

SOAR

Special Opportunities
Available in Recreation



SUMMER 2025 PROGRAM GUIDE





Special Opportunities Available In Recreation

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 115 E. Washington, Bloomington, Illinois 61701
(309) 434-2260

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What is SOAR?

SOAR is a community therapeutic recreation program serving individuals ages four through lifespan whose leisure needs are not met by traditional recreational programs. Leisure, social, and developmental skills are emphasized to help individuals achieve their highest potential through a wide variety of recreational programs. These programs include Cultural Arts, Special Olympics, Sports & Fitness, Special Interest, Special Events, and Youth.

SOAR is jointly supported by the City of Bloomington and Town of Normal Parks & Recreation Departments.



Mission Statement

The SOAR program exists to maintain and enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through comprehensive, specialized recreational programs, activities, and special events.

Full-Time Staff Information

Holly Polley, CTRS – Program Manager
hpolley@cityblm.org

- Special Olympics Sports, Fitness/Sports Programs, Fee Assistance

Taylor Burlingame, CTRS – Program Manager
tburlingame@cityblm.org

- Cultural Arts Programs, Special Interest Programs, Special Events Programs, Youth Programs, Transportation, Volunteers, Inclusion

A Big Thank You to Our Team!

Our programs thrive because of the amazing staff and volunteers who work directly with our individuals. Your patience, kindness, and dedication to making every experience meaningful truly shine through. Whether it's helping with activities, offering support, or simply sharing a smile, you create a positive and inclusive environment that makes a real difference in the lives of those we serve. We couldn't do this without you, and we are incredibly grateful for all you do!

INCLUSION

Inclusion

Inclusion provides an opportunity for individuals of varying abilities to experience recreational programming within their community. SOAR, the City of Bloomington and the Town of Normal Parks & Recreation Departments will work closely with the participant and family to provide enriching recreational experiences in the least restrictive environment while maintaining safety and confidentiality. SOAR can provide services to enhance an existing program by training staff, adapting activities, provide individualized resources, and/or providing additional support staff.



**Want to get involved
with SOAR?**

**Contact Program Manager
Taylor Burlingame for
more information at
tburlingame@cityblm.org**



REGISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

Registration Information

If you have any questions about registration, never hesitate to reach out! SOAR is always happy to help and ensure the process is as smooth as possible. We're here to support you every step of the way.

Online:

Visit BloomingtonParks.org

In the top right-hand corner, hover over "Register"

- A dropdown will appear
- Select Programs & Activities

Mail/In Person:

The Hub

115 E. Washington St., Suite 103

Bloomington, IL 61701

Online registration begins at **7:00AM on May 1.**

In-person registration will take place at The Hub starting at **8:00AM on May 1.** The registration deadline for all programs is one week prior to the start date of the program if openings are available.

Payment Plan

Full payment of program fees should be included with the registration form. However, payment plans can be arranged for those individuals who need to spread their payment out over several months. Payment in full must be received by SOAR prior to registering for a new program session. Payments for special events must be paid in full at the time of registration.

Fee Assistance

Partial financial assistance is available for those who need it in order to pay the program registration fees. Those requesting assistance need to fill out a Fee Assistance Application (contact SOAR for a form) and submit it to a SOAR program manager, along with a completed registration form. Fee assistance will apply to new enrollment and cannot be applied to activities/programs already paid for. Fee assistance is not provided for bowling fees or special events with contractual or admission costs.

Credit/Refund Procedures

A full credit or refund will be issued if a program is canceled by SOAR.

To be eligible for a requested refund, the request must be received no less than five (5) full business days prior to the start of the program.

A refund minus a \$5 service charge will be issued to participants withdrawing from a program.

A pro-rated refund may be given if a program is deemed inappropriate for an individual.

Transportation

Transportation is available for some SOAR programs on a first-come, first-served basis for Bloomington and Normal residents who have no other way to attend programs. Individuals needing to use door-to-door transportation services from SOAR must apply for this service separately for each program/event that it is available for. Applications for transportation services are available by contacting Taylor Burlingame at tburlingame@cityblm.org or by calling the office at (309) 434-2260.



Check out our Website!

