

bennett day camp



SUMMER 2025 CAMP GUIDE

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CALLING ALL HAPPY CAMPERS!

At Bennett Day Camp, we provide an enriching atmosphere that enables our campers (ages 4-14) to develop self-identity, leadership skills, and a lifelong sense of adventure. With activities designed to inspire curiosity & build confidence, your child will embark on a summer of discovery, fun, and friendship.

AGES 4-10

Enrichment Classes: These classes offer opportunities to engage campers in creative problem-solving, scientific inquiry, art exploration, and more. Enrichment classes are run by seasoned Bennett Day School teachers and some of our favorite outside vendors.

Recreational Day Camp: When not in enrichment classes, campers will enjoy planned camp activities such as music, crafts, games, and outdoor play.

RISING 5TH-9TH GRADE

Counselor in Training Program:

Students will develop their leadership skills, receive mentorship from Bennett Day Camp counselors, and learn how to facilitate games and engaging experiences for younger campers.

Sports & Specialty Camps:

We've partnered with established Chicago-area sports camps and Bennett faculty to offer a wide variety of sports & specialty camps for rising 5th-9th Grade.



Bennett Day Camp
955 West Grand Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60642

telephone: 312.236.6388
email: summercamp@bennettday.org
website: bennettday.org/summer-camp

ENRICHMENT CLASSES (AGES 4-10)

ART IN OUR BACKYARD

(Rising Junior Kindergarten-1st Grade)

This class invites students to discover the natural world through various visual art prompts and activities. Campers will experiment with new techniques as they use materials like plants, seeds, and natural pigments to create original artwork. Students will gain experience and awareness of eco-friendly practices along the way while exploring our West Loop campus.

BASKETBALL BASICS (Rising 3rd-4th Grade)

Join our week-long Basketball clinic, where young athletes will learn the fundamentals of the game in a fun and supportive environment! Over the course of the week, students will develop essential skills like dribbling, shooting, passing, and teamwork, all while having a blast on the court. Whether you're a beginner or looking to sharpen your skills, this clinic is the perfect place to improve, make new friends, and enjoy the game of basketball!

BIG GAMES

(Rising Junior Kindergarten-4th Grade)

This class will feature a variety of sports & games in a fun, creative, and constructive environment to help keep your camper active. Join us for various dodgeball games, capture the flag, kickball, and many other classic sports and games. Participants will also have an opportunity to play inventive games created by the coaches!

BOOK BOUND (Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

Get ready to unleash your creativity and dive into the world of bookmaking at Book Bound! In this week-long workshop, you'll learn the art of binding your very own journal from scratch, plus how to fill it with cool collages, personal artwork, and found materials. Whether you want to make a sketchbook, a junk journal, or a memory book, you'll discover how to craft a one-of-a-kind book that's all your own!

BOOKWORM BONANZA (Rising 3rd-4th Grade)

Join our one-week book club for kids, where we dive into a new book each week! Together, we'll read an entire book in just five days! Our goal is to spark a lifelong love of reading, build confidence in young readers, and create a community of book lovers. Come for the fun, stay for the stories!

CAMP WILD MOVES

(Rising Junior Kindergarten-4th Grade)

Get ready for Camp Wild Moves, where the gym is your playground and the only limit is your imagination! This week-long adventure is all about moving, jumping, running, and collaborating with your team to create and conquer epic, action-packed games. Whether you're dodging, balancing, or sprinting, every game is designed to help you develop awesome gross motor skills while having a blast with friends!

CRAFTY CREATIONS

(Rising Kindergarten-1st Grade)

This class is bursting with creativity and art! Campers will use a wide range of materials each day while finding inspiration from different books, their favorite characters, and cultures from around the world.

CREATIVE CAPTIONS (Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

They say a picture is worth a thousand words—but sometimes, a caption is even better. A silly caption-writing class is the perfect way to take your camper's love of internet memes to a higher, more literary level. Campers will extend their favorite captions to create humorous fictional narratives.

