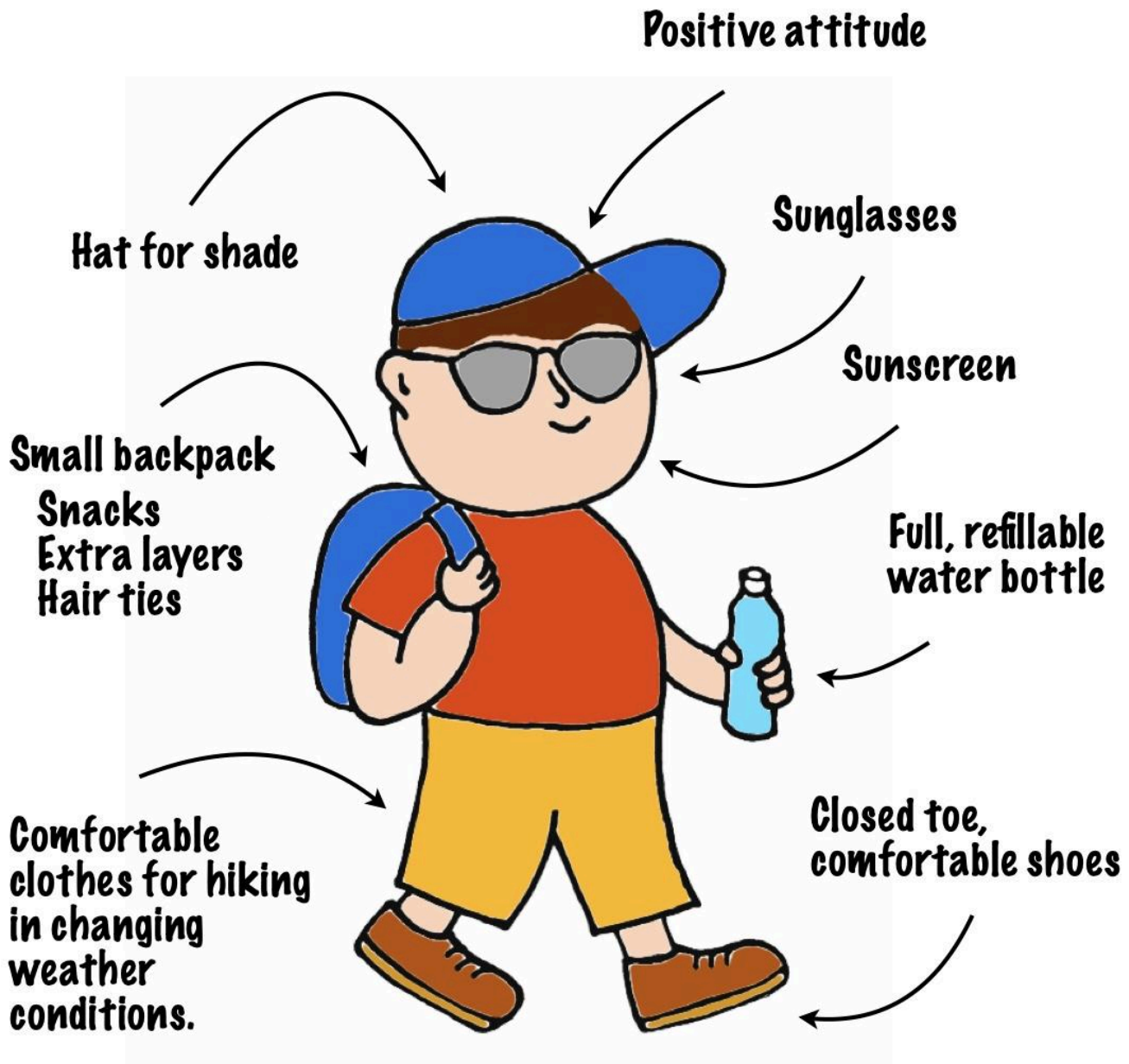
Drop off is at the Mariposa Elementary School main entrance from 7:45 - 8:15 am. All students must be signed in, by parents through Procare with the camp coordinator when they are dropped off. If students arrive late, we cannot guarantee that they will be able to join their grade group as their group may have left the campus.

Students must be picked up from the school no later than 5:00pm on each day of camp. Students may only be picked up by an authorized adult. Guardians have the option to update authorized pickup with Procare as needed. Staff may request photo identification of individuals collecting students. All students must be signed out by a guardian or an authorized pickup person before leaving the camp site.

If you wish to pick your child up early, you can collect them any time after 12:00. Early release is not feasible on Wednesdays as students will be on Field Trips.

The Well Prepared Child

To ensure that your child has the best possible experience at the day camp program, please ensure that they arrive prepared as shown in this picture:



Toys, personal listening devices, portable game devices, cell phones, trading cards, stuffed animals, pets and money should stay at home.

