



Keystone
Science School

2021

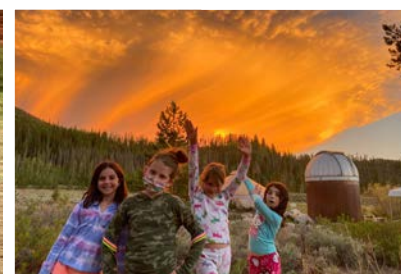
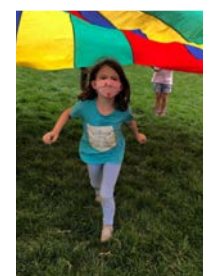
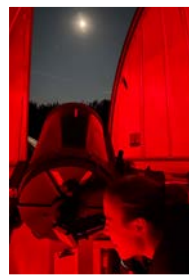
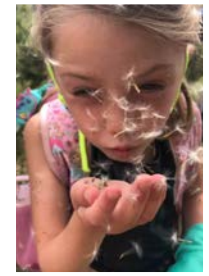
SUMMER CAMP IN REVIEW

Keystone Science School
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Keystone, CO 80435

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Support@KeystoneScienceSchool.org



Since 1976



DEAR KSS FAMILY,

The pandemic continues to remind us of the importance of our community and of connecting with one another in meaningful ways. We were cautiously optimistic as we planned for the Summer of Connection during some of the most challenging times of COVID-19, in early 2021. Program capacity and the health and safety protocols of the summer were not yet clear. What was clear, though, was that our mission to inspire curiosity and critical thinking by bringing youth together would be more important than ever. And, the more than 1,000 campers who attended our Day Camp, Overnight and Expedition programs agreed.

It was a summer that reinvigorated our spirits with the KSS Mission week after week as we welcomed enthusiastic kids back to campus for 10 weeks of summer camp. June to August felt like it flew by for all of us. Instructors readily prepared lessons and activities for each science-themed week of camp. They were full of energy and camp spirit that inspired campers to get creative, be curious, and have fun. Campers immersed themselves in outdoor exploration, learning science, reconnecting with old friends and welcoming new friends.

We are grateful that so many campers were able to have the KSS experience in 2021. We're also thankful we were able to distribute over \$213K in scholarship funding to 169 families in need. Our risk management protocols proved successful, and parents rated our safety procedures an average of 4.75 out of 5. Seeing these overall successes only brightens our collective outlook on sustaining the KSS Mission long past the shifting landscape of the pandemic. Thank you for every way you have supported our mission and The Summer of Connection, we are truly grateful to partner with you in this work.

Enjoy this uplifting reflection on a summer made possible by the generous support of our donor family, our incredible staff team, and the many families who share their young people with us.



Ellen Reid
Executive Director

Summer CATCH Camp

Summer CATCH Camp is a program exclusive to students from Summit School District. In a direct partnership with Summit School District, Keystone Science School offered a day camp program throughout the summer break which mirrored a traditional KSS Day Camp program.

The program was held at several of the elementary schools throughout the District with bus transportation being offered to and from the program. Summit School District also provided breakfast and lunch to each participating student. The purpose of the program was to create accessible and enriching child care options throughout the summer.

TOTAL CONTACT HOURS

16,240

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

\$185,589

DINNER TABLE QUESTIONS

In an effort to engage campers in KSS curriculum at home, parents were provided with a program schedule that included "Dinner Table" questions. These questions helped to guide parents in participating in their child's learning throughout the summer.

What clues or methods did you use to hunt for the Hot Pink Gorilla?

What is the natural role that fires play in our forests?

What are some animals in nature that engineer their environment?

UNIQUE CAMPERS BY SCHOOL

2	Breckenridge
48	Dillon Valley
17	Frisco
22	Silverthorne
34	Summit Cove
15	Upper Blue
2	Summit Middle School
140	Total

BY GRADE

K	13
1	33
2	26
3	20
4	21
5	11
6	11
7	3

CATCH Camp has always been there for me and my children the development and connection they receive with this camp is a blessing.

– Summer CATCH Camp Parent



SUMMER CATCH CAMP WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM FUNDERS ACROSS THE COUNTY.

