



2018



SUMMER CAMP

Guide

Daily Local News

The Kennett Paper

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AVON GROVE SUN

SUMMER FUN

Five reasons why summer camp is a good choice for kids

Summer vacation offers students a respite from lessons and the routine of school. Children might once have eagerly awaited those final days of classes so they could lounge poolside, skip rocks across ponds and spend the long days of the season playing with friends. But many of today's youngsters spend much of their summer vacations indoors playing with their digital devices.

Perhaps that's why one of the last vestiges of the classic summer vacation escape — summer camp — remains such a viable option for parents who want their children to get outdoors once the school year ends.

Although kids needn't be in camp all summer long, a week or two can benefit campers of all ages. The following are five reasons why summer camp might be the right fit this year.

1. Explore talents. Summer camps help young people explore their unique interests and talents. Under an organized, yet often easygoing, camp schedule, kids can dabble in sports, arts and crafts, leadership, community support and so many other activities that may not be fully available to them elsewhere.

2. Physical activity: Lots of camps build their itineraries around physical activities that takes place outdoors. Campers may spend their time swimming, running, hiking, playing sports, climbing and so much more. This can be a welcome change for kids accustomed to living sedentary lifestyles. Regular physical activity has many health benefits and can set a foundation for healthy habits as an adult.

3. Gain confidence. Day and sleepaway camps offer campers the opportunity to get comfortable in their own skin. Camps can foster activities in self-esteem by removing the academic measures of success and fill in with noncompetitive opportunities to succeed. Campers learn independence, decision-making skills and the ability to thrive outside of the shadow of their parents, siblings or other students.

4. Try new things. Camp gives children the chance to try new things, whether that's learning to cook, exploring new environments or embracing a new sport or leisure activity. Opening oneself up to new opportunities can build character and prove enlightening for children.

5. Make new friends. Camp is a great place to meet new people and make lifelong friends. Campers flood in from areas near and far. This provides kids with a chance to expand their social circles beyond their immediate neighborhoods and schools.

Camps benefit children in a variety of ways. Lessons learned in camp can strengthen values, build confidence, develop coping mechanisms when adversity strikes and enable campers to make lifelong friends.



Article courtesy of MetroCreative

PHOTO COURTESY OF METROCREATIVE

WEST CHESTER STUDIO FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AT UPTOWN!

Take the stage this summer

The award-winning West Chester Studio for the Performing Arts is back with a summer packed full of fun and learning for young performers.

Have your kids take the stage, literally, at West Chester Studio's home in Uptown! at the Knauer Performing Arts Center, now in its second year as West Chester's place for live entertainment. Give your children the opportunity to shine with our talented, professional staff composed of professional actors, directors and musical directors.

West Chester Studio offers summer theater camps for boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 17 who will rehearse and perform a show for family and friends at week's end! With camps running from June 12 to Aug. 18, you will find an experience your camper will love that works with your schedule. Camps this summer include: Teen Show, Kids Show, Triple Threat Camp, Acting for the Camera, Storybook Theater, Glee Week, Summer Stock and more!

At West Chester Studio, every role is important. Give your child the opportunity to find their inner voice and enhance their theatrical skills — while



having fun! The West Chester Studio family creates a warm and encouraging environment perfect for students to express themselves whether they already love the spotlight or are trying to come out of their shell.

West Chester Studio for the Performing Arts invites you to join us this summer at the Knauer Performing Arts Center for a time filled with fun and theatrical skill develop-

ment. Let your children thrive under the direction of this award-winning organization and their top-notch staff. Join West Chester Studio to begin sharing your performer's voice with the world.

For more information, visit us at www.westchesterstudio.com, call 484-995-2915 or email therese@westchesterstudio.com.



WCStudio
for the performing arts
@UptownWC

484-995-2915

It's Summer Camp Registration Time!

**| TRIPLE THREAT / STORYBOOK THEATER / IMPROV
| GLEE WEEK | KIDS & TEEN SHOWS
| ACTING FOR THE CAMERA & MORE**



**Increase the
#love
in your social
media marketing**





West Chester Friends School Summer Programs 2018

**We are delighted to offer 10 weeks of
Summer Programs in 2018!**

**Join us during the weeks of
June 11th, June 18th, June 25th
July 9th, July 16th, July 23rd, July 30th
(NO CAMP DURING WEEK OF JULY 2nd)
August 6th, August 13th and August 20th**

9 am to 3 pm

**Before Care, Free of Charge: 8 am
After Care, 3 pm to 5 pm, \$9 per hour
\$295 per child, per week**

\$495 for two weeks (do not need to be consecutively)

Campers may sign up for one or more weeks

**Each week focuses on a different theme,
and each day highlights art, science,
music, fitness, gardening
and literature activities around the theme...**

**plus games, lunch on the lawn, and
weekly campus visitors,
field trips and walking explorations.**

**This year's themes include Down on the Farm, STEAM
Week, Wild, Weird & Wacky Animals, Trip a Day,
Under the Big Top and many more.**

**WCFS Summer Programs are small by design and
spaces are limited!**

Registration is now open.

