



2026

Indian Rock Summer Day Camp

New activities each week for kids entering Kindergarten-12th grade



Come and Join Us!

Explore the outdoors

Enjoy the farm

Discover science and nature

Learn outdoor skills

Learn to fish

Learn to canoe & kayak

Enjoy hiking & swimming

Learn archery

Enjoy arts and crafts

Make new friends

AND MUCH MORE!



- ◆ Online Registration opens March 1st!
- ◆ Extended care available!
- ◆ Ask about scholarships!
- ◆ Camp/Member Open House on May 30th

Indian Rock Nature Preserve

A part of Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut, Inc
501 Wolcott Road, Bristol, CT 06010 ♦ (860) 583-1234
summercamp@elcct.org ♦ www.ELCCT.org

www.ELCCT.org

Welcome To Camp!

We are glad you are among the many families that are considering Indian Rock Summer Camp for your child(ren) this summer!

Indian Rock Summer Camp continues to grow each year and for good reason. Indian Rock Nature Preserve is unmatched as a natural playground providing campers the opportunity to explore acres upon acres of mixed forest, trails, natural swimming areas, our educational farm, and much more. Couple that with a dedicated staff trained to provide engaging, hands-on, and inquiry based outdoor experiences, and you have a camp that provides both a fun and educational experience for your child. In addition, our campers gain a new-found respect for themselves, others, and the natural world. I am excited to see a number of returning faces and new campers alike this year.

If you are considering Indian Rock Summer Camp for the first time, we know this is a big step. We hope that this brochure will exemplify the incredible value we put on creativity, safety, exploration, and adventure. If you are a returning camp family, we are excited to have you returning this summer.

Don't forget to ask about our scholarship program. We strive to make our camp accessible to everyone. We hope to see you and your camper(s) at Indian Rock this summer!

Scott E. Heth
Executive Director
ELCCT



Welcome new and returning campers and families! We are excited to have you join us at Indian Rock Summer Camp this year!

As the Director of Education and the Indian Rock Summer Camp Director, I will work closely with our campers and staff every day, helping to ensure that your child has the best possible experience while in our care. We work year-round developing our camp curriculum to ensure that all our campers have a great experience. During their time at camp, kids are able to develop social skills with peers and adults, build self-confidence, and learn leadership skills, all while having fun in a safe and supportive environment.

Our camp staff makes sure that every camper not only goes home with great memories, but with the experience of learning a new skill or trying something new all while developing friendships that will endure from year to year.

Please contact us with any questions you may have or if you would like to schedule a tour. I look forward to getting to know all our campers and their families this summer. Whether your child attends for one week or all nine weeks, I am confident that our summer camp programs will provide a safe, healthy, fun, and enriching experience that your child will never forget.

Kirsten Tomlinson
Director Of Education, ELCCT
Director, Indian Rock Summer Camp



The Indian Rock Team

Indian Rock Camp Counselors and staff are among the most professional, creative and caring people around. They take their jobs very seriously to ensure the best possible experience for our campers. All camp staff receive training on how to build an inclusive camp environment, behavior management, camp safety and security, child abuse awareness and mandated reporting, trauma informed practices, and bullying prevention and response. In addition, all our camp staff are certified in CPR, First Aid and Medications Administration.

Our Camp Director, Kirsten Tomlinson, has over 15 years of camp director experience, 25 years of environmental education experience, and a background as a certified teacher in the state of Connecticut. She works closely with all of our staff providing an extra level of support when it's needed. New this summer will be the addition of an Assistant Camp Director who will provide an additional level of support for our campers and counselors. We also have a full-time First Aid Director on-site during camp to manage medications and any medical issues that may arise. All of our counselors are at least 18 years old, and many return year after year. Several of our counselors are school educators during the school year, and some even began their journey at Indian Rock as campers themselves. All of our staff undergo background and reference checks prior to being hired.

As a result of our strong standards and commitment to excellence, Indian Rock Summer Camp has consistently earned a perfect score during the Connecticut Department of Early Childhood's annual surprise inspection. With the experience we have gained over the past 40+ years of operating Indian Rock Summer Camp, you, the parents, can rest easy knowing that your children will be in good hands.



