



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Great Smoky Mountains National Park



SUMMER 2014 PROGRAMS

SCHEDULE INFORMATION AT A GLANCE



This summer, park rangers will be presenting special Junior Ranger programs all over the Smokies for ages 5 - 12. They're free, they're fun, and if you attend three or more, you'll earn a special badge.

1. Take this booklet with you in the park, and have the ranger sign it whenever you attend a Junior Ranger program.

2. When you get three signatures, stop by Cades Cove Visitor Center, Sugarlands Visitor Center, or Oconaluftee Visitor Center and pick up your free badge.

Ranger signature #1

Ranger signature #2

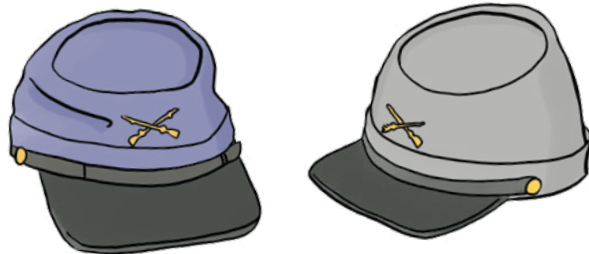
Ranger signature #3

Thanks to Friends of the Smokies, Great Smoky Mountains Association, and Toyota for their contributions.
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	SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
9 A.M.						*How Can You Tell?	
10 A.M.		*Smoky Mountain Trivia	*Pack Your Day Pack *Yucky Animal Stuff			*Blacksmithing *Batteries Not Included *Yucky Animal Stuff	*Who Lives Here?
10:30 A.M.			*Animal Olympics *Blacksmithing			*Blacksmithing *Batteries Not Included	
11 A.M.		*Stream Splashers	*School Days	*Can You Guess? *Creepy Critters	*Family Adventure	*Blacksmithing *Batteries Not Included	
11:30 A.M.			*Blacksmithing *Blue & Gray			*Blacksmithing *Batteries Not Included	
12 P.M.							
12:30 P.M.				*Do You Have Power?			
1 P.M.	*What's Bugging You? *Blue & Gray	*Eager Weaver	*Blacksmithing *Animal Olympics *Treemendous	*Being A Kid in the Mountains	*Cades Cove *Everything but the Squeal	*Whose Poop's on My Boots?	*Lost & Gone Forever *Animal Olympics
1:30 P.M.							
2 P.M.		*Stream Splashers	*Blue & Gray *Blacksmithing *School Days				*Stream Splashers
2:30 P.M.							
3 P.M.	*Geology Rocks!		*Blacksmithing *Lost & Gone Forever				*Bear-mania!
5:00 P.M.							
5:30 P.M.	*Elk						
6:45 P.M.					*Retiring the Colors		
7 P.M.							
8 P.M.							
8:45 P.M.	*Night Hike						

BLUE & GRAY

Sundays at 1:00 p.m June 15 - August 3
Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. June 17 - August 5



The army needs young folks to enlist for the Union or Confederacy. As a recruit you will learn about the life of a soldier. Join a park ranger to see how the Civil War affected communities such as Cades Cove.

Where: Cades Cove Visitor Center/Cable Mill area half way around the Loop road

How long: 1 hour

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



WHATS BUGGING YOU?

Sundays at 1:00 p.m. June 15 - August 3



Should we squash the spider and swat the bee? Or move out of their way and let them do their work?

Where: Tree Cookie Area adjacent to the Oconaluftee Visitor Center

How long: 45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



GEOLOGY ROCKS!

Sundays at 3:00 p.m.
June 15 – August 3



Amaze your friends with newfound knowledge about how these mountains were born and how they have changed over time.



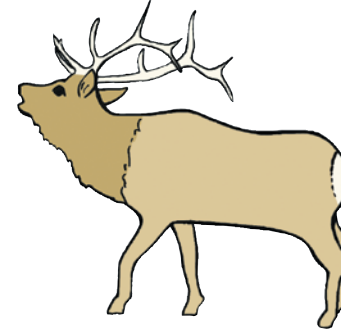
Where: Newfound Gap Overlook

How long: 45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN ELK

Sundays at 5:30 p.m. June 15 – August 3



It's all about connection and balance in nature to ensure survival for elk and other species living together in an ecosystem. Learn about the history of the elk through "show and tell" activities. Then stay and watch the elk come into the fields!



Where: Palmer House, Cataloochee Valley

How long: 45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

NIGHT HIKE

Sundays at 8:45 p.m. June 15 – August 3



Ever wonder what goes "grrr" in the night? What creatures are out there moving under the cover of darkness? Take a walk on the dark side with a ranger and learn about some of the mysteries and wonders found only after the sun goes down.

Where: Bradley Fork Trailhead, D-Loop Smokemont Campground

How long: 1 hour

Limited to 25 participants. Call 828-497-1904 up to four days in advance to make reservations.