CREATIVE WRITING (Rising 3rd-4th Grade)

Great for young authors, this class will be the perfect place for students to practice their writing skills, express themselves creatively, and learn the process for editing and revising. Each day students will have a fun writing lesson and engaging activities to let students experiment with their own creativity using graphic organizers, brainstorming, and rubrics as they create individual pieces and explore new interests.

CUT, PASTE, CREATE: A COLLAGE ADVENTURE! (Rising Kindergarten-1st Grade)

This fun, hands-on class will introduce kids to the creative world of collaging! Over the course of the week, they'll explore different materials like paper, fabric, and magazines to make their own colorful collages. The class will focus on different techniques: layering, texture building, cutting, and gluing. This class is perfect for sparking creativity and boosting fine motor skills!

DANCE PARTY (Rising Kindergarten-1st Grade)

Get ready to groove at our Dance Party Week at summer camp! This weeklong class is packed with fun dance games like Freeze Dance, Musical Chairs, and more! Kids will move, laugh, and dance to their favorite tunes while building confidence and learning dances like The Electric Slide, Chicken Dance, Macarena, and more. Whether you're twirling, hopping, or striking a pose, this class is all about having fun and staying active through the joy of dance!

DIY DELIGHTS

(Rising Junior Kindergarten-4th Grade)

Join our DIY fun for creators, where campers can explore their creativity through simple, hands-on projects! In this class, kids will use various materials to build, craft, and create exciting masterpieces. Campers will develop imagination and confidence—all while having a blast!

FUN WITH FEATHERED FRIENDS with CONNECTIONS ACADEMICS (Rising Kindergarten-2nd Grade)

Ready to soar into the world of birds? Join Connections Academics for this week-long adventure packed with exciting activities designed to introduce campers to the amazing world of birds while exploring nonfiction text, research, and writing. From learning about local species to exploring their habitats, every day is an opportunity to discover the beauty and wonder of our feathered friends while promoting literacy!

INVENT-A-GAME CHALLENGE (Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

Think you've got a wild game idea? Perfect! You'll work with your team to invent brand-new, high-energy games using gym equipment, obstacles, and, of course, your creativity. Whether it's a race with beach balls or a balancing relay, the fun never stops!

ENRICHMENT CLASSES (AGES 4-10)

INTRO TO DEBATE (Rising 3rd-4th Grade)

Join us for a fun-filled week where you'll learn the basics of debating in a friendly, supportive environment! This class will help you think on your feet, craft strong arguments, and communicate with confidence. Through games, team challenges, and exciting mini-debates, you'll practice speaking up, listening, and thinking critically—all while making new friends and having tons of fun. Perfect for young students eager to build their skills in public speaking and problem-solving!

JEWELRY MAKING (Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

Students will explore their creativity by crafting unique jewelry and accessories. Through beading, macrame, and wireworking, young designers will express their personal flair while developing fine motor skills. By the end of the week, each child will have a collection of handmade jewelry and the confidence to continue creating!

MATH MANIA (Rising Kindergarten-1st Grade)

In this playful, hands-on class, young learners will explore the exciting world of numbers! Each day will focus on a different math concept—using fun, interactive methods that keep campers engaged and excited. By the end of the week, they'll have a stronger sense of numbers and problem-solving, all while having a blast with friends!

NATURE EXPLORERS

(Rising Junior Kindergarten-1st Grade)

Step outside, take a deep breath, and immerse yourself in the wonders of nature! This weeklong adventure is designed for young adventurers who are curious about nature, eager to explore, and excited to create. Through hands-on activities like sensory walks, exploring patterns in nature, and making art inspired by the great outdoors, campers will connect with the environment in fun and creative ways.

OBSTACLE ADVENTURES

(Rising Junior Kindergarten-1st Grade)

Get ready for a fun-filled adventure through our exciting obstacles courses designed just for 4, 5 and 6 year-olds! This active class will encourage your child to crawl, climb, jump, and balance through a variety of playful challenges (including a climbing wall) all while developing important gross motor skills like coordination, agility, and strength in a safe and supportive environment.