Earth Magic

Campers entering K - 1st grades

June 22-26 THE FIRST AMERICANS: Discover the culture and customs of the First Americans that once utilized the forests of Indian Rock Nature Preserve. You will experience this time in history by visiting our wigwams and “Indian Rock”, tasting Native American food, making Native American Crafts, and much more!

June 29-July 2 TINY CRITTERS: Study the world through a magnifying glass. Search for the smallest creatures on the Preserve including worms, spiders, and insects. They may be small, but they have a lot to show us. Investigate how they use their senses and compare them to yours!

No camp July 3; Special Fee \$232.

July 6-10 TRAILSIDE DISCOVERIES: Come explore the trails of the Preserve using your five senses. You never know what we might discover together! After the hike, share your discoveries of the day through crafts and other activities.

July 13-17 FARM ANIMALS: Spend the week on the Indian Rock Farm getting to know our pig, cow, chickens, turkeys, and sheep. Learn about the animals, make farm animal inspired crafts and products, and much more.

July 20-24 I LOVE ROCKS!: Rocks can be all different shapes, sizes, and colors. Learn about different kinds of rocks and start your own collection! Learn about our ever-changing Earth, including mountains and volcanos, through engaging, hands-on activities. See how water, ice, and wind continue to shape the landscape around us.

July 27-31 LIFE IN THE WATER: Ever wonder what lives below the surface of the water? Explore the streams, lake, and swamps of Indian Rock as you search for the small and large animals of the watery world. Learn the skill of fishing for Largemouth Bass in Indian Lake!



August 3-7 THE ANIMALS AROUND US: Come explore the forest, lake, and stream in search of animal homes and animal signs. Birds, mammals, insects, reptiles, and amphibians are everywhere if you know where to look and listen. We will learn all about where they live and what they do.

August 10-14 YOUNG SCIENTISTS: Put on your science cap and discover that science is all around. Each day we will explore the Preserve and conduct a different experiment inspired by nature using light, sound, motion, colors, and much more!

August 17-21 INDIAN ROCK OLYMPICS: Celebrate the end of the summer with Olympic style games complete with opening and closing ceremonies. All age groups, from Earth Magic to Adventurers, will combine to form teams for this camp-wide spectacular.

A note to parents about Earth Magic

The Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut works with children throughout the year, not just during summer camp. For your Earth Magic camper, this may be his or her first camp experience and perhaps the first time they will be away from you for an extended period of time. We are here to make sure your child has a great experience and leaves camp with a sense of accomplishment, discoveries, and new friends. The ratio of campers per counselor is smaller for Earth Magic to ensure that the campers receive individualized and personal attention and are comfortable in their new setting. Earth Magic is a self-contained group within our camp. They have their own rooms and swim time so that they are not overwhelmed by older campers.

We strive to keep the same counselors with the Earth Magic groups throughout the summer so that returning campers can be greeted by a familiar face from week to week. It is a big step for a parent to leave their young child at camp for the first time. With our experience teaching children and our commitment to safety, your child is in good hands! For second year Earth Magic campers, though some of the programs topics may seem familiar, there are always new things to explore and our counselors make sure that the activities and discoveries are different each year.



Discoverers

Campers entering 2nd - 3rd grades

June 22-26 I SPY: Work with your team of fellow spies to spy on others without being seen or heard! Learn how to camouflage yourself, move quietly, use sign language, and make secret codes to communicate with your team members. The rest of the camp will never see or hear you coming!

or

PATHFINDERS: Discover how to be safe while having fun outdoors. Learn how to navigate with maps and compasses, tie knots, and avoid plant and animal hazards. Learn ways to make sure you stay on course in the forest so you won't become lost.

June 29-July 2 FISHING: Learn basic fishing techniques as you fish for Largemouth Bass and other species of fish in Indian Lake. Learn the needs of plants and animals in and around Indian Lake and what makes a good fishing hole.

No camp July 3; Special Fee \$232

or

NATIVE AMERICAN ADVENTURES: Step back in time and explore Native American life. Visit our wigwams and an authentic rock shelter used by ancient tribes. Learn how tools, foods, and crafts were used and created by the Native Americans.

