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Contact: Carolyn Belardo 215 299-1043, belardo@ansp.org

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SUMMER CAMP IS BACK AT THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES

PHILADELPHIA—Summer Explorers Camp—and all the fun that goes with it—is back at The Academy of Natural Sciences after a long vacation.

This summer, children ages 6-12 can celebrate nature and experience real science through weeklong, hands-on, themed programs that reflect the remarkable research of the Academy's own scientists. Campers will conduct experiments with scientists; sketch with Academy artists; explore the museum's research labs and animal and plant collections; meet a variety of interesting live animals; and take science on the road with weekly field trips. For summer days of discovery, adventure and fun, the Academy is the ultimate laboratory for curious and enthusiastic kids.

Summer Explorers Camp runs Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with optional child care available before and after. Weekly sessions begin July 20 and are offered consecutively until Aug. 21. Each session features a different scientific theme: water, animals, fossils, nature, and insects. Activities are customized for three age groups: 6-7, 8-9, and 10-12.

All campers and their families also are invited to a Safari Overnight sleepover at the museum on Saturday, Aug. 22. This is an opportunity for campers to share highlights of their camp experience with their families and to enjoy a pizza party and games with their newfound friends—from the towering *Tyrannosaurus rex* in Dinosaur Hall to J'Gar, the barn owl.

"We are very excited to be able to offer summer camp to Philadelphia and the surrounding community, after eight years of not having one," said Senior Education Director Jacquie Genovesi. "We've heard from many parents and kids who are anxious to get back to nature with the Academy and its special expertise. We've heard you, and we are ready for a summer of fun."

Each camp week costs \$285 per camper for Academy members and \$320 for non-members. For more information and to register, call 215 299-1060 or log on to http://www.ansp.org/activities/summer_camp.php.

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The Academy is located at 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and weekends until 5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children ages 3-12, students with college I.D., seniors and military personnel, and free for children under 3. Additional \$2 for "Butterflies!"

Founded in 1812, The Academy of Natural Sciences is the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas and is a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. Our mission is the encouragement and cultivation of the sciences.