PHOTOGRAPHY PERSPECTIVES

(Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

Young photographers will gain practical, hands-on experience operating digital camera's in both traditional and experimental ways. This course will introduce the essential elements of composition, lighting, framing, and storytelling in photographic practice. Photowalks, scavenger hunts, and open-ended challenges will serve as opportunities for students to express their unique artistic voice. Facilitated shares and reflections provide valuable opportunities for students to showcase their work.

PICTURE THIS! (Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

Get ready to capture the world through your lens at Picture This! This week-long photography adventure is perfect for kids who want to explore the art of photography while having fun and getting creative. Whether you're snapping shots of nature, friends, or everyday moments, you'll learn all the tricks to make your photos truly pop!

PICKLEBALL PALOOZA (Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

Come join in the fun of learning the basics of pickleball. Campers will learn the rules of the game, how to keep score, and basic form. Enjoy fun drills and game-play with fellow campers.

PUPPETS IN MOTION (Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

In this interactive course, campers will explore the art of puppetry through designing, building, and performing with self-made puppets. Student will learn about puppet making traditions from around the world. Puppet-construction techniques and styles will serve as pathways into character development. This course will equip students with essential skills to bring their creations and stories to life!

READ-A-THON RENEGADES

(Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

Do you feel there is never enough time for reading? Is it hard to find a cozy spot to dive into a good book? Do you struggle finding books that you enjoy? Campers will design and build their own reading forts on day one and immerse themselves in the wonderful world of books for the rest of the week!

SEW MUCH FUN: CREATIVE STITCHING AND CRAFTING FOR LITTLE SEWERS

(Rising 2nd-4th Grade)

Get ready to thread, stitch, and create at Sew Much Fun! This week-long class is the perfect introduction to the world of sewing, where little hands learn the basics of stitching, crafting, and creating in a fun, hands-on environment. Whether you're making a cuddly stuffed animal or designing your own fabric art, this class is all about building confidence and creativity with each stitch!

SKATEBOARDING with LITTLE RIPPERS

(Rising Kindergarten-4th Grade)

Join us for our action-packed, beginner skateboarding group classes where students learn to push/stop, ride ramps and obstacles, and learn all about skatepark safety and etiquette. Helmets and safety pads are required; skateboards are available as a free rental if needed!

SLIME LAB

(Rising Junior Kindergarten-1st Grade)

Get ready for a week of ooey, gooey fun at Slime Lab! This hands-on science class is perfect for young explorers who love getting messy and discovering the magic behind slime. From making squishy goo to experimenting with stretchy, bouncy concoctions, you'll dive into the world of slimy science and learn about the cool science behind all the squish and stretch!

SLIMY SCIENCE

(Rising Junior Kindergarten-1st Grade)

Get ready for a week of ooey-gooey fun! This hands-on class is packed with wobbly, squishy, and slime-filled experiments that will have campers mixing, stretching, and discovering the science behind all the gooey goodness. It's the perfect week for young scientists to get messy while learning the wonders of chemistry and physics!

LEARN MORE/REGISTER: bennettday.org/summer-camp

Questions? Email summercamp@bennettday.org

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ENRICHMENT CLASSES SCHEDULE (AGES 4-10)