No camp July 3; Special Fee \$232

July 6-10 ANIMAL ARCHITECTS: Have you ever wondered how birds build their nests or bees make their hives? Come search the Preserve for the many different types of homes that animals build, then try your hand building your own animal homes.

or

WOODLAND GAMES: Enjoy an action packed week of games in the forest. Test your skills playing capture the flag, hide & seek, treasure hunts, and other activities as you discover the fun of the woods.

July 13-17 JURASSIC JAMBOREE: Get ready for a prehistoric adventure as we dive into the world of dinosaurs. Learn about the different types of dinosaurs, their habitats, what they ate, and how long they roamed the earth. You will have the chance to participate in an excavation and make your own "fossils".

or

WACKY SCIENCE: Become a scientist for a week! Learn about science while laughing at the results of crazy experiments using everyday materials to explore the ideas of air pressure, liquids, solids, gases, simple machines, and much more. You will be the envy of the camp as you make things whiz, bang, poof, and pop!

July 20-24 ANIMAL ART: Bring out the artist in you while having fun learning about animals! Be inspired by the animals of the Preserve as you hone your art skills making animal sculptures, silhouettes, animal track stamps, and more!

or

TREE EXPLORERS: Explore the world of towering trees in Indian Rock's forest. Learn different ways to determine a tree's age and why a wide variety of animals, including us, rely on forests to survive! Play games in the cool shade of our forest friends and even try climbing one the safe way.

July 27-31 REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS: Spend time this summer exploring the lake, streams and forests of the Preserve looking for salamanders, turtles, frogs, and other reptiles and amphibians. Make a temporary collection of what we find and visit with some of ELCCT's resident animals as well.

or

WORLD OF FLIGHT: Investigate the principles of flight through natural flyers and flying machines. Make gliders, paper airplanes, and parachutes and have fun flying them. Learn how bats, birds and insects and other creatures have mastered life with wings. We may even have a visit from a hot air balloon (weather permitting)!



August 3-7 GEMSTONES AND GEOLOGY: Enjoy rock collecting, jewelry making, geodes, and even panning for fool's gold as you learn about rocks, minerals and features of the land around us! Create your own volcano and learn about the geology behind it. We may even have a visit from a real-life geologist who will show us all kinds of different rocks, gems, and fossils!

or

NATURE DETECTIVES: Investigate the secrets and mysteries of our natural world through your five senses. Did you know you can identify some trees by smelling them, and some birds just by hearing them? Put on your detective cap to solve mysteries and search for treasures using clues from nature.

August 10-14 NATURE'S WONDERS: Ever wonder where the idea for velcro came from? Or why ice floats? Spend the week looking at nature in a whole new way, discovering nature's engineers and exploring the many wonders and curiosities of nature!

or

FARMER: Spend the week learning about farm animals and the products they provide us. Learn about our cow, pig, sheep, chickens, turkeys, and honeybees and then make a product or craft relating to each animal. Our animals look forward to seeing you as summer camp is their favorite time of year!

August 17-21 INDIAN ROCK OLYMPICS: Celebrate the end of the summer with Olympic style games complete with opening and closing ceremonies. All age groups, from Earth Magic to Adventurers, will combine to form teams for this camp-wide spectacular.

Explorers

Campers entering 4th - 5th grades

June 22-26 WILD ANIMALS: Venture into the Preserve and discover the variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals that call the Preserve home. Learn where to find different species and visit with mounted and live animals throughout the week.

or

SUPER SLEUTHS: Hone your skills of deduction and reasoning as you use your detective “eye” to observe the living world. Put your skills to the test tracking animals, solving mysteries, and investigating crimes!

June 29-July 2 BIRDS!: Set out in search of the colorful birds that make Indian Rock home. Put your eyes and ears to the test as you learn to identify birds by sight and sound. Meet our resident live birds of prey up close! Help monitor Indian Rock’s nesting boxes, assist with bird banding, and much more!
No camp July 3; Special Fee \$232

or

TRY IT I: Try a variety of different activities offered at camp in this sampler week! Each day will include different activities like canoeing, archery, tree climbing, and nature exploration. **No camp July 3; Special Fee \$232**

July 6-10 A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A FARMER: Expand your knowledge of farm animals and the business of farming as you become a junior farm hand. Take care of our farm animals and help with projects around the farm to benefit these animals.

or

KAYAKING: Learn the basics of handling a kayak. Learn proper entry and exit techniques as well as how to launch, paddle, and portage. Practice safety and rescue exercises as you explore Indian Lake. Our instructors will make you an expert in no time!



