

OMSI Overnight Camps

Grades 2-3

Day Camp Title	Grade Level	Description	Start Date
Eco-Explorers 2-3	Grades 2-3	Are you new to overnight camp? Eco-Explorers is a great way to get your feet wet, literally! Get a taste of everything at Camp Gray. Spend your mornings at the beach playing at the water's edge, digging in the sand, and hunting for fossils. In the afternoon, you'll participate in your choice of activities while making new friends and creating lasting memories. You'll spend three days and two nights immersed in camp activities including arts and crafts, skits, sports, and nature hikes. End your days with games and songs around the campfire.	7/5/23
High Desert Adventure Rookie Camp 2-3	Grades 2-3	Not ready to commit to a full 5 days of overnight camp? Try 3 days! Join the adventure and sample what Camp Hancock has to offer. Make new friends, hunt for fossils, and stare at the stars. Hang out with your cabin buddies and do fun activities with your counselor. Learn about insects and catch lizards, scientist-style! We'll have river time, s'mores, and singalong songs. You'll even get to see real fossils in the rocks! This camp can be an introduction to overnight camps or a stepping stone for one of our themed camps. There's a lot to choose from and OMSI leaders strive to provide the experience of a lifetime!	7/5/2023
Junior Astronomers	Grades 2-3	If you can't get the solar system out of your system, it's time for you to come to Camp Hancock for a week of fun and learning that's out of this world! Make lifelong friends, create astronomy-themed arts and crafts, compete for the Golden Dustpan, dine at the prestigious pajama breakfast, and celebrate the week with s'mores and singing. Typically, clear night skies in eastern Oregon mean plenty of telescope time to explore the universe. Join exciting camp activities like all-camp games or enjoy river time. Junior Astronomers camp is the place to begin your quest for the stars.	8/14/2023
Junior Paleontology	Grades 2-3	Look around! There are fossils everywhere! If you like to dig in the dirt to find cool stuff, or hike and camp with friends, sign up! Meet new friends and stay for a week with the friendly and fun camp counselors. Go on a learning adventure for beginners that includes a trip to the town of Fossil, where you'll find your very own, real-life fossil to keep forever. Compete for the Golden Dustpan, hike in search of fossils, sing songs, play games, and much more. On hot days, we'll have river time to cool off. Follow the paleontology track at Camp Hancock -- there is so much more to learn and discover!	8/7/2023
Junior Survival	Grades 2-3	Every survival expert has to start somewhere. Junior survival camp is like none other! Experience everything our overnight camp has to offer: new friends, rustic cabins, the Golden Dustpan, the prestigious pajama breakfast, and survival-themed arts and crafts. You'll also learn the basics of survival in the desert. Learn from the wonderful and talented instructors about survival strategies for finding food, water, and shelter. Build shelters in teams, carve soap, and sleep outside for a night under the stars.	7/31/23
Seashore Explorers	Grades 2-3	Sea lions, tiger sharks, and berries, oh my! Investigate the natural world at Camp Gray as you spend a week exploring Oregon beaches and forests to find coastal plants and animals. Tickle a sea anemone, hold a whale vertebra, hike sandy trails, make nature art, and more. Stay the week in cabins with other explorers, spending your days at the ocean's edge and your nights with friends around the campfire.	8/7/2023 8/21/2023

Grades 4-5

Day Camp Title	Grade Level	Description	Start Date
Desert Survival	Grades 4-5	Do you know how to survive a zombie apocalypse? Perhaps you'd like to star on a reality survival show someday. No zombies or TV here, but you never know when you will need wilderness survival skills! Live in our rustic cabins and learn with new friends while enjoying classic Camp Hancock traditions like river time, smores, and Chuckwagon Breakfast. You'll build shelters, use primitive tools, forage for food, and filter water. What better to impress your friends and family with than the skills you learn here in the desert wilderness? We'll also get to spend a night sleeping out under the magnificent stars. If you've done things like this before, help teach others while you hone your skills. This camp progresses skill building from Junior and Desert Survival, but beginners are always welcome!	7/31/23
Eco-Explorers 4-5	Grades 4-5	Are you new to overnight camp? Eco-Explorers is a great way to get your feet wet, literally! Get a taste of everything at Camp Gray. Spend your mornings at the beach playing at the water's edge, digging in the sand, and hunting for fossils. In the afternoon, you'll participate in your choice of activities while making new friends and creating lasting memories. You'll spend three days and two nights immersed in camp activities including arts and crafts, skits, sports, and nature hikes. End your days with games and songs around the campfire.	7/5/23

