



Vermilion County Conservation District

2025 SUMMER CAMPS



VCCD Summer Camps offer outdoor fun for children 3 to 13 years old. With almost 5,000 acres between Kennekuk County Park and Forest Glen Preserve, children will gain appreciation and knowledge of wildlife and the great outdoors. Guided by experienced camp counselors, the activities will help children explore their natural world through hands-on discoveries, hiking excursions, and art.



Camps for Children 3-5 years old

3-5 years old as of June 1, 2025

\$5.00/child/session, 1.25 hours

Kennekuk Education Center, Kennekuk County Park

Introduce young children to the natural world by exploring through stories, activities, crafts, and more *with a parent or guardian*. Each class is organized around a theme and emphasizes active learning through sensory experiences, and movement activities. Toddlers may sign up for one camp or both.

Feathered Flyers

June 17 at 10:00am or 2:00pm

June 18 at 10:00am

Let's learn and explore the feathers, sounds, and colors of our local birds!

Wonderful Wetlands

June 19 at 10:00am or 2:00pm

June 20 at 10:00am

Pond dipping and more will be explored as we learn about our wetland habitats.



Camps for Children 6-9 years old

6-9 years old as of June 1, 2025

Wonder Bugs

\$20/child June 24 at 9:00am - 11:30am

Kennekuk Education Center, Kennekuk County Park

Explore the wonderful wetlands of Kennekuk through books, activities, and a nature hike. Kids will get an up close, hands-on, aquatic experience with the plants and animals of the wetlands!

Young Explorers

\$35/child

June 26 at 9:00am - 3:00pm at the Gannett Education Center, Forest Glen Preserve

July 15 at 9:00am - 3:00pm at the White Oak Barn, Kennekuk County Park

During this fun-filled classic summer camp, kids will participate in a nature hike, roast a hot dog for lunch, discover wildlife, and create an arts and craft project. Camp activities are the same at each park.

Pioneer Kids

\$20/child July 22 or July 23 at 9:00am - 11:30am

Gannett Education Center, Forest Glen Preserve

What was it like to be a kid in the 1850's? Join us for Pioneer Kids Camp to find out! Campers will hike to the Pioneer Homestead, make a pioneer craft, and cook a sweet treat on the hearth to enjoy.



Camps for Children 10-13 years old

10-13 years old as of June 1, 2025

Creek Stomping Ecology Camp

\$20/child June 12 at 9:00am - 11:30am

Gannett Education Center, Forest Glen Preserve

Follow our Naturalists on an adventure in Willow Creek while searching for aquatic life and observing animal tracks along the way. Participants must wear closed-toed shoes and clothes that can get wet and muddy. Campers will get wet!

Gone Fishin'

\$20/child

July 1 at 9:00am - 11:30am at Horseshoe Pond, Kennekuk County Park

July 2 at 9:00am - 11:30am at Maple Grove Lodge, Forest Glen Preserve

Practice fishing from start to finish: bait your hook and care for your fish after the catch. Learn to identify common Illinois fish. Campers will see a live ethical demonstration on how to clean, cut, and prepare fish after catching. All fishing equipment will be provided.

Paddling Around Lake Mingo

\$20/child July 9 or July 10 at 9:00am - 11:00am

Lake Mingo Boat Ramp, Kennekuk County Park

Learn about the diversity of fish, birds, mammals, and more that call Lake Mingo home with District Naturalists. Kayaking basics will be covered. All participants are required to wear a provided life jacket.

Junior Explorers

\$35/child July 17 at 9:00am - 3:00pm

White Oak Barn, Kennekuk County Park

Junior Explorers will be able to enjoy a classic summer camp program, similar to our Young Explorers camp, but with nature adventure activities geared more to their age range. Explorers will take a hike, roast a hot dog for lunch, discover wildlife, and create a unique art and craft project.

? VCCD Summer Camp Frequently Asked Questions

• **How do I register?**

Mail or drop off the registration form found on our website www.vccd.org, or at the Kennekuk and Forest Glen offices. *All fees are due at the time of registration.* Camp placement is not confirmed until fees have been paid. Fee includes the listed program, craft materials, and snacks.

• **How will I know my child is registered for the camp?**

Registration confirmations will be sent to the email provided on the form. Please legibly print your email and check spam/junk folders if you do not receive a confirmation.

• **Can an adult or guardian stay with child during the camp?**

NO adults, parents, or guardians are allowed to stay during camp with the exception of the toddler camps. The VCCD offers different program opportunities for families; *Summer Camp programs are strictly for children.*

• **Are the camp counselors CPR/First Aid/AED Trained?**

Yes, VCCD camp counselors are trained. Camps will have a 10:1 campers to staff/volunteer ratio.

• **Are you flexible with children attending different camps outside their age range?**

It depends on the camp and age of child. Contact Lara at ldanzl@vccd.org, 217-442-1691 to discuss.

Please call Kennekuk at 217-442-1691 if you have any additional questions regarding our camp programs.