

Kids Being Scientists Camp @ Kellogg Bird Sanctuary
Parent Information

We are excited to have your camper join us for Kids Being Scientists Camp this year. Below is information that should answer some frequently asked questions. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact us at (269) 671-2510

Typical daily schedule

8:30 am	Arrival outside Sanctuary Bookstore
8:45 – 9:00 am	Walk to Spruce Lodge, Opening Circle
9:00 – 11:30 am	Morning activity
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Lunch
12:00 – 12:30 pm	Quiet time (reading, coloring/drawing, playing games)
12:30 – 2:30 pm	Afternoon activity
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Daily wrap up
3:00 pm	Parent pick up outside Sanctuary Bookstore

Arrival

We will be meeting everyday at the Spruce Lodge, which is located within the grounds of the Kellogg Bird Sanctuary. Due to the location of the lodge and for safety reasons, we request that you park in the Sanctuary parking lot and walk your child to the front gate of the Bird Sanctuary Resource Center/Bookstore. The counselors will be at the gate to greet the children beginning at 8:00 a.m. for pre-paid early arrivals all other campers should arrive at 8:30 a.m. **In order to ensure proper supervision, please do not drop off your child until you see their counselor.**



**W.K. Kellogg
Bird Sanctuary**

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269-671-2510
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kbs.msu.edu/birdsanctuary

If you have signed up for the early drop off (8:00 am), a counselor will be there to greet your camper at that time. We suggest that you have your camper bring something to occupy his/her time (e.g., eat breakfast, read a book, play games, etc.).

Late arrival: Please let us know ahead of time, if possible. Please call 269-671-2510 to let us know the time of your arrival. We will do our best to reunite your camper with their group but you may need to walk some distance to catch up with your camper's group.

Departure

Please pick up your child at 3:00 p.m. at the same location. Again, for safety reasons, park in the Sanctuary parking lot and walk over to the fence to pick up your child. Children will only be released to the people you have listed on the Pick-up Authorization list. You will be required to show identification (driver's license) when picking up your child. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping kids safe.

To help our program run smoothly, we ask that you please drop off and pick up your camper on time. If there is an emergency or situation that will make you unable to pick up your child at 3:00 pm, please phone us. Please note, you may be subject to a fee if you are chronically late in picking up you camper.

Camp Attire

Remember: this is camp! We will be outside exploring and getting hot, dirty and wet along the way! Please dress your camper in clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. For their safety, we recommend campers wear close-toed shoes and shoes that are comfortable for walking.

Camp Transportation

Camp is a time for experiencing the outdoors. Here at Kellogg Biological Station (KBS), we have a lot of great places to explore. Most of these places are on or near the Sanctuary grounds. Campers should expect to walk and hike each day. Other times, campers might be transported in a mini-van. The van does not move until all campers are seated and buckled in properly. Campers are not allowed to sit in the front seat unless they are 12 years of age or older.

If the law requires your child to use a booster seat, then you will need to drop off the seat with the camper on days that we will be driving to other locations. We will notify parents at the beginning of the week which days we will need the booster seat (typically Friday).

What to Bring – Please label all items with your child's name

Each day, please have your camper bring a backpack containing the following items (labeled with the camper's name):

- A packed lunch that doesn't have to be refrigerated. We do place lunches in a refrigerator, but sometimes a group's activities require that they take their lunch with them when they head out in the morning.
- A water bottle filled with water.
- A hat (helps protect from sun and insects).
- Sweatshirt, lightweight jacket and/or rain gear (outerwear appropriate for the predicted weather)
- Sunscreen (SPF 15 or higher); best if applied before camp as well
- Bug repellent

Monday, for the first day of camp, please have your camper bring the following items: (Pack these items in a separate bag that can be left at camp for the week):

- An extra change of clothing (1 pair of shorts/pants, 1 t-shirt, 1 pair of socks, underclothes)
- Old shoes that can get wet (best if close-toed)
- Long pants, such as jeans (to wear when we are walking through tall grass and visit the forest which can have mosquitoes)

Please let your camper help pack their things so they know what they have with them and where to find it!