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



SMOKY MOUNTAIN TRIVIA

Mondays at 10:00 a.m. June 16 – August 4



Bring your thinking cap and join a ranger on the visitor center porch for a friendly game of trivia, Great Smoky Mountains style!

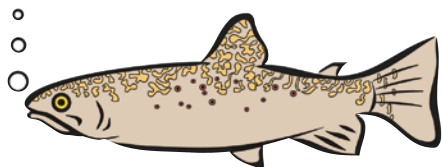
Where: Oconaluftee Visitor Center Porch

How long: 1 hour

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



STREAM SPLASHERS



Mondays at 11 a.m. June 16 – August 4

Where: Elkmont, Little River Trailhead

How long: 1–1.5 hours

Mondays at 2:00 p.m. June 16 – August 4
Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. June 28 – August 9

Where: Oconaluftee River adjacent to the Mountain Farm Museum

How long: 1.5 hours

Roll up your pants and wade through a mountain stream to look for mayflies, stoneflies, dragonflies, and other aquatic critters. Be prepared to get wet. Closed-toed river shoes recommended.



✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

EAGER WEAVER

Mondays at 1:00 p.m. June 16 – August 4



Join a park ranger to learn the art of weaving using a loom. Take home your work.



Where: Cades Cove Visitor Center/ Cable Mill area half way around the Loop Road

How long: 45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

PACK YOUR DAY PACK

Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.
June 17 - August 5



Scenic vistas, waterfalls, and home sites...Let's hit the trail! But wait...what should we take with us? Join a ranger and learn the knack of what to pack before you make tracks!



Where: Tree Cookie Area adjacent to the Oconaluftee Visitor Center

How long: 45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

YUCKY ANIMAL STUFF

Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.
June 17 - August 5
Fridays at 10:00 a.m.
June 27, July 18, and August 1



Want to know some gross stuff about animals? Check out some skulls, smells, and scat. Learn some disgusting facts. Join a ranger for this fun and entertaining program.



Where: Sugarlands Visitor Center

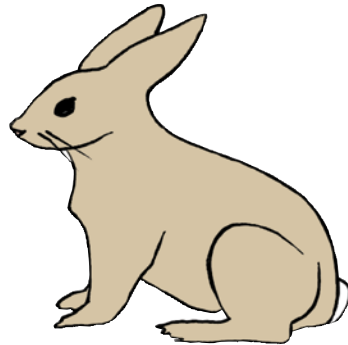
How long: 1 hour

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

ANIMAL OLYMPICS

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m.
June 17 - August 5

Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. June 14 - August 9



This interactive, fun activity compares your abilities to the animals of the park.

Where: Cades Cove Visitor Center/Cable Mill area halfway around the Loop Road

How long: 45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



BLACKSMITHING

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. June 17 - August 5

Where: Cades Cove Visitor Center/Blacksmith Shop, half-way around the Cades Cove Loop Road

How long: 45 minutes. Limited to children ages 8-12 with group size limited to 8 children per program.

Fridays at 10:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
June 20 - August 8

Where: Blacksmith shop at the Mountain Farm Museum, adjacent to Oconaluftee Visitor Center

How long: 30 minutes. Limited to children ages 10-12.



Join a ranger in the blacksmith shop to learn about the blacksmith. Create your own item to take home. Other Junior Ranger programs will be going on simultaneously for younger kids.

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



SCHOOL DAYS

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
June 17 - August 5



Go back in time to discover what it was like to live in a mountain community and go to school in a one-room schoolhouse. Fun for all ages. Please arrive 15 minutes before program start; space is limited.



Where: Little Greenbrier Schoolhouse

How long: 1 hour

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

TREEMENDOUS PROGRAM

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.
June 17 - August 5



Have you ever wondered what kind of tree it is or how big or how old it is? When will it leaf out? When will it flower? Join a ranger to find out how we know these things. Basic tree identification skills will be taught.



Where: Sugarlands Visitor Center

How long: 1 hour

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

LOST AND GONE FOREVER

Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m.
June 17 - August 5

Where: Tree Cookie adjacent to Oconaluftee
Visitor Center

How long: 45 minutes

Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.
June 14 - August 9

Where: Sugarlands Visitor Center

How long: 45 minutes



What if there were no more birds? It happened 100 years ago to one species, the Passenger Pigeon, when the last one died in a zoo. Find out what lessons we can learn from the passing of the Passenger Pigeon.



✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

CAN YOU GUESS?

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.
June 18 - August 6



What wears a fur coat, is about the size of a bread box, greets each other with nose kisses but has never been to the North Pole and lives in the Smokies? They are underappreciated but often observed. Join park staff to find the answer--you just may be surprised.