Lunches and Snacks

Snacks and lunches will be provided and we will make accommodations for campers with food allergies reported during registration.

When To Stay Home

Please do not send your child to camp with any of the following symptoms:

- Sore throat
- Excessive coughing
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- Fever
- Head lice
- Undiagnosed rash, sore, or other skin condition
- Any other contagious disease or symptom

A child must be fever-free and have not vomited or had diarrhea for a full 24 hours before returning to the program. A physician's note may be required before re-admitting a child to the program.

ADA Policy

We're committed to providing equal opportunity and access to all children. Because every person is unique, we address each request individually. Your child's success and safety in our programs are our top priorities; therefore, we respectfully ask families and caregivers to inform the program coordinator, prior to the start of the program, of any special needs which may require special accommodations, so we can work together to support your child in reaching their full potential.

Safety at Camp

In everything we do at Summer Day Camp, student safety is our first priority. To ensure the physical and emotional safety of all students we've taken the following steps:

- All program staff are CPR certified and have first aid and emergency response training.
- We have a comprehensive Emergency Response plan (available upon request) that strictly adheres to the California State Education Codes and FEMA recommendations.
- We will run at least 1 drill supervised by a first responder agency (Sheriff Department, Fire Department, etc) and document that drill and improvements that need to be made for the next scheduled emergency drill. All programming staff will participate in this drill.
- We have readily available Emergency Kits, fire extinguishers and walkie talkies.
- We have a communicable disease and a lice policy and procedure.
- We will provide mandatory trauma informed teaching and social emotional learning training for all program staff.
- We have a social emotional support coordinator to work directly with students, guardians and families.
- We will maintain a robust program staff to ensure that students get the personalized attention they need.

All staff are mandated reporters any suspicion or reports of physical violence, sexual assault, or neglect will be reported to the appropriate agencies.

Emergency Operation Plan

In the event of an incident (Medical, Wildfire, etc...), program staff will:

- Prioritize the safety of the youth participants
- Disseminate information via text messages, radio announcements, and emails to inform families about exactly what has happened & when, how and where reunification will take place.
- Implement the plan to manage phone calls and families who arrive at the program site.
- Describe how the education site and staff are handling the situation.
- Provide information regarding possible reactions of their children and ways to talk with them.
- Contact families via the 'Procare' messaging system.
- Inform families and students when and where the program will resume.

Students Responsibilities include:

- Cooperate during emergency drills and exercises, and during an incident.
- Learn to be responsible for themselves and others in an incident.
- Understand the importance of reporting concerning situations.
- Develop an awareness of natural, technological, and human-caused hazards.
- Take an active part in education program incident response/recovery activities, as age appropriate.

Families Responsibilities include:

- Encourage and support safety, violence prevention, and incident preparedness within the programs.

- Practice incident management preparedness in the home to reinforce training and ensure family safety.
- Understanding their roles during an education program emergency.

Youth Code of Conduct

In order to maintain a safe and inspiring learning environment at day camp, it is important that students treat staff and each other with respect and kindness. Rules and expected behavior are explained to the children on the first day of camp. Any behavior or inappropriate language which causes the learning atmosphere to deteriorate or be disrupted or which infringes upon the rights of others in the school may subject the student to corrective measures.

If a student is causing disruption that cannot be addressed by the Lead Facilitator or support staff, they will contact the Social Emotional Support Coordinator (SESC) via two-way radio. Support staff will give a brief summary of the situation and the SESC will remove the student(s) involved from the group.

The SESC will assess, de-escalate and evaluate the situation with the goal of reintroducing the student to the activity. In the event of a student being removed from a group for any reason, the SESC will talk with their family at pick up to help the youth get any support they need. In the event of violence between participants the SESC will remove the children involved, talk with them until they are calm and, if possible, facilitate a reconciliation.

After assessing the situation, the SESC will take appropriate action based on the following guidelines.

| Tier | Description | Examples | Outcome/Goals |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Disruptive behavior. | Interrupting, yelling at inappropriate times, racist comments or hate speech. | Make sure that the student understands the impacts of their actions on others. Discuss consequences if behavior continues. Student rejoins the group. |
| 2 | Harmful behavior. | Severe, repeated racist comments or hate speech. Removing clothes. Punching, kicking, hitting or biting. Violating the physical space of others without consent. | Discussion with a guardian. Potential expulsion from the program for the rest of the day and following day. |
| 3 | Repeated harmful behavior. | Multiple acts of violence or violating the physical space of another with no significant effort change the behavior. | Discussion with a guardian. Suspension for the remainder of the week. |
| 4 | Deliberate dangerous behavior. | Behavior that threatens the physical safety of other students. | Discussion with a guardian. Expulsion from the program. |