

YMCA SUMMER DAY CAMP

June 30 - August 29, 2025





Trusted. Accredited. Welcoming.



As an accredited member of the Ontario Camps Association and registered member of High Five, we deliver convenient, affordable and quality programs where everyone is welcome.

The YMCA Camp Difference



Building Character at YMCA Day Camp

Character development is a key element of the YMCA Day Camp program. We encourage all members of the camp community to treat one another with dignity and strive to celebrate positive actions.

The YMCA core values are the cornerstones of character development at the YMCA.

- **ADVOCACY** • **CARING** • **RESPECT**
- **HONESTY** • **RESPONSIBILITY**
- **INCLUSIVENESS** • **HEALTH**



P.04

General Camp Info

Everything you need to know about our 2025 YMCA Camp programs, including session details, activities, registration information, and more.



P.05 - P.08

Camp Descriptions

Discover our 2025 YMCA Camps, from outdoor adventure and sports to creative arts and leadership programs—designed to spark curiosity and fun for every camper.



P.09 - P.13

Camps by Municipality

Discover our Summer Day Camp locations across the Niagara Region, offering a range of programs in your community.

“
Mom, can I
go back next
summer?”

Play



Shine On 

Grow

“
I made lots of
new friends at
camp.”



Thrive

“
I want to be a
counselor
when I grow up.”

General Camp Info

Picking the Right Camp

Before you register for YMCA Day Camps, make sure you are selecting the most suitable camp for your child. Here are some helpful hints to guide you in picking the right camps.

Select camps with your child that match their interests and meet your needs. Note the location and description of each camp you choose.

Consider how many weeks your child will attend and if they'd benefit from a variety of camps or prefer consistent routines and familiar faces.

At our outdoor sites activities run rain or shine. Campers should dress for the weather and will have access to a pavilion or shelter. Outdoor washrooms and handwashing stations are provided.

Camp Hours

Drop Off Opens 8:00am
Camp Day Starts 8:30am
Camp Day Ends 4:30pm
Pick Up Until 5:00pm

Holidays

Day Camp will not run
July 1 (Canada Day) or
August 4 (Civic Holiday)
School sites are also
closed June 30

Ages for Camp

Camps are available for children aged 5-12, with select camps offered for youth aged 13-14. Availability may vary per location and program offerings. You must register your child at a camp with the appropriate age group. Children must meet the age requirements for their selected camp by the first day of the camp.

Registration Reminders

YMCA Day Camp registrations must be completed online at ymcaofniagara.org

Credit, debit or pre-paid card (AMEX, Visa or Mastercard) information is required at the time of registration. Payment via Electronic Funds Transfer is also acceptable (Enter your chequing account information). Camp can be set up to be paid on June 6th, or split payment options are available.

Registrations received on or after June 6th, 2025 must be paid in full.

Limited spaces are available and are assigned on a first-come-first-served basis. If the camp is full, please add your child(ren) to the waiting list, and we will contact you if a space becomes available.

Cancellation Policy

All refund requests must be emailed to the day camp office at ymcadaycamp@niagara.ymca.ca

Full refunds will be issued if requested prior to June 6th, 2025. Requests on or after June 6th, 2025 will incur a \$25 processing fee per camper. Camp fees are non-refundable within 10 days of the camp.

No refunds are issued if a camper is sent home as a result of their behaviour, if they are ill or if they are directed to isolate/stay home.

In order to provide a quality camp program and experience, a session may be cancelled by the YMCA due to low registrations. Campers will be offered an alternative camp location or refund.

Day Camp locations are subject to change based on site availability with our community partners.

Helping Hands

Does your child require support in camp? Our Helping Hands program offers 1:1 support for children with physical, and/or developmental disabilities, mental health or behavioural considerations so they can enjoy a positive and supportive camp experience alongside their peers. [Visit our website](http://ymcaofniagara.org) for more information.

After You Register

After you complete the registration process, you will receive a confirmation letter and camp handbook containing further details of the child's upcoming camp experience at the YMCA. If you have more questions, please contact the Day Camp Office at: ymcadaycamp@niagara.ymca.ca or (905) 934-9755 ext. 280

Financial Assistance

Need financial assistance? Several subsidy options are available to families.