Where: Oconaluftee Visitor
Center Porch

How long: 45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

CREEPY CRITTERS

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.
June 18 - August 6



Join a ranger on this adventure into the dark and mysterious world of bugs and macro-invertebrates. Get up close and personal with the use of equipment such as "sucky-uppy-things," leaf litter boxes, and magnifying glasses. Closed-toed shoes that can get wet are recommended since we will be taking a short walk into the forest.

Where: Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area Pavillion

How long: 1-1.5 hours (.5 miles)

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



DO YOU HAVE POWER?

Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m.
June 18 - August 6



Of course you do!
What is a carbon footprint?
Join a ranger to learn how to leave a light footprint and help protect the park and the planet for future generations.

Where: Oconaluftee Visitor Center Porch

How long: 45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



BEING A KID IN THE MOUNTAINS

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. June 18 – August 6



What was it like to grow up in these mountains before any of the modern conveniences we enjoy today? Join a ranger to experience how life used to be in these mountains, including how kids explored and what they liked to do for fun. Be prepared for a short hike.

Where: Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area Pavilion

How long: 2 hours, 1.5 miles

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.



HOW CAN YOU TELL?

Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. June 19 – August 7



Is that a blue jay? Or a bluebird? Learn the valuable life skill of bird identification so you can be the one to answer "what kind of bird is that?"

Where: Oconaluftee Visitor Center Porch

How long: 1 hour walk

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

FAMILY ADVENTURE

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. June 19 – August 7

Not sure how to explore the Smokies with the whole family? Learn hiking basics and exploration techniques that are ranger tested and kid approved. Wear sturdy hiking boots; bring plenty of water and a lunch. Participants will have the option to turn around if they prefer a shorter distance.



Where: Elkmont area, Little River Trailhead

How long: Up to 3 hours (5.6 miles)

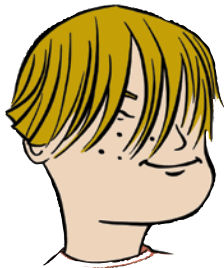
✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

DISCOVER CADES COVE

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. June 19 – August 7



Bring the family for a hands-on exploration of the Smokies. Participation counts towards credit for earning a Junior Ranger badge and certification.



Where: Cades Cove Visitor Center/Cable Mill area half way around the Loop Road.

How long: 30-45 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

EVERYTHING BUT THE SQUEAL

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. June 19 – August 7



If corn was the heart of the mountain farm diet, pork was the soul. Raising hogs and preserving the meat was an art in the past and still is today. Explore the real value of the farm pig to people of the past.



Where: Mountain Farm Museum adjacent to Oconaluftee Visitor Center

How long: 40 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

RETIRING THE COLORS

Thursdays at 6:45 p.m.
June 19 - August 7



Do you know how to fold the American flag? Why does our flag have 13 stripes? When do you salute the flag? Discover the answers to these questions while assisting staff in "retiring the colors" in front of the Sugarlands Visitor Center.



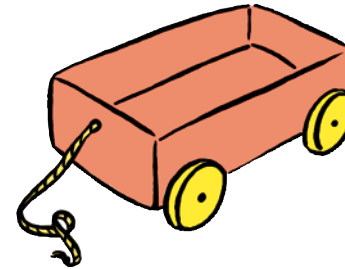
Where: Sugarlands Visitor Center

How long: 30 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED

Fridays at 10:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
11:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
June 20 - August 8



What kind of toys did kids play with in the "old days"? Join a ranger to discover (or remember!) how kids were entertained before video games and iPods. You'll be able to take home a "buzz button" of your very own. All ages welcome.



Where: Mountain Farm Museum

How long: 30 minutes

✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

WHOSE POOP'S ON MY BOOTS?

Fridays at 1:00 p.m.
June 20 - August 8



Grab the kids
and meet a ranger to
get the scoop on animal
skins, tracks and...
poop!



Where: Cades Cove Visitor
Center/Cable Mill area half
way around the Loop Road.

How long: 1 hour

✓ Check the box if you
did this activity.

WHO LIVES HERE?

Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.
June 28 - August 9



Signs, signs,
everywhere there's signs.
Below your knees, above your
head, on their feet or on their
wing, there are signs of life
everywhere if you know
how to look!



Where: Tree Cookie Area
adjacent to Oconaluftee Visitor
Center

How long: 40 minutes

✓ Check the box if you
did this activity.

BEAR-MANIA!

*Saturdays at 3:00 p.m.
June 14 - August 9*

So you think you know a lot about bears, huh? Well, join a ranger to test your knowledge and learn more about this "symbol of the Smokies."



Where: Sugarlands Visitor Center

How long: 45 minutes



✓ Check the box if you did this activity.

THE JUNIOR RANGER PROMISE

Report to your nearest visitor center to recite your Junior Ranger promise.

As a Junior Ranger,

I _____

will do all I can to learn about and protect Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the plants and animals that live here. When I return home, I will continue to learn about and protect the natural world where I live.



