

Get a Glimpse at Heard Summer Camps

by Shelly Corry, Education Coordinator

Mr. Gordon's Eco-Explorers summer camp class was standing very still on the wetland board walk. They watched as two diamond backed water snakes swam under them. The kids were fascinated, watching as they moved through the water with such ease and grace. As the class continued along the boardwalk they saw red-eared slider turtles on logs basking in the summer sun. They heard the cur plopping sound the turtles made as they slid back into the water. Up ahead the great blue herons were wading on the other side of the wetlands looking for fish to eat. The sky was deep blue and the trees were a brilliant emerald green. What a perfect day for summer camps at the Heard!

Summer camps at the Heard offer a unique experience for your child. From our wetlands, to our prairies, to our old growth forest, you never know what amazing things they will see on our beautiful 289-acre wildlife sanctuary. Summer is a great time to give your child some of these wonderful experiences first-hand. This summer the Heard is offering our traditional summer camps as well as three new ones:

Traditional

- **Camp Diamond, Camp Shark Tooth, Eco-Explorers**
Every week your child will visit with several live animals and hike daily to see our different ecosystems. Students will also participate in eco-games and hands-on activities geared toward learning about our place in the natural world and how we can make a difference.

New Specialty Camps

- **Animal Adventure Camp** (for the animal lover)
Engage your child in hands-on, daily care and feeding of one of our permanent animal residents. They will learn about domestic and wild animals, animals in different ecosystems, and the problems wildlife face in our world while visiting with animal and environmental experts.
- **Audubon Naturalist Art Camp** (for the budding artist)
Your child will experience sketching in our native plant garden and wetlands. They will visit with live animals and practice drawing and painting them. Art supplies provided.
- **Outdoor Adventure Camp** (for kids that would rather be outside than anywhere else)
Your child will experience feature elements on our new ropes course and learn orienteering in a two-day adventure race.

Summer camps at the Heard are sure to be the highlight of your child's summer, creating memories that will last a lifetime! Summer camps will be available in June 8 through August 7. For complete details, visit our [website](#).