THE SUMMIT FOUNDATION
 SUMMIT SCHOOL DISTRICT
 COLORADO OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD
 HENRIETTA AIGNER AND JOY BALDWIN
 FAMILY FOUNDATION

VAIL RESORTS EPICPROMISE
 BRECKENRIDGE GRAND VACATIONS
 COPPER ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION
 FIRSTBANK
 PINNACLE GIVES

SLIFER SMITH AND FRAMPTON FOUNDATION
 JOAN HOULTON
 ALPINE BANK
 VINEYARDS FOUNDATION
 US BANK



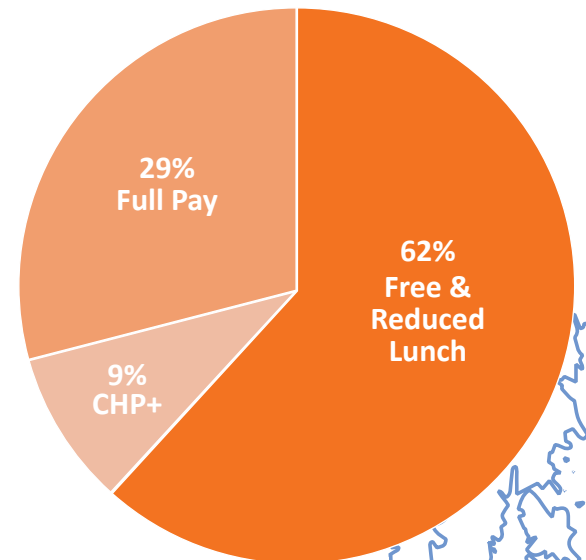
Summer CATCH Camp allowed both parents to continue to work in their roles. There were no other options for school aged care in the north end of the county that served working families. This programming is vital to our community.

– Summer CATCH Camp Parent

CATCH CAMP REGISTRATIONS

2021 Session	Dillon Valley	Silverthorne	Summit Cove	Total
1	24	18	26	68
2	25	21	26	72
3	24	21	26	71
4	25	23	25	73
5	23	20	19	62
6	26	23	26	75
7	21	7	25	53
8	23	22	26	71
9	18	16	25	59
10	22	12	19	53
Total	231	183	243	657

SUMMER CATCH CAMP BY PAY RATE



Camp Scholarships

We believe that everyone deserves a camp. Now, more than ever, children need camp. Through generous donations made by individual donors, corporations, and foundations we are able to offer financial aid to those who qualify.

THE PROCESS

All applicants were asked to apply and complete a short application explaining their need for a scholarship. Following the application close date, an independent group of Keystone Science School volunteers known as the Scholarship Committee reviewed all applications and granted scholarships to each of the award recipients.

Why is Financial Aid necessary for your family?

Our family has been surviving on one income since March of 2020 with a brief exception noted below. Our child has camped with you before and LOVED it. His best friend moved away while his mom and sister have been navigating medical issues. He has been a tremendous support to everyone in the family and we want him to have his own fun uplifting experience this summer.

I am a single working mother (caregiver), both my children are autistic. Our child (12) has very few opportunities for fun and learning this summer. I have been busy taking time with his sister (17) who has been in psychiatric hospital. I have been so wrapped up with her health and safety that work has suffered and I am late in finding summer opportunities. Please help, we have no family in Colorado to assist.

THANKS TO FUNDERS

Alpine Bank
Breckenridge Grand Vacations
Bert Cook Camp Scholarship Fund
Kyle Ordway Memorial Foundation
Westerhoff Family Foundation
Several Individual Donors

Thanks to our Camp Scholarship Committee for your commitment to reviewing all applications and supporting the scholarship process.

DAY CAMP
SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS

82

81

OVERNIGHT
CAMP
APPLICATIONS

SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED

69

What do you hope your camper will gain from this experience?

Social skills, independence, fun, peace in nature, friends, confidence in their ability to make friends and a sense of adventure. They really deserve a good time. At home they have to do more chores than most children their age because I am a single mom. They deserve a break! They are really good kids.

Me gustaría mucho que tuvieran la experiencia de KSS, es una magnífica oportunidad para conocer y vivir otra cultura, perfeccionar el inglés, conocer y hacer nuevos amigos que puedan mantener relación por mucho tiempo, visitar nuevos sitios. Creo que es un regalo excepcional que disfrutarán mucho.

I would like very much for you to have the KSS experience, it is a great opportunity to know and live another culture, perfect your English, meet and make new friends who can maintain a relationship for a long time, visit new places. I think it is an exceptional gift that they will enjoy very much.

TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED

\$27,821.25

Our Staff



Our KSS Family fondly talks about our impact by sharing stories of the “KSS Magic.” The location, history, and curriculum all play a role in the magic, but the true magic is our instructor team. They’re often referred to as “superheros” by our campers.

