

Camp Themes & Schedule

Summer 2026

Structure

If you need full day care, make sure that you register for a morning (9 a.m. to 12 p.m.) and an afternoon (1 p.m. to 4 p.m.) theme. Campers signed up for a full day enjoy a supervised lunch break outside. Silent Stars for ages 9-12 is the only theme that is full day only (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.). If you need to drop off earlier or pick up later, you can add Extended Care to your registration.

Theme Descriptions

Announcing **NEW themes** for ages 6-8 for 2026! (Don't worry, all our well-loved themes will be back in 2027 and hopefully a new theme for ages 9-12 too!)

Critter Investigations (ages 6-8; morning)

Let's get to know some of Colorado's wildest residents! Campers will explore the foothills ecosystem of Golden and the creatures who call it home, from the smallest creek crawlers to the stealthy bobcat, all while learning how to help keep Clear Creek working as a healthy habitat. The Critter Investigations morning theme is paired with the afternoon theme The Art Lab.

The Art Lab (ages 6-8; afternoon)

Get ready to experiment with art. Campers will explore color, texture, and movement through playful projects such as sun catchers, puffy paints, and hanging mobiles. We'll get messy and use our imaginations while creating our unique masterpieces. The Art Lab afternoon theme is paired with the morning theme of Critter Investigations.

Messy Makers (ages 6-8; morning)

Dive into a week of tinkering, crafting, and experimenting. We'll cook up treats, build with metal, and make keepsake bags. Campers will also enjoy classic activities such as a blacksmith demonstration, laundry, and a schoolhouse lesson. If you enjoyed Dirty Jobs, you'll enjoy these all-new activities. The morning theme of Messy Makers is paired with the afternoon theme of History Mystery.

History Mystery: The Case of the Stolen Dinosaur Tooth (ages 6-8; afternoon)

Put on your thinking cap and grab your magnifying glass because the museum has been robbed! Late one evening one of our precious museum objects, a T-Rex Dinosaur Tooth cast, was stolen from an exhibit. Campers will learn about dinosaurs and hunt for clues to help the museum's Curator solve this history mystery. This is brand new mystery!

Frontier Explorers: Science & Engineering (ages 9-12; morning)

Explore how early inhabitants used science and engineering skills to survive. You'll compare pioneer cabins to American Indian wickiups, dig for minerals, dip candles, and build water filters. Includes walking field trips to the Golden Water Treatment Plant and Mines Museum of Earth Science. The Science and Engineering morning theme pairs with the Home & Hearth afternoon theme.

Frontier Explorers: Home & Hearth (ages 9-12; afternoon)

Explore the importance of food and how early peoples made their homes. Make ice cream, learn about milling flour by hand, how early peoples stored their food, and how bees make honey. The Home & Hearth afternoon theme pairs with the Frontier Explorers morning theme.

Silent Stars (ages 9-12; full day only)

Kids will form production teams to write, direct, film, and star in their own silent movie, just like the type shown in theaters in the 1920s. After editing footage and producing the final cut, campers will host a fun premiere the Friday of camp and see their work on the big screen with family and friends!

Dates

Themes are half day except for Silent Stars. If you need full day care (9 a.m to 4 p.m.), make sure to sign up for a morning and afternoon session. Campers signed up for a full day of sessions will have lunch all together in the History Park from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. supervised by camp staff. Half day only campers should be picked up or dropped off at the Golden History Museum so that they can be checked into and out of summer camp.

June 1 – 5

- Ages 6-8: Critter Investigations & The Art Lab
- Ages 9-12: Frontier Explorers Science & Engineering and Home & Hearth

June 8 – 12

- Ages 6-8: Messy Makers & History Mystery
- Ages 9-12: Silent Stars

June 15 – 19

- Ages 6-8: Critter Investigations & The Art Lab
- Ages 9-12: Frontier Explorers Science & Engineering and Home & Hearth

June 22 – 26

- Ages 6-8: Messy Makers & History Mystery
- Ages 9-12: Silent Stars

June 29 – July 3: Break Week

July 6 – 10

- Ages 6-8: Critter Investigations & The Art Lab
- Ages 9-12: Frontier Explorers Science & Engineering and Home & Hearth

July 13 – 17

- Ages 6-8: Messy Makers & History Mystery
- Ages 9-12: Silent Stars

July 20 – 24

- Ages 6-8: Critter Investigations & The Art Lab
- Ages 9-12: Frontier Explorers Science & Engineering and Home & Hearth

July 27 – July 31

- Ages 6-8: Messy Makers & History Mystery
- Ages 9-12: Silent Stars