For more information please visit ymcaofniagara.org



Camp Descriptions

Variety Camp

Ages 5-12 • All Locations

Variety camp offers a range of activities that encourages campers to develop confidence and enjoyment while they explore new interests and develop skills, all while promoting ongoing participation in physical activity. Variety camp allows campers to take part in sports, arts and crafts, outdoor play, team building exercises and more! Campers will have an opportunity to cool down during water games. Each day brings a new set of activities to create an engaging and fun camp experience.



Aquatics Leadership Camp

Bronze Star

Ages 10-13 • Grimsby

Dive into adventure at YMCA Aquatic Leadership Camp. Join us for an exhilarating experience where campers earn their Bronze Star/Basic First Aid certifications and take the first steps to learn about becoming an aquatic leader. From an introduction to rescue techniques to aquatic fitness challenges, our camp is designed to ignite your passion for swimming while having a ton of fun.

Campers will also get to experience other camp activities like active games, crafts, songs, and camper group time, all making for a unique and memorable camper experience.

Outdoor Adventures Camp

Ages 6-12 • St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland

Campers will explore the world around them through hands-on experiences in the great outdoors during this unique outdoor summer camp with classic camp traditions like sports, arts and crafts, and water games. Connecting to and fostering a love for outdoor discovery in a safe and exciting environment is the goal of this one-week camp. Campers have a chance to appreciate nature while building their self-esteem, self-achievement and outdoor STEM skills like shelter building, orienteering, and archery to name a few! This camp is a perfect mix of exploration, fun, and a traditional summer camp experience!

Camp Weeks & Themes

Regardless of the type of camp you choose, our Day Camp Team has created fun weekly themes to inspire crafts and special events with invitations to dress up on Fridays.

Week 1	Jun 30 - Jul 04*	Music Fest
Week 2	Jul 07 - Jul 11	Animal Kingdom
Week 3	Jul 14 - Jul 18	Secret Agent
Week 4	Jul 21 - Jul 25	Under the Sea
Week 5	Jul 28 - Aug 01	Lost in Space
Week 6	Aug 05 - Aug 08*	Hollywood
Week 7	Aug 11 - Aug 15	Enchanted Forest
Week 8	Aug 18 - Aug 22	Heroes
Week 9	Aug 25 - Aug 29	Messy Week

*Fees are pro-rated for 3 and 4 day camp weeks
Day Camp will not be offered July 1st (Canada Day)
or August 4th (Civic Holiday).
School sites are also closed June 30th.

Aquatics Leadership Camp

Bronze Medallion

Ages 13-14* • Grimsby

*Or ages 10-12 with Bronze Star Certification.

Embark on an epic journey at YMCA Aquatic Leadership Camp. Dive deep into adventure as you master water safety skills and earn your Bronze Medallion and Emergency First Aid certification. From learning how to perform Aquatic rescues to hands-on first aid training, this camp is your gateway to becoming a confident leader in and out of the water.

Campers will also get to experience other camp activities like active games, crafts, songs, and camper group time, all making for a unique and memorable camper experience.

Community Partners

Many of our camps are collaboratively run with community partners Creative Bug, Mad Science, Little Medical School and Wonder Box. Campers enjoy educational-based instruction for a portion of the day led by the community professionals and also experience traditional YMCA games, outdoor activities and group time with our YMCA counsellors throughout the day.

Mad Science: Chemistry, Claws & Constellations

POWERED BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Ages 6-12 • St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland

Weeks 2, 4, 5, 7: From the tiniest molecules, to outer space's largest galaxies, science is all around us. Explore a new topic in science each day! Discover pollution solutions & test what your toes have to do with tennis. Don't forget the chemical reactions! No Mad Science camp is complete without an explosion or two! Campers take home cool Mad Science take-homes every day!

“My daughter's confidence has grown as she feels safe and comfortable in this new environment.”

Youth Leadership Leaders in Training

Ages 13 & 14 • St. Catharines

2-week camp

This two-week camp program combines traditional fun day camp activities with a focus on leadership skills to equip youth to be leaders in our community. Through group discussions and team building activities, youth will identify what type of leader they want to be and consider how to apply their strengths in a variety of settings.

The program also explores goal setting, effective communication, role modeling and positive habits that enhance leadership skills. Participants will learn how to facilitate camp programs and showcase their skills to a group of young campers, earning 10 Community Service hours, with additional volunteer opportunities possible for successful youth leaders. Participants in this leadership camp will receive Emergency First Aid Training (Lifesaving Society) and Certification upon completion as part of the program.