July 13-17 ROCKETRY: Blast off to a week of discovery! Learn about rockets, space vehicles, and galactic travel. Make a variety of spacecrafts. Discover how the Sun impacts the Earth and learn the science behind rockets as you build and launch your own model! **Special fee: \$305.**

or

SEARCH AND RESCUE: Learn the many methods of searching the wilderness for lost people and objects. Rescue techniques will be employed as teams carry out a mission each day! First aid and survival skills will be introduced throughout the week.

July 20-24 THEATER AT THE ROCK!: This program explores all aspects of theater from writing, set design, performing and more. Not an actor, but like to build things, write or help behind the scenes? This week is for you. Like to act and ham it up? This week is for you too! End the week with performances for campers and parents.

or

WILDERNESS EXPLORERS: Become confident in the outdoors by learning basic camping skills. Gain experience in building shelters, outdoor cooking, knife safety and use, orienteering, and the health and safety of wilderness adventures. An overnight camp-out on the preserve will round out the week. **Special fee: \$325**

July 27-31 ANIMAL CARETAKERS: Taking care of animals can be fun and rewarding but it is a lot of responsibility as well. Meet our resident animals including our cows, sheep, chickens, turkeys, reptiles, amphibians, and bird of prey. Learn about their diets and other needs and assist with their care.

or

INTRO TO TREE CLIMBING: Do you like to climb trees? Come learn the basic skills and techniques of using ropes and harnesses to do it safely. This promises to be a week of high flying adventure!



August 3-7 CANOE FISHING: Canoes will serve as vessels of discovery as we paddle and fish the waters of Indian Lake. Basic canoeing and fishing skills and safety will start the week. Then set out on Indian Lake in your canoe in search of the best fishing holes and practice your fishing techniques as you fish for bass and other species.

or

GLOBAL GAMES: Travel the world without leaving camp! Campers will learn and play fun, active games from different countries and cultures, discovering how kids everywhere connect through play. From team challenges to classic favorites from around the globe, it’s a week full of movement, laughter, and new experiences.

August 10-14 EXPLORATION OF ARCHERY: The basic skills of archery will form the foundation of this week. Test your skills on Indian Rock’s Archery Field! Discover the lost art of constructing archery equipment from natural materials. Pocket knives may be used for activities during this session at the discretion of the counselor.

or

HYDRO ENGINEERS: Spend the dog days of summer near and on the water as we make and race model boats, build a raft to navigate across Indian Lake, and other wacky and wet engineering activities.

August 17-21 INDIAN ROCK OLYMPICS: Celebrate the end of the summer with Olympic style games complete with opening and closing ceremonies. All age groups, from Earth Magic to Adventurers, will combine to form teams for this camp-wide spectacular.

Adventurers

Campers entering 6th - 10th grades

June 22-26 NATURAL CRAFTER: Learn the skills to produce art out of natural materials found at Indian Rock! Learn about different types of art media and the use of patterns found in nature. Use wool, bees wax, rocks, vines, and much more. Pocket knives may be used for whittling.

or

KAYAKING: Here's your chance to spend a week on the water and try out a fast, nimble paddle craft. Learn basic paddling technique and water safety before putting your new skills to the test by playing kayak games!

