

# Welcome to another summer of exploration and discovery!

## Kickapoo Valley Reserve Summer Adventure Day Camps

### AGES 2-3

#### Forest Friends

Twice a week for two weeks, children and their parent will use all their senses to explore several habitats and natural play areas on the Reserve. A flexible format will allow time for children to use their imagination, creativity, hand-eye coordination, balance and physical strength to build confidence through connection with the natural world.

**June 8-18, 2020 9:00 am – 11 am**  
**Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs session**

**Fee:** \$35/child (includes healthy snack)

**Limit:** 10 children per session

**Registration Deadline:** May 25, 2020

**Instructors:** Ximena Puig & Julie Hoel

### AGES 3-6

#### Forest Fridays Summer Semester

A nature program based on free play and wonder-filled exploration for children ages 3-6. Each Friday session will include a story, hike, healthy snack, singing and nature awareness games. For more information: <http://kvr.state.wi.us/Education/Youth-Programs/Forest-Fridays/>

**June 12, 19, 26, July 10, 17, 24, 31**  
**8:30 am - 12:00 pm 7 sessions**

**Fee:** \$210/child

**Limit:** 13 children

**Registration Deadline:** May 25, 2020

**Instructors:** Ximena Puig & Susana Ruder

**Instructors:** **Ximena Puig** (Mon/Wed Forest Friends and Forest Fridays) and **Susana Ruder** (Tues/Thurs Forest Fridays) and **Julie Hoel** (Tues/Thurs Forest Friends). **Ximena** has a master's degree in early childhood education from Oberlin College and has taught both at Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School. Right now, she is a full-time mother to two bright-eyed little boys. She feels that giving children the opportunity to fall in love with the natural world is a gift not only to the children, but to us all, our collective future and to mother nature. **Julie** is a retired kindergarten teacher and certified Wisconsin Master Naturalist. Some of her favorite childhood experiences were being in the outdoors at camp. As a parent and grandparent, she looks forward to discovering the magic of the woods with children. **Susana** is an early childhood educator, also trained in Waldorf education. She runs a forest program for children in Viroqua. Her biggest passion is to witness wonder, peace and the joy of discovery in children of all ages when they are in contact with nature.

### AGES 4-5

#### Kinder Camp

Twice a week for two weeks we'll explore the natural world through discovery hikes, nature crafts and song. Your child will experience nature with guided hands-on activities designed to engage their imagination and encourage their connection with nature.

**June 8-18, 2020 9:00 am – 11:30 am**  
**Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs session**

**Fee:** \$45/child (includes healthy snack)

**Limit:** 15 children per session

**Registration Deadline:** May 25, 2020

**Instructor:** **Julia Buckingham** is a current preschool and kindergarten Montessori teacher in Viroqua. She has a background in environmental education. She enjoys teaching others about the wonderful living and non-living gems found at KVR.

### AGES 6-7

#### Jeepers Creepers

Children will become nature detectives, looking for clues, solving mysteries and using their senses to look, listen, touch, taste and smell. Our days will include games, projects and an explorer's notebook.

**July 6-10, 2020**  
**Morning (8:30-11:30 am) or Afternoon session (12:30-3:30 pm)**

**Fee:** \$75/child (includes healthy snack)

**Limit:** 15 children per session

**Registration Deadline:** June 22, 2020

**Instructor:** **Mary Szepi** has been teaching young children at Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton Schools. She headed the Environmental Education program at NOW for over a decade. Mary enjoys long distance hiking and has trekked the wilderness in several countries. She has been helping children discover the simple joys of playing in nature at the KVR for 12 years.

## AGES 8-10

Children ages 8-10 will spend the day exploring, creating and getting wet and dirty while they discover nature and wilderness at its summer best!

### AGES 8-10 Art Sprouts: The Art and Science of Nature

Calling all dreamers and discoverers! In a camp experience that seeks to unite the artist and the scientist in each of us, we invite children to join us for a week of drawing, painting, crafting, journaling, experimenting and exploring. Who were our famous artist/scientists as children? Who are the da Vincis, the Teslas, the Newtons, the Sybillas and Goldsworthys of today? Campers will create art in nature, and use nature in their own art. We will do science experiments that reveal some of nature's secrets, looking at seeds, sprouts, water, clouds, pond life, and birds.

**July 13-17, 2020 9:00 am - 2:30 pm**

**Fee:** \$100/child (includes healthy snack; child must pack own lunch)

**Limit:** 12 children

**Registration Deadline:** June 29, 2020

**Instructor:** Vicki Ramsay is a Wisconsin certified Biology, Broadfield Sciences and Environmental Education teacher. She's been teaching Biology, Agriculture, Chemistry, Geometry and Drawing at Youth Initiative High School in Viroqua for over 13 years. She has two sons, ages 18 and 10, who have been a great source of inspiration. She loves the adventures and life-long learning that we all receive from Nature just by taking time to notice, explore and spend time in the wild.