Mad Science: Spy Camp

POWERED BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Ages 6-12 • St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland

Weeks 3, 6, 8: Harness and hone your observation skills as you explore what it takes to be an ace detective, super sleuth or undercover spy! Check for clues using handwriting analysis, UV prints and evidence left at a crime scene. Have some fun stepping into the shoes of a crime scene investigator while you explore the science of forensics. Campers take home cool Mad Science Gear every day!

Creative Bug Jr. Camp

POWERED BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Ages 5-6 • St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland

Weeks 1, 3, 5: Rainbow Week - Join us for the most colourful week of the summer! Creative Bug will take campers on a colourful journey with paint, clay and more while learning about colour theory.

Weeks 2, 4, 6: Literature Week - At Creative Bug we love books, especially fun books, books with heroes and books with great art! We will look at the world of art through the eyes of The Very Hungry Dragon, The Paper Bag Princess and more of our favourite stories and story tellers! Each Session will feature different authors and arts for campers to explore their passion for literature and the arts!

Weeks 3, 7: SMASH Art Week - SMASH Art Week brings you ALL of our favourite mediums including acrylic and watercolour paints, clay, pastels, sharpies and more! Campers will spend the week exploring art and learning how to use the tools and new techniques.

Weeks 4, 8: Cuddly Creatures - From fuzzy and fluffy to soft and sweet, this week's art will be inspired by our favourite animals! Each day the Creative Bug team will create a new creature with the campers using a variety of mediums including paint, clay, pastels and more!



Creative Bug Sr. Camp

POWERED BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Ages 7-12 • St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland

Weeks 1, 3, 5: Acrylics - Let's Paint! This week campers will learn more painting techniques while painting along with our team! Each camper will have the opportunity to design their own work as their final project of the week with guidance from the Creative Bug Team.

Weeks 2, 4, 6: Inspired By - The Creative Bug Team cannot wait to share their most favourite artists with campers this summer! We will explore the worlds of Maud Lewis, Tim Burton and more artists who inspire us every day as we use some of their favourite mediums and ours!

Weeks 3, 7: SMASH Art - SMASH Art Week brings you ALL of our favourite mediums including acrylic and watercolour paints, clay, pastels, sharpies and more! Campers will spend the week exploring art and learning how to use the tools and new techniques.

Weeks 4, 8: Beach Week - We are ready to celebrate summer with art inspired by our love of the surf and sand! Artists will take inspiration from seaside landscapes, sea creatures and all the things that we love about going to the beach every summer!

On the last day my daughter asked me if there were any other weeks she could attend. The camp leaders are certainly doing their jobs well.

Wonder Box

POWERED BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Ages 5-12 • St. Catharines, Grimsby, Niagara Falls, Welland

Wonder Box camp will have campers building their curiosity, sparking their imagination and creativity! Wonder Box provides campers opportunities to engage in STEAM activities throughout the week with an instructor to help guide them. From creating jumping frogs, launchers, balancing toys, and more, campers will build a new creation each day. Each Wonder Box is built with research and care, so campers can explore, learn, and feed their curiosity.



Little Medical School

POWERED BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Ages 5-7 • St. Catharines



Week 4: Little Vet, Pawesome Adventures! - After “adopting” their very own plush puppy, campers will role play the key responsibilities of a veterinarian, including how to properly perform a nose-to-tail exam. These future veterinarians will learn how to sew stitches, remove ticks, make healthy treats, and vaccinate their dog. Our program concludes with our new little Vets graduating/receiving a diploma and reciting the Vet Oath to their family and friends!

Week 5: Jr Marine Biology, A Sea Turtle Adventure and Rescue - Dive into the world of marine biology on this extraordinary expedition! Our program gives campers a hands-on, dynamic introduction to sea turtles and conduct ocean experiments. Each camper will become the caretaker of a plush sea turtle, conduct health checks, explore the diversity of sea turtle species, and join a team effort to rescue and release a Leatherback Sea turtle back into the wild. This engaging program culminates in their graduation as Little Marine Biologists, empowering them to protect sea turtles and our oceans.

Week 7: Jr Little Doc, Medical Marvels - Inspire learning today - healthy futures tomorrow. Through role-play and activities, campers will learn the key responsibilities of Doctor as they explore the heart, lungs, and digestion. Campers will use real medical instruments (stethoscope, reflex hammer, and blood pressure cuff) and practice scrubbing, suturing, and tying knots like a real surgeon. They will be enlightened in the importance of preventive care and healthy lifestyles. Our campers will graduate, receive a diploma, recite the Little Medical School Hippocratic Oath for their family and friends. They will receive their lab coat and very own stethoscope to take home!

