



ADVENTURES WITH NATURE JUNE 2016



Sponsored by the S. L. O. Coast & Oceano Dunes State Park Districts
Supported by the Central Coast State Parks Association



This schedule can be found at www.ccsa.info

Date	Day	Time	*LOC	*SC	Adventure	Presenter
1	Wed	9:00 am	MdO	♿	Montaña de Oro Bluff Nature Walk	Randy Bello
3	Fri	11:00 am	MB		Great Blue Herons, Egrets and Other Rookery Wonders	Louise Abbott
4	Sat	11:00 am	NC		Discovery Saturday: San Simeon Pier Safari	CDC Staff
8	Wed	8:00 am	MdO		Intertidal Life at Hazard Reef	Faylla Chapman
8	Wed	9:00 am	MdO	♿	Montaña de Oro Bluff Nature Walk	Randy Bello
11	Sat	10:00 am	NC		Discovery Saturday: Beach Exploration	CDC Staff
11	Sat	10:00 am	LO		Los Osos Oaks Reserve	Faylla Chapman
11	Sat	10:00 am	PB	♿	Pismo Beavers: Adorable Wildlife or Destructive Pests?	Dan Green
11	Sat	11:00 am	MB		White's Point Vistas	Norma Wightman
13	Mon	11:00 am	MB		Great Blue Herons, Egrets and Other Rookery Wonders	Louise Abbott
13	Mon	1:00 pm	MB	♿	Salt Marsh to Mudflats	Faylla Chapman
17	Fri	9:00 am	EB		Walk Along the Edge	Norma Wightman
17	Fri	10:00 am	MB		Birds of Land and Sea at Morro Rock	Claudia Freitas & Robbie Revel
18	Sat	9:00 am	PB		Chumash Ocean Walk	Kalleen Corley
18	Sat	10:00 am	MB	♿	The Otter Information Station!	David Curtius & Richard Schultz
18	Sat	11:00 am	NC		Discovery Saturday: Central Coast Marine Mammals	CDC Staff
18	Sat	11:00 am	MB		White's Point Vistas	Molly Stoddard
18	Sat	2:00 pm	MB		Black Hill Trail	Roger Randall
18	Sat	2:00 pm	MB	♿	Saturday Scientists: Secrets of Sand and Sediment	Robbie Revel
20	Mon	9:30 am	MdO		Hike the Sand Spit Trail	Bardeen, Kirkhart, Reifel, Renshaw
20	Mon	10:00 am	MB	♿	Birding the Boardwalk	Claudia Freitas & Bob Revel
20	Mon	10:00 am	MdO	♿	Montaña de Oro Bluff Nature Walk	Paul O'Connor
25	Sat	11:00 am	NC		Discovery Saturday: San Simeon Pier Safari	CDC Staff
25	Sat	11:00 am	MB	♿ ☀	Summer Solstice Celebration	Docents & Staff
26	Sun	10:00 am	LO		Los Osos Oaks Reserve	Faylla Chapman
26	Sun	11:00 am	MB		Great Blue Herons, Egrets and Other Rookery Wonders	Louise Abbott
26	Sun	11:00 am	MB	♿	Sea Otter Experience	Docents
27	Mon	10:00am	MdO		Hike the Reservoir Flats Trail	Bardeen, Kirkhart, Reifel, Renshaw
27	Mon	10:00 am	MdO	♿	Montaña de Oro Bluff Nature Walk	Paul O'Connor
29	Wed	1:00 pm	MB	♿	Salt Marsh to Mudflats	Faylla Chapman

* **LOCation Codes:** EB - Estero Bluffs, HH - Harmony Headlands, LO - Los Osos, MB - Morro Bay, MdO - Montaña de Oro, MS - Morro Strand
NC - North Coast, OF - Oso Flaco, PB - Pismo Beach

* **SC - Special Codes:** ♿ - Adventure accessible by wheelchair

(Adventure Descriptions on the Reverse Side)

SPECIAL EVENTS!