Why do you come back to KSS?

Ellie Gilchrist, 2021 Lead Instructor & Past Camper

When people say that KSS changes lives, they mean it. Without sounding too cheesy, KSS changed my life. I used to be a timid, anxious kid—yes, also the kid that cried the entire first overnight I went on—and now, nine years later, I’ve gone on two-week expeditions, met some of my greatest role models, become a counselor, and have made some of my best friends in the whole world. I truly don’t think I would be who I am today if KSS hadn’t broken me out of my shell and helped me find my people starting way back in 2013. People who helped me know that it’s ok to be who I am and have encouraged me to be better along the way. I guess I keep coming back to KSS to keep making more relationships for myself, but also with the hope that I can help kids find themselves at this place like I have over the years.

TOTAL
SUMMER
STAFF **43**

26 AVERAGE
AGE

STAFF WHO
WERE PAST
CAMPERS **7**

WHAT WORD FROM OUR MOTTO BEST DESCRIBES YOU?

SCIENCE	ADVENTURE	FUN
3	28	12



By the Numbers

Campers were from **29** States and **3** Countries

98% of Day Camp parents would recommend KSS to their friends

92% of Overnight campers stated that they tried something new

UNIQUE CAMPERS

1041

MOUNTAIN SUMMITS

29

HPG SIGHTINGS

17



Our two older girls have been going to KSS for several years now. We love your camp! Your program has been a very positive influence on all of our children, and all three of them love it and look forward to it all year long.

– Day Camp Parent

Keystone camp has given our son a sense of independence, adventure, leadership opportunities and true connection with nature and new friends. He came back from camp so excited and renewed--what an amazing experience he had!

– Overnight Camp Parent



The expedition camp was very important to us this year to teach my daughter about leadership and wilderness skills, and teamwork. She had an awesome time and wants to do this camp again.

– Expeditions Parent



TOTAL CONTACT HOURS

100,160

CHACO TANS
(PER PAIR OF FEET)

183

GALLONS OF SUNSCREEN

5.5



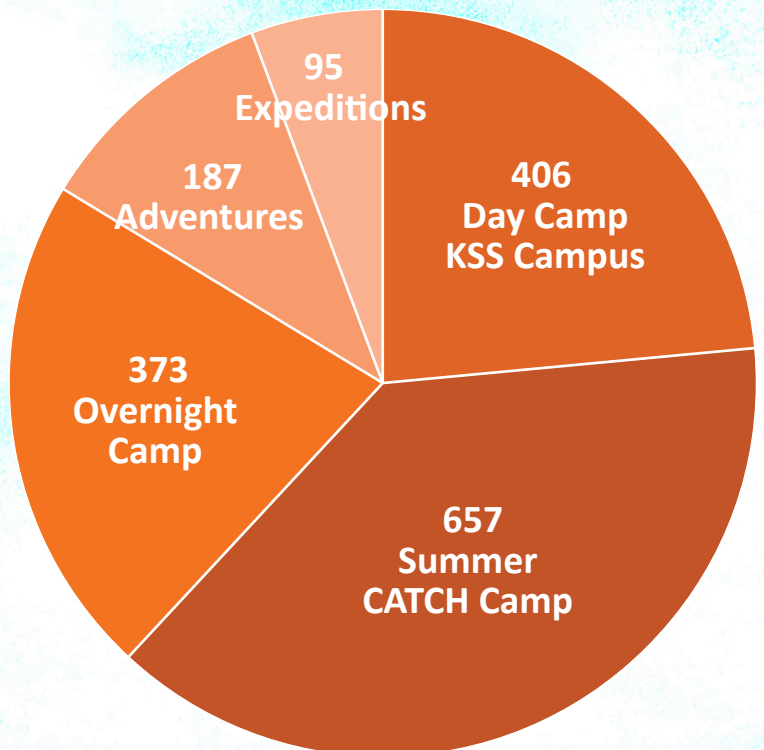
Camp was one of the places where everyone is inclusive, kind, caring, and fair. It's a place where you should feel safe and accepted.

– Overnight Camper

This year in particular, it was an opportunity for her to get away from the stress of covid. I think KSS policies for COVID made the experience both safe and socially easy. Also, it was a great opportunity for her to have fun. I really appreciate the focus on teamwork and lifting each other up.

– Overnight Camp Parent

1,718 TOTAL ENROLLMENTS



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2021 SUMMER OF CONNECTION SPONSORS



2022 Summer Camp Registration
Opens Tuesday, November 9th, 2021

