



Summer Youth Programs

Each week's Summer Youth Program has a theme, and each day's class is a unique experience

and an opportunity to enjoy indoor and outdoor activities. Please bring a snack and drink, and dress for the outdoors. Sign up ahead of time so you won't be disappointed, as these classes can fill quickly. Our programs take place **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays** and are appropriate for children 3-10 years old. The children start each day together and split up into age groups (3-5 and 6-10) when appropriate. **Children should bring a snack and drink for the break, and dress for being outside. Use bug spray and sunscreen before coming to the center.**

Daily fee: \$18/child CAS Members, \$22/child Non-Members.

3-day fee: \$51/child CAS Members, \$66/child Non-members.

Gardening for Children

July 7, 8, 9, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Learn the basics of gardening with the help of one of our Master Gardeners. We've got a little garden that was started at Earth Fair and we are ready to plant plants for the summer. Find out about good bugs and bad bugs, vegetables and herbs, flowers and wild flowers. We'll even explore the forest and field as a wild garden. Come learn about insects, metamorphosis, plant parts, soil and the food chain!

Mud . . . and More Mud!

Wed., July 8, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Tue., July 21, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Wed., Aug. 19, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

This is a muddy, messy class, but lots of fun. We'll go to the river to collect clay and bring it back to make beads, bowls or whatever you want to make. Prepare to get messy and be creative! What a great way to learn about

different kinds of soil and try out your sculpting skills!

Stream Walk

July 14, 15, 16, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Holland Brook winds its way through Earle Park with many little streamlets and changing habitats to explore. Walk a different part of the stream each day to see the micro-diversity that lives and visits there daily. Come learn about insects, mammals, birds, plants, wildlife habitats and amphibians!

Letter Boxing

Thur., July 16, 1:30-3:30 p.m. , OR REPEATED on Thurs., Aug. 20,

9:30 – 11:30 a.m. (please specify which class you will attend)

Letter boxing has been around for a while, yet some people are just learning about it. Find the clues that will lead you to one of the letter boxes in Earle Park and find out what all the excitement is about. It's a great exercise in problem solving and reading maps.

Bugathon!

July 21, 22, 23, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

We've got big bugs, little bugs, crawling bugs and flying bugs all around us. But are they all *true* insects? Insects make up a huge part of the animal world, and are as diverse as their habitat. Get down to ground level with the little guys in the field and up close with the nectar-loving ones. Come learn about insects, their relatives and habitats, metamorphosis and plants, and sharpen your observation skills!



How to Become a Bird Watcher

July 28, 29, 30, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Summer time is here and the birds are nesting and raising their young. Can we find those nests? Which birds can you identify by sound or sight? Become a bird watcher this week as we learn how to use binoculars, or bring your own. Make a bird house and a bird feeder. We'll study birds, their habitats, the different structures they build or use as nests, and practice our observation and listening skills.

Vegetable Garden

Wed., July 29, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

How has our garden grown? We'll pick vegetables, clean them and make a little tasty meal to eat from our garden of vegetables and herbs. Along the way, we'll learn about the food chain and plants and try our hand at simple food preparation.

Splish, Splash!

Aug. 4, 5, 6, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Pond and stream, here we come! Plan on getting wet in our class. What makes a pond and not a lake? Is it a brook or a river? Where does all the water come from and where does it go? Who lives in these habitats? We'll study wildlife habitats, water cycles, metamorphosis, reptiles, birds, plants and trees.

Catch the Wind

Tue., Aug. 4, 1:30-3:30 p.m., OR REPEATED on Wed., Aug. 19,

9:30 – 11:30a.m. (please specify which class you will attend)

Learn a bit about harnessing the wind with windmills. We will make the smaller version, a pin wheel, and also make a kite to fly if the conditions are right. We'll learn some basics about wind power, energy and weather.

