



## Summer Camps for 2021

(\* = anyone can participate, disability or not)

Updated March 2021

### **General Camps (that accommodate mental health disability):**

- [Abilities First](#), located in Middletown, Ohio, offers multiple camps for children ages 2-18 years old. Provides summer, physical, occupational, and speech language therapeutic group opportunities to children with autism, developmental delays, or disabilities. Camps will start at the beginning of June and go until the beginning of August. Camp times vary. Every child will be evaluated for appropriate placement. Most programs are covered by insurance.
- \*[Courageous Community Services](#), located in Whitehouse, Ohio. Is now offering Walk A Mile Wednesdays 4/7/21-5/26/21, every Wed. 5:30-7pm, explore local Metroparks, have fun with the group, and stay socially distanced. Also offers residential, day and respite weekend camps throughout the summer and fall. This summer, camps will be held 6/7/21- 9/3/21. Additionally, due to covid-19, they are also including a few virtual camps for those who do not feel comfortable going to camp in person. Youth camps are available for ages 5-18. Residential and respite camps open for those who are 15 and older. Financial assistance is available.
- \*[Camp Echoing Hills](#), located in Warsaw, Ohio. Began hosting “A Day at Camp” programs where camp staff can provide activities in a fun and safe place at Echoing Hills. Camp Echoing Hills provides a fully accessible environment and programs tailored to meet the needs of campers of all needs. Camps are available for ages 7-17 and 18 and older.
- \*[Camp Joy](#), located in Clarksville, Ohio partners with organizations to provide camp experiences for children with medical conditions, grieving children, and underserved children and families. Overnight camping programs include partnerships with Cincinnati Children's, Arthritis Foundation, Camp Sunrise, Amputee Coalition of America, American Diabetes Association, Starshine Hospice, St. Joseph Orphanage and Children's Home of Cincinnati. Safety protocols are currently in development for the summer, these will include “pods” of small groups of kids who stay together in a group throughout their week to minimize exposure.
- [Center for Possibilities](#), offers a summer program for students with developmental disabilities, preschool through adult. Camp sessions are held in Hobart, Indiana. Begins in June. Sessions are Monday-Friday from 8:30-1:30.
- \*[Children's Home of Cincinnati](#) offers an all-inclusive 10-week camp called “Camp I Can” for ages 4 to 12, Mon-Fri from 7:30-5:30. This camp offers swimming, sports, music, art, gardening, and field trips. This camp enhances creativity, leadership and social skills while celebrating culture and diversity. “Camp I Can” enrollment is available upon application. “Ready Set Work” is a 4-week summer career and community exploration program for high schoolers with ASD and other related disorders. This camp is in July and is from 9am-3pm. and “Ready 2 Work!” which is a 10- week paid internship program for ages 18 to 25 with autism and related disorders.
- \*[Cincinnati Recreation Commission](#) Starting June 8<sup>th</sup> -Aug 14<sup>th</sup>, CRC will offer a number of summer day camps at 17 different locations Monday- Friday 7am-6:30pm.
- \*[Cincinnati Parks' 2021 Summer Day Camps](#) offers multiple different one- week camps at various locations for ages 3 ½ - 14 years old. Camps include daily hikes, games, live animal encounters, experiments and projects.
- \*[CYO Camp Rancho Framasa](#), Nashville, Indiana, provides opportunities for full inclusion in an overnight setting. A variety of camps are offered for kindergartens to 18+.

