

Mycology, Mushrooms, Magic, Oh My! Camp with Jaqi

Instructions:

Check out this sample camp outline and activity ideas for inspiration, ideas, and more. Feel free to edit, delete, or highlight to make it your own! These notes are yours to customize. They will not be published anywhere such that you're held to teaching exactly what's here.

Topics

mushroom foraging, mushroom identification, science of mushrooms, drawing mushrooms, 1 recipe to cook with mushrooms

Lesson Ideas

Lesson Title

Mycology, Mushrooms, Magic, Oh My! – 5–Day Camp

Duration

5 Days

Lesson Plan

****Day 1: Introduction to Mycology & Basics of Mushroom Foraging****

- 9:00–9:30 Welcome and Camp Introduction
- 9:30–10:00 Introduction to Mycology: What is Mycology?
- 10:00–10:45 Mushroom Foraging Basics and Guidelines
- 10:45–11:00 Morning Snack Break
- 11:00–12:00 Outdoor Nature Walk: Begin Mushroom Foraging

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- 12:00–1:00 Lunch Break
- 1:00–1:30 Storytime: Mushroom Tales and Folklore
- 1:30–2:30 Afternoon Nature Walk: Continue Foraging
- 2:30–3:00 Circle and Review: What Did We Find?

****Day 2: Mushroom Identification & Safety****

- 9:00–9:30 Check-in and Introduction to Mushroom Identification
- 9:30–10:15 Identifying Mushroom Species: Tools and Techniques
- 10:15–10:30 Morning Snack Break
- 10:30–11:30 Hands-on Activity: Examining Foraged Mushrooms
- 11:30–12:00 Guest Speaker: Local Mycologist
- 12:00–1:00 Lunch Break
- 1:00–1:30 Quiet Time: Mushroom Quiz Puzzles
- 1:30–2:30 Outdoor Activity: Create a Mushroom Identification Chart
- 2:30–3:00 Review: Share and Discuss Identification Findings

****Day 3: Science of Mushrooms****

- 9:00–9:30 Introduction to Fungi and Mushroom Biology
- 9:30–10:15 The Mushroom Lifecycle: From Spores to Growth
- 10:15–10:30 Morning Snack Break
- 10:30–11:30 Experiment: Spore Print Making
- 11:30–12:00 Science Demonstration: Mushroom Decomposers
- 12:00–1:00 Lunch Break
- 1:00–1:30 Quiet Time: Read "Fungi Fun Facts"
- 1:30–2:30 Outdoor Lab: Soil and Mushrooms Interaction
- 2:30–3:00 Circle Discussion: The Importance of Fungi in Ecosystems

****Day 4: Creative Mushroom Drawing and Arts****

- 9:00–9:30 Introduction to Mushroom Art
- 9:30–10:15 Guided Drawing Session: Sketching Mushrooms
- 10:15–10:30 Morning Snack Break
- 10:30–11:30 Art Activity: Watercolor Mushrooms
- 11:30–12:00 Craft: Mushroom Cap Making
- 12:00–1:00 Lunch Break
- 1:00–1:30 Quiet Time: "Mushrooms in Art" Slideshow
- 1:30–2:30 Outdoor Sketching: Drawing Mushrooms in Nature
- 2:30–3:00 Art Show: Display and Share Artwork

****Day 5: Cooking with Mushrooms and Presentation****

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- 9:00–9:30 Introduction to Cooking with Mushrooms
- 9:30–10:15 Cooking Class: Preparing Mushroom Recipe
- 10:15–10:30 Morning Snack Break
- 10:30–11:30 Taste Testing and Sharing: Cooked Mushrooms
- 11:30–12:00 Camp Recap: Learnings and Favorite Moments
- 12:00–1:00 Lunch Break
- 1:00–1:30 Quiet Time: Reflect and Write About Camp Experience
- 1:30–2:30 Presentation Preparation: Stories or Displays
- 2:30–3:00 Camp Presentation: Share with Families

Materials List

- Field guides for mushroom identification
- Magnifying glasses
- Collection baskets
- Art supplies (paper, pencils, paints, brushes)
- Cooking ingredients and utensils
- Notebooks and pens
- Mushroom samples for observation
- Protective gloves

Adaptations for Different Ages

- Younger kids: Simplified activities with guided assistance, more storytelling, and more art-focused projects.
- Older kids: Additional scientific depth in the biology segment, self-guided research, and more complex recipes.

Movement Break

- Mid-morning "Mushroom Dance": Kids mimic the growth of a mushroom from the ground, including stretching and jumping.

Bonus Activities

- Build a "Mushroom Hotel" using natural materials to attract local fungi.
- Organize a "Mushroom Costume Day" where kids dress up as different types of fungi.
- Host a "Mushroom Scavenger Hunt" with clues to find various species or related items.

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- Leading a fun fungi-themed obstacle course with mushroom facts at various checkpoints.

Note: This lesson plan outline was drafted by Hopper. If you would like to see different results, you can [submit another idea](#), or text us with feedback so we can work to make the algorithm better. We built this tool to help save you time in bringing more kids enrichment experience ideas to life!