The Mighty Tree

Aug. 11, 12, 13, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

There isn't anything better than sitting under a tall tree on a hot summer day, or a stroll through the forest. We use trees to make many things, like paper, toys, homes and books. Identify some of the trees we have in Earle Park and

learn about the inner workings of a tree. Join us and learn about plant identification, wildlife habitat, renewable resources, plant cycles and structures.

Vegetable Garden

Tue., Aug. 18, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

How has our garden grown? We'll pick vegetables, clean them and make a little tasty meal to eat from our garden of vegetable and herbs. Along the way we'll explore the food chain and plants and try our hand at simple food preparation.

Family Programs

NEW! Easter Island, A Travel Adventure

Wed., June 10, 7 – 9 p.m.

Home to silent sentinels of a long lost culture, this tiny island is located 2,300 miles west of Chile. Learn about the ancient Rapa Nui culture that grew from isolation. Why did they carve more than 600 giant Moai statues? **Fee: \$5 CAS Members, \$7 Non-members.**



Summer Solstice Family Celebration

Sat., June 20, starting at 8 p.m.

Bring in the fire of summer with celebration, song and dance. Civilizations over time and around the world have honored this longest day of the year with a variety of traditions. Musician and teacher-naturalist Kasha Breau and fire keeper Dave Magee are planning festivities to honor the summer solstice with stories, music, food and your participation. **Fee: \$5 CAS Members, \$7 Non-members.**

Mallorie Ostrowiz

The Basics of Digital Photography

May 20 and 21, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

In this workshop, you will learn what all the functions on your camera means, gain a better understanding of the terminology of digital photography, learn how to transfer your images into the computer and basic Photoshop skills. **Fee: CAS Members \$24, Non-members \$30**

Elements of Composition

May 27, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

In this class, you will learn about the various design components that go into making a good photograph. How to frame an image, use line, pattern, color and texture as compositional tools will be discussed. **Fee: CAS Members \$12, Non-members \$15**

Understanding Light and Exposure in Photography

June 3, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

In this class, you will learn to better understand characteristics of light and how they apply to taking a successful photograph. The zone system, it's application to both color and black and white photography will be discussed. You will learn how to use the zone system in digital metering. **Fee: CAS Members \$12, Non-members \$15**

The Art and Technique of Wildflower Photography

June 6, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Included in the workshop will be a discussion on the equipment, lighting conditions and camera exposures best suited to shooting flowers in the natural landscape. The artistry of wildflower photography will be presented in a discussion and slide show on the elements of composition. During the lunch break, participants will have the opportunity to shoot different types of local wildflowers. Critiques will be held during the workshop. **Fee: CAS Members \$30, Non-Members \$35**

NEW! Kid Yoga For 5-10 year olds.

Thurs., July 16, July 23, July 30, Aug. 6, 4-4:45 p.m.

Through yoga poses and breathing exercises, children develop a sense of self-awareness and a connection to nature. Come slither like a snake, sway like a tree in the wind and soar like an eagle! **Per class fee: \$5 CAS Members, \$7 Non-members.**

NEW! Yoga Hikes

For children 11 years and older and adults.

Sundays, July 26, Aug. 2, 1-3:30 p.m.

Experience an outdoor yoga practice inspired by natural surroundings and enjoy a moderate hike. No previous yoga experience necessary. No yoga mats needed, but bring a water bottle. **Per-class fee: \$CAS Members, \$7 Non-members.**



Art For Nature's Sake Art Show and Sale

Sat. and Sun., May 16 & 17 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Information: 860-633-8402, Free Admission
Seventh annual Show and Sale. A select group of juried artists and artisans inspired by the natural world will display their fine art and craft work. Many of the artists will donate 20% of the sale price of selected work to the nature center. Here is an opportunity to meet the artists and learn about their media: oils, acrylics, pastels, watercolors, photography, ceramics, woodworking, wood block prints, jewelry and more. Several artists will demonstrate their techniques. The two day event will include entertainment and an auction of birdhouses designed by Glastonbury High School art students. Philip Stein of Fairfield will demonstrate bird carving both days. Children can be artists, too.