- [\\*Discover Summer](#)- The public library of Cincinnati and Hamilton county invites you to Discover Summer as you embark on your summer learning journey. Participation in our summer program is open to kids of all ages and is completely free! No library card is required.
- [Ikron Summer Youth Program](#) affords students the opportunity to learn and improve their educational skills, vocational skills, social skills, problem-solving skills, assertiveness, and goal setting. The curriculum is designed to assist youth with a variety of disabilities to establish a meaningful role within society. The purpose is to assess work readiness for competitive employment before a job search. The program is to help student's work on and be assessed for any skills needed to get them ready for competitive employment.
- [Kamp Dovetail](#) is a volunteer run summer camp sponsored by Supplementary Assistance to The Handicapped. The camp is for children with disabilities in Hillsboro, Ohio and is held at the Rocky Fork Lake State Park in Highland County. Camp this year starts June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- [\\*Kicks for Kids](#), is located in Covington, Kentucky. Provides programs including arts, theatre, sports, social events, etc. These programs are available to children who are challenged mentally, physically, or by the environment they live in.
- [\\*Mayerson JCC](#). Camp at the J, from June 14<sup>th</sup>- Aug 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-3:30. \$325 a week for members, \$375 a week for public. Includes archery, art and crafts, sports, drama, and more in order to foster friendships, build confidence, and learn new skills. Cincinnati offers inclusive camping opportunities for Kindergarten through grade 10. Open to children of all abilities.
- [New Perceptions, Bridging the Gap Summer Program](#), located in Edgewood, Kentucky, provides basic preschool readiness and continuation of therapy for children ages 2½ to 5 who will enter school in the fall. It is a 3-hour, 8-week program that allows children to retain their preschool readiness and progression of developmental skills, without regression prior to school starting.
- [\\*Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp](#), located in Perrysville, Ohio. Offering inclusive themed day and overnight camps for ages 3 to 17. Variety of camps offered from June 14<sup>th</sup>-July 30<sup>th</sup>.
- [\\*Recreation Unlimited](#), located in Ashley, Ohio, provides summer residential and day camps, as well as year-round respite weekend camps for youth and adults. Summer day camps are for ages 5-22 and is offered to those with developmental or physical disabilities as well as developing friends and siblings. Camps are being held from June 4<sup>th</sup>- Aug 15<sup>th</sup>.
- [Redwood](#), located in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky, offers a therapeutic recreation program with different theme each summer that encourages children to explore their diverse interests, personalities, and abilities while overcoming areas of challenge.
- [Stepping Stones and Camp Allyn](#), offers year-round programs for people of all ages with a wide range of disabilities. Summer day camps are held at two locations near Cincinnati and summer overnight camp for older teens and adults is at Camp Allyn in Batavia, Ohio. Summer day camp is offered to ages 5-22, from June 7- Aug 6 on weekdays, and costs \$53 a day. Summer overnight staycation is offered to ages 16-65, in Batavia. There are nine 5-day session running from June 7-Aug 6. Costs \$700 for Sun @1pm- Thurs @4pm.
- [Summer at CEES](#), a community integrated high school transition program at the University of Cincinnati. Designed for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities ages 14-21. Offer a 12-week workshop 1 day per week from 9am-1pm. Approximately \$1200 per student.
- [Talbert House](#), Cincinnati, offers Camp Possible, a summer day camp for children ages 6-12 who struggle with behavioral/mental health issues. Campers attend for 8 weeks during the summer. Children will practice skills such as anger management, self-esteem, peer relations, taking direction, interacting with adults, and more. Trained clinical staff take children into the community to practice in real-life settings that are safe and kid friendly. Insurance can be billed for the camp.
- [\\*YMCA Camp Campbell Gard](#), Hamilton, Ohio, offers weeklong summer camp experiences for children with special needs. The camp provides specially trained counselors, flexible age guidelines, universally accessible facilities and a fully inclusive program for ages 7 to 22. Being offered from June 13<sup>th</sup> to Aug 13<sup>th</sup> Price ranges from \$190-\$595. Half day, full day, and overnight camps.

- [\\*YMCA Camp Ernst](#), Burlington, Kentucky, offers overnight week-long camps, weekly day camps, weekend camps, and special events throughout the summer. Camps are for ages 6-15. Camps cost anywhere from \$55-\$638. Camps are being held from June 13<sup>th</sup> – Aug 14<sup>th</sup>.
- [\\*YMCA of Greater Cincinnati](#) Offers day camps, overnight camps, summer preschool, weekend overnight camps, and recreation options in branches around the area. The day camp is from 9:00am to 4:00pm, for ages 5-12. Week-long camps are offer for ages 6-15. Cost of camps vary and will be held from June 14-Aug 14.
- [\\*Cincinnati Zoo Summer Camps](#)- Explore the zoo, experience nature, and discover the excitement and wonder of animals. Hikes in the zoo, visits from animal ambassadors, crafts, train rides, and so much more make summer camp a week to remember. Weekly camps run from May 31<sup>st</sup> -August 13<sup>th</sup>. Full days are offered from 9am- 4pm for 4 year olds- 6<sup>th</sup> graders (members \$235, non-members \$250) as well as 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders (members \$245, non-members \$260). Half days are also offered from 9:30am-12pm or 1pm-3:30pm for 4 years olds- 2<sup>nd</sup> graders (members \$120, non-members \$135).