Fossils and Geology	Grades 4-5	Imagine ancient Oregon: Jungles! Volcanoes! Giant beasts! If you enjoy puzzling out prehistoric mysteries, this is for you! Find out what is inside Oregon's state rock when you polish a thunderegg to keep. Enjoy Camp Hancock's rich traditions too: cool off during river time, sing songs, and play games. Enjoy delicious meals, including Chuckwagon breakfast. This camp is the place for aspiring paleontologists to get started, and campers who attended Junior Paleontology camp will find plenty of new activities. Even more adventures await in Paleontology Field Study camp!	8/7/23
High Desert Adventure 4-5	Grades 4-5	With all the amazing activities at Camp Hancock, it's tough to choose. We understand! High Desert Adventure is a taste of everything, from astronomy to zoology! Meet high desert mammals, birds, or reptiles, find fossils, sleep out under the stars, and learn to navigate with map and compass. You'll make new friends, play games, sing songs and eat s'mores. Whether you're a first-time camper or a seasoned pro, you're invited! It's a great way to get into the camp spirit without committing to just one subject. Activities are similar across the age groups, but adapted to be age-appropriate. You can't go wrong with any of OMSI's camps, but if you like variety and are looking for adventure, this camp is for you!	6/26/23 7/10/23 7/17/23 8/21/23
High Desert Adventure Rookie Camp 4-5	Grades 4-5	Not ready to commit to a full 5 days of overnight camp? Try 3 days! Join the adventure and sample all Camp Hancock has to offer. Make new friends, hunt for fossils, and stare at the stars. Hang out with your cabin buddies and do fun activities with your counselor. Learn about insects and catch lizards, scientist-style! We'll have river time, s'mores, and singalong songs. You'll even get to see real fossils in the rocks! This camp can be an introduction to overnight camps or a stepping stone for one of our themed camps. There's a lot to choose from and OMSI leaders strive to provide the experience of a lifetime!	7/5/2023
Rookie Rafting	Grades 4-5	What a breathtaking view! We imagine that's what you'll say while rafting on the Lower Deschutes River. OMSI is teaming up with professional river guides from Ouzel Outfitters for a full-day raft trip. Stay the first two nights at Camp Hancock, then pack up for an incredible all-day adventure and overnight campout. One whole day will be spent splashing through the river, soaking up the sun, and paddling along spotting wildlife. On the last day of camp we'll re-join the crew at Hancock for fun, games, and a dance party. Meet new friends and try your hand at a new adventure! OMSI and Ouzel provide all rafting and camping gear.	7/10/23 7/17/23
Stargazers	Grades 4-5	How do you throw the best Star Party ever? You plan-et! Fill the nights with telescope time, and the days with space puns! Make friends with other budding astronomers as you learn about red dwarfs and blue giants. Sleep under the stars, and peer through telescopes to get a closer look. Clear skies in eastern Oregon are typical, so there will be plenty of telescope time. Dine in style with the leisurely Chuckwagon breakfast and of course pajama breakfast, where sleepwear is the height of fashion. Cool off during river time, play camp-wide games, and sing songs. Whether you've been a Junior Astronomer or you're just starting off, this camp is the next giant leap in your space journey!	8/14/23
Wild Pacific	Grades 4-5	Spend your time adventuring around local beaches and forests, discovering the unique plants and wildlife of the Oregon Coast. Do a sea creature scavenger hunt at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, take a hike through a lush green old growth forest, and spend time digging in the sand. Stay the week in the cabins with your fellow adventurers, spending your day at the ocean's edge and your nights with friends playing games and singing songs around the campfire.	6/26/2023 7/10/2023 7/17/2023 7/31/2023 8/14/2023 8/21/2023
Grades 6-8			
Day Camp Title	Grade Level	Description	Start Date
Backpacking: Teen Girls	Grades 6-8	Stretch your adventurous spirit and your legs as you trek through central Oregon's stunning alpine meadows and ancient lava flows with other tenacious young women. You'll learn low-impact camping, wilderness survival skills and orienteering with a map and compass. Recommended for beginning backpackers who are in good physical condition. In line with our mission to build an inclusive community, this trip welcomes trans and gender-expansive individuals - regardless of their pronouns or gender presentation - who feel most comfortable joining this group.	7/17/23
Backpacking: Three Sisters Wilderness	Grades 6-8	Dust off your hiking boots as you prepare to hike deep into the lush rainforests of the Three Sisters Wilderness, camping each night at beautiful mountain lakes. All the while, you'll learn about the ecological, geological, and cultural significance of this amazing range. You'll also learn low-impact camping, wilderness survival skills and orienteering with a map and compass. Recommended for beginning backpackers who are in good physical condition.	7/24/23