Summer Solstice: ☀ Join State Park Docents and Staff as well as other environmental agencies in a celebration of Summer! There will be activities, demonstrations, games, and live critters to see and touch. The event will be held at Morro Bay State Park campground picnic area. FREE Family event on June 25, 11 am - 2 pm.

Coastal Discovery Center: Open Fri - Sun, 11am - 5pm. Hearst State Beach, across from the entrance to Hearst Castle.

Pismo Nature Center: The Pismo Nature Center and Oceano Campground are closed.

Spooner Ranch House: Open daily, 11am - 2pm, bad weather will cancel. In Montaña de Oro State Park, above Spooner's Cove. Historical ranch house, Spooner history, nature displays.

ADVENTURE DESCRIPTIONS

Everyone is welcome, but no dogs, please. All times are approximate. Rain cancels outdoor activities

Birding the Boardwalk ☼

Enjoy a stroll while identifying shorebirds and more. Beginning birders welcome. Bring binoculars and field guide. Dress for wind/weather. Park close to east end of Morro Bay State Park Bayside marina parking lot. Easy walk, 1 mile, 1.5 hours.

Birds of Land and Sea at Morro Rock

Observe cormorants, pelicans, and various species and age classes of gulls. Watch for resident Peregrine falcons over the Rock and sea birds in the channel. Dress for wind/weather; bring binoculars and a field guide. Meet near the chain link fencing at the base of Morro Rock, in the northwest corner of the large parking lot.

Black Hill Trail

Walk the most accessible of the volcanic sisters while discussing their history and enjoying a panoramic view of the surrounding geography. Dress for wind/weather. Take Golf Course Drive past the clubhouse and bear left at fork in road. Meet at the overlook parking lot above the Morro Bay Golf Course. Moderate walk, chance of poison oak, 0.5 miles, 1.5 hours.

Chumash Ocean Walk

Discover the ways in which the Chumash were influenced by and adapted to geography and climate; obtaining food, clothing, shelter and tools. Dress for wind/weather; prepare for soft sand walking and in shoes. Meet at the entrance kiosk to Pismo State Beach Campground. There is no parking inside the campground; instead park along Dolliver Drive (Highway 1) near the entrance. Moderate walk in sand, ¼ mile, 45 min.

Great Blue Herons, Egrets and Other Rookery Wonders

Enjoy a short talk and walk to the rookery in Morro Bay State Park to observe these magnificent birds. Learn about courtship rituals, nesting habits, and in spring, see adults caring for their young. Dress for wind/weather. Meet at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History in the Learning Center. Easy walk, 0.25 miles, 1.5 hours.

Hike the Sand Spit

Walk through the dune scrub to the beach on the Sand Spit Trail. Then walk north along the shore. Wear sturdy shoes. Dress in layers, and bring water. Meet at the Sand Spit Parking Lot, Montaña de Oro State Park (turn right on paved road 7/10 mile past the entrance sign). Hike is 3 miles, 2 hours.

Hike the Reservoir Flats Trail

Walk through the chaparral into the riparian zone near Islay Creek. Enjoy the view back to Spooner's Cove and the ocean. Then stroll through the shady woods. Meet at the Visitor's Center, Montaña de Oro State Park. Moderate hike, 2.5 miles, 1.5 - 2 hours. Chance of poison oak.

Intertidal Life at Hazard Reef

Learn some geology while walking through coastal scrub and sand dunes to see seaweeds and marine animals. Dress in layers and wear non-skid shoes that can get wet. Meet in Hazard Canyon parking lot, on West side of road, 1.6 miles south of Montaña de Oro park entrance. Look for announcement board. Active hike, chance of poison oak, 1 mile, 3 hours.

Los Osos Oaks Reserve

Enjoy a shaded stroll through ancient forest. See native plants and evidence of Chumash habitation. Learn colorful historical background. Dress for wind/weather. Meet at Reserve entrance, 0.7 miles east of South Bay Blvd. on Los Osos Valley Road. Easy walk, chance of poison oak, 1 mile, 1.5 hours.

Montaña de Oro Bluff Nature Walk ☼

Take a pleasant hike along the bluffs for the magnificent views and look for wildlife. Dress for wind/weather and bring binoculars. Meet at Bluff Trailhead, about 100 yards south of Spooner Ranch House in Montaña de Oro. Active hike, chance of poison oak, 2 miles, 3 hours.

