

Enjoy the outdoors with ENC's Science Nature Camps

Story and photos by CONRAD KRUEGER



[Click on photo for a larger image](#)

The Environmental Nature Center (ENC) of Newport Beach is one of the premier learning centers for local children. Throughout the summer, ENC has hosted several unique programs that have provided quality science education in an outdoor setting. One of their points of emphasis is experimental learning, making way for campers to learn in numerous ways. Activities include interactive exhibits, outdoor exploration, arts and crafts and science experiments. Their main goal is to create a structured and fun environment for the children to enjoy their summer, but learn along the way.

Every week, ENC focuses on a new topic of interest as a part of their Nature Adventure Camp program. In past sessions, the focus has been on "Incredible Insects!," "Oceans Around Us," and "Mad Science." They have all been great successes, just like this week's "We Love National Parks" program.

To start this week, the campers learned about important trees such as the redwoods, sequoias, and Joshua tree. Afterwards, they were led through different activities related to our National Parks. Some of them included tasting different plants and leaves, crafting God's eyes, and trekking around the grounds. Each day had a new central focus, exposing the campers to a wide array of facts and fun.



[Click on photo for a larger image](#)

Camps run four days a week, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. with an option for early pick up at 1 p.m. Full Day Nature Camp runs at \$265 for each week, while Half Day Camp is \$180. This year's Summer Nature Camp is for kids entering Kindergarten through 3rd grade in the fall.

For more information, call 949.645.8489 or visit www.encycenter.org.

The Environmental Nature Center is located at 1601 E 16th St., Newport Beach.