



## Free Ranger Programs July 31 – August 6, 2016

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### **Sunday, July 31**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** – Discover how the dunes were formed and other fascinating aspects of the park and preserve. Visitor Center, 25 minutes

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Art for All Ages”** -. Come sketch the dunes with a Ranger-artist and learn about the unique environment surrounding you! Free paper and chalk provided. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

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### **Monday, August 1**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** – Discover how the dunes were formed and other fascinating aspects of the park and preserve. Visitor Center, 25 minutes

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Better Home Sand Gardens”** - Come explore the dunes on a Ranger hike and learn about the extreme plants and animals which share such a unique environment. Dunes Lot, 30 minutes

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### **Tuesday, August 2**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** - Find your inner Junior Park Ranger on this short hike to find out about the different habitats which make the Great Sand Dunes unique. You will collect soil samples and identify plants to find out what habitat you are visiting. This program is geared for kids 5 to 13 and will help them finish their Junior Ranger books. Montville Nature Trail, 30 minutes

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### **Wednesday, August 3**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** – Discover how the dunes were formed and other fascinating aspects of the park and preserve. Visitor Center, 25 minutes

**3:30pm Afternoon Program - "Rx: Nature Hike"** - Hike with a ranger along the Montville Trail to learn about the health benefits of being in nature, identify edible plants, and participate in nature journaling. Montville Nature Trailhead, 1 hour

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### **Thursday, August 4**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** – "The Singing Sands" - The Great Sand Dunes are a symphony of geological and animal sounds! Discover how the Great Sand Dunes were formed while making the wild sounds found in the park. Fun for all ages! Visitor Center, 25 minutes

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “The Stories Objects Tell”** -. Come learn how each artifact and fossil we find tells stories of courage and survival; helping us to better understand the world we live in. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

**8:45 pm Evening Program - “The Sandy West”** - Join a park ranger on a road trip adventure across the country as we discover amazing dune systems and recreational opportunities located all around the Western United States! Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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### **Friday, August 5**

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Better Home Sand Gardens”** -. Come explore the dunes on a Ranger hike and learn about the extreme plants and animals which share such a unique environment. Dunes Lot, 30 minutes

**8:45 pm Evening Program - “To Catch A Falling Star”** – Come learn about shooting stars and how they have captured the imagination of generations of people around the world and have shaped our earth’s history! Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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### **Saturday, August 6**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** – Discover how the dunes were formed and other fascinating aspects of the park and preserve. Visitor Center, 25 minutes

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Art for All Ages”** -. Come sketch the dunes with a Ranger-artist and learn about the unique environment surrounding you! Free paper and chalk provided. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

**8:45 pm Evening Program - “The Park after Dark”** - Half the park is after dark! Discover the beautiful secrets of owls, nocturnal animals, stars, planets, galaxies, our moon, and meteors. Touch real pieces of the Moon and Mars! Brief constellation tour with laser pointer afterward, weather permitting. Amphitheater, 45 minutes

*All programs are free and open to the public. More information: [www.nps.gov/grsa](http://www.nps.gov/grsa) (719) 378-6395*