

YMCA Camp Kern

Self-Guided Activities

Shoot some hoops, play some soccer, volleyball, frisbee, etc. (balls available by request)

Go on a hike (trail are marked on the map). You can walk (or run) through the deep woods, fields, wetlands, down the ravines or hills, to the river, around the lakes, and much more.

Visit the nature center. With adult supervision, check out our collection of critters and exhibits.

Go fishing. Visit elk lake, optimist pond, or the Little Miami River. Try your luck for bass, bluegill, catfish, or crappie. Please practice catch and release and use only barbless hooks. Please remember Ohio's fishing license rules apply to the river.

Enjoy a campfire. Fire pits and circles are located near the cabins, as well as many other locations in the woods, by the lake, and all around. Fire pits are subject to reservation, so check with us for availability.

Get in a game of ga ga. Located between the poolhouse and basketball courts. That's all that can be stated. Remember, the first rule of ga ga is "never speak about ga ga!"

Climb Pete's Tower. Climb up and check out the view, or test your marshmallow catching skills.

Skip rocks at the Little Miami River. Take the 500 or 1000 trail or the fossil ravine down to the river and enjoy.

Visit the horses. Take a walk up ranch road and drop in on our equestrian friends. You can pet them at the fences (just be careful...the metal fences are electrified!), or in their stables.

Go on a fossil hunt in the fossil ravine. Start at the top of the 5/6 trail (located near cabins 5 & 6) and head down the ravine. You may find a trilobite! This trail meets up with the silver moccasin trail at the bottom by the Little Miami River.

Visit the log cabin. Located in the deep woods (see map).

Play some disc golf. A marked 9-hole course starts near Optimist Pond at the intersection camp rd. And the gravel drive. Look for the white signs marking the tee locations.

Go on a scavenger hunt. We can provide you with a list of object to hunt for around camp.

Take a ride down the mini mine shaft. Via a trail off the Wilderness Pavilion parking lot, the mini mine shaft is an enclosed twin tube slide (please supervise).

Visit our wetlands. Located off the southwest corner of Elk Lake. Visit this natural paradise full of critters. Trails and boardwalks take you around and over this beautiful wetland habitat.