Coastal Ramblers	Grades 6-8	Whale, whale, whale, what do we have here? From our home base at Camp Gray, we'll take day trips around Newport to estuaries, sandy beaches, and rocky tide pools to seek out the gems of coastal plants and animals. You'll get up close with tide pool creatures and then head out onto the water on a sea life cruise, where you'll search for birds, crabs, sea lions, and gray whales. With the guidance of our experienced OMSI instructors you'll see the coast in a way you've never seen before!	7/17/23 7/31/23
Design Naturalists	Grades 6-8	Let your creativity run wild! Be inspired by the sky, the surf and the weather-hardy plants, as you take on art and design projects during your fun-filled adventure at the coast. OMSI's Camp Gray is partnering with the Pacific Northwest College of Art at Willamette University to create unique design projects that bring art, science, and play together for this week. When away from the art table, choose other fun camp activities like playing games and making friendship bracelets all while hanging out with new friends.	6/26/23 7/24/23
Galaxy Adventurers	Grades 6-8	If deep space is your jam, look no further! Use OMSI's fancy equipment to guide your intergalactic journey as OMSI instructors help you pilot your telescope to sparkling star clusters and distant galaxies. Clear night skies mean plenty of telescope time, and late night stargazing calls for leisurely breakfasts such as the famed Chuckwagon breakfast. During the day, debate the possibility of extraterrestrial life, enjoy river time, or catch up on zzz's. If you're new to astronomy, there's more to see than you can imagine! If you've been a Stargazer or Junior Astronomer, you'll get to help guide your peers to the coolest things out there! Your journey can continue with Master Astronomers camp!	8/18/2023
High Desert Adventure 6-8	Grades 6-8	With all the amazing activities at Camp Hancock, it's tough to choose. We understand! High Desert Adventure is a taste of everything, from astronomy to zoology! Meet high desert mammals, birds, or reptiles, find fossils, sleep out under the stars, and learn to navigate with map and compass. You'll make new friends, play games, sing songs and eat s'mores. Whether you're a first-time camper or a seasoned pro, you're invited! It's a great way to get into the camp spirit without committing to just one subject. Activities are similar across the age groups, but adapted to be age-appropriate. You can't go wrong with any of OMSI's camps, but if you like variety and are looking for adventure, this camp is for you!	6/26/23 7/24/23 8/21/23
Lower Deschutes Rafting	Grades 6-8	Stay dry? Why!? Join a whitewater adventure as we take on the Lower Deschutes River. Meet other thrill-seekers your age as you raft with trained raft guides from Ouzel Outfitters. Admire basalt formations, spot wildlife of the river, and run class I-III rapids. After a brief stay at Camp Hancock, we'll travel to the launch site to start our 3-day adventure. Once we're on the water, we'll hit some sweet splashes, dry out in the sun, and learn about why the Deschutes River is so special. We camp on shore each night, dine on warm meals, and sleep in tents or under the stars. Once we land near the city of Maupin, Oregon, we'll travel back to Camp Hancock and celebrate the journey with fun, games, and a dance party on the last night. Recommended for campers 12 years and older. Experience not necessary. OMSI and Ouzel to provide all camping and river gear.	7/10/23 7/17/23
Paleontology Field Study	Grades 6-8	Check out the weird fossils of ancient Oregon. OMSI instructors and National Park Service rangers will show you the paleontology collections at the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center, and you'll get to interview a real-life paleontologist. You could try your hand at preparing a fossil and discover how this place used to be tropical. We'll also have river time during the heat of the day, sing songs, play games, and experience the best camp food. Whether you're a seasoned paleontology camper, or a newcomer, come learn new things about really old things!	8/7/23
Rock Cycle Bike Camp	Grades 6-8	Take the "Journey Through Time" on the journey of a lifetime in Rock Cycle bike camp! Ride to all units of the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument: the Painted Hills, one of Oregon's natural wonders; Sheep Rock - no sheep, lots of fossils; and the Clarno Unit, where Camp Hancock is nestled. With the assistance of OMSI staff, a professional bike guide from Cog Wild, and a support vehicle, travel through scenic forest and breathtaking desert landscape. Breeze downhill and power uphill, cheered on by friends. We'll keep the rides short, leaving time to explore quaint towns on the way. Sleep under the stars or in a tent with friends. If you're comfortable riding a bike and want to safely gain road biking experience, Rock Cycle is for you. To ensure all gear meets our safety standards and we have tools for repairs, bikes and safety equipment will be rented. The rental fees are included in the cost and OMSI provides camping gear.	7/10/23 7/17/23
Salt, Sand, and Sea Foam	Grades 6-8	Looking for an adventure? Join us as we travel to a new place each day for a trip that can only happen at the Oregon Coast! You'll take a surfing lesson from licensed surf instructors from Ossie's Surf Shop, paddle a canoe in an estuary, and hike on sandy dunes. Back at Camp Gray, you'll also get to choose afternoon activities so whether you want to learn more about the local wildlife, create art projects, or practice new outdoor skills, there's something for everyone.	7/10/2023 8/14/2023

