



FEES

50101-17: Tales of a Planet: \$648 (no program 7/4)
 50101-18: Swamp Scientists: \$720
 50101-19: Habitat Trackers: \$720
 50101-20: Forest Fanatics: \$360
 50101-21: Creature Feature: \$360

DATES

See session descriptions.

REGISTRATION

On-line at www.somersetcountyparks.org and walk-in registrations begin **Saturday, January 21 at 9am**. Phone/mail registration begins Sunday, January 22 at 9am. Enrollment is on a first come first served basis. **A minimum deposit payment of 50% per session is due at registration; deposit or full payment is non-refundable and non-transferable.** All sessions must be paid in full by Monday, May 7, 2012. VISA, MasterCard, Discover, Amex or cash/check are accepted.

ELIGIBILITY

This program is age-specific. Participants must be 7 years of age by the start date of the selected session(s), not have turned 10 years of age prior to the session in which s/he is enrolled, and have an interest in the natural world.

WHAT TO WEAR AND BRING

Wear comfortable summer clothing, sturdy footwear (NO FLIP-FLOPS PLEASE!) that can get wet, and a hat. Bring lunch and plenty of water every day! Bring raingear, an extra set of clothing, and footwear to leave in your cubby for the two week session.

Lunch

Participants should bring one snack, lunch, and two drinks each day. There is no refrigeration available, so please send food in an insulated bag. Participants are encouraged to participate in our waste free lunch program. Items such as plastic sandwich containers, reusable drink bottles, and cloth napkins are welcome.

Field Trips

Once a session we will leave the center to go on a field trip. We will leave at approximately 9:30am on the designated day and return by 4:00pm. We will travel by bus and do our best to plan trips no more than 60 minutes away from the Education Center. All trips are related to session theme.

Communication

When registering, please provide an email you check frequently as most communication is via e-mail. Please add vdarras@scparcs.org to your contact list. For more information, call, write or e-mail.

Somerset County Park Commission welcomes everyone to participate in its programs and facilities regardless of race, color, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or religious or political affiliation. If you have individualized needs due to a disability, please call 908 526-5650 and we will be happy to arrange reasonable accommodations. Three weeks notice is required to ensure that appropriate accommodations can be provided.

For more information, call, write or e-mail:

VANESSA DARRAS, Eco-Explorers
 Environmental Education Center
 190 Lord Stirling Road
 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
 908 766-2489 x335
vdarras@scparcs.org

SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Eco-Explorers

*A Summer Discovery Program
 for Ages 7-9*



June 25-August 17, 2012



*Somerset County
 Park Commission*

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

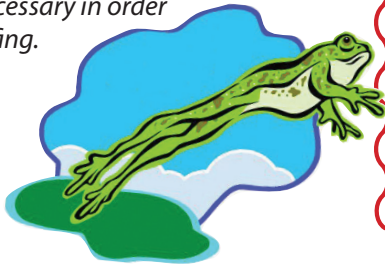
Eco-Explorers offers participants an exciting experience while developing an appreciation for nature and fondness of science. Fresh air, lessons, and games will add up to a fun and educational summer!

- Eco-Explorers takes a hands-on approach and encourages learning through creative expression, educational games, imagination, nature exploration, and physical skill development.
- Each of the five sessions of programming offers educational field trips, professional guest speakers, nature walks, canoeing, swimming, educational games, arts and crafts, and more.
- Eco-Explorers is directed by a Naturalist from the Environmental Education Center. The other Eco-Explorers staff members have backgrounds in science or other related fields and have experience working with children.

PROGRAM HOURS

Three 2-week long sessions
Two 1-week long sessions
Monday thru Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm

Post-program Extended Care Option is available for all sessions. Children may stay until **5:30pm** for an additional fee per session (daily rates are not available). Fee for first session (June 25 – July 6) is \$77; fee for sessions 2 and 3 are \$85; fee for sessions 4 and 5 is \$42.50. *Enrollment in the extended care option by June 1 is necessary in order to schedule adequate staffing.*



Session 1: \$648

TALES OF A PLANET

June 25-July 6

(No program 7/4)

Course Code: 50101-17

Take a journey through time, starting all the way back at the Earth's beginnings! We will talk about geology, dinosaurs, early mammals, and all the things that happened to make Earth like it is today. Then we will explore Earth's amazing natural resources and learn how humans affect the planet. Field trip will be Franklin Mineral Museum; this is subject to change.

Session 2: \$720

SWAMP SCIENTISTS

July 9-July 20

Course Code: 50101-18

Put on your lab coat and some goggles for the swamp has a lot of mysteries to solve! Join us as we conduct some fun and wacky experiments and find out more about the science behind nature. Use your new found science skills as we hike, swim, and play to discover how things work. Field trip will be to Liberty Science Center; this is subject to change.

Session 3: \$720

HABITAT TRACKERS

July 23-August 3

Course Code: 50101-19

Get your imagination fired up, because you have two weeks ahead of you learning all about the world's many habitats and what makes them so special. We will explore some of the habitats right here in NJ and take a trip or two to discover ones you might have never seen before! Field trip will be to Sandy Hook Science Consortium for beach exploration; this is subject to change.

Session 4: \$360

FOREST FANATICS

August 6-August 10

(only 1 week)

Course Code: 50101-20

Become a forest ecologist as we explore the relationships between plants and animals in the woods of the Great Swamp. Each day we will focus on a different habitat within the Great Swamp and discover what it is like to live there and how the plants and animals adapted to live in that habitat. The field trip day may include Raptor Trust and the Great Swamp Wildlife Refuge; these are subject to change.



Session 5: \$360

CREATURE FEATURE

August 13-August 17

(only 1 week)

Course Code: 50101-21

The Earth has some pretty amazing animals; whale sharks, newts, lemurs, and lion fish –just to name a few. Each day we will learn about the variety of animals that live on this planet. Prepare to meet some special animal guests and become an expert! The field trip day may include Eyes of the Wild and Merrill Creek for hiking; these are subject to change.