### AGES 8-10 Nature Nuts

Each day of Nature Nuts camp brings exploration, discovery and new skills. Campers will investigate the realm of plants with identification games and crafts, they'll search for animal life and learn the art of quiet sitting to see who comes along. We'll encounter the wonders of the water with a day on the pond learning basic canoe skills and safety and discovering who lives in this watery world. Traditional crafts and demonstrations in the ways that ancient peoples made their fires, shelters and food will also be part of the adventure. Each day will include hikes, time for guided play and safe exploration. We'll get wet, dirty and gain a new level of comfort and knowledge about nature.

**July 20-24, 2020 9:00 am – 2:30 pm**

**August 3-7, 2020 9:00 am – 2:30 pm**

**Note:** Each week includes the same programming; please register for only one.

**Fee:** \$100 (includes healthy snack; child must pack own lunch).

**Limit:** 12 children per session

**Registration Deadline:** June 29, 2020

**Instructor:** Nicholas WazeeGale is a certified wilderness guide and has been teaching children at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve for over 14 years. His passion is helping children learn nature awareness skills that help them connect with the earth.

### AGES 8-10 Where the Wild Things Are

Have you ever seen a yellow-bellied sapsucker? Have you encountered a water scorpion? Have you practiced fox-walking? Bring your sense of wonder and an adventurous spirit to explore the wetlands, prairies and woodlands at the KVR. This will be a week-long nature-themed adventure. Activities will be both engaging and educational with an emphasis on fun! Each participant will take an active role in discovering and learning new things, followed by time to reflect on their experience in an eco-journal. Be prepared for hiking, field studies, storytelling, nature crafts and games. Interactive games will stress involvement and de-emphasize competition. Respectful behaviors in nature will be emphasized. There will be ample time for group collaboration and time to take advantage of the moment. Participants will be introduced to citizen science along with the opportunity to engage in a citizen science survey.

**July 27-31, 2020 9:00 am – 2:30 pm**

**August 10-14, 2020 9:00 am - 2:30 pm**

**Note:** Each week includes the same programming; please register for only one.

**Fee:** \$100 (includes healthy snack; child must pack own lunch)

**Limit:** 12 children per session

**Registration Deadline:** July 13, 2020

**Instructor:** Cathy Chybowski is an experienced naturalist/life science teacher whose passion is getting kids outside. She worked for several years as a DNR Naturalist and spent almost 20 years teaching ecology, biology and A.P. environmental science. She now works as a KVR instructor where she spends much time outdoors continuing to be inspired by nature and her students.

## Hands-on activities, high outdoor adventure and new friends await your child as they experience the outdoor world at its best

AGES 11-14

### NEW! Branching Out

Come all artists and dreamers! Come scientists and curious minds! The place where art and science meet is naturally, in nature! This camp will explore the outdoors with a heart for art and a head for science, and vice versa. We will create books of drawings, paintings, photographs and collage that celebrate the wonders we discover on our hikes and explorations. Each day will feature outdoor exploration, nature study through writing and artistic interpretation as we learn about native habitats, animals, fungi, lichens and plants. Using microscopes, both portable and 3-dimensional, students will gain access to the world of very small things, that are difficult to see with only the naked eye. A camp experience that seeks to inspire head, heart, and hands.

**June 22-26, 2020 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

**Fee:** \$110 (youth must pack own lunch)

**Limit:** 12 youth

**Registration Deadline:** June 8, 2020

**Instructor:** **Vicki Ramsay** is a Wisconsin certified Biology, Broadfield Sciences and Environmental Education teacher. She's been teaching Biology, Agriculture, Chemistry, Geometry and Drawing at Youth Initiative High School in Viroqua for over 13 years. She has two sons, ages 18 and 10, who have been a great source of inspiration. She loves the adventures and lifelong learning that we all receive from Nature just by taking time to notice, explore and spend time in the wild.

AGES 11-14

### Plant Power!

Join us for an extraordinary week of wild plant activities for kids ages 11-14. During this week we'll focus on deepening our relationship with nature, plant identification and herbal first aid. Activities will include plant walks, crafting healing salves, playing herb games and practicing our culinary skills with some safe and delicious wild edibles. Days will also include plenty of just plain camp fun, like organized games, imaginative free time, water play and nature crafts. Campers will leave at the end of the week with an herbal first aid kit of their own!

**July 13-17, 2020 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

**Fee:** \$110 (youth must pack own lunch)

**Limit:** 12 youth

**Registration Deadline:** June 29, 2020

**Instructor:** **Julia Buckingham** is a current prekindergarten and kindergarten Montessori teacher in Viroqua. She has a background in environmental education working with children and adults of all ages. She enjoys teaching about the wonders of living and non-living gems found at KVR. Julia enjoys learning and teaching others about the many healing plants that can be found right outside our door.



