Tanglewood Nature Center and Museum
An opportunity to play, explore, & discover the great outdoors!
Note from the Camp Directors:

Thank you for your interest in our summer camps! We are thrilled to be able to provide such a unique and exciting opportunity for your children to learn about their relationship to the natural world while supporting their physical, social, and intellectual growth.

It is our goal to get your children outdoors to explore and enjoy what Tanglewood has to offer. With our 9+ miles of hiking trails, 300+ acres, live animals, nature museum, and the solar-powered lodge there is plenty to explore!

Sincerely,

Jamie Ziegler, Co-Camp Director
Maggie Groce, Co-Camp Director
Summer Camps at a Glance

All summer camps for 2020 will be in the Lodge.

Your child must have completed at least the earliest grade in the session to register – for example, your child must have finished Kindergarten to enroll in a K-2nd session.

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<th>Week:</th>
<th>Completed Grades:</th>
<th>Camp Theme:</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 29th – July 2nd</td>
<td>K-2nd grade</td>
<td>Fishing</td>
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<td>No camp on Friday!</td>
<td>3rd - 5th grade</td>
<td>Eco-Engineers</td>
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<td>July 6th – July 10th</td>
<td>K-2nd grade</td>
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<td>Zookeepers</td>
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<td>July 13th – July 17th</td>
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<td>July 20th – July 24th</td>
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<td>Scales &amp; Slime</td>
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<td>3rd - 5th grade</td>
<td>Wilderness Survival</td>
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<td>K-2nd grade</td>
<td>Critter Care</td>
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<td>3rd-5th grade</td>
<td>Forest Forensics</td>
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<td>Aug 3rd – Aug 7th</td>
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<td>Aug 10th – Aug 14th</td>
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<td>Swamp Stomp</td>
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<td>Go Wild</td>
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<td>K-5th grade</td>
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Summer Camp Highlights:

**Fishing Camp - Week 1**  
June 29th - July 2nd (no camp on Friday!)  
K-2
- Basics of fishing, including casting, knot tying, safety and more
- Dig bait for different species of fish and make your very own pole
- Watch a pro show you how to gut, clean and fillet a fish!
- This camp is ideal for beginners who are interested in learning and for experienced campers who want to practice their skills

**Eco Engineers Week 1**  
June 29th - July 2nd (no camp on Friday!)  
3-5
- Design and build as we look to nature for inspiration!
- Create and play with simple machines like seed bomb launchers all the way up to racing solar powered cars
- Take tech into the woods – using apps on our iPads to take scientific data
- This camp is ideal for inquisitive campers who enjoy creating and working with their hands

**Dino Dig Week 2**  
July 6th – July 10th  
K-2
- Explore the woods to find your very own fossils
- Get up close and personal with the dinosaur descendants that we have here at Tanglewood
- Create and hatch your own dinosaur eggs to take home
- This camp is ideal for any dinosaur or nature lover!

**Zookeepers Camp Week 2**  
July 6th – July 10th  
3-5
- Feed our animals gourmet meals of fruit, rats, and bugs
- Build jungle gyms and toys for our animals
- Hike through the woods to see wild animals in their natural habitat
- Discover the tricks of training animals with positive reinforcement – working with species like dogs, birds, and more!
- This camp is ideal for animal lovers and kids who want to see behind the scenes at Tanglewood
Pokémon Week 3
July 13th - July 17th  K-2 & 3-5 sessions offered this week
- Discover Pokémon that are based on real animals, many of which reside at the museum!
- Hike the trails and catch insects and frogs with your very own Pokéball
- Make up your own Pokémon and battle them against other trainers
- This camp is ideal for aspiring Pokemon trainers and professors!

Scales & Slime Week 4
July 20th – July 24th  K-2
- Flip over logs to find sneaky salamanders and get your feet wet catching frogs and fish in the ponds
- Perform wacky experiments and then meet the animals that inspired them
- End the week with a reptile race!
- This camp is ideal for campers who love reptiles, amphibians, and don’t mind getting a bit muddy and messy

Wilderness Survival Camp- Week 4
July 20th – July 24th  3-5
- Learn to read a map and use a compass to find your way home
- Build and insulate a shelter with no tools
- Finish the week with fire building and cooking a special treat in the woods!
- This camp is ideal for kids who enjoy spending plenty of time in the woods and don’t mind getting a bit messy

Critter Care Camp Week 5
July 27th - July 31st  K-2
- Snuggle a ferret, feed a frog, and help Tanglewood care for over 40 different animals
- Create toys and treats for animals to enjoy
- Hike through the woods to see wild animals in their natural habitat
- This camp is ideal for kids who love animals, have pets or are interested in caring for a pet in the future