BloomingtonParks.org/SOAR

Follow us on Facebook!

[Facebook.com/cityblmSOAR](https://www.facebook.com/cityblmSOAR)



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Head of Household Contact:

Today's Date: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____

State/Zip Code: _____ Home Phone #: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____ Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Medical Alert Information (Allergies, etc.): _____

Emergency Contact First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Relation: _____ Phone Number: _____

Check here if you are a previous customer.

Check here if you would like us to create your account.

The information in this section is REQUIRED to create an account for each family member at the same residence.

Default emergency contact will be the person listed above. Email above will be used for all additional members on the account.

Name (First & Last): _____ Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Medical Alert Info: _____

Name (First & Last): _____ Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Medical Alert Info: _____

Name (First & Last): _____ Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Medical Alert Info: _____

WAIVER & RELEASE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

- I give my permission for pictures to be taken of the participant to be used by SOAR/Parks & Recreation for the purpose of promotion and education.
- I give my permission for the participant to receive transportation in vehicles owned or rented by SOAR/Parks & Recreation for use in programs and special events.
- I understand that Bloomington Parks & Recreation/SOAR does not carry medical insurance and assumes no liability for personal injuries or loss of personal property while attending department activities. A participant's own policy must cover any medical costs incurred.
- I understand that to be eligible for a refund or credit to the account, the request must be received no less than five (5) full business days prior to the start of the program. A \$5 service charge will be assessed per participant, per activity on any refund. No refunds for programs costing \$5 or less. Refer to the program guide for more information about illness/injury related requests.

By signing, I acknowledge that I understand and agree to the information above:

Signature of participant and/or legal guardian: _____ Date: _____
(participant needs to sign if own legal guardian)

Please turn page over to complete program registration information ----->

IDENTIFYING PROGRAM BENEFITS

Active



Programs marked with this icon are considered to be active in nature. These programs are beneficial to a healthy lifestyle through physical activities. These programs are recommended for individuals who seek to improve their overall health by promoting an active lifestyle through exercise.

Independence



Programs marked with this icon are used to promote independence while still providing a structured and safe environment. These programs are recommended for individuals who are looking to increase their independence around the house, as well as out in the community.

Social Skills Development



Programs marked with this icon are used to promote social skills development through activities with their peers. These programs are recommended for individuals interested in growing social skills out in the community.

Creativity



Programs marked with this icon allow individuals to express their creativity through a variety of outlets. These programs are recommended for individuals who are interested in learning about new creative opportunities in a space that will give them a chance to show off their creative talents.

Motor Skills Development



Programs marked with this icon promote the development of motor skills. These programs are recommended for individuals who can benefit from continued development and strengthening of motor skills while participating in recreational activities.

Special Olympics



Programs marked with this icon are associated with Special Olympics. These programs are recommended for individuals who are interested in playing sports at a competitive level.

Education



Programs marked with this icon are designed to educate individuals on various topics. These programs are recommended for those looking to learn in a recreational setting.

Sensory Exploration



Programs marked with this icon are specifically designed for engaging the senses. These programs are recommended for individuals seeking sensory exploration through ways of exploring, discovering, problem-solving, and creativity.



Program Legend



Door-to-Door Transportation



Participant will need to bring money to the program

Example Program



Ages 14+

Program description helps you understand the program's focus. This program's icons indicate that it promotes **Creativity and Sensory Exploration**.

Min 6; Max 12

FACILITY DIRECTORY

The Den at Fox Creek Golf Course

3002 Fox Creek Rd.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Fairview Tennis Courts

801 N. Main St.
Normal, IL 61761

Government Center/ The Hub

115 E. Washington St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Hike Haven

218 Tanner St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Holiday Pool

McGregor St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Illinois State University

