The City of Ormond Beach Department of Leisure Services is proud to announce, through the Joyce Ebbets Children’s Environmental Education Scholarship Fund, two (2) children will have the chance to attend one (1) session of the Environmental Discovery Center’s 2023 Enviro Camp at no cost. Winners will be chosen through a competitive essay contest.

This scholarship is made possible through generous donations made in memory of the late Joyce Ebbets. Joyce was a City Commissioner and Ambassador of the City of Ormond Beach and the Department of Leisure Services. This scholarship fund honors Joyce’s legacy of love for the environment and is intended to educate area children about the wonders of our natural resources and how to respect and protect them.

Ormond Beach students, ages seven (7) to ten (10) years old, as of April 1, 2023, are invited to compete for their space in one of the camp’s four-week sessions. Each week’s theme encompasses one of the four elements (Earth, Air, Water, and Fire), and environmental-themed activities range from nature walks and scientific observations to fishing and archery, as well as nature inspired crafts and in-county field trips.

Session 1: June 5th to June 30th, 2023
Session 2: July 10th to August 4th, 2023
Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 3:00pm
Students will write an essay based on the following writing prompt:

“If you could become one of the four natural elements, which would you become and how would you interact with the environment?”

- Students must be ages seven (7) to ten (10) as of April 1, 2023.
- Essays must be the original work of the student whose name is listed on the cover page with limited guidance from others. Plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification.
- Essays are to be legible. If handwritten, please print neatly.
- Each entry must include a cover page with the student’s name, age, grade, school, email and phone number. The essays will be judged blindly, without names. One essay submission per contestant.
- Essays must be at least 300 words, and no more than 500 words. Word count does not include the title or informational cover page. Essays must be written in English.
- Essays should be structured into 3 parts: Introduction, Body and Conclusion.
- Entries must be submitted no later than 11:59pm EST on Monday, March 20, 2023*. Submit the Essay via email (PDF or Word Document form only) to: sarah.garcia@ormondbeach.org or mail to: City of Ormond Beach, Leisure Services, 399 N. US 1, Ormond Beach FL 32174 Attn: Sarah Garcia. *Not responsible for essays received after required submission date.
- Essays will be judged by an independent group of volunteers no later than March 30, 2023. Essays will be judged on their ability to address the topic in an articulate, clear and organized manner. Essays will be judged in a fair and unbiased manner. Decisions of the judges are final. Winners will be notified immediately.
- Essays remain the property of the writer, but entry into the competition constitutes the entrants’ permission and consent, without compensation, for the City of Ormond Beach to use, reproduce, transmit, post, distribute, and/or display the submission.