

CAMP ALLEN DISCOVERY PROGRAM

Camp Allen

**ROOTED IN
NAVASOTA, TX**

HANDS-ON OUTDOOR EDUCATION





OUR MISSION

The Discovery Program at Camp Allen provides hands-on educational experiences that enhance classroom learning. These experiences are integrated into a complete program that helps students gain a wellrounded understanding of issues of environmental respect, human relationships, and “real world” science and history.



THE PROGRAM

To tailor the best program for your group, the school’s representative and Discovery Program Director collaborate on a customized schedule, considering factors like length of stay, student needs, and instructional blocks. Trips range from one-day sessions to four-day programs, offering flexibility to meet your group’s interests and capabilities. Explore the available study opportunities on the following pages, with options that can be combined for a personalized experience. Beyond student sessions, Discovery also offers teacher workshops and adult outdoor experiences like canoeing, horseback riding, and nature hikes.

Contact Discovery Director Lauren Gervais at 936.870.7175 or laurendg@campallen.org to discuss how Camp Allen can meet your school or organization’s needs.

DISCOVERY STAFF

Camp Allen’s Discovery Program, led by Director Lauren Gervais, a seasoned professional with six years at Camp Allen, offers expertly trained instructors. These educators, with BS or MS degrees, are passionate about the outdoors and dedicated to providing enriching and impactful experiences for students.



FACILITIES

Utilizing four dedicated campsites exclusively for Discovery Program weekdays, our accommodations offer diverse options. Campsites 1 and 2 feature tree house cabins with separate bathhouses, while Campsites 3 and 4 provide dormitory-style cabins with adjacent bathrooms. All sites offer wheelchair-accessible facilities, including dining areas. Students sleep in bunk beds and bring their own bed linens, towels, and pillows. Cafeteria-style meals are provided, and visiting school chaperones oversee evenings and free time, while our Discovery Instructors handle day and evening classes. The program explores various camp locations, including a sports pavilion, challenge courses, athletic fields, and extensive undeveloped forest. Camp Allen’s property, comprising 150 hotel rooms, a conference center, pools, tennis courts, lodges, and cabins, is available year-round for a variety of guest groups and summer camps.

PRICING

Programs vary in price according to length of stay, number of meals served, and instructional time. Please contact us for more information or to book a date for your group.

SAMPLE SCHEDULES

OVERNIGHT TRIP (1-4 DAYS)

DAY 1

10:00 – 12:00 AM	Orientation & Games
12:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 – 4:30 PM	Class Sessions
4:30 – 5:30 PM	Free Time
5:45 – 6:45 PM	Dinner
7:00 – 8:30 PM	Evening Activity

DAY 2

8:00 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 – 12:00 AM	Class Sessions
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Closing Program/Departure

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SCIENCE STUDIES

AQUATIC BIOLOGY/WATER QUALITY

Explore the wonders of pond life around our 9-acre lake using magnifying lenses, dip nets, and more. Delve into key concepts like water quality, interdependence of organisms, and the correlation between aquatic life and pond health. This class often intertwines with Entomology, highlighting invertebrates as indicators of pond well-being.

HERPETOLOGY

Engage with live reptiles as you gain insights into snake behavior, their environmental roles, and distinctions between venomous and non-venomous species. This hands-on class provides a unique opportunity to view and handle different reptiles.

ORNITHOLOGY

Immerse yourself in bird behavior and adaptations through engaging activities, followed by a guided identification walk with binoculars. Visit Camp Allen's bird of prey exhibit featuring rehabilitated, non-releasable raptors for a captivating learning experience.

BOTANY

Embark on a journey through our woods to identify and examine various plant and tree parts. Discover how these organisms utilize their components for survival and growth. This hands-on class fosters a deeper understanding of the plant kingdom.

MAMMALOLOGY

Explore the world of mammals by touching, feeling, and examining our extensive collection of skulls and furs. Delve into topics such as mammalian characteristics, native Texas mammal identification, tracking, adaptations, and conservation issues.

ENTOMOLOGY

Capture, identify, and classify bugs and insects in this dynamic class. Explore our composting worms and cricket farm, delving into how insects benefit humans. Engage in discussions about metamorphosis and the crucial roles insects play in ecosystems.

ENVIROMENTAL STUDIES

ORGANIC GARDENING

Cultivate a connection with sustainable agriculture in our Discovery organic garden. Witness the fascinating composting process, plant, maintain, and harvest, gaining a hands-on understanding of food production. Explore various composting techniques and contribute to the process by composting your own food scraps.

CONSERVATION & SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES

Embark on Conservation Studies to build mock communities, sparking debates on land use and resource utilization. Tour our innovative organic garden, powered by solar energy, rainwater collection, and composting. Dive into the basics of the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle, shaping your personal values on resource conservation.

FOREST ECOLOGY

Embark on an immersive journey with our Discovery Instructor through experiential activities in the forest. Foster an understanding and respect for the forest's diversity and significance in our lives. Explore interdependence, habitat, life cycles, food webs/chains, and conservation issues.



ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

ARCHERY

Master the art of international-style target archery outdoors. Practice with Discovery's curriculum, developed in collaboration with Texas Parks and Wildlife and the National Archery in the Schools Program. Immerse yourself in the excitement of outdoor archery.

GROUP GAMES & INITIATIVES

Participate in creative recreational games tailored to your class size and grade level. Foster team building, communication, and problem-solving skills. Engage in debriefing sessions with instructors to enhance your learning experiences.

CHALLENGE COURSE

Experience the low challenge course, designed for understanding, cooperation, communication, and care in group problem-solving. Engage in ground-level challenges promoting unity and support for one another.

HIGH CHALLENGE

Embark on the high ropes adventure, pushing personal limits and embracing risk-taking. The high challenge course offers thrilling experiences and personal growth.

WILDERNESS STUDIES

ORIENTEERING

Learn compass parts and effective use, applying your knowledge to negotiate Discovery's compass courses through the forest.

OUTDOOR LIVING SKILLS

Promote group cohesion and relational development in this immersive session. Led by experienced Discovery instructors, explore the wilderness on over 1,100 acres, with variations like outdoor cooking, wild edibles, and shelter building.

CANOEING

Master proper stroke techniques and enjoy the scenic beauty from tandem canoes in this engaging session.





HISTORICAL STUDIES

TEXAS LIVING HISTORY

Step into the shoes of a 1830s Texas colonist, assuming a character and learning from Discovery instructors portraying historical figures. Gain valuable skills for the journey to the Austin Colonies.

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

Immerse yourself in Native American legends, myths, food, lifestyles, language, government, games, and dress. Create your tribe, incorporating all these elements.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Unearth the past in our archaeological dig site. Use tools to uncover artifacts, make inferences, and create hypotheses about the site's historical significance.

NIGHT ACTIVITIES

CAMPFIRE

Relax, laugh, and socialize by the firelight. Our staff leads entertaining campfire songs, with each student group contributing to the fun. Conclude with marshmallow roasting and s'mores!

NIGHT HIKE

Embark on a sensory hike in the dark, exploring and becoming comfortable with our woods at night, all in safety.

ASTRONOMY

Sit under the Texas night sky, observe stars and constellations, and use a telescope to explore the wonders above. Our presentation blends science and celestial stories for a captivating experience.

CITIES

Play the exciting nighttime game "Cities" in an open field. Learn to travel without flashlights, understand nocturnal animal behavior, and grasp the necessary elements of a habitat. Teachers play the role of predators in this favorite and educational game.