180 N. Adelaide St.
Normal, IL 61761

Illinois Wesleyan Tennis Courts

280 E. Emerson St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Lincoln Leisure Center

1206 S. Lee St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Miller Park Pavilion

1122 S. Morris Ave.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Miller Park Zoo

1020 S. Morris Ave.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Normal Community Activity Center

1110 Douglas St.
Normal, IL 61761

O'Neil Aquatics Center

1515 W. Chestnut St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

O'Neil Park Softball Field

1515 W. Chestnut St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Pheasant Lanes

804 N. Hershey Rd.
Bloomington, IL 61704

Union Park

1750 General Electric Rd.
Bloomington, IL 61704

University High School

601 Gregory St.
Normal, IL 61790

Prairie Vista Golf Course

502 W. Hamilton Rd.
Bloomington, IL 61704

Weibring Golf Course

800 Gregory St.
Normal, IL 61761



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Special Olympics Bowling



Ages 8+

Ready to roll? This Special Olympics bowling program is perfect for bowlers of all levels, from beginners to seasoned pros. We'll cover the fundamentals, including stance, approach, delivery, and release, and even teach you the rules and etiquette of the game. You'll bowl two games each week and Pheasant Lanes provides bowling balls and shoes for those who need them. Just a heads up: we bowl without bumpers!

Bowlers who complete the program and bowl at least 15 games with SOAR may qualify for the Region G Special Olympics Bowling Tournament on Saturday, August 30th. Special Olympics is now going to an online system in tracking athletes and their medical needs. Athletes will need to have an online account with Center of Excellence (COE) as well as have the following two forms complete and up-to-date: Athlete Acknowledgment Form and Health History & Release Form. **These need to be complete and up-to-date by June 30.**

Participants who do not want to train and compete may also register for this program and bowl in a recreational capacity. You will NOT need an online athlete account through Center of Excellence if you are bowling recreationally.

Please remember that bowling STARTS at 10:00AM or 4:00PM, with warm-ups at 9:50AM or 3:50PM. YOU should be there by warm-up time! No one will be added to games that have already started. Be prepared to wait for the second game to start if you arrive late.

Min 6; Max 35 per session

Location: Pheasant Lanes

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Fee</u>
M	10:00-11:00AM	6/9-8/25	\$90 (Pheasant Lanes); \$15 (SOAR)
M	4:00-5:00PM	6/9-8/25	\$90 (Pheasant Lanes); \$15 (SOAR)



SOAR Recreational Special Olympics Bocce



Ages 10+

Special Olympics will NOT be having a Bocce season in the Fall of 2025 as they will be transitioning Bocce to a Fall sport only for the Fall of 2026, which means Bocce will no longer be a part of Summer Games. SOAR is going to put on a fun recreational bocce season that will mimic a normal bocce season, but will be just SOAR. We will still offer both Traditional Bocce and Unified Bocce and will have our own tournament on Saturday, October 11. If you have always wanted to try Bocce, this would be a great opportunity!

Location: O'Neil Park, Softball Field

<u>Levels</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Min/Max</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Traditional	W	5:30-6:30PM	8/20-10/8	4/8	\$30
Unified	W	5:30-6:30PM	8/20-10/8	4/16	\$30



Special Olympics Volleyball



Ages 12+

Get ready to bump, set, and spike! We offer three levels of volleyball: Modified, Traditional, and Unified. To ensure everyone's placed in the perfect spot, we'll hold a **Volleyball Assessment Night on Thursday, July 24**. While you can share your preferred level, our coaching staff will make the final placement decisions after the assessment. You will register for just one Special Olympics Volleyball Program, and we'll take care of the rest!

Special Olympics Modified Volleyball

Our Modified Volleyball program is designed for individuals with basic motor and cognitive skills who are ready to learn team play. We utilize a smaller court and a "trainer" ball, and the rules are modified to facilitate learning.

Special Olympics Traditional Volleyball

Individuals with basic motor and cognitive skills appropriate for volleyball match play and competition are eligible for this program. Athletes should have previous volleyball experience and may need to be at a higher level of play for this program.

Special Olympics Unified Volleyball

Individuals with basic motor and cognitive skills appropriate for volleyball match play and competition are eligible for this program. Athletes should have previous volleyball experience and may need to be at a higher level of play for this program. This program will team Special Olympics athletes and athletes without intellectual disabilities (Unified Partners). The goal of this program is to provide an opportunity for athletes to grow and develop from peer encouragement at practice and during competitions.

For each team, we intend to schedule a minimum of three matches prior to the Regional Qualifier tournament held on Sunday, September 21 in Decatur. If your team wins a gold medal at the Regional Qualifier, you will advance to State. State will be October 18-19 in Rockford.