June 29-July 2 TRY IT II: Try a variety of different activities offered at camp in this sampler week! Each day will focus on a different activity; canoeing, archery, tree climbing, and nature exploration. **No camp July 3; Special Fee \$232**

or

OUTDOOR NINJA CHALLENGE: Do you have what it takes to workout in the outdoors? Let nature be your inspiration as you work as a team to design and build a ninja-style obstacle course. Take this opportunity to spend your summer being fit and have fun doing it. **No camp July 3; Special Fee \$232**

July 6-10 SURVIVAL SKILLS: Knowing how to think for yourself in emergency situations helps increase self-confidence and independence. Learn shelter-building, fire-making, knife safety and use, emergency first-aid, navigation and lashing techniques. This week will include an overnight campout. **Special fee: \$325**

or

PHOTOGRAPHY & FILMMAKING: Lights, camera, create! Campers will explore filmmaking and photography while learning to write, shoot, perform, and edit their own short films. Using iPads, cameras, and the Preserve as their backdrop, they'll capture nature and tell stories through the lens. Bring a camera or borrow one of ours!



July 13-17 CANOEING AND KAYAKING: Get out on the water and learn the basics of handling a canoe and kayak. Launch, paddle, portage and learn safety and rescue techniques as you explore Indian Lake. Finish the week with a day-trip paddle on the Farmington River. All of our instructors are certified and experienced.

or

SMITHING: Explore the colonial crafts of blacksmithing and tinsmithing. Using a working forge, turn iron into usable materials such as hooks and tools, use tinsmithing techniques to make ornaments and other projects. Participation is subject to behavior. **Special Fee: \$315**

or

WILD FOR WILDLIFE: Do you have a passion for animals? Come explore the diversity of animals that call Indian Rock home. Explore the topics of animal care, rehabilitation, research, and conservation in addition to helping care for some of ELCCT's resident animals.

July 20-24 FARM HAND: Farmers are truly the "Jacks and Jills of all trades". The need to maintain a farm requires a multitude of skills. Learn by doing as you help care for the animals, work on farm improvement projects and learn about animal husbandry.

or

FORT BUILDING: Find a spot, just for you and your fellow fort builders, and build a secluded hideaway using natural and man-made materials. You will learn to hammer, cut, lash, and assemble a group structure.



July 27-31 ARC OF THE ARROW: Examine the hidden science behind the art of archery. Conduct numerous physical experiments using the bow and arrow while improving your skills as an archer. Pocket knives may be used for activities during this session at the discretion of the counselor. Each day will include time on the range for archery skill development.

or

CANOE FISHING: Canoes will serve as vessels of discovery as we paddle and fish the waters of Indian Lake. Basic canoeing and fishing skills and safety will start the week. Then set out on Indian Lake in your canoe in search of the best fishing holes and practice your fishing techniques as you fish for Largemouth Bass and other fish species.

August 3-7 WATER WANDERERS: Take an in-depth look at the waters of Indian Rock Preserve while learning how our water in Bristol connects to the larger watershed and Long Island Sound. The week will include an educational field trip to Hammonasset Beach State Park. Field trip and transportation cost are covered by a grant from the Farmington River Watershed Association.

or

RECREATIONAL TREE CLIMBING: See the Preserve in a different way than ever before! Using ropes and harnesses, climb to the top of the tree canopy to get a bird's eye view of the Preserve. Learn necessary skills and techniques to safely climb even the tallest trees.

August 10-14 WOODCRAFTERS: Do you like building with your hands? Learn basic woodworking skills including how to cut, carve, sand, and stain. Pocket knives may be used for whittling. Complete at least two projects to take home at the end of the week! **Special Fee: \$305**

or

MAD SCIENCE: Campers will spark their curiosity through hands-on STEAM projects, exciting science experiments, and creative challenges. From bubbling chemical reactions to discovering how things move and work, this week is packed with, mind-blowing fun and scientific exploration.

August 17-21 INDIAN ROCK OLYMPICS: Celebrate the end of the summer with Olympic style games complete with opening and closing ceremonies. All age groups, from Earth Magic to Adventurers, will combine to form teams for this camp-wide spectacular.

Counselors-in-Training

Campers entering 10th - 12th grade

June 22-26 **CIT TRAINING COURSE:** Minimum age 14 years Fee: \$290

Do you have what it takes to earn the coveted “Blue-Shirt”?

Learn the skills to become a Counselor-in-Training. This course is designed to prepare teens prior to, or just entering the work force, with skills required of summer camp counselors. Placement as a CIT in the Indian Rock Summer Camp looks great on a work resume and also counts towards school community service hours. We ask for a minimum commitment of 2 weeks after training.

