

Great Sand Dunes

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Great Sand Dunes National Park
and Preserve



Free Ranger Programs June 26 – July 2, 2016

Sunday, June 26

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Dunes Mystery” - Come discover the powerful forces which created the dunes and surrounding pristine environment that stands alone in mystery. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

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

Tuesday, June 28

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

Wednesday, June 29

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Dunes Mystery” - Come discover the powerful forces which created the dunes and surrounding pristine environment that stands alone in mystery. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

Thursday, June 30

8:45 pm Evening Program - "Night Skies and our National Parks" - For millennia, humans have gazed upon the night sky, forging a unique connection to our cosmos. Join a ranger to become inspired by our enduring resource, the night sky! Telescope viewing will take place after the program; weather permitting. Amphitheater, 45 minutes

Friday, July 1

1:00 pm Discovery Activity - "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.

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 – “Around the World in Six Dunes” - Join a park ranger on a road trip adventure across the globe as we discover amazing dune systems and recreational opportunities located all around the world! Amphitheater, 45 minutes.

Saturday, July 2

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 – “Nature Investigators” - 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 (719) 378-6395