

Summer  
is just around  
the corner.  
The Autism Program  
at Boston Medical  
Center is here to  
help you plan!

CAMP



Summer 2023

How to prepare for a  
Covid-safe summer with  
summer activities and  
camps

HOME



Special Education  
Camp?

Inclusive  
Camp?

or

See pages 2-8 for a list of  
camps and activities around  
the Greater Boston Area

pages 9-10



Make a splash this  
summer by checking out  
our water safety  
resources on pages 11-12

Check out the social story and  
checklist on pages 10-12 about  
going to camp!



The Autism Program  
AT BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER



## Cambridge Camping

Cambridge, MA  
Ages: 5-12

The goal of CADC is to provide a dynamic, engaging, and educational experience that allows children to stretch beyond their current boundaries and develop their leadership potential. Each year our program theme provides the framework for camp activities including: studio art, cooking, movement, performance art, dance, and engineering.



Dates: July 10- August 11  
Times: 9am - 3pm

<https://www.cambridgecamping.org/daycamps>



## Viking Sports Summer Camp

Brookline, MA  
Ages 5-13



Sports-focused camp with a team focus  
Offers multi-sports camps as well as sports-specific camps like soccer camp, baseball Camp, flag football camp, and soccer academy.

Multiple sessions beginning July 7  
Extended session 8am-6pm

<https://www.vikingcamps.com/viking-programs/summer-camp/>  
(506)-358-5066



## Camp FUSE -

Lexington and Norwood locations  
Ages 3-9

In person summer camp. Primarily outside. Small groups (6/7 children/ 2 teachers). Camp focused on social and communication skills.

Date and time: June 27 to July 4. 9:00am-1:30pm

1:4 counselor to child ratio  
<https://www.fuseprogram.com/lexington-vacation-summer-program/>  
(781)-658-3009





## Camp Three Rivers

Concord, MA

Grades K-6 to 10



Provide kids with behavioral support, activity adaptations and friendship. Participants must have an IEP or 504 to qualify. A Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist is available. Fees apply, registration is required.

Multiple sessions from June 26

978-287-1057

[www.concordrec.com/](http://www.concordrec.com/)



## Lego and Robotics Program

Medford, Melrose, Newton, Sharon, Tewksbury, Wakefield, Walpole, West Roxbury

Ages 4 -13

In session: weeklong sessions from June 26. 9am - 3pm

Minecraft Game Design Master:

In this week-long program your child will learn to master Minecraft. Students will learn how to use Redstone to build circuits and machines, use command blocks to enhance maps and see how Boolean logic is applied to Minecraft. Students will develop an understanding of game design, while also applying previous learned skills such as teamwork, cooperation, and healthy/good competition, all while having fun and building amazing creations! All programs will have a maximum of 12 students, in which they will work together/separately.

Program cost: \$150

<https://letgoyourmind.com/virtual-programs/>

(603) 731 - 8047





## Riverview School

Cape Cod

Ages 11-21

Riverview's GROW Summer Program is a five-week co-educational program for students who have graduated from high school (17–21 years old) and who are enrolled in the school-year program. The program is designed to build students' vocational and independent living skills while reinforcing academics.

Dates: July 10- August 12. 7am-pm

<https://www.riverviewschool.org/programs/summer-program>

508-888-0489 ext. 206.



## BINA Farm

Lexington  
Ages 9-14

Horsing Around at the BINA Farm. Inclusive summer program for children with and without special needs, including siblings. Daily group therapeutic or recreational horseback riding and horsemanship, plus cooking, gardening, arts & crafts, music or yoga.

Dates: sessions from July 10. 9am-12pm

[info@binafarm.org](mailto:info@binafarm.org)

508-651-2462



## Rockspot Climbing Camp

Boston, Dedham  
sessions starting June 28

Summer Adventures Indoor - Half day week (8+ years)

- learn climb-based skills as well as team-building skills and activities
- prioritizing weekly enrollments over daily enrollments

Summer Adventures Outdoors - Half day (10+ years)

-running outdoor programs out of their Rhode Island facilities that adhere to RI Dept of Health guidelines for outdoor youth programs. RI allows out of state participants and for transport to be provided from out of state. Pick-up and drop-off for this program will still be out of the Boston-Dedham gym.

-discounts available if multiple weeks are purchased

<https://boston.rockspotclimbing.com/youth/boston-dedham-adventure/>

(617)333-4433





## MGH Aspire

Lexington

Age: 5-13

6 week summer program 6/5-8/11

Program specific for children and adolescent on the autism spectrum Individuals come together to build social skills , stress management strategies, and self-awareness through interactive and supportive activities. A string enrollment policy applies.

