

VICKSBURG ARTS

ARTS & CULTURE
INSPIRE • ENRICH • EDUCATE



The Art of Nature Summer Camp Handbook

Welcome to the Vicksburg Arts Summer Camp Program! Our staff is dedicated to providing your camper with a safe and fun experience as they explore the Arts. Please feel free to let us know about any concerns, ideas, or thoughts that may arise. Our goal is to ensure that each camper feels confident and secure as they learn to express themselves creatively.

Camp Sessions at the Outdoor Education Center

15510 Portage Rd, Vicksburg

Half Day Camps for Ages 6-8

Session 1: June 23 – June 27

Session 2: August 11 – Aug 15

Check in is 9:00 am

Pick up between 12 and 12:15

Full Day Camp for Ages 9-12

July 14 -18

Check in is 9:30 am

Pick up between 3 and 3:15

Camp Contact

If you need to contact your child during camp or have questions, call or text us at (269) 200-2223

Activities/Events

Your camper will have an opportunity to develop and enhance their artistic abilities through the guidance of our expert teaching artists. Each day will feature morning gathering times, plenty of snacks, and supervised Art of Nature themed activities.

Sign-In/Sign-Out Procedures

In order to ensure the safety of your camper, they must be signed in and out daily with a legal signature and time. Campers may not be signed out by anyone under the age of 18 unless pre-approved. We will cross reference who is signing the camper out with the authorized names you provide at the start of camp.

We anticipate some traffic complications during drop off and pick up. In order to avoid congestion, we will have aides ready to check your child in and out right by the driveway so you don't have to leave your car. (Of course, if your child needs you to come in to drop them off, we'll find a way to make that work!) We appreciate your patience as we work through this logistical challenge! It will be worth it to have camp at this wonderful facility.

What to Wear and Bring

Clothing should be comfortable and casual. It's the badge of an artist to get messy and we guarantee that our paints and inks will stain clothing. Either wear old clothes that can be stained, or bring an **oversized shirt** to wear as a smock. Label the shirt with the camper's name and they can leave it at camp for the whole week. We also recommend sending a **water bottle** labeled with your camper's name.

JULY CAMPERS, BRING A SACK LUNCH! Please label lunches and please do not share lunches with other campers because some of them might have allergies. We'll have 30 minutes for lunch—plenty of time to eat, socialize, and unwind. For both camps, we will offer healthy snacks at the beginning and middle of camp.

Belongings

We will have a designated location for each child to store their personal belongings. Please leave valuable items at home. Vicksburg Arts and its employees are not

responsible for any lost or stolen property. Items not claimed will be donated one week after the camp ends.

Phone Use

Participants are allowed to bring cell phones, but we request that they are kept put away, and set to silent mode so they don't distract participants from program activities. If you need to contact your campers during program hours, please call or text us at (269) 200-2223.

Absences

If your camper is going to miss a day, please contact us at (269) 200-2223. Our policy is to not provide partial refunds for any missed classes because your camp fees pay for the instructors and ordered materials.

Illness/Injury

We want to maintain a healthy environment in the Art of Nature Summer Camp Program. In order to do this, please do not send your camper if they have a cold or other contagious condition. If your camper is ill or becomes ill while in our program, the staff will contact you. If we are unable to reach you, we will contact someone from your Emergency Contact List that you provided in the Registration/Consent Form to pick your camper up.

If your camper is injured while in our program, our staff is trained in CPR and First Aid and they will take necessary steps to obtain medical care. If your camper needs immediate emergency medical care and we are unable to reach you or the emergency contact, then your camper will be transported to the hospital by ambulance.

Request for Accommodations

We are committed to providing an inclusive, accessible camp. Please let us know before the week of camp if your camper has any specific access, medical, or comfort needs and how we could help your child feel comfortable at camp—you know your camper best. If you think your child would benefit from an extra staff member to help them feel

comfortable or to focus, we can adjust our staffing to help your child have a great experience.

2025 Camp Code of Conduct and Guidelines

At our camp, we offer a friendly, supportive small-town feeling. Please read and review the following guidelines with your camper so that everyone is on the same page and we can have fun safely. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any camp staff member or text or call us at (269) 200-2223 or email admin@vicksburgarts.org.

Campers should:

- Arrive promptly for class and be willing to try new things.
- Treat others with respect. Build fellow campers up; don't tear them down.
Inappropriate language or behavior will not be tolerated. We don't expect it to be an issue, but if we must request that a camper be removed from the program, no refunds will be issued.
- For safety, remain in the classroom and stay with your group.
- Keep cell phones in a tote bag or backpack at all times.
- Keep valuables safe at home. We cannot be responsible for their loss or breakage.
- Be aware that some campers might have allergies, so don't share lunches.
- We will be working with paint and inks that will definitely stain. Consider bringing a large, old shirt to wear over your clothes and leave it on site for the week. (Write name inside.)