



The Fessenden Center

46830 Highway 12 • P.O. Box 859
Buxton, N.C. 27920

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www.DareNC.gov

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46830 Highway 12,
Buxton, N.C. 27920

DareNC.gov/Fessenden

SUMMER 2026 ACTIVITIES



Registration for summer programs at the Fessenden Center opens on

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 8:30 a.m.

and will remain open until a program is full. Register in person at the Fessenden Center or online using our registration platform:

DareNC.gov/Register

All children must be the age listed for the camp as of the first day of the month that the camp is being held. Children participating in preschool programs must be potty-trained. No pull-ups are allowed.

Camps that do not meet the minimum number of children required will be cancelled the Thursday before the camp's start date. If registration for a camp is full, please add your child to the waitlist.



IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN REGISTERING:

- Registration can be completed online or in person. If there are issues with online registration, please call our office for assistance at 252-475-5650.
- A program is open until it is full. Once a program is full, children will be placed on a waitlist. If space becomes available, participants on the waitlist will be notified.
- Participants must meet the age requirement and play at age within the month of the camp.
- Participants will not be allowed to play "up" or "down."
- Programs and schedules are subject to change without notice.

FUNDAMENTALS OF SWIMMING SAFETY



Ages:
5 to 11 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$50 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 30. Maximum of 60.

Details:

Participants will learn the basic rules of water safety and the fundamentals of swimming. Any special needs children will need to have a parent/helper with them in the pool at all times. Classes will be held in the morning hours between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. for 45 minutes per class. Hatteras Realty has advised that there is no pool heat available this year. Student class times will be assigned at a later date.

The registration deadline is May 29, 2026 at 5 p.m. or once registration is full.

When:
Monday to Thursday, June 8-11, 2026
-AND-
Monday to Thursday, June 15-18, 2026

Where:
Hatteras Realty pool in Avon



MURAL MAKER CAMP SESSION 1



Ages:
11 to 14 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$40 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 4. Maximum of 10.

When:
Monday, June 8, 2026 to Thursday, June 11, 2026

Time:
10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Where:
Fessenden Center & traveling on the island

Details:

Come join in the fun as we plan and create a mural. The campers will learn how to create a mural using a grid method and teamwork to complete the mural.

MONDAY NIGHT SOCCER MINI CAMP



Ages:
5 to 18 (Rising kindergarten to seniors)

Cost:
\$10 per Monday or \$50 for the summer
(Half off if also registered for the Elite Soccer Camp)

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 20. Maximum of 70.

When:
Every Monday night from June 8, 2026 to August 3, 2026 except June 22, 2026

Time:
5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. – kindergarten to 8th grade
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. – 9th grade to 12th grade

Where:
Fessenden Center Soccer Field

Details:

This camp is being led by the Hatteras Island Futbol Club directors and coaches. Campers will have quality soccer and athlete development each night with half the time in skills and technical work and half the time gameplay and instruction. Drop-in registration is available at \$10 per session. Weather day plans will be sent via Mojo as needed. Players will be grouped by age and ability. Registration will be on HIFCAYSO.org in late March. Check social media accounts throughout the spring for more updates!

Instagram: hatteras_island_fc
Facebook: Hatteras Island Soccer

COASTAL MARITIME CAMP SESSION 1



Ages:
6 to 12 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$40 per child

Number of Participants:
10 participants per age group

Details:

Coastal Maritime Camp activities are designed to inspire a sense of appreciation and respect for the natural beauty of Hatteras Island. Experience fun activities such as kayaking and cast netting. This camp will be taught by Tracy Shisler.

When:
Monday, June 15, 2026 to Thursday, June 18, 2026

Time:
Ages 6-9: 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Ages 10-12: 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Where:
Pamlico Sound behind the high school (Campers will be dropped off and picked up in the bus parking lot.)

SUMMER BASKETBALL NIGHTS



Ages:
Rising 4th to 5th graders
Rising 6th to 8th graders

Cost:
\$20 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 6. Maximum of 20.
(Per age group)

Details:

Calling all rising 4th grade through 8th grade ballers! Come to the Fessenden Center gym once a week through the summer and work on your basketball skills. This camp will include skills and drills as well as scrimmaging. Girls and boys will participate together. This camp will be led by Heath Fountain.

When:
Every Thursday night from June 18, 2026 to August 20, 2026

Time:
Rising 4th to 5th graders – 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.
Rising 6th to 8th graders – 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where:
Fessenden Center Gym



ADVENTURE CAMP



Ages:

Rising 6th to 8th graders
(no older than age 14)

Cost:

\$350 per camper

Number of Participants:

Limited to 5 per division
(15 total countywide)

When:

Monday, June 22, 2026 to Friday, June 26, 2026

Counselors:

Dare County Parks and Recreation Dept. staff

Where:

Shenandoah Valley Campground
(Verona, Virginia)

Details:

Join us for the premier camping event of the summer! Campers will spend four nights in a tent while getting to bond over daily activities that include stand up paddleboarding at Sherando Lake, hiking, fishing and swimming. The cost includes meals, activities, lodging and transportation. Registration will be accepted in person only for this camp.