<https://www.massgeneral.org/children/aspire/apply/>



## Berklee College of Music - ABLE Summer Music for Musicians with Disabilities

Boston

Ages served: 9-17

In session: sessions starting July 31. 9am-3pm

At Berklee, we believe that the arts better the lives of everyone. That's why we offer the ABLE Day Sessions program for musicians with disabilities. Study your instrument in group lessons. Play or sing with other musicians in an ensemble. Experience music through drumming, singing, and music technology workshops. Learn from other musicians in clinics. Share your music in a performance with your ensemble at the end of the week. You must be at least 9 years old by the start of the program, and you must have at least six months of playing or singing experience.

Cost: \$998 per week. [Need-based tuition assistance is available to families that qualify.](#)

<https://college.berklee.edu/berklee-institute-arts-education-and-special-needs/day-sessions-able-arts-better-lives-everyone>



## Community Recreation Centers with Inclusion Programs

In addition to the centers on the right, check with your local community recreation center to see what inclusion programs and activities they may offer!

★ Waltham

[www.ymcaboston.org/waltham](http://www.ymcaboston.org/waltham)

★ Huntington

[www.ymcaboston.org/huntington](http://www.ymcaboston.org/huntington)

★ South Shore

[www.ssymca.org/](http://www.ssymca.org/)

★ Hockomock Area

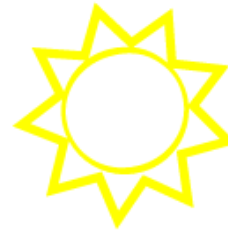
[www.hockymca.org/](http://www.hockymca.org/)





## YMCA Summer Camps

<https://ycampish.org/>  
(617)-927-8060  
Greater Boston Area  
Virtual Summer Camp



### Y CAMP Pikati

Newton  
Ages 3-14  
Dates: sessions from July 3. 9am-4pm

Campers participate in a variety of age appropriate and fun activities. Each week campers have fun filling their days with traditional camp games, sports, arts and crafts, swimming, relay races, archery, and camp-wide special themes!

<https://www.wsymca.org/camps/pikati>



## Wide Open School

Online teaching program

Pre-K - 5, Grades 6 - 12

Free collection of online learning experiences for kids curated by the editors at Common Sense. It features content from over 25 partners, including PBS, National Geographic, Scholastic, and more!

Content collections include resources for grades preK-5 and 6-12, along with schedules & ideas for students in special education. Visit them online at <http://www.wideopenschool.org/>



## Camp Joy

Available to Boston residents with disabilities, ages 3-15, and their siblings, ages 3-7.

Dates: July 11- August 5

Camp Joy provides an inclusive and supportive environment. It includes structured, daily opportunities for participants to make new friends, have fun, learn, and grow during the summer months. The summer offers a variety of enrichment activities designed to: encourage peer-peer interaction and include group games, swimming, adaptive sports, field trips to local sites.

• <https://www.boston.gov/human-services/bcyf-camp-joy>  
617-635-4920





## Branches at Meadowbrook



Weston  
Ages 4 to Grade 10  
Dates: sessions from June 26- Aug 18. 9am-4pm



Branches is complete with everything from a pool and ropes course to a makerspace and arts center. Children are able to explore and learn in programs that prioritize their safety, health, and wellness at all times. Branches offers opportunities for kids to learn and stretch outside of the classroom. They emphasize the important skills they need like listening, collaborating, communicating, and more.

[Weston MA Summer Camp | Branches at Meadowbrook \(branchesmeadowbrook.org\)](http://westonma.org/summer-camp/branches-at-meadowbrook)

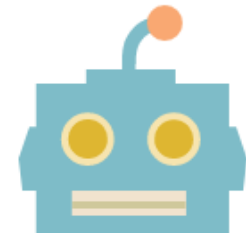


## Empow Studios

Ages: 7-15  
Dates: sessions from June 26. 8:45am-4pm  
Location: Newton, Boston, Cambridge, Lexington

Campers learn essential 21st century skills and valuable habits as they experiment, persist, and solve problems to complete their projects. They foster collaboration because it's an essential learning skill and because it increases STEM learning and because making friends with kids with shared STEM interests builds lifelong learning and is an awesome part of camp!