On Fridays,

- Campers should wear their camp tshirt for pictures.
- Pack a swimsuit, towel and water shoes (to protect feet from zebra mussels, which can have sharp shells and cut feet). Some campers opt to wear their suit to camp under their clothes and bring underclothes to change into after

swimming. Swimming takes place in the afternoon at KBS' windmill island on Gull Lake.

- Booster seat: please drop off booster seat in the morning if your child still uses one.

What Not to Bring

Please do not allow your camper to bring electronic devices (e.g., electronic games, MP3 players, cell phones, cameras, iPods, radios, etc.).

Camp has a "no cell phone" policy. We realize that some parents provide their child with a cell phone for emergency purposes. Cell phones, however, can get lost, broken, and stolen, and represent a potential and unnecessary distraction. If you are concerned that your child will not have a cell phone with them, please be assured that all counselors and Sanctuary staff are in cell phone contact with the main Sanctuary office, if emergencies or situations arise.

Please do not allow your camper to bring any other item that can distract from camp activities (e.g., trading cards) or items of value that could be broken, lost, or stolen. Such items, if brought to camp, will be collected by the counselor and returned to the parent at the end of the day.

Behavior

Our staff makes every effort to provide a safe, fun, respectful and educational environment for your child. If a child's behavior is disruptive to the point of adversely affecting the activities or the experience of other campers and staff, appropriate action will be taken. Counselors will conference with individuals and report the situation to parents. If the behavior continues, then a parent conference will be arranged with the camper, counselor and camp director to discuss the issue and draw up a behavioral contract. Failure to comply with the behavioral contract could result in dismissal from camp.

Violent behavior towards camp staff, other campers or camp equipment will not be tolerated and will result in the camper being sent home early from camp and possibly dismissed for the remaining time of camp. No refunds are given for days missed as a result of campers being sent home for behavioral reasons.

If during camp, concerns arise, please discuss them with your camper's counselor or the camp director. Counselors are instructed to report to a parent if a situation involving their child occurs during camp.

Medical & Media Release Form and Medication

Please fill out the Medical & Media Release Form that was provided with this parent information packet. **Please return this form at least two weeks prior to your child's camp.** You may want to make a copy, because forms have been known to get lost in the mail. Your child may not start camp until we have this sheet on file.

All medication should be given at home when possible. If medication must be given during camp, we will follow the medication procedure recommended by the Health Department, as outlined below:

1. A form, signed by the doctor, must be on file containing the doctor's instructions, including duration of time to be administered, and the parent's signed permission.
2. Medication must be in its original container, identified with the camper's name, pharmacy Rx number, name of medication, dosage, and time to be administered (i.e., physician's instructions).
3. Medication must be brought by an adult. Any medication left over must be picked up at camp by an adult or it will be discarded.
4. Aspirin, cough syrup, anti-histamines, etc. brought in by a parent for a child also require the same above procedure, i.e., a doctor's signature with instructions.

Place original containers into a zip-lock bag labeled with your camper's name. Please provide complete, written directions on dosage and frequency.

We realize the above procedure may not always be the most convenient for parents. However, for your child's safety, recommendations from the Health Department for dispensing medications must be followed.

Absence from Camp

If your child is too sick to attend camp or will be absent from camp for another reason, please notify us prior to the absence, so we know not to expect them. If your child becomes sick while at camp, you will be called immediately. There are no camper refunds given for missed days or if a camper is sent home for illness.

Emergencies

If an emergency arises, involving your camper, you will be contacted immediately. If for some reason, we are unable to get in contact with you, we will call the alternate emergency contact person you provide on your Medical & Media Release Form. Please make sure that all of the information you give on the form is complete and accurate.

Thank you for supporting Michigan State University's Kellogg Bird Sanctuary and participating in Science Camp! We are looking forward to a great camp!

Misty Klotz, Camp Coordinator
Sarah Reimer, Administrative Assistant