

# SPACE SCIENCE Summer Camp

**The focus of Vanderbilt Dyer Observatory's camp is astronomy and space science.**

Campers learn how scientists discover the secrets of the universe from exotic black holes to the nature of light. The camp curriculum has been created by an expert team of astronomy professionals, space scientists, and area science teachers.

**The highlight of the week is a journey to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville for a day-long adventure. Other activities may include:**

- Interact with cutting-edge research astronomers.
- Learn how telescopes work, and build your own.
- Safely view the dynamic surface of the Sun through a solar telescope.
- Learn about basic electronics, and use the knowledge to build working projects.
- Design a surface lander to survive a 50' drop from a drone.
- Make your own realistic models of comets, and learn how craters are formed.
- Design and launch water rockets as an introduction to rocketry.

**2024 CAMP DATES:** Daily 9am-3pm, except the Wednesday field trip is 7am-5pm

- 5th+6th grades the week of July 8-12
- 7th+8th grades the week of July 15-19

**COST:** \$350 per camper. Merit scholarships are not awarded, but financial aid is available to those students who demonstrate financial need.

**LOCATION:** Vanderbilt Dyer Observatory, 1000 Oman Drive, Brentwood, TN. The observatory is located off of Granny White Pike, approximately 1/3 mile north of Old Hickory Blvd. *We are NOT on the main Vanderbilt campus.*

**HOW TO APPLY:** Visit our camp page in early February for enrollment information.

**Questions?** Email Dyer Observatory's Director, Dr. Billy Teets, at [william.k.teets@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:william.k.teets@vanderbilt.edu) or phone (615) 373-4897 for more information.

**More details on the next page >>>**



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## MORE CAMP DETAILS

### **TIMES:**

**Monday:** Please arrive between 8am and 8:45am to get checked in.

**Other regular days:** Our gates open at 8am, but please have your camper here by 9am when activities begin. Pick-up time is 3pm *sharp*.

**Wednesday:** Arrive at Dyer between 7am and 7:10am to check in for our field trip to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Pick up at Dyer will be between 4:30pm and 5:30pm depending on traffic. We will give you more details about the trip the week of the camp.

**DIRECTIONS:** Set your GPS or see the Dyer website for directions to 1000 Oman Drive in Brentwood.

**Note that we are not located on the main Vanderbilt campus.**

**ATTIRE:** Campers should wear comfortable clothes and closed-toe shoes that are suitable for walking inside and outside, as well as appropriate for an educational environment. On Wednesday, your child is required to wear their camp shirt on the field trip.

**LUNCH:** Bring a lunch with beverage on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Additional snacks and drinks will be provided every day (taking into account campers' allergies and food restrictions). On Wednesday, lunch will be provided at the Space and Rocket Center.

**EXTRA:** Wear sunscreen and bug spray as we will be outdoors for part of each day. We will have extra on hand if needed.

For our water rocket activity, please bring 2-liter soda bottles to camp if you have them. They may be clear or a color.

Further details and updates will be emailed to campers before camp starts.



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## FIELD TRIP INFORMATION

**On Wednesday we will travel on a chartered coach to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, to explore exhibits, engage in an experiment, view a film, and maybe enjoy a few rides!**

**Be at Dyer Observatory between 7:00am-7:10am** to check in. We will leave at 7:30am and cannot wait for late students.

**The target return time is 5:30pm.** Due to unpredictable traffic, we cannot guarantee that exact time. If campers have their own cell phones, we will ask them to contact you with arrival updates. You may certainly call them for updates. If your child does not have a cell phone, one will be provided for them to contact you. Please be sure they know the number to call.

**Admission and on-site activities for this trip are included in your camp fee,** so everything is already paid. The only money you may wish to send is for a gift shop visit. We end the day in that area waiting for the bus. Lunch and snacks will be provided on the field trip. Campers may bring additional food if they like, but they will have to eat/leave it on the bus or carry it around with them if they wish to eat it at lunch time.

**Clothing: Campers must wear their Dyer camp shirts on the field trip.** This is how we easily identify and track them when mixing with other groups. Wear comfortable, closed-toe shoes. (No flip-flops) We will be both inside and outside while on the grounds.

Items not allowed in the US Space and Rocket Center Park include digital music players, portable game devices, CD players, radios, etc., but they are allowed on the bus. Cameras are encouraged!