[Empow Studios | STEM Programs | Coding, Minecraft, Robotics, and more!](#)

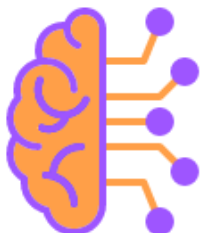


## Guild Hall Learning

Ages: 8-18  
Dates: sessions from July 10, 9am-3:30pm (full day)  
Location: Woburn, Cambridge

Guild Hall provides seasonal camps in STEM education. Their camps include engineering, robotics, coding, and art and design. These camps are for students 9 years old and up. In combat robotics, camp students will have the opportunity to create a fully controllable robot that is designed and built for combat. At the end of the week, students will put their creations to the test against other student robots!

[STEM Vacation Camps! \(guildhalllearning.com\)](http://guildhalllearning.com)





## Steve and Kate's Camp

Ages: 4-12

Dates: sessions from June 19

Hours: 8am-6pm

Location: Boston, Somerville

Campers choose minute to minute from a variety of activities including, sewing, stop-motion animation, music, sports & recreation, makers crafts, bread making, and more. They'll decide what they want to do, and for how long. The camp staff's job is to get out of their way, cheerlead creative risks, and provide just enough guidance for kids to make their own way.

[Cambridge | Steve & Kate's Camp \(steveandkatescamp.com\)](http://steveandkatescamp.com)



## West End House Camp

Ages: 7-15

Dates: sessions from June 25

Location: Allston

The camp operates and sustains a premier summer camp for boys from all backgrounds, regardless of their financial means. They encourage development of lifelong friendships and bonds among their campers, staff, and alumni in order to form a supportive brotherhood. They also cultivate self-confident, independent campers who become engaged community members, contributors, and leaders of high character.

[West End House Camp](http://westendhousecamp.com)





# I'm going to Summer Camp!

Hi! My name is \_\_\_\_\_.



This summer, I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Camp.



My camp is located in \_\_\_\_\_ Massachusetts.

I'm going to take a \_\_\_\_\_ to get to camp.



My camp starts at \_\_\_\_\_ and ends at \_\_\_\_\_.

# Camp Checklist

When I go to camp, I need to bring:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_



At camp I get to participate in a lot of fun activities. For example,

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

The activity I'm most excited about is \_\_\_\_\_.

At the end of the day I will go home to my family. They will be proud of me for having a fun, happy, and safe day at camp.



# Water Safety

As summer rolls around, many parents find themselves spending more time near water. Whether at pools, ponds, or beaches, follow these 6 pointers to ensure a safe and fun time in the water!

#1

## Expose your child to water as frequently as possible

The more time your child spends in the water the more comfortable and safe he or she will be. Check out our water safety visual on the next page to help your child get comfortable in the water!

#2

## Be patient with your child when he or she is learning to swim

Every child's path to water comfort is different. Do not allow your child to rush his or her learning process by swimming in the deep end or jumping off the diving board until he or she feels ready and can demonstrate being safe.

#3

## Proactively watch your child in the water

Simply being with your child in the water setting is not enough. Don't assume that because your child has mastered swimming, that he or she can be left unsupervised. Remember to keep an eye out at all times!

#4

## Keep an eye out for dangerous situations

Children with ASD often lack awareness of the dangers around them, putting them at a higher risk than other children in the water. Remember to look out for things like slippery surfaces, water that is too cold, or unexpected deep water.

#5

## Watch out for wandering behaviors

Children with ASD often exhibit wandering behaviors. Being near water makes these behaviors extra dangerous, especially if they are still learning how to be safe near the water. Remember to watch for wandering behavior, especially when near water.

#6

## Ensure that your child is wearing water safety gear

Insist that your child wears a life-jacket or floatie until he or she has mastered swimming and water safety skills. Also note that he or she still needs to be carefully watched when wearing safety gear.



# I can play in the water



Touch the Water



Put Hands in the Water



Put Feet in the Water



Kick the Water



Play in the Water

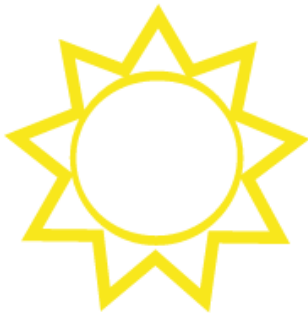


Get Body in the Water



# LET THE COUNTDOWN TO SUMMER BEGIN!

As the world slowly gets back to normal this summer, let's countdown to fun and safe camps for your children! If there are any suggestions we can provide or questions we can answer, please reach out to us at [autismprogram@bmc.org](mailto:autismprogram@bmc.org)



This guide was developed by The BMC Autism  
Program staff