



C A M P

Live Oak

Nonprofit 501(c)(3)

Weekly Themes Summer 2021

Session 1

June 14 – July 2

Session 2

July 5 – July 23

Ocean Quest

July 26 – July 30

Session 3

Aug 2 – Aug 18

Session 1

The Magnificent Miniature World of Bugs!

Week 1 June 14 – 18

Bugs are some of the most common animals on Earth; they're part of a group called the Arthropods that make up 84% of all animals on our planet!! How many different bug species can we find in Birch State Park? Discover the beautiful banana spider and observe them creating their webs up close!

Earth's Final Frontier: Exploring the Deep Sea!

Week 2 June 21 – 25

We know more about the surface of our moon than we do about the deepest parts of our ocean. And what a strange, alien world it is! Learn how deep-sea biologists explore the darkest, most mysterious parts of the ocean, and discover the animals that live there. We'll encounter anglerfish, giant isopods, dragonfish, goblin sharks, and more, and understand the strategies they've developed to survive here, from creating their fishing lures to glowing in the dark and making food from chemicals in saltwater!

Exotic Animals of Florida

Week 3 June 28 – July 2

Many animals that call Florida their home traveled here from lands far away. We share our state with green iguanas that hail from Central and South America, Cuban and Bahamian anole lizards, armored catfish that once swam the waters of the Amazon River, and elusive Burmese python from Southeast Asia...even Rhesus macaque monkeys! But how in the world did they get here?? Discover where in Florida you can find these exotic creatures and see how many you can find in Birch State Park!

Session 2

A Window to Another World: Tide Pools and Coastal Habitats

Week 4 July 5 – 9

During low tide, the ocean gives us glimpses of fascinating creatures that live farther offshore. Sometimes seawater gets stuck in small pools along the coast, and many creatures can be found within them: sea anemones, periwinkle snails, crabs, even baby fish! These miniature habitats are called tide pools. This week, we'll explore nearshore ecosystems, discover the plants and animals that live there, and meet some of them up close!

The Everglades: From Sawgrass to Saltwater

Week 5 July 12 - 16

The Everglades, or "River of Grass," is a one-of-a-kind ecosystem that can't be found anywhere else in the world! Did you know that, before we started building homes and businesses in Florida, this river was 100 miles long?? It began where Disney World is today and stretched to Florida Bay at the southern tip of our state! Discover how Florida's indigenous communities, the Seminole and Miccosukee tribes, have lived in harmony with this unique ecosystem for nearly 200 years, and why the Everglades are so important to the animals and humans who live in Florida.

When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth

Week 6 July 19 - 23

About 230 million years ago, the reign of the dinosaurs began! Did you know that dinosaurs are more closely related to birds than reptiles?? Learn what some of our favorite dinos, like the T-Rex and Velociraptor would have looked like when they were alive, and which prehistoric creatures lived in Florida long ago. Take a piece of the past home with you as we unearth ancient fossils and crack open geodes!

Ocean Quest: Guardians of the Deep: Sharks, Stingrays, Skates, and Chimaeras!

Week 7 July 26 – 30

Did you know that sharks are related to not only stingrays and skates, but also the mysterious, deep-sea chimeras (sometimes known as "ghost sharks") too?? Learn about these amazing cartilaginous creatures that outlived the dinosaurs, how they make the ocean a better place to live for all creatures (even humans!), and what we can do to protect them!

Session 3

Mystery Beneath the Sea Ice: Polar Ecosystems

Week 8 August 2 - 6

Even the coldest, harshest places on Earth support life; from the long-lived Greenland shark to the charismatic polar bear, fierce leopard seal, and cuddly Emperor penguin, all of these creatures call these icy habitats home! Discover what lurks beneath the sea ice, and how these unique sea creatures thrive in such extreme habitats.

Extreme Weather: Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Blizzards, and Earthquakes!

Week 9 August 9 – 13

Become a meteorologist this week as we explore the science behind some of the most powerful natural disasters! How do tornadoes and hurricanes form? How much snow did the strongest blizzards in history create? How and why do earthquakes happen? Build a tower that can survive an earthquake, create a mini-tornado, and make snow in the middle of summer!

The Wild Kingdom of the Pacific Ocean

Week 10 August 16 – 18

The Pacific is the largest and deepest of Earth's oceans and, while all oceans are connected, many things make it different from our own Atlantic Ocean! This week, we'll explore the Pacific Ocean's rocky reefs, dive deep into its kelp forests with sea lions and sevengill sharks, follow a pod of orcas on their migrations, and learn why there is a spot between California and Hawaii called the White Shark Café!