



Summer Camp Program Guide

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Mission & Vision Statement

Mission:

Education rooted in nature to inspire in our students a deeper connection to the community around them.

Vision:

Every child is given the opportunity to learn about their world through daily access to extended time in nature. Quality educators facilitate an emergent curriculum that reflects the needs of the whole child and meets the demands of the world in which we live.

Summer Camp Program Description

Our summer camp program offers many experiences and adventures for our campers, such as fort building, hiking, outdoor games, crafts, and so much more!

Led by experienced educators, this program is offered to students ages **4-10**.

This program takes place from 9:00-4:00, at 130 Main St. E. We will often access Centennial Park, which is a short 5 minutes walk from the main school.

Before and after care is offered at an additional cost starting at 8:00am, and ending at 5:00pm.

We are very excited to offer a camp that immerses children in the outdoors, promoting good physical, mental, social and emotional health, while developing a connection with the environment. The students build life skills such as resilience while being outdoors in all kinds of weather, spatial awareness while negotiating forest trails, social competency while working as a team, and self confidence while assessing and taking risks in the physical environment.

Weeks offered

July 4-8

July 11-15

July 18-22

July 25-29

August 2-5 (4 day week)

August 8-12

August 15-19

August 22-26

Rates and Extended Care

Weekly rate =\$225 (\$180 for Aug 2-5)

To register for before and after care, please indicate during registration which days will be required.

Registered beforecare, 8:00-9:00, \$7 per day

Registered after Care, 4:00-5:00 = \$7 per day

If you did not register for before/after care, but drop your child off early or pick them up late, you will be charged the drop in fee.

Drop in Before & After Care=\$10 per session, per day

What to Bring to Nature Camp

Children should be ready, upon arrival each day, for outdoor time. We are a rain or shine program and operate on the belief that *there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing*. During inclement weather, we take all precautions to ensure the safety and comfort of our students, which means that we will run our nature based program inside when necessary. Please ensure that students have appropriate dress for the weather and please send extra clothing. Please take a look at our checklist below to ensure your child is prepared:

Program Item Checklist- Daily

	Outdoor closed toed shoes and indoor shoes
	Water bottle
	Lunch and two snacks- Please make these waste free when possible.
	Sunscreen/insect repellent
	Spare change of clothes (pants/shirt/socks/underwear) **Labeled**
	Outdoor hat
	Rain boots- We recommend that all items be waterproof.
	Waterproof rain jacket
	Waterproof rain pants

**Please label ALL of your children's items. Children may store extra clothing at the school. Wet/soiled clothing will be sent home in your child's backpack.
Please check daily to ensure that extra items are replaced.**

Tick and Mosquito Safety

Please ensure your child(ren) arrives at camp with insect repellent applied **prior to, or at drop off**. Staff will apply as necessary throughout the day. As well as wearing light, long sleeves and pants, Ontario Health recommends repellents that contain DEET or Icaridin. For more information, please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/lyme-disease#section-2>.

It is strongly recommended that parents check children for ticks everyday when they get home. Some of the most common areas to find ticks are the armpit, hair and groin.

Communication

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email us at greenbeltniagara@gmail.com or text or call us at: **905-931-0447**

Policies and Procedures

Refunds

- Camp fees are refundable, less \$50 administration fee, if requested a **minimum of 7 days prior** to intended attendance.
- If cancellation is received **less than 7 days** before your child's start date, you may receive a 50% fees refund, less administration fees.
- If cancellation is received **less than 24 hours** prior to your child's start date, no refund will be issued.
- No refunds for sick days, or missed days of camp.

Due to COVID-19: If your program is canceled due to a COVID-19 breakout or government mandated closure, your program fee will be refunded without penalty.

Medication Policy

All medication must be labeled and be accompanied by a letter addressed to the camp director explaining administration. A follow up medication call will be made prior to camp. Campers must be able to administer medication with limited assistance. Once at camp, please give all medication directly to camp staff. If your child requires an EpiPen they must carry it on them at all times. Please note all medication information clearly on your registration form.

NOTE- please let staff know if your camper has had a change in medication or dosage over the summer, even if it is administered at home

Sick Campers

Due to Covid-19, we have a zero tolerance sick policy. This means that if a child presents any symptoms of illness, including (but not limited to): consistent runny nose/ congestion/ sneezing, fever, coughing, diarrhea, vomiting, upset stomach, or lethargy, parents or guardians will be called to pick up the child.

You may receive a separate COVID-19 Policy Manual with the latest information from Public Health before your child's first day of camp.

Behaviour Expectations

During camp we strive to create a safe environment for both campers and employees. We expect and encourage each camper to maintain a positive level of respect for everyone. It is Greenbelt Academy's intention to work with campers and guardians to find solutions to behavioural challenges whenever possible. We appreciate your support and cooperation with our behavioural contract.

Behaviour Contract

If a camper is behaving in a way that is limiting to other campers enjoyment of camp, they will be asked to write up a behavior contract with the camp director. The camp director, the camper and their guardians will be asked to sign this contract. If the contract is broken, the camper may be asked not to participate in certain activities or may be asked to not return to camp.

Grounds for Camper Immediate Dismissal

Camp is expected to be a safe place for all campers and staff. If a camper is behaving in a way that negatively affects the camp experience or that is jeopardizing their own or others safety, that camper may be asked to leave camp without refund. This behavior includes, but is not limited to: bullying, physical assault, inability or refusal to follow safety guidelines, theft and bringing weapons or other inappropriate items to camp.

Food Policy

Please note Greenbelt Academy is completely NUT FREE. Due to the prevalence of life-threatening nut allergies, we ask that participants refrain from bringing nuts to school. Soy and sunflower seed substitutes for nut butters are welcome.

Snack-Sharing

In addition, we ask that participants do not share or trade snacks, as this ensures the health, safety, and happiness of the community.

There may be times when a treat is brought in by staff or parents to share with the class. Staff will ensure that these meet the dietary restrictions of all campers

Garbage-Less Lunches

We encourage participants to try to bring a garbage-less lunch. At the same time, we ask that parents/caregivers consider the size/weight/safety of the containers in which their child's snacks are packed. At Greenbelt, we seek to empower even our youngest participants to carry their own snacks and water bottles on our adventures, which is totally possible with small containers.

Hand-Washing and Drinking Water

Participants will be asked to wash their hands with soap and water before eating at school, and after using the bathroom. When we are in the forest, wipes, sanitizer, and a handwashing station will be available. Children will be able to refill their water bottles on site.

Sample Daily Schedule

Greenbelt Academy and Early Learning Centre Summer Camp

This is a sample schedule. The times of events may change due to weather or interests of the campers. We strive to go to the forest every day and facilitate free play sessions while also providing a guided session each day with a specific focus. Ex. Monday= art lesson, Tuesday=guided yoga, etc.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:00	Forest	Forest	Forest	Forest	Forest
10:30-11:00	Snack	Snack	Snack	Snack	Snack
11:00-12:00	Forest & group game				
Transition	School	School	School	School	School
12:30-1:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:30-2:30	Free Play				
2:00-3:00	Art lesson	Guided yoga	Silly songs & dance	STEAM challenge	Talent show
3:00-4:00	Free play				
4:00-4:15	Pick up				

Forest- Free play in the forest at Centennial Park. Children are provided with materials to enhance their nature immersion experience such as digging tools, collecting containers, art supplies, sports equipment, science exploration tools (magnify glasses, microscopes, resource books etc.), building materials (ropes, wood, tarps, etc.).