

Count Down to Science Camp

Planning Guide

We are excited about the opportunity to have you and your students up for Science Camp! This adventure will help change the lives of your students. This guide will equip you to prepare your students for camp, while we make sure you have an extraordinary experience that feels like home away from home.

Science Camp Checklist

Today:

- Review this packet and prepare yourself for planning your upcoming trip.

As soon as possible:

- Choose classes for students to experience via online form.
- Choose activities for students to experience via online form.

3-6 Months out:

- Reserve transportation to PCCC (11:00am arrival) and from PCCC (10:30am departure).
- Set up and run a parent/student orientation meeting.
 - o Hand out Parent Packet (contains introduction, waiver, to-bring list, Chaperone material).
 - o Discuss adult chaperone requirements, responsibilities, and how many you need.

2-4 Weeks out:

- Request a Certificate of Insurance naming Palomar Christian Conference Center as the certificate holder and submit it to PCCC.
- Inform us of the final number of students and adults attending camp to jamie@palomar.camp. Then we will email you a final account statement.
- Inform us of any additional dietary needs of students and adults.

Week before Science Camp:

- Assign campers (adults too!) to cabin rooms.
- Assign campers (adults too!) to Teams/Day Groups.
- Arrange payment for Science Camp.

Day of Camp:

- Collect medications for students and waivers for all camp participants.
- Make sure drivers have directions.
- Arrive at camp around 11:00am. We can't wait to greet you!



Class Options

ASAP

Choose the classes that would benefit your group of students the most. If you are staying with us for 3 days choose 5 classes, 4 days choose 5 classes, 5 days choose 7 classes.



Aquatics: **Study of Water Systems**

Students will get to interact with Palomar Mountain's ecosystem as they hike through Doane Creek's watershed and observe its riparian habitat with their own eyes. They will walk along the creek to take chemical and biological assessments to determine if Doane Creek is a healthy habitat. Furthermore, they will discuss the numerous personal uses for water and how essential the water cycle is to the earth.



Astronomy: **Study of the Solar System**

Students will learn about how grandiose and powerful God is as they study the size and scale of our solar system. The class includes visual examples and hands-on activities that help students visualize the beauty beyond our atmosphere.



Entomology: **Study of Insects**

Students will learn about and observe insects in their natural habitat. They will learn about the basic anatomy of an insect, its role in the ecosystem, and the good, the bad, and the ugly of the different varieties of insects. Students will collect a variety of insects and document their observations.



Botany: **Study of the Trees**

Students will learn about the basics of plant life in the great outdoors. We will discuss the structure of plants, the benefits of plants, the process of photosynthesis, and how to categorize trees. Students will take a tree walk and make observations regarding the differences in trees; they will collect data and analyze it to discern the names of types of selected trees.



Fire: **Study of Fire**

Students will learn the science and safety of fire followed by the opportunity to create their own fires within small groups. As students discuss the Fire Triangle, they will gain an appreciation and thorough understanding regarding the ins and outs of fire. This will equip them with confidence to build and put out a fire in a safe, effective way.



Mammalogy: **Study of Mammals**

Students will learn what characteristics define a mammal, what role mammals play in their ecosystem, and how we as humans are different from anything else that God has created. They will get to study the mammals of Palomar Mountain in depth through hands-on experience and interactive activities.

Class Options



Orienteering: Study of Finding Your Way

Students will become more confident in navigation as they study directions, degrees, the basic parts of a compass, and how to effectively use a compass. After practicing these concepts, they will utilize their skills in small groups with an orienteering challenge.



Ornithology: Study of Birds

Students will learn about the unique structure of a bird, its flight capabilities, its role as a consumer in the food chain, and the different habitats birds live in. Students will use binoculars to watch birds in action as they interact in their natural habitat. It will inspire them to look out for birds in their daily lives and lead them to appreciate God as Creator.



Teambuilding: Using Initiatives

Students will develop biblical qualities and team unity as they participate in group activities. Initiatives are games played with the purpose of processing their experience and applying principles to their daily lives. This is a fun, interactive way for your students to develop individually and as a group.



Teambuilding: Using the Low Ropes Course

Students will develop biblical qualities and team unity as they participate in our low ropes course. Low rope elements are challenge events generally built anywhere from 2-6 feet off the ground that require teamwork to accomplish the task. These challenges are extremely interactive and will play a vital role in developing perseverance, patience, and kindness.

Free Time Activity Options

ASAP

Choose the activities that would benefit your group of students. For paid activities, you can have students prepay as a part of your contract, or students can bring their own money and pay when they play. Fill in information on online form.

Paid Activities

Paintball: \$20 **Available when temperature is above 55 degrees

Get your friends together and go to "war"! We provide the referee, masks, markers, and paint. You must be 11 years old to play. We have sign-ups for this activity at Student Orientation on day 1.

Zip Line: \$5 per ride; \$10 Unlimited rides

For those wanting an aerial view of Palomar, try out our 650 feet long zip line that will have you soaring over 60 feet in the air! There are no sign-ups; students simply show up and ride.