### **Autism:**

- [Applied Behavioral Services](#) provides year-round teaching environment for children with Asperger's and Autism Spectrum Disorders. Summer teaching and social skills program offered. Services include OT, individualized curriculum, speech therapy, intervention specialists, and monitored learning for ages 3 to 22. Located in Cincinnati, West Chester, and Dayton.
- [Camp Ability, Cincinnati Center for Autism](#) offers 2, three week-long sessions in the summer. Provides structure and consistency that support skill retention in students with Autism. Students are placed in ratios of 1:1 or 1:3, grouping based on age and skill level. Services available for ages 3-21. Full day services are from 9am-3pm Mon-Fri or you can do half days, AM session is 8:30am-11:30am or PM sessions from 12pm-3pm.
- [Camp Nuhop](#), located in Perrysville, Ohio. Camp Nuhop is a week-long residential camp for children with ADHD, ASD, learning disabilities, Asperger's Syndrome and behavioral challenges. A number of camps are being offered this summer, including art camps, science camps, aqua camps, and many more for ages 6-18.
- [Children's Home of Cincinnati](#) offers Ready Set Work. Ready Set Work is a 4-week summer career and community exploration program for high schoolers with Autism Spectrum and related disorders. Our summer programming focuses on developing the social and vocational skills needed for employment. Participants will learn interview skills, go on field trips, explore various career options, receive a comprehensive skills assessment, etc.
- [Autism Learning Center](#) located on Cheviot Rd. in Cincinnati, has an Autism Learning Center and is an approved Autism Scholarship provider through the Ohio Department of Education. They collaborate with a speech language pathologist and occupational therapist to implement goals. Services are available to individuals up to 21 years old. If you are interested, please complete an autism services insurance verification request.

### **Other Specific Disorders:**

- [Cincinnati Children's Summer Treatment Program for Children with ADHD](#) a 7-week intensive summer day treatment program for children from 6-12 years old who have been diagnosed with ADHD. 13-year olds are accepted on a case-by-case basis. Children will learn to improve social skills, manage frustration, and follow instructions while participating in sports and classroom activities in a camp-like setting. STP will be held June 14<sup>th</sup> - July 30<sup>th</sup> on Mondays-Thursdays from 8:30-4 and Fridays 8:30-3. The camp is located at The Summit Country Day School in Cincinnati, Ohio. You can register by calling 513-803-7708 or email [ahdstp@cchmc.org](mailto:ahdstp@cchmc.org) to start your application.
- [Camp Nuhop](#), located in Perrysville, Ohio, is an overnight camp for children with ADHD, ASD, learning disabilities, Asperger's Syndrome and behavioral challenges. For ages 6 to 18. There are numerous camp sessions going on throughout June and July where a wide variety of camp options will be offered. For a complete list of summer camp offerings please visit their website at <https://nuhop.org/> or call 419-938-7151 for more information.

