General Camp Information

Register Early
Space is limited to facilitate individual attention.

What to Bring
- A certificate of health must be presented by each participant at the camp’s registration. If you register by mail, a standard form will be sent. Health forms are available for download on our website at ship.edu/camps. This form does not require a physician’s examination or signature.
- Rubber soled, closed-toed shoes, such as running shoes, are required every day for all laboratory experiments.
- There will be optional 45 minute swim sessions on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, so please bring a swimsuit if you plan to participate.
- Please label your belongings.

Health Services
The Etter Health Center at Shippensburg University is available for first aid treatment of minor illnesses and injuries. Hours of operation vary throughout the year and are listed on the health center website ship.edu/health_center. If an illness or injury requires additional medical care, with consent of parent or legal guardian of child under the age of 18, arrangements may be made for an appointment with the campus physician during physician hours. If there is a medical emergency the camper will be transported via ambulance to an emergency room.

Disability Services
Requests for accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services must be made in writing to the Office of Disability Services at least fifteen (15) days before the camp begins. The Office of Disability Services is located in Horton Hall Suite 324, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299, (717) 477-1364, ods@ship.edu.
INTRODUCTION

The SU Camp Chemistry is a day camp designed to give elementary students ages 8–10 years old the opportunity to perform a variety of chemistry experiments designed to teach basic chemical principles and to connect chemistry to the students’ everyday experiences. Instructors at Shippensburg University Chemistry department faculty members. SU Chemistry undergraduate students serve as counselors.

We will spend the majority of our time in actual laboratories so students can truly experience what it is like to be a chemist. There will be two levels of camp offered:

Chemistry Camp I: an introduction to the lab and chemistry.

Chemistry Camp II: for children who already completed 1 year of Chemistry Camp I. Campers attending Chemistry Camp II may be up to 12 years old.

CONTENT

Chemistry Camp will simultaneously emphasize the fundamental concepts of chemistry (atoms, molecules, chemical reactions, thermodynamics, the Periodic Table, mixtures, etc.) and how these concepts are used to explain phenomena that students’ experience on a regular basis. Possible topics include nutritional chemistry, kitchen chemistry, and environmental chemistry (soil and water).

A typical day at Chem Camp will include 4 hands-on science experiments including fun things like blowing up gummy bears, separating the colors in an M&M, isolating DNA from a cow liver, and making water glow in the dark. We will have a faculty field biologist talk with us about their research (and even bring along some animal friends!). A physics faculty member will demonstrate the laws of physics with fun demonstrations. There is never a boring moment at Chem Camp.

QUALIFICATIONS

Participants need no prior experience with chemistry to join this camp. Applicants must be ages 8–10 years to qualify for Chemistry Camp I. Campers who wish to attend Chemistry Camp II must have attended Chemistry Camp I in a previous year and be ages 9–12 years old. You must also be able to provide your own transportation to and from Franklin Science Center (FSC) at Shippensburg University.

ABOUT THE DIRECTORS

Dr. Tom Frielle and Dr. Robin McCann are both chemistry professors at Shippensburg University. Dr. Frielle is a biochemist and a former high school chemistry and biology teacher who has written elementary and middle school science curricula. Dr. McCann is a biochemist who also has extensive experience doing elementary outreach programs in chemistry with local elementary and high schools. Camp Chemistry is part of their efforts to enhance elementary science education in the region.