

Youth Camp Activity Descriptions Summer 2019

In order to prepare for your trip, you will plan an itinerary with the youth camp ranger (or education specialist). This 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.

In-camp Ranger-led Activities*

Note: All in-camp ranger-led programs are scheduled with the Youth Camp Ranger and the Group Leader.

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

1) Leave No Trace at 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) Unlocking the Secrets of Lassen Volcanic National Park (or another similar activity)

Summary: Campers work in small groups, using a variety of tools, to discover key information about Lassen Volcanic National Park that is then shared with the rest of their group. A discussion of the National Park Service mission is included.

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: The Youth Camp Ranger will meet with your group and facilitate a discussion that focuses 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: *Volcano Adventure!*

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: *Campfire Evening Program* Campfire program topics will reflect natural and/or cultural resources of Lassen.

***Additional in-camp activities may be available, and this can be coordinated with the youth camp ranger.**

Ranger-led Field Activities

Note: All Ranger-led Field Activities are scheduled with the youth camp ranger and the group leader. Days and times depend on availability of park staff.

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: *Ride the Rock Cycle*

Summary: Campers will learn about the rock cycle by exploring the Devastated Area.

Goal: For campers to gain an understanding and appreciation of the geological events that lead to the creation of the Devastated Area.

Time Required: 1 hour

Location: Devastated Area

Activity: *Devastated*

Summary: Campers will learn about the renewal of life through primary and secondary succession after a volcanic eruption at the Devastated Area.

Goal: For campers to gain an understanding and appreciation of the our changing environment

Time Required: 1 hour

Location: Devastated Area Trail

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 varied areas in the park, focusing on biological, geological, cultural or other needs of the group.

Time Required: Dependent on hike

Location: throughout park

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*

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*

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!** 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.

Public Ranger-led Activities

Please confirm these programs with the youth camp ranger before or upon arriving at the VAC!

These are the programs we offer to the public during the summer. They are also well attended by the youth groups. These programs are fun and informative and cover a variety of natural and cultural subjects. All programs are 45 minutes long unless noted. Dates and times can be found on the park's website at: https://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/ranger_led_programs.htm

Bear Necessities, Meet outside the Loomis Museum. Learn about black bears and how you can help keep them stay wild in Lassen Volcanic National Park. Join us for this fun filled program.

Discovery Center, Check out the exhibits and join a park ranger for on-going short programs and demonstrations on various natural history subjects. Inquire at Loomis Museum for directions to the Discovery Center.

Early Birds Meet outside the Manzanita Lake Camper Store. **One hour**. Take an easy walk and discover the birds of Manzanita Lake.

Inside of a Volcano. Meet at Sulphur Works. **30 minutes**. Mudpots, fumaroles, and boiling pools... Such features remind us that our planet is alive and constantly changing. Join a ranger and discover what drives Sulphur Works and learn the secrets that make each of its features.

Lakes and Ponds. Meet outside the Loomis Museum. Join a park ranger for a casual walk to explore the hidden wonders of a lake and two ponds.

Manzanita Lake Evening Program. Meet at the Manzanita Lake Amphitheater. Join a park ranger for an evening program about the park's natural or cultural history.

On Top of a Volcano. Meet at the top of Lassen Peak. You've made it to the top of Lassen Peak! Catch your breath and learn more about the historic 1915 eruption of one of the world's largest plug dome volcanoes. Bring your lunch and meet a ranger at the top of Lassen Peak.

On the Wild Side Meet outside Loomis Museum
Discover some of the "wilder sides" of the park during this program. Topics vary from the natural to the cultural history of the park.

Pioneers. Meet at the Manzanita Lake Amphitheater. It's 1853 along the wagon road called the Noble's Emigrant Trail. You will visit a pioneer camp and meet some rugged travelers who tell stories about their journey to California.

Shaking Things Up. Meet outside Loomis Museum
Learn about the earthquakes that shake the park nearly every day and step into the history of seismic study with a demonstration of the only known operating smoked-drum seismograph (built in 1926)

Summit Lake Evening Program. Meet at Summit Lake Amphitheater. Join a park ranger for a lively program about the natural or cultural history of the park.