

Theme Based – Nature is Primary Focus. Enrichment: Music (all sessions) and Spanish (during Fall/Winter sessions)

1. Amphibians & Tadpoles/poliwogs (Spring/Summer) – Oakdale Nature Preserve & Olson Lake home/DeMontreville Lake
2. Reptiles (Summer/Fall) – Oakdale Nature Preserve & Olson Lake home/DeMontreville Lake
3. Fish and snails (Summer) – Olson Lake Home/Lake Isabella at Hastings Lock n Dam
4. Pollinators (Spring/Summer): Bees, flies, hornets, wasps, ants, beetles and more!
5. Predators vs Prey (Spring/Summer/Fall): Who is a predator or prey? Which animals are both?
6. Water is Alive! Organisms that live in local ponds and lakes and rivers! Good vs not so good organisms (Spring/Summer/Fall).
7. Busy as a Beaver - - in Oakdale! (Spring/Summer)
8. Night Sky Comes Alive with Owls and Nighthawks! Sounds and Identification (Spring/Summer/Fall)
9. Moth vs. Butterfly: How to identify common moths and butterflies in MN. Cocoons and host plants (Summer/Fall)
10. Moles, Voles and Shrews Oh My! Learn the differences (Spring/Summer)
11. Backyard Squirrels: Gray, Red, Fox and Flying Squirrels. Habitat and Daytime vs Nighttime Activity
12. Weasels, Mink, Otter and Fisher in MN
13. Exploring Trails and Plants - - Katherine Abbott camp for scouts!
14. Plants w Berries – Oakdale Nature Preserve (Summer/Fall)
15. Plants without Berries – Oakdale Nature Preserve (Summer/Fall)
16. Mushroom Identification – trees and logs that mushrooms love! (Spring/Summer)
17. Bird Nests in trees, shrubs, ground and rock nests (Spring/Summer)
18. Match Bird w its nest and egg – Cornell Bird Lab (Spring/Summer)
19. Bird and Owl Calls: Listen, Observe and Learn! Local Parks for Birding & Cornell Bird Lab (Summer/Fall)
20. Birds that fake injury/illness to distract or defend its nest – Cornell Bird Lab (Spring/Summer)
21. Animal skat and identification – Maplewood Nature Ctr (Spring/Summer/Fall)
22. Owl pellet dissection – Raptor Ctr (Summer/Fall)
23. Animal skull identification – Andy Shoemaker (Summer)
24. Visit from Andy Shoemaker (Spring/Summer/Fall)
25. Native Plants – Edible vs poisonous/itch/toxic (Spring/Summer/Fall)
26. Non-native Plants/Weeds (Spring/Summer/Fall)
27. Making Cider from apple (Jamie Jensen) (Summer/Fall)
28. Agate identification and polishing (Summer/Fall)
29. Honey Bee: Life cycle of beehive and honey production (Summer/Fall)
30. Moss and bark: Why do trees have them? (Summer/Fall)
31. Backyard garden: planting native plants like black cap raspberry, gooseberry, wild rose, onions etc. (Spring/Summer)
32. First aid outdoors (Summer/Fall)
33. Outdoor survival in rain and wind, safety kit making (Summer/Fall)

34. Conservation at Home: ideas to conserve, reuse, recycle, regenerate, save/restore and more! (Spring/Summer/Fall)
35. Compass Orienteering (Spring/Summer/Fall)
36. Pumpkins and gourds (Fall)
37. Spores, seeds, nuts and more!! (Fall)
38. Watching the sky: how to watch migration patterns and birds from afar! Eagles, hawks, crows, cranes, geese and more! (Spring/Summer/Fall)
39. Animal Hibernation/Brumation/Migration: MN Birds, Animals and Insects/Butterflies (Fall/Winter)
40. Animal Track Identification (Fall/Winter)
41. 101 Safety Outdoors: biting/stinging bugs (horse fly, house fly, biting black fly, gnats, honeybee vs. wasp and yellow jackets, ground bees, biting lady-bugs, ticks, and more), snakes, spiders, poisonous plants/grass, plants with spikes or itch plants. How to perform daily tick-checks. How to wear clothes and gear to reduce ticks! (Summer)
42. Music Camp: focus on composers, genre, styles, composing your own music
43. Music Camp: Intro to Flute
44. Music Camp: Intro to Piano and keyboard
45. Music Camp: Intro to Drum/bongo
46. Music Camp: Intro to Harp
47. Music Camp Combo: Intro to Flute, piano, keyboards, drum/bongo, harp and music composers
48. Spanish Camp: Intro to Spanish (FALL/WINTER)
49. Spanish Camp: Intermediate Spanish (FALL/WINTER)
50. Spanish Camp: Spanish Songs (FALL/WINTER)
51. Spanish Camp: Beyond Intermediate (FALL/WINTER)
52. Forest Therapy Walk and Tea Ceremony
53. Field Day at Lake Elmo Swim Park (Summer - - Depending Class Size)
54. Student Lead Presentation on Nature Topic Research Project (FALL/WINTER)
55. Young Naturalists: MN Conservator Volunteer Program (DNR Officer Visit) (Summer/Winter)
56. Nature Journaling (WEEKLY - Spring/Summer/Fall/Winter)
57. Leaf and Tree Identification & Leaf Tracing/Tracking
58. Birds and Wildlife that thrive in urban/suburban areas: raccoons, flying squirrels, fox, coyote, squirrels, opossum, owls, nighthawks, mice, and more!
59. Meditation and mindfulness: how to hear and see more of everything that surrounds you!
60. Biking and Hiking Exploration on the Gateway Trail
61. Learn to read maps for hiking and biking!
62. Bison and Prairies: visit Belwin Nature Conservancy or Shar's Bluff Spring Lake Park
63. Dodge Nature Ctr Visit
64. Lillydale Walk along the Mississippi and Visit to Henry Sibley House/Site
65. Animal homes: dens, cavities, holes, burrows (skunk, raccoon, rabbit, mole, vole, barred owl+)
66. Foraging for leaves, berries, plants and roots (July)
67. How do animals stay cool or cool off in hot temperatures?