

# Great Sand Dunes

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Great Sand Dunes National Park  
and Preserve



## Free Ranger Programs      June 19 – June 25, 2016

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### Sunday, June 19

**9:00 pm Evening Program – “A Ranger’s Story”** Come hear about the adventures and experiences of one National Park Ranger from the Mississippi River to the Medano. Weather permitting. Flashlights and jackets suggested. Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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### Wednesday, June 22

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

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### Thursday, June 23

**8:45 pm Evening Program - “Some Dunes Grow in Brooklyn”** - Join a park ranger on a virtual adventure across the country as we discover amazing dune systems and recreational opportunities located all around the Eastern United States! Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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### Friday, June 24

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program “Shining Through the Fire”** - At Great Sand Dunes, beautiful natural objects and diverse peoples of the past have endured literal and metaphorical fire to come out ‘Shining Through the Fire.’ Touch real meteorites, a small tube of glass formed from lightning, and artifacts from various cultures. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

**7:30 pm Sunset Program - “The Wild West”** – Discover a story of adventure that can only be found in the West with a diverse set of characters. From the geologic story to the cultural history, the story is dynamic. Listen to how the dunes were formed and what people have had adventures in the sand. You are invited to not only listen to the story but be a part of the adventure in this sunset hike out into the dunes. Main Dunes Parking Area, 45 minutes.

**8:45pm 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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### Saturday, June 25

**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** - 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 Trailhead, 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**