



2026 Nature Explorer Summer Camp Info

Join us this summer as The Treehouse will be holding a summer program from June 23rd - August 14th, 2026 for children ages 6-10 at Gladstone Nature Park. You may enroll in as many weeks as you wish.

How To Register for Summer Camps:

- Review this Summer Camp Info Packet in entirety
- Fill out the [Nature Explorer Summer Camp Application](#) via Brightwheel **A \$35 Application Fee is required to be considered for Summer Camp Enrollment*
- Submission of an application does NOT guarantee your child's enrollment as applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis
- You will be contacted once your application is received to confirm your child's enrollment and their requested schedule; you will then receive an enrollment contract via AdobeSign
- Please be prepared to submit your child's Material Fees as soon as your child's enrollment is confirmed
- If you fail to submit payment for Material Fees, then your child's spot will be opened up to another camper
- If registering more than one child, please fill out a separate application for each child

Camp Overview

- Monday-Friday from 9 am-3 pm for children 6-10 years old
- Offered for 8 total weeks (June 23rd - August 14th) - sign up for as many weeks as you wish!
 - Camp is not offered on the following dates:
 - Monday, June 22nd for a Staff In-Service Day
 - Friday, July 3rd in observance of 4th of July
- Camp will take place at Gladstone Nature Park: 18111 Webster Rd, Gladstone, OR 97027
- Teacher info below

Daily Rhythm

- 9:00-9:30 am | Drop Off and Opening Circle
- 9:30-10:30 am | Morning Hike
- 10:30 am | Snack
- 11:00-11:30 am | Nature Journaling
- 11:30 am-12:30 pm | Forest Games
- 12:30 pm | Lunch
- 1:00-2:45 pm | Activity
- 2:45 pm | Closing Circle
- 3:00 pm | Pick Up

Tuition & Fees

- Tuition is \$318 per week enrolled
 - Summer closures that fall on your child's enrollment day will be included in your tuition. This helps cover the staff for their much earned vacations, sick days, and professional development days.
- Gear Fee: \$25 (covers cost of Camp Shirt which students are required to wear)
- Non-Refundable Material Fees: \$10 per week of camp you enroll
 - Material Fees are due upon enrollment confirmation.
- Late Pickup Fee:
 - If you are 6 or more minutes late for pickup, you will be billed \$10.60 for the 6 minutes plus an additional \$1 for every minute thereafter.
- Maintenance Fee: There will be a \$20 maintenance fee each time your child's registration is changed after your original registration has been processed and confirmed.
- No Sign In/Out Fee: There will be a \$2 fee any time you fail to sign your child in or out on Brightwheel.
- Late Tuition Payment Fee: 1-3 days late: \$10.00 | 4-7 days late: \$20.00 | 8-10 days late: \$30.00 | Over 10 days late: 1% interest of total tuition per day until paid in full.

Adding Drop-in Days or Additional Camps

If space allows, you are welcome to add days throughout the summer. Please contact the office for approval if you would like to add a "drop-in day" to your child's enrollment or if you would like to enroll them in an additional camp.

The cost of adding a day is \$63.60; the cost of adding a week (M-F) is \$318.

Please consider donating to our Financial Aid Fund with a tax-deductible donation through our [Donation Page](#). Any amount is helpful to share this education with others.

Teaching Team

Teacher Sarah (she/her)

Sarah is our Lead Teacher for our Nature Explorer Summer Camp and she will be teaching Monday-Friday, 9 am-3 pm.



I'm honored to be a member of The Treehouse community and to share my curiosity, playfulness, and love of the outdoors with our young learners. Children easily remind us how powerful a simple sense of wonder can be, and I cherish the role of nurturing their innate desire to learn and connect with the world around them.

I've been in outdoor education since 2019, following a career in environmental advocacy and nonprofit communications. Before I became an educator, I also studied herbal medicine in both Washington D.C. and Portland, OR. My first teaching experience involved leading a plant-inspired movement and dance workshop, and I still enjoy combining my passion for music and dance with my reverence for plants, animals, and all our more-than-human relatives. I love that The Treehouse incorporates singing and storytelling into its curriculum, immersed in a literal and metaphorical garden of discovery.

I came to The Treehouse after three years of teaching at Wildwood Nature School, an outdoor preschool in Portland with a child-led, inquiry-based, nature-inspired curriculum. Previously, I coordinated the Trackers Earth Art of Nature afterschool program for K-2 students, and I've taught art, dance, and nature connection classes for Oregon Episcopal School. All of these experiences have deepened my love of outdoor education as well as my capacity to support young children as they navigate new life skills and curiosities.

Outside of teaching, I'm a forever student and love learning new things (whether it's weaving, math, or bachata dancing). I'm an active member of the Native Plant Society and a volunteer for local beaver and bumblebee surveys. You can also find me mindfully birding, moon-gazing, or going on intuitive wanders throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Teacher Desiraé (she/her)

Desiraé is Treehouse's CEO, Director and Founder. As Director, she will be conducting site visits to our Nature Explorer camps and she will also be the substitute teacher for this program when needed.



I started The Treehouse after managing another Waldorf-Inspired program in SE Portland. Since starting the program in early 2010, I am delighted at what The Treehouse has become! I absolutely adore working in a place where I get to love and be loved by such beautiful children and where I am surrounded by supportive families and energetic teachers. I want The Treehouse to be a place where love, creativity, and freedom are cultivated in order to nurture strong, creative, free, and holistic beings. I have deep passions for creativity, the earth, community, learning and have found that The Treehouse is a perfect place for me to engage in all!

I am licensed through the state of Oregon as a Certified Center Director and am currently a step 7.5 on the Oregon Registry: Pathways for Professional Recognition in Childhood Care and Education. I received my Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion from Vanguard University of Southern California and I have taught in a variety of settings over the years before starting The Treehouse; some of them include: teaching Kindergarten in Cambodia and France, working in Preschool and Child Development Centers as either a Co-Teacher, Art Teacher, Lead Teacher and Manager.

I took an intensive course on Permaculture in Early Childhood Education in 2019 that has truly shaped how The Treehouse has evolved into a Forest School. After the school held the in-home model for its first 11 years, we moved and expanded in 2021 and now get the honor of evolving 1/3 acre into a Food Forest (Forest Garden) and our students get the benefit of learning directly from the land and all its magic.