

Rivendell Interstate School District Summer Camp 2023

Welcome to the Rivendell Interstate School District summer day-camp. Before you read any further, please note the big change this summer:

CAMP WILL BE HELD FOR ALL DISTRICT STUDENTS AT <u>SAMUEL MOREY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ONLY</u> THIS SUMMER.

All students entering 1st through 5th grade from Westshire Elementary School & Samuel Morey Elementary School are welcome to attend!

Our summer camp is a structured program which offers an array of daily activities which may include arts & crafts, cooking activities, science projects, gardening, team-building skills, genius hour, basketball, and more! We also work in conjunction with the schools to provide daily enrichment activities that help children improve their literacy and math skills through highly engaging, hands-on activities and project-based learning opportunities.

We've put together this information packet in hopes of answering your questions and letting you know what we have to offer. After you've looked it over, please get in touch with any questions or concerns that you may have!

Sincerely,

Leslie Berger

Leslie Berger
Director of After School and Summer Programming
Rivendell Interstate School District
lberger@rivendellschool.org

Here's What You Need to Know!

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

Registration will open on 4/12/23 and will <u>close on 5/26/23</u>. We'll be utilizing the same online registration program that is currently being used for our after school program: EZ Child Track: https://www.ezchildtrack.com/AfterTheBell/Parent
If you already have an account, you will simply need to enroll your child in the summer camp portion of our program. If you don't have an account, you'll need to create one before you can enroll your child. Due to licensing requirements, only 40 students in total will be accepted into the program per week. Online applications will be processed in the order that they are received.

CAMP HOURS:

Camp will be open Monday-Friday, beginning on Monday, July 3rd and ending on Friday, July 28th (although we'll be closed on July 4th). Summer camp will run from 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM. Unfortunately, this year, there will be NO AFTER CARE at the end of the camp day. However, we <u>are</u> offering transportation for our Westshire students. A bus will transport children from Westshire Elementary School to Samuel Morey each morning, arriving at 8:00 AM. At the end of the camp day, a bus will return our Westshire students to Westshire Elementary School, leaving Samuel Morey School at 3:30 PM.

The camp day will end promptly at 3:30 PM. Unless your child takes the bus to Westshire, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to pick up their child in a timely manner. Barring an emergency, there will be an additional fee of \$5.00 per child for every 5 minutes that the parent is late. This additional charge will be strictly enforced and will need to be paid before your child can return to the program.

Students must be enrolled and registered prior to attending.

Drop-ins will not be allowed.

DAILY DROP OFF & PICK UP PROCEDURE:

Drop off and pick up will take place in front of the school. Students will be asked to enter through the ATB door. Campers will be checked in and out each day by a staff member. Parents and caregivers will be asked to sign children out when arriving to pick them up. If your child is dropped off later than 8:00 or needs to be picked up earlier than 3:30, please contact your site coordinator

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, and a healthy morning snack will be provided each day. A calendar of meals will be distributed at the beginning of camp. All meals will be free, but you are welcome to provide food for your child if you would like.

COVID-19:

We are currently following school protocols, so masks will be optional. We are putting out our materials with the best intentions, but please note that if future state guidance shifts there may be changes. We will communicate clearly and often about any changes to our programming.

ITEMS TO BRING EACH DAY:

- Sunscreen, hat, sneakers
- Bathing suit & towel
- Water bottle
- Extra set of clothes
- Reading book
- Bag lunch (only if your child does not want served lunch)
- Optional: goggles, PFDs /life jackets for swim trips.

Please leave personal toys at home.

ON FRIDAYS:

Campers will be issued Camp t-shirts. These should be worn on Field Trip Fridays!! When registering your child you will be asked for their t-shirt size so we can accommodate every camper.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips to area attractions will be taken primarily on Fridays. The cost for field trips is included in the daily fee. Camper t-shirts must be worn on all field trips. This is for the safety of the campers and will help us keep our group together. If your child is suspended from a field trip or chooses not to attend the trip, you will have to make other arrangements for care, as the building will be closed. Inappropriate behavior on field trips could result in the loss of field trip privileges for the following field trip. Continuous bad behavior will result in the permanent loss of field trip privileges or removal from the program.

BEHAVIOR POLICY:

At our summer camp, we take behavior very seriously and expect the best from our students. We do everything we can to create a fun and safe place for them to learn and grow, and therefore need the cooperation of all involved!

We will be implementing a 3-strike policy for behavioral concerns. These concerns include any form of bullying or harassment, not listening to adults, and/or creating an unsafe environment for those involved, including running away. Each day, a child will be given 3 opportunities to follow the rules of the program and participate in a fun and safe way. If after those three opportunities your child continues to break the rules, the following will take place:

The First Time: There will be a phone call and email home explaining what has taken place and creating a plan to help alleviate any problems.

The Second Time: This will result in a phone call home asking you or an emergency contact to come pick up your child from the program. Students will then be asked to miss the next day of the program and you will not be reimbursed for any payments made. We will then ask for a face-to-face meeting to discuss the behaviors and come up with a plan to help the student succeed in the program.