Week 8: Little Vet, Purrs and Meows - In this exciting Vet program, campers will learn all about our feline friends. They will adopt their very own plush kitty while discovering their body language, styles and creating cat toys. They will learn how to keep their pets healthy through assessing their unique anatomies, nutrition and learn what makes them purr. Our program concludes with our new little Vets graduating/receiving a diploma and reciting the Vet Oath to their family and friends!

Little Medical School

POWERED BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Ages 8-12 • St. Catharines



Week 4: Forensic Science, CSI Mysteries - Uncover the clues, crack the case - your forensic adventure starts here! Campers will conduct experiments on fingerprinting, collecting shoe prints, chromatography, composite drawing, facial reconstruction, toxicology, and handwriting analysis to solve a crime. The group culminates with the forensic camper team working together on a crime scene investigation, followed by graduation!

Week 5: Sr Marine Biology, Under the Sea Ocean Explorers... Whales and Sharks and Friends! OH MY! This program offers a dynamic, hands-on experience to the world of Marine Biology. Campers conduct ocean experiments and adopt their very own plush Orca. Along their journey, they will learn how to preserve our oceans, discover how to rescue, rehabilitate, and return sea animals back to the wild. Campers will uncover the mysteries of ocean layers, vertebrates vs. invertebrates, water pressure, and more! They'll also explore marine mammals, ocean animal babies, and ocean predators. This engaging program culminates in their graduation as Little Marine Biologists, empowering them to protect our oceans.

Week 7: Sr Little Doc - Through role-play and activities, campers will learn the key responsibilities of a Doctor as they explore the heart and lungs. They will learn lifesaving skills like First Aid, CPR and emergency choking response. Campers will use real medical instruments (stethoscope, reflex hammer, and blood pressure cuff) and practice scrubbing, suturing, and tying knots like a real surgeon. They will be enlightened in the importance of preventive care and healthy lifestyles. Our campers will graduate, receive a diploma, recite the Little Medical School Hippocratic Oath for their family and friends. They will receive their lab coat and very own stethoscope to take home.

Week 8: Med/STEM Career Explorers... Navigating Future Frontiers! - Discover the fascinating world of healthcare and STEM careers with fun, hands-on activities! Explore nursing, dentistry, surgery, pediatrics, nutrition and more while discovering what makes them exciting. The experience culminates in a fun 'Match Day' graduation ceremony where campers pick their favorite career path, sparking curiosity and a love for Medicine and STEM.

WEEK 1* Jun 30 - Jul 04	WEEK 2 Jul 07 - Jul 11	WEEK 3 Jul 14 - Jul 18	WEEK 4 Jul 21 - Jul 25	WEEK 5 Jul 28 - Aug 01	WEEK 6* Aug 05 - Aug 08	WEEK 7 Aug 11 - Aug 15	WEEK 8 Aug 18 - Aug 22	WEEK 9 Aug 25 - Aug 29
----------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

*Week is shorter and pro-rated due to holiday.

St. Catharines

Camps					
Program	Ages	Weeks	Venue	Fees	Location*
Outdoor Adventures	6 - 12	Weeks 1 to 9	Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Burgoyne Woods
Leadership Camp (2 Weeks)	13 - 14	Weeks 4 to 5 and 7 to 8	Outdoor	\$450 for 2 Weeks	Burgoyne Woods
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Weeks 1 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Parnall Public School
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Weeks 1 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Lockview Public School
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Weeks 1 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Ferndale Public School
Wonder Box Jr. & Sr.	5 - 7 8 - 12	Week 1	Indoor Outdoor	\$265 / Week	Ferndale Public School
Mad Science Jr. & Sr.	6 - 7 8 - 12	Weeks 2 to 3	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	Ferndale Public School
Little Medical School Jr. & Sr.	5 - 7 8 - 12	Weeks 4 to 5	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	Ferndale Public School
Creative Bug Jr. & Sr.	5 - 6 7 - 12	Weeks 7 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	Ferndale Public School
Mad Science Jr. & Sr.	6 - 7 8 - 12	Week 4	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	Lockview Public School
Creative Bug Jr. & Sr.	5 - 6 7 - 12	Weeks 5 to 6	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	Lockview Public School
Little Medical School Jr. & Sr.	5 - 7 8 - 12	Weeks 7 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	Lockview Public School

*Day Camp locations are subject to change based on site availability.