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**Please go to  
[www.wcfriends.org/summerprograms](http://www.wcfriends.org/summerprograms)  
and/or contact Karen with any questions at  
[development@wcfriends.org](mailto:development@wcfriends.org) or 610-696-2820.**



## SUMMER FUN

# Get prepared for summer camp season

Summer camp season is just around the corner. Each summer, millions of children depart for campsites around the country to swim, hike, craft and enjoy the companionship of friends.

Summer camps in North America were first established in the 1880s and were attended by children without their parents for overnight stays. By the 20th century, summer camps had become an international phenomenon, and various organizations hosted traditional summer camps or camps geared toward religion, sports, music and other subjects and activities. According to the American Camp Association, each year more than 14 million children and adults in the United States attend camp. America is home to more than 14,000 day and resident camps (8,400 are overnight camps and 5,600 are day camps). Nonprofit groups are the largest sponsors of summer camps.

Many people put off summer camp planning until it is too late. Parents should keep in mind that camps begin registration early in the year and have specific cutoff dates for enrollment. Parents who want to beat the crowds this year can use this guide to help plan a summer camp agenda.

Attend an orientation seminar. Take the time to visit prospective camps for a tour, and use this open house as an opportunity to learn more about the programs offered. If available, find a camp employee to discuss your child's eligibility for enrollment. Some camps may offer webinars for convenience.



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PHOTO COURTESY OF METROCREATIVE

Start gearing up now for summer camp plans to guarantee kids attend the camps they prefer.

- Fill out the enrollment package completely. Each camp has their own requirements for registration. Expect to submit some personal information, including a medical background and proof of insurance, names and numbers of emergency contacts and any other pertinent information as it applies to the camper. This may include allergies, fears, physical or mental disabilities or even preferences in camp courses.

- Establish payment schedules. Summer camps vary in price. The ACA says camp costs range from \$100 to more than \$1,500 per week. However, many accredited camps offer some sort of financial assistance for children from families with limited financial means. If cost is a factor, be sure to broach the subject.

- Prepare children for the physical challenges a camp may present. Summer camp activities may be rigorous, and campers may need to be cleared by a physician before starting. Be sure to

schedule your child a physical and bring along any pertinent forms. Children also can increase their levels of physical activity compared to the often sedentary nature of winter. Such preparation can prevent injuries when engaging in outdoor and physical activities.

- Shop for supplies. Camps are likely to provide a list of requirements with regard to clothing and other equipment campers will need. Make sure kids have enough shorts, T-shirts, socks, athletic shoes, swimsuits, toiletries and other camp necessities before they leave.

- Keep children in the loop. Engage children in the planning process to help alleviate their fears and get them excited about summer camp.

Summer camp can foster lifelong memories. Parents can help kids prepare in advance for the fun that's soon to arrive.

*Article courtesy of  
MetroCreative*

**SUMMER FUN**

# Begin planning kids' summer recreation now

Many families spend winter figuring out how to chase away cabin fever and endure frigid temperatures until spring and summer mercifully return. Parents thinking ahead to swimming pools and days lounging on the beach can put their daydreams to practical use by planning ahead for their youngsters' summer vacations.

Youth recreational programs and summer camps can bridge the gap in care between the end of school and the day when classes resume. Due in part to high demand, parents who want to place their kids in summer rec programs or summer camps should be vetting such programs and camps well in advance of summer. The following are a handful of tips for moms and dads who want their kids to have fun and fulfilling summers.

- Ask for recommendations. Speak with fellow parents and trusted friends about where they send their children. Personal recommendations can be very helpful, providing firsthand insight into a particular camp or program. Schedule appointments to visit camps that fall

within your budget. Take your son or daughter along so he or she can get a sense of what camp will be like.

- Explore all options. Camps come in more flavors than ever before. Certain camps may be faith-based ministries while others may focus on particular sports. Band camps and art camps may appeal to creative kids. Also, there are plenty of general-interest camps that offer various activities without narrowing in on any particular one. Parents may need to choose between a sleep-away camp or day camps, depending on which camp experience they want for their children.

