

CAMP KINGFISHER

SUMMER 2026

Owlet Parent Packet and Guidelines



Camp Director: Debby Head

Assistant Camp Director: Morgan Gage-Cole

Camp Registrar: Sarah Wood

Camp Office:

(770) 992 - 2055 ext. 222

Camp Cell Phone: (678) 341-0761

s.wood@chattnaturecenter.org

www.chattnaturecenter.org

Located at:

Chattahoochee Nature Center

9135 Willeo Road

Roswell, GA 30075

Mailing Address:

Camp Kingfisher

P.O. Box 769769

Roswell, GA 30076

Dear Camp Kingfisher Family,

Welcome to the 2026 Camp K Family! We know that you may have a lot of questions about your camper's experience with us here this summer, so we've created this parent packet to help! We are so honored that you have chosen us to be part of your Summer plans and look forward to meeting your campers!

Our Owlet camp is a half day camp experience for 4 year old campers. Groups of 10 campers and 2 counselors spend the week getting an introduction to camp and nature through activities like hiking, games, swimming, live animal encounters, and more! For many Owlets this is their first "big kid" camp experience; Owlet counselors are specially trained to help get your camper through the day while learning about themselves, others, and nature. Owlets have a dedicated space, the Library, where they will be able to leave their stuff as they explore nature at Camp Kingfisher.

There is a lot to know about summer camp, and we are here to introduce you to Camp Kingfisher and everything you will need to know before your camper's session gets here. Be sure to check out the table of contents below, where you can jump to any section of the packet you would like. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to our staff with any questions you might have.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!!



Debby Head
Camp Director

d.head@chattnaturecenter.org



Morgan Gage-Cole
Assistant Camp Director

m.gagecole@chattnaturecenter.org



Sarah Wood
Camp Registrar

s.wood@chattnaturecenter.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Camp Kingfisher Polices----Pg.3](#)

[Construction: How will it Affect Camp?---Pg 4](#)

[Before Camp Begins \(How to Prepare your Camper, Pick Up Pass, Required Forms, What to Pack\) ---Pg. 5](#)

[Owlet First Day of Camp: Needs to Know--- Pg. 6](#)

[Drop Off and Pick Up----- Pg. 6](#)

[Daily Routine-----Pg. 7](#)

[Swimming----Pg. 7](#)

[Camper Behavior Guideline--- Pg. 8](#)

[Keeping Everyone Safe--- Pg. 9](#)

[Lost and Found---Pg. 9](#)

[Birthdays---Pg. 10](#)

[Dress Up Days \(Themes & Dates\)—Pg.10](#)

[Tie Dye at Camp! ---Pg. 10](#)

CAMP KINGFISHER POLICIES

Changes and Cancellations Policy:

- 1. Customer-initiated cancellation:** All cancellation requests must be emailed to s.wood@chattnaturecenter.org at least 10 business days before the session start date. Cancellation requests that are not made via email will not be honored. Please read below for more information and be sure to carefully check your camper's session dates and group before submitting any requests.
 - i.** Any cancellation emailed on or before April 15th will be refunded less a 15% cancellation fee.
 - ii.** Any cancellation emailed after April 15th will be refunded less a 30% cancellation fee.
 - iii.** Any cancellation emailed **less** than 10 business days before the session start date will not be refunded.
- 2. Camp Kingfisher-initiated cancellation:** Camp Kingfisher may cancel a session/camp day due to the following:
 - i.** Minimum registration requirements are not met.
 - ii.** Acts of Nature that interfere with camper safety.

Should Camp Kingfisher deem it necessary to cancel a camp session/day: families will get the option to receive a full refund*, a credit to your account for future camp use, or the option to donate your refund to the Camp Kingfisher Scholarship Fund.

*A full refund will only be offered for full session cancellations.

Refunds are issued to the original form of payment.

Illnesses and Medication Policy:

- 1.** If a camper's illness causes them to miss 3 or more days of camp in one week, they may make up the dates in a later week based on availability. A doctor's note is required to receive a Sick Day Credit. The remainder of the session must be purchased at a prorated rate. Sick Day Credits are valid until the end of the following camp season (2026 credits are valid through August 2027).
- 2.** Camp Kingfisher does not employ a registered nurse. All camp staff are First Aid, CPR, and Epipen certified.
 - i.** Campers with emergency medications, such as an Epipen or inhaler, must carry their medication on their person while attending camp. Action plans and medication instructions are required to be on file with camp administration. We recommend sending medication in a small bag or fanny pack that can be easily carried. —All action plans can be emailed to s.wood@chattnaturecenter.org
 - ii.** If a camper needs medication that is administered regularly, it should be given to camp administration with the child's name, medication name, and clear instructions. It will be stored in a secure location in the camp office.
 - iii.** If your camper requires a daily injectable medication, please contact Debby Head to discuss.