Forest Forensics Week 5
July 27th - July 31st  3-5
- Play games in the woods using your senses
- Explore the creek to find camouflaged creatures and hidden secrets in the soil
- Find fossils and rearrange owl pellet bones to piece together mysteries of the past
- This camp is ideal for inquisitive minds that enjoy being outdoors
Camp Yucky Week 7
August 10th – August 14th K-2
• Explore the muddy, slimy, oozy, and sometimes yucky side of science
• Investigate and identify animal scat
• Learn about creepy crawly insects and what lives in the muck at the bottom of the pond
• This camp is ideal for kids who don’t mind getting a little messy and are ready for hands-on nature fun

Wilderness Quest Week 7
August 10th – August 14th 3-5
• Hunt for treasure and map your way across 300 acres, marking special items you discover
• Face down challenges as a team and conquer an obstacle course
• Create dishes and elixirs out of natural ingredients
• This camp is ideal for kids who like puzzles, scavenger hunts, and adventure!

Bonkers for Birds Week 8
August 17th – August 21st K-2
• Learn about birds and what skills and adaptations they have that help them thrive
• Dissect an owl pellet and take a hike to find wild raptors
• Watch Hank the Hawk fly and get a closer look at Sophie the Owl
• This camp is ideal for kids who love animals and want to understand birds beak to talon

Swamp Stomp Week 8
August 17th – August 21st 3-5
• Explore ponds and pools and see who or what might be hiding just under the surface – salamanders, frogs, and more!
• Make your own water filter while learning how the earth purifies water
• This camp is ideal for kids who love being outdoors and don’t mind getting a bit messy
Go Wild! Week 9
August 24th - August 28th  K-5
• Go home laughing and grass-stained after a day of playing games
• Sculpt mud pies and make fossil prints, and play park rangers
• Create works of art with natural items found in the woods
• This camp is ideal for kids who enjoy being outdoors and don’t mind getting a bit messy

Forts and S’mores Week 10
August 31st – September 3rd (no camp on Friday!)  K-5
• A week full of fun in the woods!
• Go on a wilderness adventure and build a fort in the woods
• Learn how to build a fire and cook your own tasty s’mores treat
• This camp is ideal for kids who love being outdoors and don’t mind getting a bit messy
Daily Schedule

Arrival and dismissal times
Arrival time for regular camp day is 10:00 am. Pick-up is at 3:00 pm. Campers must be signed in upon arrival and signed out by an approved adult with photo I.D. at dismissal. If you require an earlier arrival or later pick-up time, extended days (9:00am-4:00pm or 8:00am-5:00pm) are available for an additional fee. Extended day is relaxed child care and socialization – not the action-packed educational adventure of the regular camp day!

10:00-10:15  Check-in
10:15-11:30  Morning activity
11:30-12:00  Lunch
12:00-12:30  Free play, games and outside play
12:30-1:45  Afternoon activity
1:45-2:00  Snack
2:00-2:45  Craft
2:45-3:00  Clean-up and recap of the day

Weekly events: Mondays – safety review, ice-breakers, and fun!
   Each week the camp will hit the trails for a half day or whole day hike!
   Make sure your camper has a BIG water bottle!

What to Bring
Campers should bring a lunch, reusable LARGE water bottle, sunscreen, a hat, bug spray, and a smile! (No phones, electronics, or personal toys/games)

Camp Attire
Campers should dress for the weather, rain or shine, and wear comfortable close-toed shoes. Keep in mind that we will be exploring the woods, meadows, and ponds – clothes will get wet or dirty! Bringing rubber boots, water shoes, or an extra pair of socks and sneakers is a good idea.
Staff and Counselors

All staff, volunteers, and counselors undergo a state-mandated background check and training.

Camp Co-Directors
Jamie Ziegler (tanglewoodcurator@outlook.com)
Maggie Groce (educator@stny.twcbc.com)

Counselors
Your children’s safety is our top priority at Tanglewood Nature Center. Each camp has at least one counselor for every 12 students as mandated by the NYS Health Department. All regular Tanglewood staff are certified in Wilderness First Aid and CPR and a staff member will travel with campers on remote hikes. We require that each counselor receives proper training in all safety protocols and emergency procedures. To ensure that all campers and CITs understand our camp rules and regulations, each Monday we spend 15-20 minutes introducing ourselves, doing a practice fire drill, and going over the buddy system.

Counselors in Training (CITs)
Youth volunteers ages 15+ that will assist camp counselors.

Counselors-in-Training for Ages 15+

Becoming a Counselor in Training is a great way to gain leadership experience while working in nature!

Counselors-in-Training (CITs) are youth leaders aged 15+ who assist the camp counselors in providing a safe and fun camp experience at Tanglewood. They will help lead environmental education activities, games, crafts, songs, stories, hikes, and more. Our CITs will also assist with camp preparation, check-in and check-out, and will serve as a positive role model for children in camp. This is an educational position that will involve being placed with two counselors each session for mentoring. Each CIT commits to a minimum of three weeks over the summer.