## **Horses, Equine Therapy:**

- [Bay Star EquiCenter](#), located in Shandon, Ohio, provides Equine Assisted Personal Development and Equine Assisted Learning (EAL). This is a special type of therapy that is done with a specially trained horse, professionals, and a licensed therapist. This is not a riding program. It is a research-based therapy that is appropriate for individuals with mental health needs. For personal development sessions, groups are to bring a mental health care provider with them as part of the group. Year-round activities are available by appointment only. They allow ages 7 years and older to participate in their activities. For price inquiries, call their number at 513-738-4463.
- [Bridge Riding for the Disabled](#), located in Lebanon, Ohio, provides therapeutic riding for individuals with physical, psychosocial, and cognitive disabilities.
- [Cincinnati Therapeutic Riding and Horsemanship](#) has a comprehensive horseback riding program for children and adults with disabilities. They also have a [Hippotherapy](#) (horse-riding therapy) program that combines physical and occupational therapy. Visit their website at <https://ctrhequinetherapy.org> to see the form, evaluation, and enrollment requirements. Hippotherapy is \$70 per week for an 8-week program. Each session is 45 minutes in length. Rec Riding is \$45 per week for an 8-week program. For additional information call 513-831-7050.
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- [Muddy Water Equestrian Park](#), Cincinnati, offers riding therapy programs and activities that teach patience, respect, and responsibility. They offer rides and lessons. Trail rides end around Thanksgiving each year and their schedule is set by availability. To make a reservation, they are reached on their website at [www.muddywaterranch.com](http://www.muddywaterranch.com). They run Saturday and Sunday for trail rides at 12:00pm, 1:30pm, and 3:00pm. They only accept cash and check, and the cost per person is \$100 for every 1-hour session. Currently closed will open up in late March if trails are good. For additional questions, they can be reached at 513-522-8545.
- [Cherry Ridge Therapeutic Learning Programs](#), Georgetown, Ohio, offers a therapeutic riding program for ages 5 to 18. Provide services working with farm animals, nature, and horses in an experiential environmental setting. They run through November and there is a waiver for their costs associated with their services which are \$45 for one session for an hour and also \$200 for a 6-week session. For more information call 513-377-2381 or visit website.
- [Potter's Ranch](#), located in Union, Kentucky, provides equine therapy through their therapeutic riding program. There are various summer programs including Adventure Camp, Horse Camp, and Dyslexia Camp. Adventure Camp and Horse Camp will take place from June 14<sup>th</sup>- August 6<sup>th</sup> and are priced at \$225(day)/\$553(overnight) and \$275(day)/\$585(overnight) respectively. Dyslexia Camp will take place from July 1<sup>st</sup>- July 28<sup>th</sup> and has both day camp and residential camp options. Day camp is priced at \$4800 and the residential camp is priced at \$7200. 8 weeks of horse therapy is \$720 while a 2-hour session is \$50. For more information visit their website at <https://www.pottersranch.org/> or call 859-586-5475 for more information.
- [Safe Haven Farms](#), located in West Chester, Ohio, is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization offering therapeutic riding, residential, day, and community services for individuals on the autism spectrum. It provides a variety of living, working, learning, and leisure activities in a farm environment. Plans to reopen everything in late summer or early fall. Contact 513-422-1880, [INFO@SAFEHAVENFARMS.ORG](mailto:INFO@SAFEHAVENFARMS.ORG).
- [The Farm at Equisports](#), located in Goshen, OH, provides adaptive riding and interactive farm lessons. Available programs include Equine Assisted Learning and Equine Assisted Coaching. Equine Assisted Learning serves individuals with physical and mental disabilities and costs \$125 per 30-minute session. The Equine Assisted Coaching program serves individuals who suffer from anxiety and depression. The cost for this program is \$125 for each 2-hour session. Hours are by appointment only and programs are open for

individuals of all ages. Call 859-240-9098 or email Tanya Tieman at [tanya@equisportsofgoshen.com](mailto:tanya@equisportsofgoshen.com) for more information.

- [Milestone's Equestrian Achievement Program](#), located in Independence, Kentucky, is a therapeutic horseback riding program. The Therapeutic Horseback Riding program summer session is 10-11 weeks long and costs \$300. Each weekly session is between 30 minutes and an hour in length. Additionally, they will be having a free summer reading program called Horse Tales that will be taking place every Monday from June 10<sup>th</sup> through the end of July. Reopened on June of 2020 for both therapeutic and silver saddle riding. For more information, visit their website at <https://www.milestonesinc.org/> or call their office at (859) 694-7669.