CONSTRUCTION AT CNC: HOW WILL IT AFFECT CAMP?

Chattahoochee Nature Center will be undergoing construction this upcoming Summer season, so that our facilities can be around for another fifty years of learning and exploration!

How will construction impact camp?

- “The gym,” also known as Kingfisher Hall, will be under renovation during the entire 2026 summer camp season.
- Other visible changes to our facilities will include construction fencing and modified pathways around CNC’s campus, such as the Plaza Conference Room, Kingfisher Hall, and parking lot.

How is camp navigating construction?

- Camp Kingfisher, having already previously implemented safety precautions during summers 2020-2021, will rely on that experience to provide the same standard of excellence we’ve always demonstrated for Summer 2026. Changes to expect for this upcoming summer will include:
 - Each camp group having a “homebase,” instead of being in the “gym.” Each “homebase,” will be an air-conditioned indoor space where campers can store their belongings.
 - **The Owlets’ “homebase,” will continue to be the library.**
 - Adjusted carpool procedures depending on the impact of construction.
 - All construction areas will be clearly marked and safely separated to have minimal impact on campers’ routines.

How will camp families receive construction updates?

- The latest construction updates will be provided in the pick-up pass/camp schedule email that we send out the Friday before your camper’s session begins with us.

How will camp staff be trained to handle the construction changes?

- All camp staff are required to participate in an eight day training program with us prior to the start of the camp season. Staff will be trained on how to navigate the construction sites safely while still providing the fun camp experience that Camp Kingfisher is known for.

Who is the best point of contact for questions about construction?

- If you have any additional questions than please contact our Camp Director, Debby Head, for further assistance. Her direct number is (770) 992-2055 ext. 232 and her email address is d.head@chattnaturecenter.org.

Thank you for your flexibility as we share this excitement in the Chattahoochee Nature Center’s growth. We’re confident campers will continue to enjoy the same safe, joyful, and memorable Camp Kingfisher experience you know and trust!

BEFORE CAMP BEGINS

Camp is a New Experience: We understand that for some of these Owlets that this may be their first time away from the comfort of their home. We know that it may be scary to be separated from love ones, but camp is an exciting new adventure!

How to prepare your Owlet for a Success at Camp:

- Be excited! If you're excited then they're excited!
- Go over the schedule! Campers who know what's coming up will feel more confident.
- Reassure them that you (or someone they know) will pick them up after lunch!
- Share with them that you can't wait to hear all about their time at camp at the end of the day!
- Help them understand why they need their backpack! Pack together, so they will know where and understand why they need certain belongings for camp!

How will Camp Help? We understand that every camper's experience will be different. Both the Owlet Counselors and the Administration team will be available to provide one on one assistance before the camper is dropped off for the day.

Here are our top 5 Suggestions on How to Pack for Camp:

1. Label everything.
2. Wear clothes that can get dirty and shoes that cover your toes.
3. Don't forget your swimsuit, towel, and flotation device. We also recommend packing a change of dry clothes.
4. Leave toys and electronics at home.
5. Get ready to have fun at camp!

Forms: The following items are required to be on file before you attend camp. If we are missing either your Camper Information Form or immunization records, you will be required to complete them before entering the carpool line. Please note, we **must** have current immunization records or exemption documentation before your child can participate in Camp Kingfisher.

- Summer Camper Form 2026
- Current Immunization Records or Exemption
 - Email records to s.wood@chattnaturecenter.org

Before Camp Email: A few days before the first day of your camp session, typically the Friday before the session start date, we will email you a digital pick-up pass and the schedules for the following week.

Friendly reminder that the latest construction updates and procedures will be provided in the Pick Up Pass email that's sent the Friday before your camper's session with us!

Camper Updates: If you need to make any updates or changes to your camper's information after you've registered and completed the Camper Information Form, please email s.wood@chattnaturecenter.org and we will make any changes necessary.

Buddy Requests/Do Not Pair Requests: We only have one group for this age group per camp session offered. Buddy Requests will be honored if both campers are both Owlets and attend the same camp week. If you have a Do Not Pair Request that cannot be met, then our Administration office will contact you directly before the session begins.

OWLETS

4-YEAR YEAR OLD PROGRAMMING

Owlets is a half-day program for 4-year-old campers. The program runs from 8:45am to 12:15pm. After care is not available for this age group. Groups of 10 campers and 2 counselors will explore nature, hike, swim at the pool, play games, and make crafts. There is no canoeing for Owlets.