STEM CAMP



Ages:

8 to 11 (Co-ed)

Cost:

\$40 per child

Number of Participants:

Minimum of 6. Maximum of 10.

When:

Monday, June 22, 2026 to Thursday, June 25, 2026

Time:

10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Where:

Fessenden Center

Details:

Over four days, the campers will test their skills in science, technology and engineering while engaging in fun activities.



ELITE SUMMER SOCCER CAMP



- Ages:**
5-18 (Rising 1st graders to seniors)
- When:**
Monday, June 22, 2026 to Thursday, June 25, 2026
- Cost:**
\$125 per child
- Time:**
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
(Check in from 8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.)
- Number of Participants:**
Minimum of 20. Maximum of 70.
- Where:**
Cape Hatteras Secondary School

Details:

This 4-day camp was previously known as the Salty Dog Soccer Camp. It is now being led by the Hatteras Island Futbol Club's director, Ian O'Neal (current regional 1A Coach of the Year), and club coaches.

Other coaches include:

- Steve Shaw: 23-year coach of Christopher Newport University (CNU) and former college and professional player
- Liam Hogan: Director of Ashland Town Futbol Club and former college player
- Bob Bigney: Decorated coach and former youth director of El Paso Locomotive

Also coaching will be current CNU soccer players. Camp will be at the secondary school on various grass field locations as well as in the gymnasium. Campers need to bring cleats and indoor shoes to each day of camp. This camp is for all levels and abilities, and players will be grouped by age and ability. Weather day plans will be sent by email as needed.

To register, email hatterasislandfc@gmail.com to receive a link for registration. Check social media accounts throughout the spring for more updates!

- Instagram: [hatteras_island_fc](#)
- Facebook: [Hatteras Island Soccer](#)



LADY CANE VOLLEYBALL CAMP



Ages:

Session 1: Rising 4th grade to rising 6th grade girls

Session 2: Rising 7th grade to rising 9th grade girls

Cost:

\$40 per child

Number of Participants:

Minimum of 10. Maximum of 25. (per session)

Details:

Session 1 will be offered for younger players. This age group will be introduced to the game of volleyball and fundamental skills. Players will learn passing, setting, attacking, teamwork and terminology in a fun and exciting volleyball atmosphere. Session 2 will be for older girls to strengthen fundamental skills. The players will also work on footwork, attacking, rotation and game play. These camps will be taught by coaches, players and staff from the Cape Hatteras Secondary School volleyball program. Our goal is to teach kids about volleyball in a fun and safe environment! Campers will need to bring shoes, knee pads and a water bottle. All funds from these camps will go to the Cape Hatteras Secondary School volleyball program.

When:

Tuesday to Thursday, June 23-25, 2026

Time:

Session 1: 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Session 2: 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where:

Cape Hatteras Secondary School Gym

SUMMER CHEER CAMP



Ages:

6 to 12 (Co-ed)

Cost:

\$40 per child

Number of Participants:

Minimum of 10. Maximum of 25.

Details:

Calling all future cheer rock stars! Join us for a fun-filled camp learning cheers, jumps and low-level stunts. This camp will be taught by Jessica Nonnenmacher.

When:

Monday, June 29, 2026 to Thursday, July 2, 2026

Time:

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Where:

Fessenden Center Gym



BEGINNER IMPROV AND ACTING GAMES CAMP



Ages:
9 to 14 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$55 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 4. Maximum of 8.

When:
Monday, June 29, 2026 to Thursday, July 2, 2026

Time:
10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Where:
Fessenden Center Annex

Details:

In this interactive camp, we will have fun exploring acting, improv, storytelling games, music and movement. The benefits of improv/theater games include helping you be more positive, building confidence, creativity, being a team player, and improved listening skills. There will not be a performance in this camp. This camp is taught by Victoria Phelps.

SLAM DUNK BASKETBALL CAMP



Ages:
7 to 12 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$40 per child

Number of Participants:
Ages 7 to 9: Minimum of 8. Maximum of 20.
Ages 10 to 12: Minimum of 8. Maximum of 25.

When:
Wednesday, July 1, 2026 to
Friday, July 3, 2026

Time:
Ages 7-9: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Ages 10-12: 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

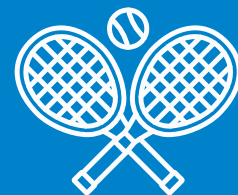
Where:
Fessenden Center

Details:

Campers will be introduced to the fundamentals of basketball and develop their skills in shooting, passing, dribbling and defense. There will be both individual and group instruction. Campers need to wear proper shoes to run in and should bring a labeled water bottle. The camp will be taught by Caroline Gray. Campers need to register in the age group they will play in this winter for basketball season. Age is determined by what age the child will be as of January 1, 2027.



