Great Sand Dunes

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Great Sand Dunes National Park
and Preserve

Free Ranger Programs August 29 – September 3, 2016

Monday, August 29

3:30pm – Afternoon Program - "Art for All Ages" - Come paint the dunes with a Ranger-artist and learn about the unique environment surrounding you! Art supplies will be provided. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

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Tuesday, August 30

1pm Discovery Activity – Find your inner park ranger on this short, interactive hike. Learn about the diverse and unique habitats of the park and preserve. Learn about some of the common plants and animals that call this amazing place home. Great for all ages! Montville Nature Trail, 30 minutes

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Wednesday, August 31

1pm 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 – "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, September 1

1pm 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 – "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

8:30pm Evening Program – "Dunes, Stars, and Mars"- Sand dunes like the unique formations at Great Sand Dunes aren't only found on this planet… but on Mars too! Come arouse your curiosity with the wonder of interplanetary dunes and their place among the stars. Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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Friday, September 2

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – "Montville Nature Hike" - Find your inner park ranger on this short, interactive hike. Learn about the diverse and unique habitats of the park and preserve. Learn about some of the common plants and animals that call this amazing place home. Great for all ages! Montville Nature Trail, 45 minutes.

8:30 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! Brief telescope viewing will take place afterwards, weather permitting. Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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Saturday, September 3

1pm Discovery Activity – Find your inner park ranger on this short, interactive hike. Learn about the diverse and unique habitats of the park and preserve. Learn about some of the common plants and animals that call this amazing place home. Great for all ages! Montville Nature Trail, 30 minutes

8:30pm 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 and telescope afterward, weather permitting. Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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