Special Olympics is now going to an online system in tracking athletes and their medical needs. Athletes will need to have an online account with Center of Excellence (COE) as well as have the following two forms complete and up-to-date: Athlete Acknowledgment Form and Health History & Release Form. **These need to be complete and up-to-date by July 25.**

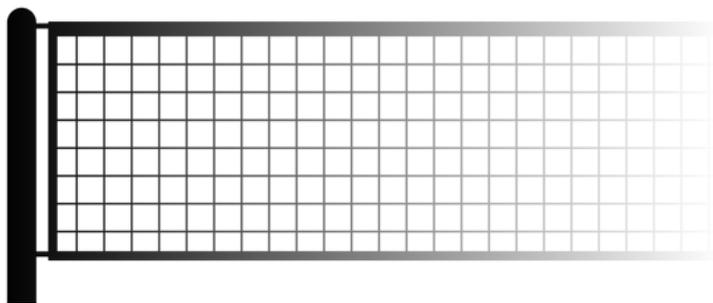
Min 6; Max 12 per team (for Unified, there will be a maximum of 6 Special Olympics athletes).

Practices will either be on Tuesday night or Thursday nights depending on which team you get placed with.

Practice dates/times are below.

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Gym

Levels	Day	Time	Date	Fee
Modified	T	5:30-7:00PM	7/29-9/16	\$45
Traditional	T	7:00-8:30PM	7/29-9/16	\$45
Unified	TH	5:30-7:00PM	7/31-9/18	\$45
Unified	TH	7:00-8:30PM	7/31-9/18	\$45



SOAR Special Olympics Cookout Celebration



All athletes, their families, and anyone who wants to help recognize SOAR athletes are welcome!

Celebrate the accomplishments of SOAR's Special Olympics athletes for the first half of this year (January-June). SOAR will provide a light cookout-style dinner. After we enjoy dinner, a brief ceremony honoring athletes who have participated in the following sports will conclude the evening: snowshoeing, basketball, swimming, track, soccer, powerlifting and bocce (both traditional & unified).

No limit but MUST pre-register!

Location: Hike Haven

Date: Friday, July 11

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Fee: \$6/person

2025 Special Olympics Competition Dates

June 20-22

Special Olympics State Summer Games
(Track, Swimming, Bocce,
Powerlifting, Soccer)

June 29

Unified Tennis Qualifier,
Bloomington

July 26

Regional Softball,
Springfield

August 1

Regional Golf Qualifier,
Edwardsville

August 16-17

State Tennis,
Bloomington

August 30

Region G Bowling,
Peoria

September 6-7

State Softball Tournament
Springfield

September 6-7

State Golf Tournament,
Forsyth/Decatur

September 21

Regional Volleyball Tournament,
Effingham

October 4

East Central Sectional Bowling,
Peoria

October 4 or 11

Region Bocce Tournament,
Mattoon

October 18-19

State Fall Games (Volleyball),
Rockford

December 6

State Bowling
Peoria



Special Olympics





SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS SUMMER GAMES 2025

Illinois State University
June 20-22

Join us at Illinois State University from June 20-22 to cheer on your fellow SOAR athletes at the Special Olympics Illinois 2025 Summer Games. Our SOAR athletes will compete in track, swimming, bocce, powerlifting, and soccer.



Congratulations to Daniel Johnson for representing SOAR at the 2025 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Turin, Italy. Daniel competed in snowshoeing. Way to go, Daniel!

Sensory Swim

This time is designed for families seeking a sensory-friendly aquatic experience. This time will give the opportunity to enjoy a special swim session in a safe and calm environment. Water features, slides, and music will not be available during this time. Admission will be a maximum of 50 patrons.

Please note that this is not a SOAR program.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Holiday Pool	SU	10:00-11:30AM	6/8-8/3	\$3
O'Neil Aquatics Center	SA	10:00-11:30AM	6/28, 7/19, 8/2	\$5

SPORTS & FITNESS

Swim Lessons



Ages 10+

SOAR is excited to provide swim lessons again this summer! Lessons will be conducted in a small group setting with a 1:2 staff ratio. Instructors for this class will work with you at your own individual level. Parents will not be allowed on the pool deck during lessons.