The Third Time: There will be a call home arranging for the child to be picked up, and asked to stay home for the remainder of the week. A face-to-face meeting will then be set up to discuss a potential return plan to camp.

We want everyone to stay safe and enjoy their time at the program. If there is violence of any kind, an investigation will take place which could lead to a child being asked to find an alternative summer program. Our staff will reinforce these rules daily, working to ensure that all students are kept happy and safe. Thank you for your continued support!

NOTES OF IMPORTANCE:

- Please understand that the Rivendell Interstate School District reserves the right to recommend that your child not attend camp if serious problems occur. We reserve the right to remove any child at any time if we feel we cannot adequately handle their behavior or other needs.
- No fee for any reason will be refunded after the program begins. This policy is strictly enforced. Also, if your child has been asked to leave this program due to poor behavior or other issues, no refunds will be issued.

PAYMENT

All payments will need to be made by the Friday prior to each week of camp that your child is attending. A non-refundable deposit will be required when registering your child. After the deposit is made, the remainder of the payment can be made right on the EZ Child Track website. Please note the payment due dates below to assist with planning. Payments may be made on EZ Child Track using credit/debit/e-checks. Automatic payment plans can also be set up on EZ Child Track. Additionally, you can opt for a payment schedule. You may pay with a check or cash. If opting for the pay-in-person option, please hand cash or checks directly to the site coordinator or program administrator.

2023 PAYMENT DUE DATES

July 3th - 7th (no camp on July 4th): Payment Due: June 30th
July 10th - 14th: Payment Due: July 7th
July 17th - 21st: Payment Due: July 14th
July 24th - 28th: Payment Due: July 21st

PAYMENT COST PER CHILD... and Discounts for Multi-Child Families

# of Children	Rate / Week
1	\$200
	(\$160 for the week of July 3-7)
2	\$350
	(\$280 for the week of July 3-7)
3	\$450
	(\$360 for the week of July 3-7)
4	\$500
	(\$400 for the week of July 3-7)

Financial Aid

The cost of sending children to camp can be a financial challenge for many families. However, as our program is licensed with both the Vermont Child Development Division & the New Hampshire Bureau of Child Development, **financial aid is available!**

The process to apply for financial aid is different for Vermont and New Hampshire residents. Please refer to the last pages of this packet for more information on how to apply.

Additional Information!

BIKERS & WALKERS:

It's great when our children get extra exercise, so we encourage campers to walk or ride bikes to camp if possible. However, please note - if your child walks or bikes to/from camp, we will need written permission. We encourage the use of helmets and cannot be responsible for children once they leave school property.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION:

There will not be a nurse on staff this summer.

The RISD summer staff is not in a position to dispense prescription medication.

NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION:

The following medication can be given with written parental consent, only at the dose recommended and only for the duration and method of administration recommended on the manufacturer's label.

- Antihistamine
- Non-aspirin fever reducer/pain reliever
- Anti-itching ointment or lotion (specifically for itch relief only).
- Decongestant

A physician's written authorization is required to dispense non-prescription medication not listed above.

SICK CHILD POLICY:

If your child is sick at camp, you will be responsible to pick up your child or send someone else to transport them home. We do not have a place for sick children at camp. As a general rule of thumb, if children are not feeling well, please keep them home.

PHOTO RELEASE:

Once you register your child, you will be prompted to complete a photo release form. This will give permission for summer camp staff to take photographs for newsletters, Vermont Afterschool and Summer Camp Inc., the media, or any other positive and wholesome portrayal of the program to the public!

ADMINISTRATION & CONTACT INFORMATION:

Program Director: Leslie Berger: <u>LBerger@RivendellSchool.org</u>

Site Coordinator: Jean Daley: <u>JDaley@RivendellSchool.org</u>

Phone for Samuel Morey School: (802) 333-9755

Proposed DAILY SCHEDULE

Monday - Thursday

Time	Activity
8:00 - 9:00	Drop Off, Breakfast, & Morning Meeting
9:00 - 10:00	Active Learners' Centers: Reading, Writing, Math
10:00 - 10:15	Morning Snack
10:15 - 10:45	Recess
10:45 - 11:45	Genius Hour - Project Time
11:45 - 12:15	Lunch
12:15 - 12:45	Recess
12:45 - 1:00	Quiet Time - Coloring, Reading, Puzzles
1:00 - 2:30	Themed Activity / Swimming Outing
2:30 - 3:30	Free Play / Pick Up

IMPORTANT - PLEASE UNDERSTAND:

Students must be enrolled and registered prior to attending. Drop-ins will not be allowed.

Friday

Proposed Off-Site Field Trips! (Please note: field trips are subject to change.)

We are working to have field trips which match our weekly themes! Some ideas include going to the Seacoast Science Center, Ben & Jerry's Museum, McAuliffe-Shepard Planetarium, and Whales Tale. There will be a parent permission slip that needs to be signed and returned before your child can attend.

