

Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area
2011 Junior Ranger Program Buena Vista

Kids ages **5-11** are invited to join the summer fun at Arkansas Headwater Recreation Area's Junior Ranger Program. Discover the incredible natural wonders in our beautiful Arkansas River Valley, investigate habits, habitats and have fun! Parents are welcome to tag along. **Programs will take place each Thursday during the summer from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Buena Vista Community Center on East Main Street.** Junior Rangers may take small excursions to explore the unique natural world surrounding Buena Vista, and a full summer schedule will be handed out at the first program. Sturdy walking shoes, sunscreen and water are encouraged.

- **Thurs June 9 - "Who am I?"** AHRA Junior Rangers will learn how to identify what animals make this area their home and discover the unique signs critters leave behind to let us know who they are.
- **Thurs June 16 - "Come Fly with me!"** Learn how birds fly and why they are so important to riparian ecosystems. Discover the fantastic variety of birds that can be found in the Arkansas River Valley and are they really dinosaurs? AHRA will provide binoculars and birding books.
- **Thurs June 23 - "Why are you so Ugly?"** Bats and vultures may not be the most attractive neighbors in the 'hood, but they sure know how to clean up their communities. Forget about the creepy stories you've heard and discover interesting facts that will change how you look at them.
- **Thurs June 30 - "Be a Rock Hound"** Rocks come in all shapes and sizes, all colors of the rainbow and different rock types. Discover all the spectacular rocks, gems and minerals you can find right here in Central Colorado.
- **Thurs July 7 - "Creepy Crawlers"** Whether you love bugs and spiders or not, they are everywhere! Come and join AHRA Junior Rangers to learn and appreciate insects and spiders see why they are so critical to our environment. Then you are invited to join the ever popular "I Ate a Bug Club!"
- **Thurs July 14 - "Scavenger Hunt"** The world is full of beautiful nature treasures if we take the time to look. Come on a walk and find "treasures" that make us smile. Also find not so wonderful man-made "treasures" or litter, and learn why trash is not only UN-COOL but how it can harm water, soil and animals.
- **Thurs July 21 - "Water's the Matter?"** Water, water everywhere, but where does it come from? Everywhere! Take a trip along the Arkansas River and find where the river begins and why water is so important.
- **Thurs July 28 - "AHRA Survivor"** Set up your camp and get geared up for fun in the great outdoors! Outdoor survival tips and fire safety are also important to make your outing safe to be ready for the adventure of a lifetime! And if you are one of the Junior Rangers who attended 5 or more programs during the summer, you will be recognized at the Junior Ranger Awards Ceremony with an official Junior Ranger badge.
- **August TBA - 9:00am - Noon. Junior Ranger Raft Trip.** Kids must attend at least 5 Junior Ranger Programs to participate in the raft trip. Meeting location TBA.