CONTINUING & PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
GEORGIA COLLEGE & STATE UNIVERSITY

BOBCAT EXPLORERS

Frequently Asked Questions

How is Bobcat Explorers different from Kids' University?

Bobcat Explorers is not intended to replace Kids' University, it is a newly developed summer camp framework designed to offer a distinct and enriching experience for our community.

Bobcat Explorers provides children the opportunity to fully immerse themselves in a specific area of interest, building skills through expert instruction on the Georgia College campus. Each week also features engaging recreational activities, pool time, and creative arts and crafts—creating a balanced program filled with both meaningful learning and memorable summer fun.

What ages can attend and what is the camper-to-counselor ratio?

Bobcat Explorers serves two age groups:

- Ages 5-8
- Ages 9-12

Within these age divisions, our trained counselors thoughtfully organize campers into smaller groups based on age, maturity, and skill level. This approach ensures appropriate instruction, positive peer interaction, and consistent supervision.

To maintain a safe, supportive, and high-quality experience, each counselor works with a maximum of nine campers, allowing for individualized attention and meaningful connections throughout the week.

If you ever have questions about your child's placement, we encourage you to contact our office. We are committed to partnering with families to ensure every camper feels comfortable, confident, and successful.

How will I know if my child is ready for Bobcat Explorers?

Bobcat Explorers is designed to be a fun, supportive, and engaging experience for growing campers.

Children are typically ready for camp if they:

- Are fully potty trained and able to manage restroom needs independently
- Can follow basic directions in a group setting
- Are comfortable separating from a parent or guardian for the day
- Are willing to participate in structured activities with peers
- Can interact respectfully and get along with other campers in a group setting

Our instructors and counselors work with a variety of ability levels ranging from beginners to advanced skill levels and provide encouragement and support to help each child succeed.
If you are unsure whether this program is the right fit, we are always happy to talk through your child's individual needs and help you make the best decision for your family.

Do I have to register for every week?

No. Registration is offered on a weekly basis, allowing families to select the weeks that best fit their interests and summer schedules.

Each week is designed to provide a complete and meaningful experience.

Why is the fee different from Kids' University last summer?

Bobcat Explorers offers an enhanced program model and is not intended to replace Kids' University. While Kids' University focused primarily on recreation and general camp activities, Bobcat Explorers features specialty instructors who bring extensive training, knowledge, and experience in each week's featured theme. These instructors lead structured, theme-based learning experiences in addition to recreation and swimming, providing campers with a deeper and more immersive experience.

This expanded programming creates a more comprehensive and enriching camp experience.

What are the camp hours?

Camp programming runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Drop-off: 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.
- Pick-up: 3:30 – 4:00 p.m.

The schedule is intentionally designed to balance high-quality instruction, recreation, and camper engagement while minimizing costs as much as possible.

How is the camp day structured?

Campers are divided into two age groups (5–8 and 9–12).

- In the morning, one group participates in specialty instruction while the other enjoys camp activities and pool time.
- Lunch is from 11:30am–12:30 p.m.
- In the afternoon, the groups switch.

This rotation ensures that all campers experience both specialized instruction and traditional camp recreation each day.

What if my camper cannot swim?

Safety is our top priority. All campers complete a swim test at the beginning of each week.

Campers who do not pass the swim test are required to bring a properly fitted life jacket in order to participate in swim time. If a life jacket is not provided, campers will not be able to participate in pool activities.

What does my camper need to bring?

Campers should bring:

- Comfortable clothes that can get dirty
- Closed-toe shoes
- Swimwear and towel
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Lunch (no refrigeration available)
- A properly fitted life jacket (if needed)
- A backpack or bag to carry belongings

Please label all items before arriving at camp.

Will lunch be provided?

No. Campers should bring a sack lunch each day. Since refrigeration is not available, we recommend packing items in an insulated lunch bag with ice packs.

What if my child has medical needs or requires medication?

If your camper has medical needs, please complete all waiver information as soon as possible. We also encourage you to contact Camp Director **Kirsten Schipper** to schedule a phone call or meeting to discuss how we can best support your child.

Our goal is to work collaboratively with families to ensure a safe and successful camp experience for every camper.