SUMMER THEMES Subject to Change

Week 1	Sea Creatures
Week 2	Milkin' It - Dairy Farms & Visions of Ice Cream
Week 3	Journey to Space
Week 4	STEM & STEAM - What's Your Dream?

SEA CREATURES:

Taking a dive into unchartered waters, students will learn about various sea creatures and take an excursion through deep, dark oceans. We'll explore the ocean floor and craft our own underwater marine life. Our games and activities will take your children on a deep-sea adventure. You can also bet that we'll all get wet! The week will culminate with a trip to the Seacoast Science Center.

MILKIN' IT - DAIRY FARMS & VISIONS OF ICE CREAM:

Complementing last summer's theme of locally grown food, we'll learn about agriculture, how dairy farms operate, compare farming from the past to mega-farms of today, and learn how our dairy products get to us. We'll cook with products made from milk - and make ice cream!- using available locally-produced ingredients. At the end of the week we'll get on the road for a well-deserved trip to the Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Factory and a quick stop at the Cabot Store. How sweet it is (or will be!)

JOURNEY TO SPACE:

We'll leave the Earth behind and travel to a place that no Rivendell student has gone before. Enjoy an out-of-this-world experience exploring the cosmos, learning about the planets, riding on comets, and blasting off to new horizons. Activities will include "space crafts", science projects, and dramatic play. Our spaceship will return to Earth by Friday so we can travel to the McAuliffe-Shepard Planetarium.

STEM & STEAM - WHAT'S YOUR DREAM?:

Campers will use elements of Science, Technology, Engineering, ART, and Math to solve problems in a fun and interactive way. We may build roller coasters, water walls, vehicles from recycled materials, devise crazy gadgets and other devices - all for the sake of fun and learning. We'll work in teams and feed off each other's ideas in this creative, exploratory camp. We'll end our week with a trip to Whales Tales and experience the power of water!

The theme descriptions are intended to give you an idea of potential activities for each theme. We will do our best to make these activities happen, but slight changes may occur between now and July. Regardless of what specific activities are offered, our programming will be high-quality and enriching!



Thank you for taking the time to read through this packet! Once registered, you will receive an email indicating that your child has been fully enrolled. As always, please check emails and school announcements for any information regarding the summer program. We are so excited to spend time with your children at our amazing summer camp! Please reach out to Leslie Berger at LBerger@RivendellSchool.org with any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Financial Aid Information



As Rivendell is an interstate school district, the process of applying for financial aid is different for Vermont and New Hampshire residents. In both cases, assistance is available through state child-care subsidy programs.

Read the information below to get started. If you have questions, please reach out to Leslie Berger for further assistance:

lberger@rivendellschool.org



For Vermont Residents

The subsidy, also known as the Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP), is managed by VT Child Development Division (CDD). We strongly encourage eligible families to applyl There is a registration process, and you won't hear back immediately about your application, but the agency is reliable and will provide financial assistance for anyone that is eligible. Additionally, if you are found eligible, your child care assistance will begin on the date that your completed application is received. This means that even if it takes a while to receive confirmation, submitting your application earlier is better, as you'll receive back coverage.

If your application is approved ~

- -You will hear how much CDD will pay, for how many hours, and for what period.
 - They will send authorized payments directly to Rivendell
 - -You'll pay any co-payments that you are responsible for

Income guidelines can be found at this link:

https://outside.vermont.gov/dept/DCF/Shared%20Documents/Benefits/CCFAPIncome-Guidelines.pdf

To apply for the subsidy: https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/ccfap

IMPORTANT: After completing the application, you must drop it off at the Family Place in Norwich, VT.

This is the local agency that handles the subsidy for our region.

All of the information to apply is included in the packet. If you have any difficulty with the application process please let me know and I will help you navigate the system.

My goal is to have students attending our after school program regardless of ability to pay! Let me know if you need assistance to make that happen.

~ Leslie

For New Hampshire Residents

Great Newsl After the Bell is now recognized as an approved, licensed childcare provider with the State of New Hampshire. Our Orford families can now apply for child-care subsidies, just as our Vermont families can access financial assistance across the river.

What does this mean? If you are a New Hampshire resident and qualify for financial assistance, you can receive help paying for your child's attendance at ATB.

The NH Child Care Scholarship provides assistance for NH residents:

- Receiving Financial Assistance (FANF)
- Participating in the FANF Work Program
- Working or looking for work and meet income guidelines
 - Going to school and meet income guidelines

How to apply?

Go to: https://www.nh-connections.org/families/child-carescholarship/

This webpage provides several links. From here you'll be able to determine if your family qualifies for financial assistance. If you are eligible, click on the box labeled **See if you Qualify for Assistance** >

This will take you to a new webpage for **NH EASY GATEWAY TO SERVICES**. Here you'll be able to enter your information and see right away if you qualify.

If your family does qualify, please be in touch with me and I'll provide you with a Child Care Provider Verification form to submit to DHHS.

Admittedly, there is a bit of a process to establish the subsidy. However, I strongly encourage eligible families to apply! If you need any assistance with the application process, I'll be more than happy to help. Please reach out with any questions.

~Leslie