CITs are an essential part of the Indian Rock Summer Camp team. Under the supervision of the CIT Coordinator, CITs assist counselors in the preparation and instruction of activities, help document the summer by taking photographs, provide guidance and encouragement to campers and more! Both the CIT Coordinator and the individual counselors will provide mentoring that will increase your leadership skills and your ability to work with children.

Interested?

The first step is to fill out and submit a volunteer application found on our website, ELCCT.org/summercamp. Upon acceptance to the program, you must take and pass the CIT training course to be held June 22-26. After successfully completing this course, CITs may assist camp counselors, free of charge, and on a voluntary basis under the supervision and approval of the CIT coordinator.

New CITs must apply. Returning CITs should contact Rose via email (Irlombardi@elcct.org) or phone (860-583-1234 x.103) to discuss their summer schedule.



Information for Parents and Guardians

Camp Registration/Fees

A standard one-week session of camp is \$290. Some weeks have a different fee which are noted under their program description. All campers must be up-to-date annual members of ELCCT. Membership is \$30 for each youth, or \$60 for the entire family. Membership can be done with your camp registration. Visit www.ELCCT.org to complete your camp registration online.

Payment Policy

- ◆ Before June 1st, pay in full or select the installment option. After June 1st, full payment is due at the time of registration. No camper is registered until payment is received.
- ◆ Membership must be paid in full at the time of registration.
- ◆ If payment is not received prior to the time required above, the camper will be removed from all future weeks and the opening will be given to other individuals without notice. The Center will be under no obligation to permit future attendance.
- ◆ Morning or aftercare may be paid for as needed on a space available basis. Any camper dropped off before 8:30am or picked up after 4:15pm will be charged for extended care.

Fee Discounts

- ◆ Discounts are applied to Camp Fees only and are not applied to membership or extended care.
- ◆ 5% discount if paid in full or completed registration with an installment plan by March 15th.
- ◆ 5% discount for all siblings attending the same week.

Refund Policy

- ◆ Full cash refunds will only be issued to campers who cancel with 30 days notice prior to the start of the camp session, or for any topic the Center cancels.
- ◆ Credit towards future programs will be issued to campers who have a bona-fide illness or injury affecting a full week and inform the Center prior to the start of the absence. Credits are valid for one year from issue date.
- ◆ No refunds or credits will be given for other than the reasons above.

Extended Day Program

There are two early morning sessions to choose from beginning at either 6:30am or 7:30am until the start of camp. For AM extended care campers **MUST** be dropped off by 8:15. Drop offs after 8:15 must wait for regular drop off to start at 8:30. The fee is \$60 per week for 6:30am and \$45 per week for 7:30am drop-off times. The pm session operates from the close of camp at 4:15pm until 5:30pm. The fee is \$45 per week for the pm program. Late pick-ups after 5:30pm will be charged \$30 per hour.



Health and Safety

The camp is licensed by the CT Office of Early Childhood and has an excellent safety record. A first aid staff member is present all day to handle minor injuries, dispense medications and coordinate any major injuries with the proper medical professionals. We are proud of our perfect scores on camp inspections.

- ◆ Camp physicals are required and a physical examination form must be completed and on file prior to your child's attendance at camp. The physical examination must have taken place in the past 3 years. **Campers without a current physical form on file are not permitted to attend camp as per State law.**
- ◆ If your child must take medications while at camp, including inhalers, epipens, prescriptions, AND over the counter medications, State law requires the **Authorization for the Administration of Medications Form** to be completed by a doctor and signed by the doctor and a parent.
- ◆ **By State law, we can not accept any medication without the above named documents.**
- ◆ Medications must be in pharmacy prepared containers and labeled with the name of the child, name of the drug, strength, dosage, frequency, authorized prescriber's name and expiration date. Expired meds are prohibited.
- ◆ Over the counter medications must be in the original container and labeled with the child's name.
- ◆ Parents must check in medications and provide the above named form at the beginning of camp attendance. Parents must also sign our medication log to confirm the amount of medication we received. Medications are to be picked up at the end of the week.
- ◆ Sunscreen and insect repellent must be labeled with campers names. Sunscreen and insect repellent may not be shared with other campers.