### **Music/Dance/Acting/Art:**

- [\\*Art Workshop Camps](#) provides camps taught by certified art teachers, for ages 6 and up. Provides "Summer Saturdays" with instructor Ron LaCour who is an expert at helping young people advance in drawing cartoon characters. Saturday's from 10:30am-11:30am time slots are for ages 6-8, 11:45am-1pm for ages 9 and up. Starts June 5<sup>th</sup>- August 21 (12 week program). If attending all 12 weeks, the program is \$200, if you cannot attend all of them classes are \$20 per class.
- [\\*Cincinnati Ballet Kids Dance Camp](#) Cincinnati Ballet is your ticket to summer adventure! Kids Dance Camp is a creative exploration of dance, music and art through beloved stories. Each week-long experience explores an overall theme through ballet classes and activities led by professional faculty. Students ages 4-8. Placement based on age. Former dance experience not required.
- [\\*Cincinnati Museum Center Summer Camps](#) Locations: Cincinnati Museum Center, Blue Ash Rec Center, Cincinnati Observatory. Explore science, technology, history and the arts through creative activities and games at Cincinnati Museum Center's fun and educational Museum Camps. Camps are sold by week. 4-day camps are \$210 for members and \$245 for non-members. Week-long camps are \$265 for members and \$290 for members. From 9am-4pm for students K-4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- [\\*Marjorie Book Continuing Education Society](#), located in Cincinnati, brings individuals with and without disabilities together, 12 years and older, for continuing education classes, service-learning projects, and theater productions. There is no cost for the first year, after that there is a \$70 annual fee. Financial aid is available. The group produces two summer plays. Rehearsals are at UC and the performances are located in Mount Airy. Due to Covid-19 all activities are being done either virtually or outdoors.
- [\\*Music Resource Center \(MRC\)](#), located in Cincinnati, is a multifaceted teen program, grades 7 through 12, that uses recording and performing arts, as well as life skills mentoring to create a sense of empowerment and accomplishment in the urban community. They operate from Monday-Friday 12:00-6:00 pm during summer and Monday-Friday 2:00-6:00 pm the rest of the year. Regular membership is \$2 a month. Yearly membership is \$24.
- [Music Therapy Services](#), located in Cincinnati, provides individual and small group music therapy sessions for children and adults with developmental, physical, emotional, and learning disabilities. Serves all age groups. Visit their website at <https://music-therapy-cincinnati.com/> or call 513-474-6064 for more information.
- [Music Therapy Care](#), located in Anderson Township, provides music therapy groups and individual sessions to individuals with special needs to develop identified areas of need, ages 2 through adult, adapted music lessons are also available. Special summer-themed classes for percussion experiences, music ensembles, and toddler-caregiver classes are available. Visit their website at <http://www.musictherapycare.com/> or call 513-382-7500 for more information.
- [\\*The Children's Theatre](#) Enjoy a variety of themes for ages 6-14. Focus on music, dance, drama, or all three. All levels are welcome. Enrollment begins April 1, 2021.
- [Visionaries & Voices](#) is a studio/gallery created specifically for artists with disabilities to grow both

personally and professionally. The Summer Camp at Visionarium has three programs that will be going on throughout the summer. Trash to Treasure is for individuals ages 5-9 and will take place July 8-12 from 1-4 pm and costs \$200. The Art Lab is for individuals ages 10-13 and will take place July 15-19 from 1-4 pm and costs \$200. Teens Zines and Screens is for individuals ages 14-18 and will be taking place July 29- August 2 from 1-4 pm and costs \$200. Call 513-861- 4333 for more information.