CIT applications can be found on our website and are due by May 15th to the Camp Co-Director, Jamie Ziegler (tanglewoodcurator@outlook.com)
Registration and Cancellation Policies

Pricing and Hours:
- Regular Day 10am-3pm - $185
- Extended Day 9am-4pm - $235
- Extended Day 8am-5pm - $285
- More options available online

Discounts:
- Early bird discount - $20 off per week when child is registered by March 30, 2020. Online pricing does reflect the discount. If your registrations are not paid in full by March 30th, you will lose the discount.

Registration:
Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. You must be a member of Tanglewood to register a child for camp – membership fees are not included in the camp registration price. Registrations can be done online only at www.tanglewoodnaturecenter.com. For more information, contact Deanna at (607) 732-6060 ext.100.

Applications:
Applications for camp registration will only be accepted for review upon completion of all application components. Applications that are not complete will not be considered for registration and will not secure placement for camp(s) in any capacity. Upon receiving all components (camp registration forms, immunization records, and payment) applications will be considered complete, and enrollment will be secured.

Immunization Records:
Immunization records must be sent in every year, as required by the Health Department. Due to the increasing numbers of people infected with dangerous communicable diseases in the US, we are only allowing Medical Exemptions for vaccinations. Please see our website or contact Deanna at 607-732-6060 for the Medical Exemption Form. Thank you for helping us keep the camp children, visitors and staff healthy.

Membership:
Membership is crucial to Tanglewood Nature Center’s existence. Your support enables Tanglewood to maintain the high standards in nature education we have established over the years, and helps us continue to grow and improve. Our animals, our preservation of 300 acres of field and forest, and our educational outreach is only
possible with your help. With help from your membership, we reached 30,000 children in 2019! Being a member, you also receive benefits listed on our website at: www.tanglewoodnaturecenter.com/membershipbenefits Thank you.

Scholarships:
As always, our goal is to make our unique and fun programs available to all. We have a camp assistance fund created by generous donors. In 2020, we will have limited scholarship opportunities, available on a first-come first-served basis. To learn more about the scholarships for financially eligible families, or to contribute to the scholarship fund, please visit our website or contact Deanna.

Waiting Lists:
If you would like to put your child on a waiting list, please register on our website. Campers registered for the waiting list will be contacted in the order their registration was received. If a response is not received by 12 pm the following day, the next camper on the list will be contacted.

Cancellations:
All cancellations and transfers are subject to a $25 administrative fee per request. Cancellations made with more than 2 weeks’ notice will receive a refund less a $25 administrative fee per request. Cancellations made with less than 2 weeks’ notice may receive a refund less a $25 administrative fee, but only if another camper fills the available space. No refunds will be issued if a replacement is not found by 12 pm Wednesday prior to the start of camp.

Camp Transfers and Refunds:
Transfers from one camp into another are considered a cancellation and are subject to a $25 administrative fee. It is the registrant’s responsibility to re-register the camper online. Refunds are only for camp fees. Membership fees are non-refundable.

Illness:
If a camper misses over half a week of camp due to illness, 50% of the camp fee will be refunded. If a camper is unable to attend the entire week, a full refund will be provided. Tanglewood must be notified within 24 hours of illness and a dated doctor’s note must be provided within one week for refund.
Frequently Asked Questions

Can I drop my child off in the parking lot?
No. For your child’s safety, each day they need to be walked to the check in table and signed in. The same is required for pick up - you must sign the child out at the check in table and leave from there. Campers may be checked out only to approved adults with photo ID’s.

What is Tanglewood’s discipline policy?
We have a three strike policy. Strike one will be a warning given by one of the Camp Directors or one of the counselors when a camp rule is broken. Strike two is a time out and a conversation with one of the Camp Directors. Strike three will result in a time out and a conversation with our Executive Director, and parents will be called and asked to pick up their child. Usually, after a time out, children can get back on track and enjoy the day.

What if my child takes medications?
Please contact the Camp Directors so that we can create a health plan for your child. We cannot administer any medications directly. Children must be able to self-administer their medications, and all medication usage will be supervised.

What if my child has special needs?
Our primary goals are safety and a positive camp experience for all. We’re a little different than school – we don’t have one-on-one staff, we embrace spontaneity instead of following a strict schedule, and we emphasize teamwork and like to encourage kids to care for their belongings and be self-sufficient. There are times where kids play in mild physical discomfort (like mud, soggy socks from the pond, getting sweaty). If you have questions about whether this camp environment is a good match for your child, please contact the Camp Directors so that we can plan ahead for your child so they are supported and safe at camp.

What is Tanglewood’s weather policy?
Camps will not be cancelled due to inclement weather. Campers should come prepared to be outside, so bring rain gear on wet days and jackets on cool days! Refunds for activity cancellations that are weather-related cannot be provided. On extremely hot days we may have to take breaks inside for air-conditioned nature games. We have indoor games and crafts in case of thunder and lightning.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!