Pismo Beavers: Adorable Wildlife or Destructive Pests? ☼

Discover the beaver's physical adaptations, their role in our country's westward expansion, why they were hunted, and their local history. Search for evidence of their activities during a short walk. Dress for wind/weather with comfortable shoes. Bring insect repellent and water: binoculars a plus. Meet at Monarch Butterfly Grove, 1/2 mile north of Grand Avenue on Hwy 1, Pismo Beach. Moderate walk, 1/4 miles, 1.5 - 2 hours.

Salt Marsh to Mudflats ☼

Walk the State Park Marina Peninsula boardwalk to learn the history of the salt marsh and the plants and animals living in this specialized environment. Dress for wind/weather and mud. Bring binoculars. Park close to east end of Bayside marina parking lot or across the street at MB campground restrooms. Easy walk, 0.5 miles, 2 hours.

Saturday Scientists: Secrets of Sand and Sediment ☼

Explore samples of sand and sediment using magnifiers and microscopes. Sort living and non-living parts of the sediment and make a miniature mineral & shell collection. Learn what organisms make sand their home. Event held at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History auditorium. This is a family event, lasting 1-2 hrs.

Sea Otter Experience ☼

Come out to see live otters, ask questions and listen to Docents talk about these fascinating sea mammals. We have spotting scopes and binoculars for close-up viewing. Look for us on the left side of Coleman Road along the boardwalk or in the parking area across from the restrooms in the Morro Rock parking lot. Free Family event, 11am-3 pm.

Summer Solstice Celebration ☼

Join the State Park Docents, Staff and other environmental organizations in celebrating the beginning of summer. There will be many activities including stamping, making animal tracks, bird games, Native American games and medallions, and learning about conservation and protection of our threatened species. Also live animals to handle such as snakes lizards, insects and different marine organisms. Morro Bay State Park Campground picnic area, please park outside and walk in. FREE Family event, handicap accessible, 11am-2 pm.

The Otter Information Station! ☼

View otters in the waters of Morro Bay, visit our information station, and learn about these incredible creatures from museum docents!! Location varies- look for our spotting scopes on Coleman Drive. For specific location, call (805) 806-0221 after 10:00 am the day of the event. Family-friendly, wildlife viewing station, open 10am:noon.

Walk Along the Edge

Explore the bluffs and beach along Estero Bay examining relationships of animals seen. Bring binoculars; wear sturdy beach shoes and layered clothing. Meet in dirt parking lot one mile north of the end of divided section of Hwy 1, north of Cayucos. Moderate hike, 2 miles, 2.5 hours.

White's Point Vistas

Enjoy a short, steep walk to view the estuary, home to hundreds of marine and terrestrial animals. Learn about the forces creating and changing this watery world. Dress for wind/weather. Meet at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History. Moderate walk, 0.5 miles, 0.75 hours.

Coastal Discovery Center Discovery Saturday Events - San Simeon

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please call 805-927-6575 to reserve space in the program. Suggested donation \$2/person.

Beach Exploration - Learn about the mysteries of San Simeon Cove by beachcombing with marine biologists. Find out what causes high and low tides and investigate the animals and algae cast up on the beach. Buckets and gloves will be supplied for those who want to help clean up the beach on our way back!

Central Coast Marine Mammals

Learn how to identify local marine mammals, what you should do if you see a sick or injured seal, sea lion or sea otter, and what you can do to keep these animals healthy. Join us for lively presentation with real fur pelts, skulls and bones, followed by a walk to the pier to look for sea otters, harbor seals, whales and other marine mammals.

Pier Safari

Explore marine life in San Simeon Cove, from the largest residents to the smallest. Bring your binoculars to look for marine birds and mammals. Fish for plankton off the pier and learn the important role they play in the San Simeon Cove food web. Learn about how these marine animals have influenced the rich history of San Simeon Cove. Binoculars and field guides provided (limited number).



SUMMER SOLSTICE
JUNE 25, 11am - 2pm