TENNIS MATCHPLAY NIGHTS



Ages:
11 to 16 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$20 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 4. Maximum of 8.

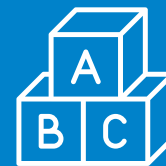
When:
Every Tuesday night from June 30, 2026 to August 11, 2026

Time:
6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Where:
Fessenden Center Tennis Courts

Details:
Matchplay night will be geared to more experienced youth tennis players who are looking to take the next step in their game. Little to no instruction or drills will be provided. The focus will be on playing matches. This will be led by Ian Folb or Annelise Wilcox.

CAMP CHAMPS



Ages:
3-5 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$35 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 6. Maximum of 10.

When:
Monday, July 6, 2026 to Thursday, July 9, 2026

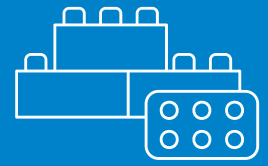
Time:
10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Where:
Fessenden Center

Details:
Come out and have fun doing arts and crafts, playing games and meeting new friends. A snack will also be provided. Please advise of any food allergies. All children must be potty trained in order to attend.



LEGO CAMP



Ages:
8 to 12 (Co-ed)

When:
Monday, July 6, 2026 to Thursday, July 9, 2026

Cost:
\$35 per child

Time:
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 8. Maximum of 20.

Where:
Fessenden Center Annex

Details:
In this camp, kids will explore their creative sides with LEGOs. The camp will include free building, team challenges, color challenges and other creative ideas.

DARE COUNTY DANCE - CREATIVE MOVEMENT



Ages:
3 to 4

When:
Tuesdays – July 7, July 14, July 21 and July 28

Cost:
\$50 for residents
\$75 for non-residents

Time:
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Instructor:
Julie Tortelli

Where:
Fessenden Center Activity Room

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 5. Maximum of 14.

Details:
Let's be creative! Dancers will enjoy movement through different styles of dance, learning basic movement and having fun! Attire can be loose, comfortable clothing, leggings, biker shorts and comfortable fitted shirts. Sneakers are preferred for footwear.



DARE COUNTY DANCE - DANCE N' MOVE



Ages:

5 to 6

Cost:

\$50 for residents

\$75 for non-residents

Instructor:

Julie Tortelli

When:

Tuesdays – July 7, July 14, July 21 and July 28

Time:

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Where:

Fessenden Center Activity Room

Number of Participants:

Minimum of 5. Maximum of 14.

Details:

This movement class is all about moving to the beats, teaching jazz and hip hop styles. Attire can be loose, comfortable clothing, leggings, biker shorts and comfortable fitted shirts. Sneakers are preferred for footwear.

DARE COUNTY DANCE - EXPLORE DANCE



Ages:

7 to 9

Cost:

\$50 for residents

\$75 for non-residents

Instructor:

Julie Tortelli

When:

Tuesdays – July 7, July 14, July 21 and July 28

Time:

12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Where:

Fessenden Center Activity Room

Number of Participants:

Minimum of 5. Maximum of 14.

Details:

Dancers will be introduced to different styles of dance each week. Ballet (July 7), Tap (July 14), Jazz (July 21) and Hip Hop (July 28). Attire can be loose, comfortable clothing, leggings, biker shorts and comfortable fitted shirts. Sneakers are preferable or dance shoes (if available) for footwear.



DARE COUNTY DANCE - ADULT BALLET



Ages:

Adults 18 and older

Cost:

Under 55 years old: \$3 per class
Age 55 and older: complimentary

Instructor:

Julie Tortelli

When:

Tuesdays – July 7, July 14, July 21 and July 28

Time:

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Where:

Fessenden Center Activity Room

Details:

Ballet for everyone. Improve posture, balance and coordination while building strength and flexibility. No dance experience needed! Attire can be loose, comfortable clothing. Ballet slippers or jazz shoes are preferred for footwear; however, sneakers are welcomed.

PRINTMAKING CAMP



Ages:

7 to 10 (Co-ed)

Cost:

\$35 per child

Number of Participants:

Minimum of 4. Maximum of 10.

When:

Monday, July 13, 2026 to Thursday, July 16, 2026

Time:

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Where:

Fessenden Center Annex

Details:

Campers will learn about the magic of printmaking. We will study accomplished printmaking artists as well as delve into the lines, shapes, compositions and colors of our own original prints. Found objects and created stamps will allow us to explore many ways in which we can create a print on paper, fabric and upcycled surface.