- Inquire about camp schedules. While many camps are flexible, day camps do not have the same level of flexibility as after-school programs. Arrangements will need to be made if care is required after regular camp hours. Speak with camp staff to see which types of after-hours programs, if any, are available.

- Determine your camp budget. As varied as program offerings may be, camps also can vary greatly with re-

gard to cost. Government-run camps may be less expensive than those offered by private companies. Day camps typically cost less than those that provide room and board. Find out if a particular organization subsidizes a portion of camp costs. Scouting programs often have a dedicated camp and may offer affordable options for Scouts. Martial arts schools and dance centers frequently offer camp schedules.

If camp seems out of reach, look into local summer recreation programs at parks or schools. Such programs may not be as extensive as those offered by camps, but they can quell kids' boredom and keep children occupied during the day.

In addition to camp, remember to plan for some free days so children can just enjoy some downtime. Such days can break up the monotony of a routine and provide kids and families time to relax together.

Summer recreation may be far off, but it is never too early to start making summer plans, including finding camps and other activities for kids.

**BRANDYWINE VALLEY SPCA**

## Paw-some fun for ages 7 to 12

If you're looking for a program that's fun, educational and totally paw-some, the Brandywine Valley SPCA's week-long Critter Camp is the purr-fect place to be.

Held at the BVSPCA's West Chester campus, children between the ages of 7 and 12 will get to meet new friends, cool critters and guest speakers from the animal world.

Critter Camp is led by a certified educator and provides a fun, robust curriculum to keep kids engaged and entertained. Activities during prior camps have included:

- Yoga with puppies
- Police K9 demonstrations
- Exotic animal expert
- Puppy baths
- Craft-making to help the shelter animals
- Meet the veterinarian
- Clicker training
- Animals and the law
- Puppy and kitten meet-

- Interactive agility demonstrations

The weeklong sessions are setup by age group (7 to 9, 10 to 12) and run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Plus after care is available until 5 p.m.

The weekly cost of \$300 covers all activities, materials and snacks, as well as a camper T-shirt. (Students are required to bring their own bagged lunch.) After care until 5 p.m. is \$50.

Available dates for summer 2018 include:

- June 11 to 15 (ages 10 to 12)
- June 18 to 22 (ages 7 to 9)
- July 9 to 13 (ages 7 to 9)
- July 16 to 20 (ages 10 to 12)
- June 23 to 27 (ages 7 to 9)
- July 30 to Aug. 3 (ages 10 to 12)
- Aug. 6 to 10 (ages 7 to 9)

Critter Camp is sure to be a howling good time! Register today at [bvspca.org/outreach](http://bvspca.org/outreach).

**WEEK-LONG CAMPS • 9AM-3PM • AGES 7-12**

**West Chester Campus**  
1212 Phoenixville Pike • West Chester, PA 19380

**New Castle Campus**  
600 South Street • New Castle, DE 19720

More info at [bvspca.org/outreach](http://bvspca.org/outreach)



## Chester County Enrichment Classes for Kids (CHECK)



- ◆ Musical Theater
- ◆ Orchestra/Band
- ◆ Photography
- ◆ Irish Dance
- ◆ Stop Motion Animation
- ◆ Virtual Vacation
- ◆ Painting and Drawing
- ◆ Ready, Set, Grow!
- ◆ Totally Fun Science
- ◆ Fairy Tale Problem Solving
- ◆ Science You Can Eat
- ◆ Amazing Adventures
- ◆ Landscape/Architecture Drawing
- ◆ Art Around The World
- ◆ Sculpting and Paper Mache
- ◆ K'nex Construction Challenge
- ◆ Acappella Singing
- ◆ STEM Robotics
- ◆ Cooking
- ◆ Guitar
- ◆ Journalism
- ◆ Storytelling
- ◆ Book Club

**AGES: 9-18**

**TAUGHT BY  
WCASD  
TEACHERS**

**JUNE 18 - JULY 27**

Held at Fugett M.S., East H.S.,  
Glen Acres Elementary,  
Penn Wood Elementary, Fern Hill Elementary

TO REGISTER:  
[chestercountynightschool.org](http://chestercountynightschool.org)

**610-692-1964**

## CHESTER COUNTY ENRICHMENT CLASSES FOR KIDS

### Unique summer enrichment camp run by certified school district teachers

Chester County Night School has a 62-year history of providing enrichment classes to adults in Chester County. Their expertise has now extended to a younger population with their popular summer enrichment camp called C.H.E.C.K. (Chester County Enrichment Classes for Kids).

C.H.E.C.K. is 100 percent kids cool! Why? Because this unique program is designed and run by a team of dedicated teachers from the West Chester Area School District (kids from

all districts are welcome to attend).

