Family Education Programs Summer 2026

Petoskey State Park

Family education programs this summer are being offered through a partnership between Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Little Traverse Conservancy. Little Traverse Conservancy is a local non-profit land trust that stewards over 80,000 acres of land throughout Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Emmet, and Mackinaw counties. With the support of members as well as the Andreae-Brown and Sowing the Seeds endowments, education programs are offered to thousands of community members throughout the year free of charge. For more information go to landtrust.org.

Education programs are designed for the whole family, a parent or guardian must be present throughout the entire program.

Shore Explorers
Wednesdays: July 1, July 15 and July 29, from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Starting at the Beach Pavilion

Where water meets the land is one of the most dynamic and dramatic landscapes Mother Nature has to offer. Come with us for an interactive educational experience to see, smell, feel and discover the mysteries of the Lake Michigan shoreline. Walk along the shoreline and travel back into deep time. Find artifacts of the warm shallow sea that once inhabited this land and explore the multitude of organisms that call the shoreline home.

Dune Wanderers
Wednesdays: July 8, July 22 and August 5, from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Starting at the Beach Pavilion

Join us in a hands-on discovery of how life takes hold where almost nothing should survive. Become a Dune Wanderer and explore the shores and dunes of Petoskey State Park. It is an ecosystem constantly evolving with the passage of time. We will explore the many microclimates found within the park and discover how the living and nonliving factors in each microclimate work together to create the stunning dune system of Petoskey State Park.

Cancellation of any of these events will be announced two hours prior to the scheduled start time. Cancellations may be made for poor weather conditions and/or safety concerns. Cancellations will be announced through the "Petoskey State Park" Facebook page.

Michigan.gov/Petoskey | 231-347-2311 | 2475 M-119, Petoskey, Michigan 49770

All programs are free; however, a Recreation Passport is required for entry to the park.