Week	Time	JK (4 Y/O)	SK (5 Y/O)	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	
Week 1: June 23-June 27	9:00-10:00 am	STEAM Fun with Color			Storytime Squad		Skateboarding	
							Intro to Debate	
	10:30-11:30 am	Storytime Squad			STEAM Fun with Color			
			Skateboarding				Creative Writing	
						Photography Perspectives		
	12:30-1:30 pm		Fun with Feathered Friends				Basketball Basics	
Week 2: June 30-July 3	9:00-10:00 am	Art in Our Backyard				STEAM Fun with Color		
	10:30-11:30 am	Obstacle Adventures				¡Vámonos!		
						Picture This!		
	12:30-1:30 pm		Crafty Creations			Pickleball Palooza		
							Book Bound	
Week 3: July 7-July 11	9:00-10:00 am	Slime Lab				Weaving and Beading		
							Intro to Debate	
	10:30-11:30 am	Storytime Squad	Wearable Art				Word Wizards	
	12:30-1:30 pm		Storytime Squad			Big Games		
							STEAM Explorers	
Week 4: July 14- July 18	9:00-10:00 am	Big Games			Word Wizards			
						Read-a-thon Renegades		
	10:30-11:30 am	DIY Delights			Team Writing		Bookworm Bonanza	
	12:30-1:30 pm		STEAM Explorers				Basketball Basics	
							Puppets in Motion	
Week 5: July 21- July 25	9:00-10:00 am	Nature Explorers				Skateboarding		
	10:30-11:30 am	Storytime Adventures	Skateboarding			Book Bound		
	12:30-1:30 pm		Cut, Paste, Create: A Collage Adventure!			Invent a Game Challenge		
			Fun with Feathered Friends					
Week 6: July 28- August 1	9:00-10:00 am	DIY Delights	Math Mania			Photography Perspectives		
	10:30-11:30 am	Camp Wild Moves				DIY Delights		
	12:30-1:30 pm		DIY Delights			Camp Wild Moves		
							¡Vámonos!	
Week 7: August 4- August 8	9:00-10:00 am	Slimy Science	Dance Party			Sew Much Fun		
							Intro to Debate	
	10:30-11:30 am	Art in Our Backyard				Read-a-thon Renegades		
	12:30-1:30 pm		Big Games			Jewelry Making		
			Slimy Science			Creative Captions		

CAMPS FOR RISING 5TH-9TH GRADE

BENNETT AMBASSADORS BOOT CAMP

Show your school spirit and learn how to share your unique perspective as a Bennett student with prospective families and students in this one week boot camp! New student ambassadors will sharpen skills related to speaking with adults and kids, giving tours, greeting visitors, and planning and executing visits for prospective families. This is a great way to learn valuable life skills and leave a legacy at Bennett. **Interested students need to [apply here](#) and will be interviewed for the year-long program.** Existing ambassadors can register to freshen up their skills.

DATES: August 18-21

COST: FREE for current and accepted ambassadors

TIME: 12:00 - 3:00 pm

COUNSELOR IN TRAINING (CIT) PROGRAM

Counselors in Training (CIT) work under the supervision of program administrators and take on new responsibilities with younger students enrolled in Bennett Day Camp (ages 4-8). Counselors in Training learn the basics of leadership in programming and learn how to facilitate games and engaging experiences for campers. Students will learn what it means to take ownership, will be mentored by older counselors, and are given a chance to become an impactful leader!

Students must [apply for this program](#) and will be contacted by school administration to be interviewed via phone or in-person to ensure they are ready for this role. Applications will be limited and accepted on a rolling basis. Training will take place for several days before the first day of camp on June 23 and can include CPR/First Aid for interested students. CIT students do NOT need to do the whole summer but may choose which weeks they would like to participate after being trained. Students enrolled in any half-day middle school camps may choose to do CIT for the remaining half days of camp. [Apply here.](#)

DATES: June 23-August 8

COST: \$300/Week Full Day; \$150/Week for Half Day (Additional cost for CPR/First Aid certification)*

**Families will be billed through Sawyer if their student is accepted*

TIME: Full Day from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm / Half Day from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm OR 12:00 - 3:00 pm

CREATIVE WRITING CAMP

Are you a storyteller? Do you have amazing ideas but aren't sure how to get started? In this creative writing class, campers will learn strategies for brainstorming and creating outlines, adding depth to characters, and placing those characters in settings that are richly detailed. New writers and longtime writers alike will thoroughly enjoy the readings, writing exercises, and space to imagine and create that this camp has to offer!

DATES: July 7-11

COST: \$200/Week

TIME: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

GAME ON! SPORTS 4 GIRLS LEADERSHIP CAMP (5TH-8TH GRADE)

A purposely structured Sports Leadership camp for rising 5th-8th grade girls using sports play and specially designed curriculum as the perfect means to foster growth as a leader both on and off the sports fields. Girls will end each week by working with younger campers for a portion of the day. Girls may sign up for 1, 2 or all 3 weeks!