*Week is shorter and pro-rated due to holiday.

Grimsby

Camps

Program	Ages	Weeks	Venue	Fees	Location*
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Weeks 1 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Grand Avenue Public School
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Week 9	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Niagara West YMCA
Wonder Box Jr. & Sr.	5 - 7 8 - 12	Weeks 3 and 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$265 / Week	Grand Avenue Public School
Aquatics Leadership Camp (Bronze Star)	10 - 13	Week 2	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Niagara West YMCA
Aquatics Leadership Camp (Bronze Medallion)	13 - 14**	Week 7	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Niagara West YMCA

*Day Camp locations are subject to change based on site availability.

**Or ages 10-12 with Bronze Star Certification.



*Week is shorter and pro-rated due to holiday.

Niagara Falls

Camps					
Program	Ages	Weeks	Venue	Fees	Location*
Outdoor Adventures	6 - 12	Weeks 1 to 9	Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Fireman's Park (Upper Site)
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Weeks 1 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	John Marshall Public School
Creative Bug Jr. & Sr.	5 - 6 7 - 12	Weeks 1 to 4	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	John Marshall Public School
Wonder Box Jr. & Sr.	5 - 7 8 - 12	Weeks 5 to 6	Indoor Outdoor	\$265 / Week	John Marshall Public School
Mad Science Jr. & Sr.	6 - 7 8 - 12	Weeks 7 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	John Marshall Public School

*Day Camp locations are subject to change based on site availability.



“My daughter can be shy in groups and her experience was very warm and welcoming! I’m grateful that she had the opportunity to work on her independence at camp with lots of support from the amazing staff.”



*Week is shorter and pro-rated due to holiday.

Welland

Camps					
Program	Ages	Weeks	Venue	Fees	Location*
Outdoor Adventures	6 - 12	Weeks 1 to 9	Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Chippawa Park
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Weeks 1, 3 and 5 to 9	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Niagara Centre YMCA
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Weeks 1 to 8	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Gordon Public School
Creative Bug Jr. & Sr.	5 - 6 7 - 12	Weeks 3 to 4	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	Gordon Public School
Mad Science Jr. & Sr.	6 - 7 8 - 12	Weeks 5 to 6	Indoor Outdoor	\$290 / Week	Gordon Public School
Wonder Box Jr. & Sr.	5 - 7 8 - 12	Weeks 2 and 4	Indoor Outdoor	\$265 / Week	Niagara Centre YMCA

*Day Camp locations are subject to change based on site availability.

“It allowed my husband and I to go to work all week without worrying about our children during the day. We felt they were save, occupied with fun, physical, outdoor activity which we feel is very important for our kids. They had fun, were exposed to some newer experiences for them, made new friends, worked through challenges and want to go back next year. As a parent, I can’t ask for more and I’m thankful to have YMCA camps as an option for our children



*Week is shorter and pro-rated due to holiday.

Port Colborne

Camps					
Program	Ages	Weeks	Venue	Fees	Location*
Variety Camp	5 - 12	Weeks 1 to 9	Indoor Outdoor	\$245 / Week	Port Colborne YMCA

*Day Camp locations are subject to change based on site availability.



My daughter can be shy in groups and her experience was very warm and welcoming! I’m grateful that she had the opportunity to work on her independence at camp with lots of support from the amazing staff.

Play. Grow. Thrive.

We can't wait to welcome campers back in 2025 for a summer filled with memorable adventures, newly forged friendships, and transformational experiences.



Stronger Together

Funds raised through our Stronger Together campaign help more kids experience the joy, friendship, and confidence-building moments of YMCA Day Camp. Your support breaks down financial barriers and opens the door to unforgettable summer memories for children across Niagara. Together, we're creating brighter futures—one camper at a time



Stay Connected

Visit our website at ymcaofniagara.org or follow us on social media to learn more about the YMCA and stay up-to-date all year long.



Day Camp Office
(905) 934-9755 x280
ymcadaycamp@niagara.ymca.ca



YMCA of Niagara
3-300 Bunting Road
St. Catharines, ON L2M 7X3



YMCA Kinder Care

YMCA Summer Care, offered at YMCA Child Care Centres across Niagara is also an excellent choice for children ages 3-5 years of age who require care and fun activities over the summer. Visit: ymcaofniagara.org/programs/child-care/licensed-kinder-care/