COASTAL MARITIME CAMP SESSION 2



Ages:
6 to 9 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$40 per child

Number of Participants:
Maximum of 10 (per time slot)

When:
Monday, July 20, 2026 to Thursday, July 23, 2026

Time:
8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.
-OR-
10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Where:
Pamlico Sound behind the high school
(Campers will be dropped off and picked up in the bus parking lot.)

Details:

Coastal Maritime Camp activities are designed to inspire a sense of appreciation and respect for the natural beauty of Hatteras Island. Experience fun activities such as kayaking and cast netting. This camp will be taught by Tracy Shisler.

ADVANCED IMPROV AND ACTING GAMES CAMP



Ages:
9 to 14 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$55 per participant

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 4. Maximum of 8.

When:
Monday, July 20, 2026 to Thursday, July 23, 2026

Time:
10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

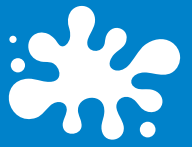
Where:
Fessenden Center Annex

Details:

In this interactive camp, we will have fun exploring acting, improv, storytelling games, music and movement. The benefits of improv/theater games include helping you be more positive, building confidence, creativity, being a team player, and improved listening skills. There will not be a performance in this camp. Kids registering for this camp need to have taken this camp last year or have theater experience. This camp is taught by Victoria Phelps.



MESS MASTERS



Ages:
6 to 8 (Co-ed)

When:
Monday, July 27, 2026 to Thursday, July 30, 2026

Cost:
\$35 per child

Time:
10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Number of Participants:
Maximum of 16.

Where:
Fessenden Center

Details:

This camp will be full of all kinds of fun and messy activities! Each day will have a variety of games, arts and crafts, and other activities with a common theme of getting messy. This camp will take place outside, and kids will need to wear clothes that can get messy and/or wet.

DARE COUNTY DANCE OPEN HOUSE



When:
Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Time:
4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Where:
Fessenden Center Lobby

Details:

Everyone is welcome to meet the Dare County Dance teachers, sign up for dance, and ask questions about the Dare County Dance program. Grab or swap dance shoes. There will also be a \$5 costume sale.



LITTLE MINNOWS SOCCER CAMP



Ages:
3 to 4 (Co-ed) with a parent or guardian

Cost:
\$50 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 6. Maximum of 12.

When:
Tuesday, July 28, 2026 to Friday, July 31, 2026

Time:
6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Where:
Fessenden Center Soccer Field

Details:
This camp will be led by the Hatteras Island Futbol Club and soccer interns from Christopher Newport University. Little Minnows camp is designed to help prepare kids for organized soccer. Campers will learn skills like passing, dribbling, trapping and, of course, scoring goals! There will also be drills that work on balance and coordination. Players will learn to associate soccer with fun and create pathways for lifelong development. Registration for this camp will be with Dare County Parks and Recreation.

MURAL MAKERS CAMP SESSION 2



Ages:
11 to 14 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$40 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 4. Maximum of 10.

When:
Monday, August 3, 2026 to Thursday, August 6, 2026

Time:
10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Where:
Fessenden Center & traveling on the island

Details:
Come join in the fun as we plan and create a mural. The campers will learn how to create a mural using a grid method and teamwork to complete the mural.



INTRO TO PICKLEBALL CAMP



Ages:
8 to 12 (Co-ed)

When:
Monday, August 3, 2026 to Thursday, August 6, 2026

Cost:
\$35 per child

Time:
10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 8. Maximum of 16.

Where:
Fessenden Center Gym

Details:
Campers will learn the basics of pickleball, including technique, strokes, court positioning and the basic rules of the game. This camp is taught by Ian Folb.

CAMP MOVE IT!



Ages:
8 to 12 (Co-ed)

When:
Monday, August 10, 2026 to Thursday, August 13, 2026

Cost:
\$35 per child

Time:
3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 4. Maximum of 12.

Where:
Fessenden Center

Details:
Time to get moving and grooving with fun fitness activities! Campers will learn a variety of exercise styles like POUND, yoga and Zumba. There will be instruction on stretching and form while exercising. Campers will learn that exercise can be a positive experience and lots of fun with friends to exercise with!



FESSENDEN CENTER FISHING CAMP



Ages:
10 to 14 (Co-ed)

Cost:
\$40 per child

Number of Participants:
Minimum of 5. Maximum of 10.

When:
Monday, August 17, 2026 to Thursday, August 20, 2026

Time:
8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. (end times may vary)

Where:
Various locations around Hatteras Island

Details:

Campers will learn the basics of casting, baiting hooks and tying different types of rigs. We will travel to different fishing locations around the island each day. We will provide the bait and tackle. Participants will be required to provide their own rods. If they have their own tackle that they would like to use, they are welcome to bring it.