Information for Parents and Guardians

General Camp Information

- ◆ Camp drop-off is from 8:30-9:00 and pick-up is from 3:45-4:15.
- ◆ See extended care options on the previous page.
- ◆ Every Monday, at check-in, campers and parents will find out who their counselor is, make sure all necessary forms have been received, and check-in any medications.
- ◆ Parents sign campers in at the beginning of each day and sign campers out upon pickup.
- ◆ If you need to pick up your child early, you must inform the office at least one hour in advance.

Dress

Clothes that can get dirty and **sturdy, closed toe shoes or sneakers are a must!** Programs are held rain or shine, so bring a rain coat if rain is possible. Please keep in mind that due to elevation the temperature at Indian Rock is always cooler than surrounding areas.

Lunch/Snack

Campers must provide their own lunch and afternoon snack. Please label the bag or container. Ice Cream is available for purchase for \$1.00.

Knife Use Policy

Campers may be using knives during certain camp sessions as noted in the program descriptions. For sessions that do allow knife use, knives will be provided and campers will need to demonstrate that they can safely handle the knife. Campers will only have access to knives when they are actively being used for programming.

Swimming

Swim time is provided at one of the lake's two waterfronts, conditions permitting. Swim time is free play time during which campers may swim, wade or play on the beach. Campers are not required to know how to swim, however campers must pass a swim test to swim to the floating dock at North Shore. Campers swim with their own age group. Swimming and wading are supervised by certified lifeguards. Campers should bring a swimsuit, flip flops/swim shoes, and towel daily.



What do I bring to Camp?

- ◆ Wear Socks & Sneakers (that can get dirty!)
- ◆ Backpack
- ◆ Lunch and snack in a labeled bag
- ◆ Ice Cream and Gift Shop money (optional)
- ◆ Reusable Water Bottle
- ◆ Bathing Suit and Towel
- ◆ Flip flops / Water Shoes for walking to and from the swimming areas.
- ◆ Plastic grocery bag for wet bathing suit and towel (recommended to keep backpack and other items dry after swim)
- ◆ Sunscreen & Insect Repellent. Apply at home. To reapply at camp, we need it to be labeled with camper's name along with our liability/permission form checked off and signed by the parent. For Earth Magic campers, counselors will collect sunscreen and insect repellent and supervise use. All other campers may carry their sunscreen or insect repellent in their backpack at the discretion of their counselor.

Items Prohibited From Camp.

- ◆ Toys, playing cards, and trading cards brought from home
- ◆ Personal items that may have a significant value
- ◆ Possession of knives (without authorization), fireworks, matches, tobacco, vapes, alcohol, drugs, or any kind of firearms or replicas will result in expulsion from camp and referral to the local police department if appropriate.
- ◆ No electronic devices are to be used during camp hours of 8:30am-4:15pm. During this time, all electronics should be stowed safely in a backpack. We are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. If electronics are brought to camp, they can only be used during morning care and aftercare. Violations may result in the confiscation of the device which will be returned to the parent at the end of the day.

Discipline Policy

To ensure a positive experience, ELCCT does not tolerate unruly, disrespectful or aggressive behavior, especially as it relates to the safety of our campers and staff. A copy of our discipline policy can be viewed on the summer camp page at elcct.org/education/summercamp/.

Financial Assistance

Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut strives to make all of our programs accessible to all people. In keeping with this philosophy, we created the Indian Rock Summer Camp Scholarship Fund. Through the generosity of individuals, foundations and corporations, financial assistance is available. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis based on space availability. For eligibility information, please call us at 860-583-1234 or email summercamp@elcct.org.

Our Facilities

The Orchard House

The *Orchard House*, nestled beside our 100-tree apple orchard, houses our gift shop, restrooms and classrooms for the Earth Magic camp groups. This building was Indian Rock Nature Preserve's education center prior to the opening of the Fuller Barnes Education Center in 2010.

The Fuller F. Barnes Education Center

The *Fuller F. Barnes Education Center* is a two-story, state-of-the-art environmental education center. Also known as the Bird Building, this facility houses our offices, two education workshops/labs, two classrooms, a Great Room with a working waterfall, and an extensive deck overlooking beautiful Indian Lake. It also houses additional restrooms, the camp office, and our staffed first aid station.