FIRST DAY OF CAMP NEED TO KNOWS

- **Owlet Camp runs from 8:45am to 12:15pm**
- Drop-off for Owlets is by the pool area. More information about where to drop-off below.
- Drop-off will run carpool style. Your camper's counselors will be there to greet them with a warm smile and help them get to the group.
- Schedules will be emailed to you the Friday prior to your session.
- Your camper will receive their shirt before the end of their first session with us.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

- Drop-off is carpool style.
 - We understand that this might be the first time your camper has spent time away from home, without their grown-up. Our counselors are specially trained to help facilitate an easy transition for them. Our counselors will greet your camper in the morning and walk them to the rest of the group.
- Drop off for owlets is from 8:30am-8:45am. Our staff will help guide you to the correct location of where you will need to go.
- Owlets swim is 1st period at 8:45am, please send your camper to camp in their swimsuit.
 - Please provide a fresh pair of clothes and closed toe shoes to wear after pool.
- Pick-up is from 12:15pm to 12:30pm in the library. Please follow the signs and the Owlet counselors will talk to you about your camper's day while helping you with check out.

PARENT INFORMATION

Things to Bring Daily

- Water Bottle
- Lunch and a Snack
- Change of Clothes (extras are encouraged!)
- Floaties or Puddle Jumper
- Towel
- Closed Toe Shoes
- Backpack (to keep all belongings!)

Parents Need to Know







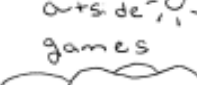


- Your Camper's Pick-Up Pass and Schedule will be emailed the Friday before the session begins
- Pick Up Pass to check your campers out.
 - Those without a Pick Up Pass must provide an official ID as well as be listed as an authorized pick up person under the camper's account.
- Owlets are **ONLY** allowed to be on property from 8:30am-12:30pm

DAILY ROUTINE

Sample Schedule

Owlet Schedule (subject to change) - each age group in camp is identified by a native owl species Adaptation Investigation
 Name: Armadillo Adventurers - each camper group is also identified by a group name
 Counselors: Lucia and Ty Head Counselor: Katie G. Week 7

8:30 – 8:40 Drop off- Please drop campers off by the pool

	Period 1 8:45-9:10	Snack & Sunscreen 9:15-9:30	Period 2 9:35-10:10	Period 3 10:15-11:00	Period 4 11:00-11:45	Lunch 11:45-12:15
Mon.	Pool 	S	Camp Poster Party 	Puppet show 	Apiary Hike 	LUNCH
Tue.	Pool 	N	Fearless Flyers 	outside games 	Lunch (11:00-11:30) 	Large Raptor (11:30-12:15) 

Each Owlet Day is split into 4 activity periods, snack time, and lunch. Above is an example of what the first two days of camp might look like for this age group. Please send your campers in swim gear to ensure maximum swim time. Counselors design a unique schedule each week with fun games, activities and hikes. Transition times are built into the beginning and end of each period and often include songs, stories and clean up games.

SWIMMING AT CAMP K

- Owlets will be swimming daily for the first period in our Junior Olympic Size Pool.
- They are the ONLY group to swim at this time, and they stay in the shallow end of the pool.
- Two American Red Cross-certified lifeguards are on the pool deck guarding at all times, one counselor is swimming in the pool with the campers.
- Campers who choose not to swim will have limited self-directed activities in the shade.

Flotation devices, such as floaties or puddle jumpers, are recommended for this age.

POOL AND LOCKER RULES

The pool is an area of camp with an increased potential for fun as well as for injury. It is important for all campers to abide by the following rules when using the pool and locker rooms:

- The locker rooms are meant for changing and using the restroom only.
- No teasing, bullying, or name calling.
- Walking only.
- Urine only goes in the toilet.
- Get changed as quickly as possible.
- Leave the locker room as soon as you are changed.
- Keep your belongings together and store them with your group's belongings

CAMPER BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

At Camp Kingfisher we believe all our guidelines come down to one BIG expectation: RESPECT! This expectation has four big components. Please make sure that your child is familiar with these four respect components prior to attending camp with us. We ask this to also extend to the internet and social media.

Respect Yourself:

- Carry water bottles all day to stay hydrated
- Walking while inside
- Eating your own food (please no sharing food at Camp)
- Telling your counselors when you're hurt, tired, or need help

Respect Others:

- Keeping hands and other body parts to yourself
- Using kind words
- Sharing Camp Kingfisher property (i.e.: toys, games and supplies)
- Treating others how you want to be treated
- Saying sorry and working to make things right if you make a mistake

Respect Camp:

- Listen to your counselors and LITs
- Following directions the first time they're given
- Using kind words
- Asking for permission

Respect Nature:

- Using quiet voices around animals
- Staying on the trails, unless given permission by a counselor
- Looking with your eyes, not your hands
- Leaving nature in nature, unless given permission by a counselor

How to Show Respect:

- Spreading kindness
- Showing empathy - We all mess up sometimes! Understanding and forgiving others is a big part of making a right out of a mistake and growing up.
- Appreciate differences - Camp Kingfisher is a safe space for all!
- Asking friends or groupmates how you can help

In order to succeed at camp, every camper is expected to make their best effort and follow the camper guidelines set by their counselors and by Camp Kingfisher. Each group will also create their own group expectations for the session. Counselors are trained to make rules positive and to offer reminders and support throughout the day.

We all mess up sometimes — what matters is learning, repairing, and trying again!

Just like nature, no two situations are the same, so we approach each with patience, kindness, and understanding. Our goal is to help your camper thrive!

WHEN CAMPER EXPECTATIONS ARE NOT MET

Our camp staff is trained to help keep campers on track by providing reminders of group and camp rules throughout the day. Camp staff will have 1:1 conversations with campers who may be struggling to follow specific rules, and the camper may be asked to sit out of certain activities if behaviors don't improve after counselor intervention. If behaviors continue, group counselors will call a Head Counselor to assist. If intervention from one of the Head Counselors does not resolve the behavioral issue a Camp Administrator will intervene.

KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

Campers in the Owlet and ESO groups are still learning how to manage big feelings and keep their bodies safe. We understand that this can be part of their development, and we work closely with campers to help them grow these skills.

- At the same time, physical aggression toward counselors or administrators is not safe and cannot be allowed. Respecting the “grown-ups” of Camp K is a core part of our community expectations.
- To support safety, **Camp K uses a three-strike system** for hitting or physical aggression toward staff. If a camper is brought to the camp office for a third incident in one day, they will be dismissed from camp for the remainder of that day. This is intended as a reset, allowing campers to return the next day ready for a fresh start.

At Camp Kingfisher, we believe in fostering a safe, fun, and respectful community where every camper can grow, learn, and enjoy their time in nature. Depending on the situation, our staff may use different steps to help guide campers back on track. Just like nature, no two situations are the same, so we approach each with patience, kindness, and understanding. Our goal is to help your camper thrive! Not only by holding them to high expectations, but by encouraging them to be their best selves and to build positive relationships with others.

The steps we use are designed to keep Camp Kingfisher a place where everyone can feel safe, respected, and ready to have fun. We know that some days are “off days”, and when that happens, we work closely with parents to figure out the best way forward. Together we'll make sure your camper has an amazing, positive experience at camp! Our goal at Camp Kingfisher is to support every camper's growth and success, while connecting them with nature. The expectations and corrective steps outlined are in place to ensure a safe, respectful, and enjoyable experience for all. We believe in a collaborative approach and will keep parents informed of any concerns, working together to ensure the best outcomes for your camper.

If you have any questions about our strategies and systems, please contact Debby Head, Camp Director, at (770) 992-2055 x232/ d.head@chattnaturecenter.org or Morgan Gage-Cole, Assistant Camp Director at 770-992-2055 x221/ m.gagecole@chattnaturecenter.org

LOST AND FOUND

Camp Kingfisher cannot be held responsible for lost items. Please help your camper(s) take responsibility for their belongings, do not bring valuables to camp, and **LABEL EVERYTHING**. Lost and Found items are held in the camp office for two weeks after each session before being donated to charity. If you discover that you're missing an item after camp is over, please contact the camp office either at (770) 992-2055 ext. 222 or s.wood@chattnaturecenter.org.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS WITH TIE-DYE!

We're gonna party like it's 1976! Camp Kingfisher is celebrating 50 years of the Chattahoochee Nature Center by tie-dyeing all Summer!

- Each camper will receive one Camp Kingfisher t-shirt that they will be able to tie dye before the end of their session with us.

What if my camper is coming for multiple sessions?

- If your camper is participating in multiple camp sessions with us, then they will receive the option of either buying an additional camp shirt for the cost of \$8.00 to tie dye or they may bring a white shirt from home to dye.

CAMPER BIRTHDAYS

If your child's birthday falls on a camp day, we would love to celebrate with them!

If you would like to bring birthday treats, please check with your counselors regarding any allergies or food restrictions in your group. Please make sure all treats are pre-packaged.

DRESS UP DAYS

We celebrate the end of each week with the opportunity to dress up. Participation is optional and at your child's comfort level. Please ensure outfits are weather appropriate and can get dirty.

Please do not send props or cover your child's face.

2026 June Dress Up Days

Friday, May 29th: Animal Day
Friday, June 5th: Tie-Dye Day
Friday, June 12th: Backward Day
Friday, June 19th: PJ Day
Friday, June 26th: 626 Day (aka Character Day!)

2026 July Dress Up Days

Thursday, July 2nd: Beach Day
Friday, July 10th: Crazy Head to Toe Day
Friday, July 17th: Team Day
Friday, July 24th: Camo (Camouflage) Day
Thursday, July 30th: Color Day