Trail Rides: \$20 **Request information on availability

Saddle up for a ride down our forested trails! Riders must be at least 54 inches tall (4 ft. 6 in.) and weigh under 250 pounds. We have sign-ups for this activity at Student Orientation on day 1.

FREE Activities

Archery Range

You'll be right on target at our Archery Range! Our bows range from 16-24 lbs. No sign-ups.

Gun Range

Test your skills by shooting BB guns! Our range master is certified in gun safety. No sign-ups.

Always Available

Gift Shop: Snacks, Drinks, and Souvenirs are available.

Sports: Gaga Ball, Carpet Ball, Ping Pong, Ball Field, Volleyball, Basketball.

Evening Activities

Every night we finish off our day with several epic evening activities. Our first order of fun is a game followed by our campfire time. Keep your eyes open for the annual email detailing our spiritual theme and theme night!

Theme Night

Our theme night is a high-energy, dress up extravaganza that students anticipate each year. Past theme nights include a Glow-in-the-dark dance party, Pirate night, and Star Wars night. Make sure you and your students read the To-bring list so that you are ready for the ultimate party on your second night of camp!

Escape Bag Review

Our final night at camp puts your students to the test as we have each team solve puzzles related to their classes to see who can be the first to open all the pockets on the bag. It is a great way to review and test their problem-solving skills!

Campfire

Every night culminates with a fun time at campfire. We sing goofy songs, watch skits, or do fun games. We also include an inspirational talk to help campers pursue personal growth.

Parent Materials

3-6 Months Out

Use this section to make sure your parents are well informed. It includes information regarding your parent orientation, materials they should be familiar with, paperwork they will need to sign and turn into you, and advice in choosing parents as chaperones.

Parent Orientation

Choose a convenient date for your parent orientation and notify your parents with enough of a heads up. The goal for orientation is for parents to know the benefits of camp for their child, what their child will experience at camp, how they can prepare their child for camp, what and when paperwork and payment is due, and what the expectations are for a parent coming as a chaperone.

Before the meeting:

- Email the parents a Parent Packet
- Ask them to print and fill out the student waiver Parent Packet.
- Have a few copies of the activity and student waiver in case parents did not print them off.

At the meeting:

- Share why you are excited for Science Camp both personally and for your students.
- Show the parent video.
- Talk about the to-bring list and the theme night.
- Discuss paperwork and payment.
- Ask about student dietary restrictions.
- Briefly introduce the need for parent chaperones.
- Show video for chaperones.
- Ask for parents to consider volunteering.

After the meeting:

- Email parents to remind them when their deposit is due.
- To turn in the waivers with the deposit.
- To respond if they are interested in being a chaperone by a deadline determined by you.

Chaperone Requirements

- Able-bodied adults who can handle several small hikes (2-5 miles) every day on mountainous terrain.
- A positive role model.
- Willingness to invest not only in their child but in all of the students in their day and night groups.



Student Info

Week before Camp

Once we receive your final number of adults and students, the Retreat Coordinator will email you a final account statement. The Program Manager will send you the number of teams your school will have. Please split your students and adult chaperones into Teams/Day Groups.

First School Team

Adult Leaders

Student Names

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____

Second School Team

Adult Leaders

Student Names

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____

Third School Team

Adult Leaders

Student Names

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____

*Print out more copies if you have more teams.

Birthdays

Name	Day	Date
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

5-Day Sample Schedule

Our 5-day program includes 7 interactive science classes of your choice, 4 free time sessions, 4 campfires and night activities, and a beautiful hike to Doane Pond.

Monday

11:00 Arrive
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Orientation
2:00 Organized Activity
3:00 Free Time
5:20 Line up in Teams
5:30 Dinner
6:45 Evening Activity
7:45 Campfire
9:00 Cabin Time
10:00 Lights out

Tuesday / Wednesday

7:30 Students allowed to be out of cabins
7:50 Line up in Teams
8:00 Breakfast
9:00 Line Up in Teams Behind Office
9:10 Class #1 / #4
10:30 Class #2 / #5
11:50 Line up in Teams
12:00 Lunch
12:30 FOB (Rest)
1:25 Line Up in Teams behind Office
1:30 Class #3 / #6
2:50 Drop Off Gear
3:00 Free Time
5:20 Line up in Teams
5:30 Dinner
6:45 Evening Activity
7:45 Campfire
9:00 Cabin Time
10:00 Lights Out

Thursday

7:30 Students allowed to be out of cabins
7:50 Line up in Teams
8:00 Breakfast
9:00 Line Up in Teams Behind Office
9:10 Class #7
10:25 Hike
2:00 FOB
3:00 Free Time
5:20 Line up in Teams
5:30 Dinner
6:45 Evening Activity
7:45 Campfire
9:00 Cabin Time
10:00 Lights Out

Friday

7:30 Students allowed to be out of cabins
7:50 Line up in Teams
8:00 Breakfast
8:30 Pack and Move Luggage
9:30 Award Ceremony
10:00 Gift Shop/Lunches