Wilderness Survival	Grades 6-8	Do you know how to survive a zombie apocalypse? Perhaps you'd like to star on a reality survival show someday. No zombies or TV here, but you never know when you will need wilderness survival skills! Live in our rustic cabins and learn with new friends while enjoying classic Camp Hancock traditions like river time, smores, and Chuckwagon Breakfast. You'll build shelters, use primitive tools, forage for food, and filter water. What better to impress your friends and family with than the skills you learn here in the desert wilderness? We'll also get to spend a night sleeping out under the magnificent stars. If you've done things like this before, help teach others while you hone your skills. This camp progresses skill building from Junior and Desert Survival, but beginners are always welcome!	7/31/23
Grades 9-10			
Day Camp Title	Grade Level	Description	Start Date
Backpacking: Wallowas	Grades 9-12	Become a modern adventurer as you explore the cultural and natural history of the "Alps of Oregon," the exquisite Wallowa Mountains. This trip is an amazing opportunity for anyone interested in alpine ecology, glacial geology, and wilderness skills. You'll practice low-impact camping, wilderness survival skills, and orienteering with a map and compass. Participants should be in good physical condition, and backpacking experience is recommended.	7/31/23
Coastal Documentary Explorers	Grades 9-12	Hands on documentary filmmaking! Learn from and work with professional filmmakers from NW Documentary and your fellow campers to create a short film about science and nature in Newport, Oregon. Past films have explored the historic lighthouses of Newport, the potential of reintroducing sea otters to the Oregon Coast, and the impact of ocean acidification on oyster farms. Students will get real world hands-on experience interviewing experts, writing and recording narration, filming with professional cameras, and editing it all together. Watch the 2022 films: https://vimeo.com/showcase/9745578 (12 Day Program)	8/7/23
Master Astronomers	Grades 9-12	Dive deep into space science from Camp Hancock! Enjoy some of the darkest, clearest skies in Oregon using our fancy telescopes. You'll get to learn how to use telescopes and develop the skills you need to navigate the universe. Enjoy Hancock's rich traditions: river time, songs and skits, and sleeping out under the stars. Enjoy delicious meals, including the unique Chuckwagon breakfast. Master Astronomers camp builds on Galaxy Adventurers material, and with all there is to learn about space, every camp is different. First time astronomers are also encouraged. Returning campers and our staff will make sure everyone can engage at their own level.	8/14/2023
OMSI Surfing Adventure	Grades 9-12	Join us for our most action-packed adventure on the coast! Learn to surf this summer with OMSI and licensed surf instructors from Ossie's Surf Shop in Newport. Whether you've never surfed before or just want to improve your skills, you'll have the opportunity to gain board riding ability, confidence, and knowledge of our oceans. Plus, you will explore Yaquina Bay, hike the trails, and end the day around the campfire. No prior surfing experience necessary, but participants should be in good physical condition.	7/10/2023 8/21/2023
OMSI Ambassadors	Grades 10-12	Do you love showing off the Pacific Northwest? Then come be an OMSI Ambassador to a group of young adults from Japan as they journey through the unique ecosystems of California's Redwoods and the Oregon Coast. Explore pop culture, food, and tourism, while hiking, camping, and making international friends along the way. In addition to enjoying outdoor activities and having an interest in other cultures, Ambassadors must have completed at least one year of high school, and be mature, friendly, and helpful. Being an Ambassador is a position of responsibility that gives you the opportunity to represent your community and be a peer leader. (14 Day Program)	7/23/23
Updated: 1.24.23			