### **Sports:**

- [\\*Butler County Challenger Baseball](https://www.bcchallenger.org/) serves Butler and surrounding counties. The registration fee is \$50 per player. Visit their website at <https://www.bcchallenger.org/> or call League President, Alan LaKamp at 513-623-4120 for more information.
- [Cincinnati TOP Soccer](#) is part of a national soccer program created to train young people (ages 5 through high school) with disabilities in a caring coaching environment. TOP Soccer allows a child to participate in the same type of community sports programs as their non-disabled peers, including uniforms, awards banquets, and when appropriate the opportunity to play on a non-disabled team. They have indoor and outdoor soccer, depending on the season. They also welcome wheelchairs. Registration opens on 3/22/21.
- [Cincy Swish Spirit Basketball](#) offers basketball instruction to children and young adults with disabilities. In addition to instruction, Swish Spirit provides children of all abilities the opportunity to be part of a team within a basketball league. Will reopen March 26<sup>th</sup> and is getting ready for spring tryout.
- [\\*Kids First Sports Center Cincinnati](http://www.kidsfirstsports.com/), has a variety of enrichment programs, sports activities, and gymnastics year-round. Summer Camp will run from May 28-August 16 and costs \$327 per week or day passes to the camp are available for a 2-day enrollment minimum of \$79 per day. Summer camp also includes the Summer Camp Inclusion Program. For questions or further information contact 513-489-7575 or visit their website at <http://www.kidsfirstsports.com/>.
- [Mason Challenger League](#), a division of Mason Youth Organization, is a nonprofit that provides baseball and softball programs in the Mason area. The Mason Challenger league is a unique opportunity for children with special needs to participate in organized baseball. They welcome players from surrounding communities. It is open to players ages 5- 18 (or up to 22 if still in high school). There is a fee to cover uniform and insurance costs, however, scholarships are available to players who may need assistance. Practicing new safety measures due to Covid-19. Players are to stay in designated seating areas when not playing, Players remain socially distanced when not playing, reduced roster sizes for younger kids, no team huddles, no post-game handshake, limited equipment sharing. For more information contact [challenger@masonyouth.org](mailto:challenger@masonyouth.org)
- [\\*Miracle League Baseball](#), sponsored by the [Cincinnati Recreation Commission](#), offers athletes with or without disabilities an opportunity to have fun and participate in an organized and competitive league. Plans to restart in early May or June but currently know hard dates.
- [Special Olympics Ohio](#) provides year-round training and competition in various sports areas for children ages 5 years and older who are identified to have mental or developmental disabilities. The Summer Special Olympics has been canceled due to Covid-19. On July 6<sup>th</sup> they will begin their return to play guidelines. They will start allowing competition on practice and head-to-head level but will not be hosting any regional or state level competitions. They will be following Covid-19 safety guidelines. [Find your local chapter](#).

### **Swim:**

- [\\*Cincinnati Recreation Commission](#) offers Adapted Aquatics Programs in their year-round warm water swimming pool located at the Mt. Auburn Community Center. Several water entries and exits are available, including a pool chair lift and "easy ladder" with hand railings. Currently closed plans to reopen in the fall. Review website for more information.
- [YMCA of Greater Cincinnati](#) offers adaptive swimming lessons for ages 3 and up and also provides training sessions for Special Olympics athletes. The class provides special attention that may be difficult to get in a group lesson. Individual or small group lessons are provided by both paid and volunteer staff. Instruction is based on the needs of the participant.

### **Comprehensive Listings:**

- [ADHD / LD Camp Directory](#), provided by [ADDitude Magazine](#), is a comprehensive list of summer camps, programs, and helpful articles.
- [Autism Speaks](#) has an online directory of recreation and community activities in Ohio or you can select the state you are interested in.
- [American Camping Association](#) provides information on camps for children with special needs. Select whether you want a day or overnight camps. You can then scroll down the page to refine by area of interest including disability, gender, age, and activities.
- [\\*Cincinnati Family Magazine](#) publishes an annual guide to local camps and summer programs and an update on [recreation programs](#).
- [\\*Cincinnati Parent Magazine](#) has an online camp directory.
- [\\*Kids Camps](#) has information on day camps and specialty camps as well as those that provide opportunities for children with special needs.
- [\\*MySummerCamps.com](#) is a comprehensive, easy-to-use directory and guide of summer camps, and summer experiences for kids, teens, and youth, featuring a special section on special needs camps.
- [\\*Starfire Council of Greater Cincinnati](#) has recreational and community service outings for teens through adults.
- [\\*The Cincinnati Summer Camps Guide 2021](#) provides a list of all kinds of summer camps including STEM camps, art camps, theater camps, sports camps, and many more.



Adapted from: <https://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/patients/child/special-needs/rest-recreation/camps>