



Winter Camp 2015 Descriptions

Grades 1-2

Nature Explorer

Become a nature detective and find out how scientists use clues to learn about animal behavior and habitats. We'll learn how to identify and interpret a variety of signs that animals leave behind. Each day we will sharpen our scientific skills through activities, crafts, and hikes in Balboa Park. Let's unlock the mysteries of the natural world.

Monday, December 21

Adventures in Archaeology

Did you know the history of human civilization can be found under our feet? Archaeologists use clues left behind by ancient cultures to learn how people used to eat, play, and live in nature. Visit our special exhibition *Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed*, play games, make crafts, and take part in activities that unveil the amazing world of archaeology.

Note: This camp has an additional fee to cover the ticket cost for the special exhibition.

Tuesday, December 22

Focus on Fossils

What is a fossil anyway? Learn how fossils form, and how paleontologists know where to look for them. Handle real fossils and observe how details, large and small, help us figure out the history of life on Earth.

Wednesday, December 23

Ice Age Adventure

Just 10,000 years ago San Diego, our home, was a very different place. Giant sloths roamed the grassland in the shadow of herds of mastodons. Saber-toothed cats hunted camels and horses. Explore how these animals were able to co-exist and see which Ice Age creatures survived to roam our backyards today.

Monday, December 28

Buggin' Out

Spend the day investigating nature's mini marvels as we explore and try to better understand insects and their relatives. Visit the Museum's core exhibitions, *Fossil Mysteries* and *Coast to Cactus in Southern California*, and take a field trip to the San Diego Zoo's insect house.

Tuesday, December 29

Dinosaur C.S.I.

Become a dinosaur detective and join the Cretaceous Scene Investigation (C.S.I.) team. Dig into the lives of these giant ancient reptiles as we step back millions of years. Our single-day journey to the age of dinosaurs is packed with crafts, games, and activities that explore the secrets of a strange prehistoric world. Tour the Museum's core exhibition, *Fossil Mysteries*, and go on a field excursion.

Wednesday, December 30

Grades 3-5

Bug Hunter

Did you know that all bugs are insects, but not all insects are bugs? Become a junior entomologist for the day and investigate a wide variety of bugs through an outdoor garden investigation, general classification, artistic renderings, and close encounters of the bug kind. Visit the Museum's core exhibitions, *Fossil Mysteries* and *Coast to Cactus in Southern California*, and go on a field trip to the San Diego Zoo's insect house.

Monday, December 21

Predator

What makes a great predator? Is it fierce teeth and claws or camouflage and cleverness? In this very carnivorous camp, we'll discover all the tactics predators use to catch their prey. Camp activities will challenge campers to explore how animals run fast, silently hunt, or chomp hard. Who will be the ultimate predator?

Tuesday, December 22

Mysteries of the Maya

Come walk in steps of the ancient Maya as we rediscover this fascinating civilization. This camp is based upon our special exhibition, *Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed*. We'll encounter the richness of Maya culture by examining centuries-old artifacts and traditions. Campers will engage in hand-on explorations that investigate the sophisticated worldview of the ancient Maya and their relationship to art and science. Last chance! This exhibit closes January 3.

Note: This camp has an additional fee to cover the ticket cost for the special exhibition.

Wednesday, December 23

Cold-Blooded Critters

Slither your way into an unforgettable day of reptile and amphibian exploration. Dispel common "tall tales" about these fascinating cold-blooded creatures with visits from some of Museum's live herpetology collection. We'll take a field trip to the San Diego Zoo's Reptile Walk with visits to the Museum's core exhibitions, *Fossil Mysteries* and *Coast to Cactus in Southern California*. Get ready for some cold-blooded fun!

Monday, December 28

Super Survival

What does it take to survive? Learn how adaptations help plants and animals survive and thrive in their habitats. We'll visit exhibitions in the Museum and the Nature to You Loan Library to observe specimens up close. We'll unlock clues, both modern and prehistoric, to see how living things survive nature's toughest challenges.

Tuesday, December 29

Time Travelers

Join us for a Centennial Jubilee! Balboa Park turned 100 years old in 2015 so we'd like to give the Park's momentous year by giving it the send-off it deserves and learning more about the history of the Park and our Museum. Check out amazing exhibitions, visit another museum in the Park, and consider what the next century will bring.

Wednesday, December 30