Your child will have fabulous fun while expanding his or her creativity and skills under the guidance of top educators. Classes run from June 18 to July 27 and include topics such as robotics, sculpting, amazing adventures, photography, animation, totally fun science, Irish dance, musical theater, art around the world, guitar, orchestra, band, painting, drawing and much more! This program is appropriate for ages 9 to 18.

Chester County Night School is nonprofit so families can submit the company's tax ID number (23-6278321) for child care credit.

For more details about pricing and weekly activities, visit our website at [chestercountynightschool.org](http://chestercountynightschool.org) or call us at 610-692-1964.

Whether it's a kids summer camp or an adult lifelong learning class, Chester County Night School offers educational, enriching and inspiring classes for participants from ages 9 to 90!



**CHESTER COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT: BRANDYWINE VIRTUAL ACADEMY**

# Enjoy top online courses with personal attention

Summer is a great opportunity for high school students to catch up on credits or get ahead of next year's busy schedule. Brandywine Virtual Academy (BVA) is pleased to offer a flexible, interactive online course experience tailored to the needs of each student.

Did a class not work out so well this past year? Our nine-week Credit Recovery session can get students right back on track.

Not able to fit all of the electives you really wanted in your schedule next year? Or do you want to try an honors or Advanced Placement (AP) course at school next year and want to build your confidence? The 15-week Jump Start session or

nine-week True Summer session might be your answer!

A program of the Chester County Intermediate Unit, BVA provides students access to a variety of the top national online course providers with an unmatched level of personalized attention and support. Students are able to navigate through the online courses at their own pace, working toward given task deadlines. BVA Pennsylvania-certified teachers and teacher assistants are available to help guide students through the course content and provide individualized support when needed. Students not only grow in knowledge but also learn

to advocate for themselves and their own learning.

Have a middle schooler? BVA is also offering a unique blended learning experience (online and in-person) for middle school students interested in coding! Students entering grades six to eight will learn how to code using the Scratch program and work with BVA teachers and other students to develop their own coded online creation. The course will consist of lunch and code in-person sessions at the Chester County Intermediate Unit in Downingtown along with online course support.

Visit [bvapa.org/summer](http://bvapa.org/summer) to learn more!



**BRANDYWINE  
VIRTUAL  
ACADEMY**

## HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULES CAN'T FIT EVERYTHING!

Summertime is a perfect opportunity for students to explore new and interesting electives, such as Gothic Literature: Monster Stories, 3D Art and Veterinary Science: The Care of Animals – to name only a few.

[www.bvapa.org/summer](http://www.bvapa.org/summer)  
for course details and registration

**SUMMER 2018**

BVA0118004



BVA is operated by the Chester County Intermediate Unit, an equal opportunity employer and educator

➤ Work at your own pace

➤ Interactive course experience

➤ Daily teacher support

➤ Flexible hours



## SUMMER OPTIONS:

**JUMP START** | **TRUE SUMMER**  
**April 16-July 25** | **MAY 29-JULY 25**

Credit recovery is also available: May 29-July 25

**Registration opens April 2, 2018**

Have a **middle schooler** interested in coding? Learn more about BVA's summer **Lunch and Code** at [www.bvapa.org/summer](http://www.bvapa.org/summer)



## MALVERN PREP

# Join us for some Friar Fun in the summer

Join us for some Friar Fun in the summer!

Malvern Prep offers a variety of summer programs for boys and girls in grades one to 12 that will help you get ahead, catch up and polish your skills in a fun and relaxed environment!

Study with amazing teachers, train with elite coaches and learn SAT tips from the experts — all on our beautiful 103-acre campus in Malvern, Pa.

We hold summer classes ranging from algebra to Spanish to social entrepreneurship. Our sports camps cater to the athlete at any

level — from our youngest campers learning the game to advanced high school athletes looking for that edge. Particularly, our leadership experience offers young men the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, grow in virtue, cultivate toughness and courage and develop as young men for others — all while having a great time! And don't forget swimming lessons! We also offer extended day options for working families.

Learn more about Malvern Prep summer camps today!



**\*LEADERSHIP CAMP**  
options also available!

## FRIAR FUN IN THE SUMMER

*Camps for Boys and Girls in Grades 1 - 12*

A collage of three photographs: the top photo shows a group of students walking outdoors; the bottom-left photo shows a student in a football uniform; the bottom-right photo shows a student swimming in a pool.



**Classes • Camps • Test Prep**  
[www.malvernprep.org/summerprograms](http://www.malvernprep.org/summerprograms)