DATES: June 23-27, June 30-July 3 (no camp July 4), July 7-11

COST: \$625/Week

TIME: 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

HI-FIVE SPORT CLUB CAMP FOR BOYS

Join the Hi-Five team for their inaugural summer at Bennett Day Camp! This high-energy, cutting-edge program gives boys a taste of the Hi-Five experience that kids have enjoyed for over 25 years. The program is designed for all different skill and experience levels to learn and compete in team sports like basketball, soccer, flag football, softball, floor hockey, volleyball and more —all while emphasizing teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun!

Hi-Five's program includes both skill development and gameplay:

- **Skill Development** – Through age-appropriate, daily-reinforced drills and teaching stations, campers will learn skills of each sport.
- **Gameplay** – Scrimmages and time-tested games where campers can put their skills into action, learn strategy, and work in teams.

Their experienced and trustworthy coaches ensure an engaging, safe and tech-free environment that fosters confidence, resilience and a love for the game, whether you're a "rookie" or already a "seasoned pro." Get ready for your child to come home happy, tired, and excited for more!

DATES: July 28 - August 1, August 4-8

COST: \$650/Week

TIME: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

IMPROV ADVENTURE CAMP

Get ready to think fast, laugh hard, and create on the fly at Improv Adventure Camp! This isn't your average camp—here, you'll dive into the wild world of improvisation, where there's no script, no rules, and absolutely no limit to the fun!

Each day, you'll play hilarious games, create spontaneous scenes, and build wild characters—all while learning the magic of "yes, and..." You'll work with your fellow campers to put your creativity to the test, and before you know it, you'll be performing in front of a live audience (no pressure, right?).

Come for the games, stay for the laughs—and maybe even discover your hidden comedic genius! It's time to make it up as we go along... because, in improv, anything can happen!

DATES: July 28 - August 1

COST: \$300/Week

TIME: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

ONE-WEEK PLAYMAKERS CAMP: FROM PAGE TO STAGE IN 5 DAYS!

PHYSICS IN MOTION CAMP: BUILD, TEST, AND ENGINEER

LEARN MORE/REGISTER: bennettday.org/summer-camp
Questions? Email summercamp@bennettday.org

CAMP STAFF

Bennett students will see familiar teaching and auxiliary faces working throughout the summer and new campers will be welcomed with open arms. Our camp counselors are committed to creating a fun, safe, and welcoming environment for all!

CAMP HOURS

- Early Morning Care: 7:30 am-8:30 am | \$60 per week
- Daily Camp: 8:30 am-3:00 pm
- Enrichment Offerings: 9:00-10:00 am, 10:30-11:30am, 12:30-1:30 pm
- Half Day Middle School Camps: 9:00 am-12:00 pm
- Extended After Care: 3:00 pm-5:30 pm | \$120 per week

PRICING & DISCOUNTS

Bennett Day Camp for Ages 4-10

Recreational Day Camp +1 Enrichment Class	\$535
Recreational Day Camp +2 Enrichment Classes	\$595
Recreational Day Camp +3 Enrichment Classes	\$650

Bennett Day Camp for Rising 5th-9th Grade

Counselor in Training Program	\$150-\$300
Sports Camps	\$625-\$650
Specialty Camps	\$200-\$550

Early Bird Discount

Use the code **EarlyBlueJay** for 10% off between now and March 15.

LUNCH (AGES 4-10)

Lunch is included for campers ages 4-10. Bennett Day Camp always provides a vegetarian option and can accommodate most allergies. Campers can also bring a lunch from home. Bennett is a nut-free facility.

REFUND POLICY

At Bennett Day Camp we know plans change! We pride ourselves on the flexibility we are able to provide to campers and their families. Our Refund Policy allows families to receive a full refund up until **June 16, 2025**.