Indian Lake

Indian Lake provides opportunities for canoeing, kayaking and swimming. All water activities are supervised by certified lifeguards. Earth Magic and Discoverers age groups swim at the South Shore. This area is shallower and ideal for younger campers regardless of swimming ability. Explorers, and Adventurers age groups swim at the North Shore. These campers must pass a swim test to be able to swim out to the floating dock. Non-swimmers, or campers who do not wish to take the swim test, may enjoy the water in the shallower area. North Shore also has a gaga pit.

Natural Areas

Although we have many indoor spaces available, campers spend most of their days outdoors. The Nature Preserve offers many hiking trails throughout its 280-acre natural area. What better place for a child to learn about nature than in Nature's own backyard? Streams, small waterfalls, wetlands, 100 year-old oak trees and scenic views are all part of this classroom. Many of Indian Rock Summer Camp's programs are designed to give campers the skills and knowledge to be comfortable outdoors.

Farm

Animals are excellent teachers! Indian Rock Preserve maintains an educational farm. The Farm's residents include Jade the cow, a flock of sheep, several chickens, multiple turkeys and Mabel the pig. The green grass is a perfect place for children to sit and learn about animal husbandry and farm life. The farm also features our pesticide-free vegetable garden, the *Garden for Good*.



Schedule for a Typical Day at Camp



6:30-8:30 AM Extended Care (extra fee)

8:30-9:00 Drop-Off

9:00-11:30 Topic Specific Activities

11:30-1:30 Lunch / Swim

1:30-3:45 Topic Specific Activities

Afternoon snack

3:45-4:15 Pick-Up

4:15-5:30 PM Extended Care (extra fee)



What Parents and Campers are saying...

I really enjoyed working with the animals in farm hand and learning how a bow works in archery!.
-Adventurers Camper

We loved this camp and cannot wait for next year!
-Camp Parent

Summer camp is fun! I have so many friends there and the counselors are really nice. I love to swim and compete in the Olympics!
-Adventurers Camper

This camp is my favorite because of being outdoors almost all day.
-Discoverer Camper



I love Indian Rock because every day is something new.
-Explorers Camper

I always recommend Indian Rock summer camp to our friends with kids.
-Camp Parent

This was a totally new experience for her and she had a blast. She was out of her comfort zone at times and we truly saw her grow over the summer. She loved going every day!
-Camp Parent

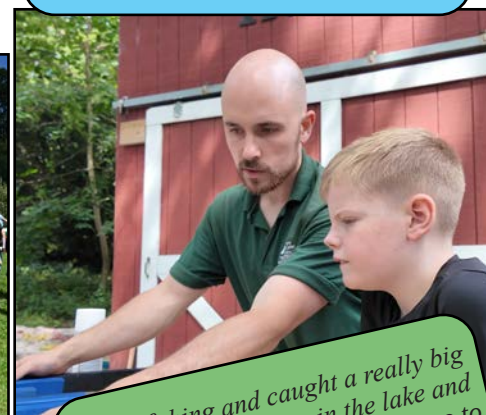
My kids LOVED this camp. They loved being outdoors and exploring the woods.
-Camp Parent



I love going to camp and I am so thankful that I got to go this year. Indian Rock is a very special place to me.
-Discoverers Camper



This is by far the best summer camp. She was active all day, getting fresh air, and had a blast.
-Camp Parent



I loved fishing and caught a really big fish! I loved swimming in the lake and being with friends. I can't wait to go to camp again next year.
-Earth Magic Camper



Environmental
Learning Centers
of Connecticut, Inc.

501 Wolcott Road • Bristol, CT 06010



Indian Rock Summer Camp Brochure 2026

www.ELCCT.org ♦ (860) 583-1234 ♦ summercamp@elcct.org

*Inspiring the appreciation and enjoyment of nature through education and conservation,
fostering a healthy environment and an improved quality of life.*

Come join us at Indian Rock Summer Day Camp

For campers entering Kindergarten-12th grade



2026