AGES 11-14

### Wilderness Adventure Camp

Whether you are joining Wilderness Adventure for the first time or returning for another year, there are always new skills to learn and friends to meet! Join us for a combination of high adventure activities and wilderness living skills that promote self-confidence while developing a sense of wonder about nature. This camp will include challenge course teambuilding; active adventure elements such as remote backpacking, map and compass navigation; and river paddling. It will also allow participants to gain knowledge of plants, mammals, tracking, birds and wilderness survival skills. Our qualified instructors will guide students into new and challenging experiences that nurture their connection to the earth and serve them for a lifetime. Past Nature Nuts campers will have an opportunity to build the wilderness foundation skills they have already gained. This camp is also a pre-requisite for Wilderness Leadership camp. The optional Thursday night overnight will give participants the opportunity to expand their wilderness cooking skills, fire building, and leave-no-trace camping skills; hone their night-time nature awareness; and do some guided evening star gazing if weather permits. Additional female staff will chaperone the overnight.

**July 27-31, 2020 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**  
**(optional overnight July 30)**

**Fees:** \$110 Monday-Friday (youth must pack own lunch)

\$30 Optional overnight (fee includes supper and breakfast)

**Limit:** 15 youth

**Registration Deadline:** July 13, 2020

**Instructors:** **Ryan Wagner and TBD.** **Ryan** is a former Guide and Administrator for Camp Manito-wish YMCA in Northern Wisconsin and current owner of Driftless Provisions. While at Camp Manito-wish, Ryan led teens on multi-day kayaking and canoeing trips and 30-45 day backpacking trips in Wyoming and Alaska. His work as an administrator involved hiring a seasonal staff of over 200 young leaders, screening participant applications for wilderness readiness and managing training and risk management for wilderness travel.



## Explore the trails, wetlands, woods and river with our experienced backcountry instructors who help your child foster positive connections with nature

AGES 13-17

### Wildways Leadership Camp

This new version of Wilderness Leadership Camp will allow campers to deepen their wilderness skills with more time in camp and less trail travel. This camp will still involve a challenging hike in to base camp, but once there, our focus will be on the details of setting up an efficient camp, more craft and skill learning, sourcing resources and foraging some of our food, and plenty of nature awareness activities. Campers will gain hands-on skill and craft experience, develop mindfulness in nature and gently push personal boundaries in a safe and supportive back-country setting. A detailed gear list is provided with registration confirmation. An additional female staff will be available to chaperone overnights.

**Prerequisite:** Wilderness Adventure day camp (see above) or equivalent experience.

**June 15-18, 2020 9am drop off - 3 pm pick up**

**Fee:** \$235 - (3 meals per day will be provided)

**Limit:** 10 youth

**Registration Deadline:** June 1, 2020

**Instructors:** **Nicholas WazeeGale** and **Bill Humphrey**. **Nicholas** is a certified wilderness guide through a year-long primitive living immersion course at Teaching Drum Outdoor School. He has been teaching summer camps and community programs at the Reserve for over 15 years.

**Bill** is the owner of Essential Skills Outdoor School. He is a certified climbing instructor with over 20 years of rock climbing and teaching experience. Bill is a certified Wilderness First Responder through Wilderness Medical Associates.



AGES 13-17

### Leadership Trail Camp

Come join us on this challenging four-day, three-night adventure for teens only. Leadership Trail focuses on active skill building and the practice of hard skills such as backpacking, navigation and canoeing. Campers will deepen their experience in the wilderness environment and gain hands-on leadership and interpersonal skills. This is a self-contained wilderness trek designed to develop endurance and self-confidence by pushing personal boundaries in a safe and supportive backcountry setting. Experienced wilderness instructor Nicholas Gale and Bill Humphrey will teach subjects such as proper selection and use of outdoor gear, shelter building, wilderness cooking, weather safety, and wilderness navigation. Campers will provide their own backpacks, sleeping bags, and personal clothing and are expected to carry personal as well as group gear in backpacks. Pack weight is typically 30-35 lbs and hiking distances are approximately 4-5 miles daily. Tarps for tents will be provided as well as food and cooking gear. A detailed gear list is provided with registration confirmation. An additional female staff will be available to chaperone overnights.

**Prerequisite:** Wilderness Adventure day camp (see above) or equivalent experience.

**August 10-13, 2020 9am drop off - 3 pm pick up**

**Fee:** \$235 - (3 meals per day will be provided)

**Limit:** 10 youth

**Registration Deadline:** July 27, 2020

**Instructors:** **Nicholas WazeeGale** is a certified wilderness guide through a year-long primitive living immersion course. He has been teaching summer camps and community programs at the Reserve for over 14 years.

**Bill Humphrey** is the owner of Essential Skills Outdoor School. He is a certified climbing instructor with over 20 years rock climbing and teaching experience. Bill is a member of American Mountain Guides Association and a certified Wilderness First Responder through Wilderness Medical Associates.



Summer Camps are sponsored in part by Organic Valley and The Friends of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve