



LASSEN PARK
FOUNDATION



YOUTH CAMP ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS SUMMER 2021

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In order to prepare for your trip, you will plan an itinerary with a Youth Camp Ranger (or Education Specialist) at least two weeks prior to your arrival at the park. This itinerary will consist of your arrival, in-camp ranger-led activities, field ranger-led activities, group leader directed activities, public ranger-led activities, and your departure.

Things will look a little different this year, kind of like they were last year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic our rangers will be social distancing and masks will be required for all ranger-led activities. **Please be sure your campers bring their masks with them!**

IN-CAMP RANGER-LED ACTIVITIES

Note: All in-camp ranger-led programs are scheduled with a Youth Camp Ranger and the Group Leader. Scheduling depends on availability of park staff. Masks will be required for all participants.

Activity: *Orientation activity is required and provided to all groups upon their arrival at the park. There are two components to this activity.*

1) Welcome to Volcano Adventure Camp

Summary: Campers will review safety and behavioral expectations for their stay in Lassen Volcanic National Park, both in and out of camp.

Goal: Campers will understand their responsibilities as stewards of the Volcano Adventure Camp and the park.

Time Required: ~ 20 minutes

2) Discovering the Secrets of Lassen Volcanic National Park (or another similar activity)

Summary: Campers learn the special resources of Lassen Volcanic National Park and how they connect to the National Park service mission. An interactive activity allows the campers to discover resources right in camp and share their importance with the group.

Goal: To provide campers an introduction to the park and the National Park Service.

Time Required: ~40 minutes

Activity: *Closure activity is required and provided to all groups before their departure from camp.*

Summary: A Youth Camp Ranger will meet with your group and facilitate a discussion focusing on their trip to Lassen and how they can bring what they experienced and learned back home with them.

Campers will be reminded that Lassen is one of over 400 national park sites, and each park belongs to them as well as all other visitors. A discussion of how best to actively preserve nature and culture will be included in this closing activity using a method called “facilitated dialogue.”

Time Required: ~ 1 hour

Activity: *Volcano Adventure Camp Compass Course*

Summary: Campers will learn basic compass skills and follow bearings through the woods.

Goal: To provide campers with an introduction to orienteering and compass use in a forest environment.

Time Required: ~ 1 hour.

Activity: *Volcanoes!*

Summary: Campers will learn how volcanoes are formed and how to identify the four major types of volcanoes found in the park. This activity culminates in small groups of students creating a volcano to share with the rest of their group.

Goal: To increase camper awareness and understanding of volcanic processes.

Time Required: ~ 1 hour.

Activity: *Pioneers in Peril*

Summary: Using age-appropriate tools and strategies, campers will work as a team to successfully reach Shasta City along the Nobles Emigrant Trail. Will the group get there before its luck runs out? This activity involves a hike of about 1.5 miles directly from camp.

Goal: To increase teamwork and awareness of the human stories of Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Time Required: ~ 1.5 hours

Activity: *Pika Patrol*

Summary: Using age-appropriate tools and strategies, campers will develop skills for monitoring the Mighty Pika! This activity involves a short hike, and if age appropriate, some scrambling over rocks.

Goal: Campers will learn that, as citizen scientists, they can help protect fragile species.

Time Required: ~ 1.5-2.5 hours

Activity: *Leave No Trace*

Summary: Using activities appropriate to the ages of the group, campers will explore and share the seven Leave No Trace Principles.

Goal: Campers will be able to share how they can apply the Leave No Trace Principles while in Lassen Volcanic National Park and in their home environments.

Time Required: ~1 hour

Additional in-camp activities may be available. Share your interest with a Youth Camp Ranger.

RANGER-LED FIELD ACTIVITIES

Note: All Ranger-led Field Activities are scheduled with a Youth Camp Ranger and the group leader. Scheduling depends on availability of park staff. Masks will be required for all participants.

Activity: *Ecosystems!*

Summary: Campers will take a walk around Manzanita Lake to learn about the wildlife and the many wildlife communities and neighborhoods around the lake.

Goal: To provide campers with an introduction to the park's wildlife and their roles in the ecosystem at Manzanita Lake.

Time Required: 1 - 2 hours

Location: Manzanita Lake trail

Activity: *Rock Detectives*

Summary: Campers will use clues found in the rocks and forest of the Devastated area to complete a scavenger hunt and sleuth out the mysteries of the Lassen Peak eruption. After walking the half mile loop trail, campers reenact the eruption with a rousing game of mud flow tag.

Time Required: 1.5 hours

Location: Devastated Area

Activity: *Lily Pond Compass Course*

Summary: Campers will learn basic compass skills and follow bearings along a trail.

Goal: To provide campers with an introduction to orienteering and compass use in a forest environment.

Time Required: 1 - 2 hours

Location: Lily Pond Trail

Activity: *Discovery Hikes*

Summary: Ranger-led hikes to various areas in the park, focusing on biological, geological, cultural or other needs of the group.

Time Required: Dependent on hike

Location: throughout park

Activity: *Wet 'n Wild*

Summary: Explore Lassen Volcanic National Park's aquatic habitat to discover the underwater world of macroinvertebrates. This program's availability is dependent on group size and ranger staffing.

Goal: Campers will learn to identify macroinvertebrates species and the critical roles they play in our ecosystems.

Time Required: 1.5 - 2 hours

Location: Manzanita Lake

Additional Ranger-led field activities may be available. Share your interests with a Youth Camp Ranger.

GROUP LEADER DIRECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities are experiences directed by the group leader. Youth Camp Ranger can assist in the planning and provision of additional materials/information.

Activity: *Loomis Museum Discovery Hunt (contingent on opening of visitor center)*

Summary: Campers will learn about human history and the volcanic history of Lassen Volcanic National Park while visiting the historic Loomis Museum

Goal: To provide campers with an introduction to Lassen Volcanic National Park's human history, the founding of the park, and its volcanic history

Type of Activity: Discovery Hunt

Time Required: One hour

Location: Loomis Museum

Activity: Kohm Yah-mah-nee Discovery Hunt (contingent on opening of visitor center)

Summary: Campers will learn about human history and the volcanic history of Lassen Volcanic National Park while visiting Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center

Goal: To provide campers with an introduction to Lassen Volcanic National Park's human history, the founding of the park, and its volcanic history

Type of Activity: Discovery Hunt

Time Required: One hour

Location: Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center

Activity: Hikes!

Summary: Independently lead your group hiking on any of the park's trails. **Please remember that hiking groups need to be limited to no more than 20 per hiking group, each separated by ¼ mile!**

Check with a Youth Camp Ranger to see if a trail guide is available for your hike. To plan your hike, and to download a list of hikes, distances, and level of difficulty, visit the following park webpage:

<https://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Day-Hikes-Handout-2.pdf>

Activity: Junior Ranger

Summary: Campers ages 7 – 12 are encouraged to complete the requirements to become Junior Rangers and earn a special patch (no charge).

Activity: Volcano Club

Summary: Campers older than age 12 are encouraged to complete the requirement to become members of the Volcano Club. Patches are available for purchase (\$2.50) upon completion.

Activity: Junior Park Explorer Activities

Summary: For these self-guided activities, request Junior Park Explorer pages that campers complete at various locations. Junior Park Explorer pages engage campers in hands-on observations and discovery at Bumpass Hell, Kings Creek Falls, the Devastated Area, Cinder Cone, and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center/Sulphur Works.

PUBLIC RANGER-LED ACTIVITIES

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Public Ranger-Led Activities have not yet been confirmed (as of late April). Please check the park's website at least two weeks prior to your trip dates for information on available programs. You may also contact the Youth Camp Ranger before or upon arriving at the VAC for updated information. The Public Ranger-Led program schedule is subject to change throughout the 2021 camping season.