



CALUSA NATURE CENTER & PLANETARIUM

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

2025 Summer Camp Scholarship Application Instructions

Thanks to a donation by the Fischer Family Foundation, Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium (CNCP) is proud to offer a limited number of one-week summer camp scholarships for students ages 8-14 (rising second through eighth graders).

Campers will have multiple opportunities for exploring outdoors, hiking our trails, working hands-on with captive animals like turtles and snakes, creating nature-based crafts and attending educational shows in our planetarium. With weekly themes like “Junior Naturalist” and “Outdoor Survival”, each day is geared to diving deeper into the topic and inspiring children to enhance their appreciation for nature.

To apply, submit the following THREE items:

- 1) Letter from the child answering these questions:
 - a. What is your favorite thing to do outside?
 - b. Why do you want to go to this camp?
- 2) Letter from a teacher, guidance counselor or other professional with close familiarity with the student:
 - a. Describe your relationship with the camper and how long you have known them.
 - b. Why is this student worthy of the scholarship?
 - c. How would this student benefit from the scholarship?
- 3) Parent/Guardian will need to fill out the application (pages 2 and 3) and forward all materials (items 1, 2 and 3) in ONE email to:
scholarship@calusanature.org.

Application review will begin in April and awardees will be notified by April 30, 2025. Applications received after April 30 will be reviewed if scholarships are still available or there is a cancellation. Each child should have a separate application. Campers are eligible for one 1-week scholarship per summer.

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Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Email(s) _____

Child's Name _____ Age on June 1, 2025 _____

Current School and grade as of April 1, 2025 _____

The Fischer Family Foundation funded this scholarship for campers from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds. Please explain how your family and child would benefit from this scholarship. You may attach an additional page if needed.

Important notes for parents/guardians (Please initial where indicated)

CNCP is located at 3450 Ortiz Ave, Ft. Myers near the intersection of Colonial Blvd and Ortiz Ave, near Exit 136 on I-75.

Each one-week session runs Monday-Friday from 9 am-3:30 pm daily. Drop-off starts at 8:30 am and pickup is from 3:30-4 pm. **Care outside those hours is not available. A parent or guardian must be able to drop off and pick up their camper daily within those times. Dropping off before 8:30 am or failure to pick up your child by 4 pm may result in loss of scholarship.** Initials _____

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Water shoes will be necessary for some weeks depending on the theme. Funds will be available to purchase water shoes if needed and can be discussed ahead of time.

Campers will be outside often in the heat and humidity with biting insects. Insect repellent and sunscreen will be available, but campers will be responsible for applying it themselves. *Initials* _____

I have read the above and understand my application is not a guarantee of a scholarship.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Please number the camps your child is interested in attending, listing their first choice as 1, second as 2, etc. Please visit calusanature.org/calusa-summer-camps for camp descriptions. Final selection of ONE of the camps will be made if a scholarship is awarded and is based on availability.

_____ Wild Florida	1st -3rd Grade	June 9th -13th	
_____ Junior Naturalist	4th -6th Grade	June 9th -13th	
_____ Outdoor Survival	1st -4th Grade	June 16th -20th	
_____ Outdoor Survival	5th -8th Grade	June 16th -20th	
_____ Nocturnal Nature	1st -3rd Grade	June 23rd -27th	
_____ Riveting Reptiles	4th -6th Grade	June 23rd -27th	
_____ Feathered Friends	1st -5th Grade	June 30th -July 3rd (No camp July 4)	
_____ Nature Detectives	1st -3rd Grade	July 14th -18th	
_____ Nature CSI (Crime Scene Investigators)	4th -6th Grade	July 14th -18th	
_____ Outdoor Survival	1st -4th Grade	July 21st -25th	
_____ Outdoor Survival	5th -8th Grade	July 21st -25th	
_____ Wild About Water	1st-4th Grade	Aug 4th-8th	
_____ Junior Naturalist	5th - 8th Grade	Aug 4th -8 th	

All camps are based on rising grade levels and we adhere strictly to our chosen age groups with no exceptions. This scholarship is for those students about to start second through eighth grade only. Please, no rising first graders for the purposes of this scholarship.