Min 2; Max 4 per session

Location: Holiday Pool

Levels	Day	Time	Date	Fee
All Levels	M	9:05-9:35AM	6/9-7/21*	\$48
Beginner	M	5:30-6:00PM	6/9-7/21*	\$48
Intermediate	M	6:10-6:40PM	6/9-7/21*	\$48

*No class on 6/30



Cardio Fitness

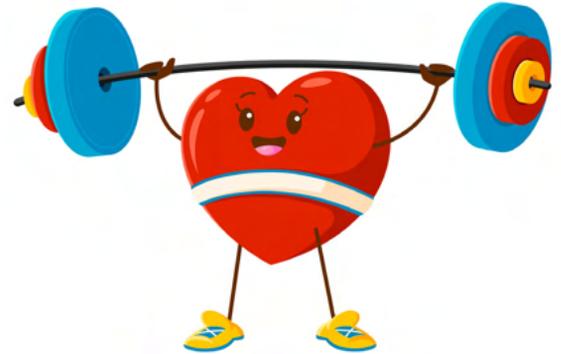


Ages 12+

Join our fun and energizing fitness program designed to help you improve your cardiovascular health and overall well-being. With a variety of exercises and educational activities, you'll have the opportunity to get your heart pumping, learn about healthy habits and connect with others. This program is tailored to all fitness levels, so there's a place for everyone!

Min 6; Max 12 per session

Day	Time	Date	Location	Fee
M	6:00-7:00PM	6/9-7/21	Lincoln Leisure Center	\$49
M	7:15-8:15PM	6/9-7/21	Lincoln Leisure Center	\$49



Seat to SOAR



Ages 12+

Get off your seat and soar with the SOAR walk/run club! This program encourages the lifetime fitness activities of walking and running. By using a progressive training program and walk/run mentors, you will be able to increase fitness and endurance at your own pace. Hopefully, you will register for one of the many walk/run races around the area after this program!

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Day: Tuesdays

Dates: 6/10-7/22

Time: 5:30-6:30PM

Fee: \$28



Bags in the Park



Ages 14+

Some people call it bags, others call it corn hole. No matter what you call it, it's a lot of fun! We will spend our time at Hike Haven learning how to and playing bags. Come and join the fun!

Min 6; Max 16

Location: Hike Haven

Day: Mondays

Time: 5:30-6:30PM

Date: 8/4-8/25

Fee: \$12

Open Pickleball



Ages 12+

Let's play pickleball! Come join us for some casual doubles games. It's a great way to get some exercise, meet new people, and have fun. Loaner equipment is available, and unified partners are always welcome! We'll offer minimal instruction, so you can focus on playing and enjoying the game.

Min 4; Max 10

Location: Fairview Tennis Courts, Normal

Day: Thursdays

Time: 5:30-6:30PM

Dates: 6/12-7/17 (NOT 7/3)

Fee: \$15 (or \$3/drop-in)

CULTURAL ARTS

Colorful Canvas Creation



Ages 14+

Participants will explore different painting techniques on canvas. Diving into the world of abstract, watercolors, and pop art, each session will allow everyone to experiment with colors, texture, and forms.

Min 6; Max 14

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Mondays

Dates: 6/9-6/23

Time: 6:00-7:00PM

Fee: \$15



Crafts in Nature



Ages 14+

Participants will enjoy the outdoors while creating artwork inspired by nature. You'll explore natural elements and use them to make your own unique interpretation of each object.

Min 6; Max 14

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Mondays

Dates: 6/9-6/23

Time: 7:15-8:15PM

Fee: \$15

Creative Candle Making



Ages 14+

Craft your own unique aromatic candles. From choosing scents to adding color and texture, participants will create custom candles that are both personal and functional.

Min 6; Max 14

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Mondays

Dates: 6/30-7/21

Time: 6:00-7:00PM

Fee: \$20

Hand-Painted Ceramic Mugs



Ages 14+

Participants will design and hand-paint their own ceramic mugs. Exploring various painting techniques, patterns, and personalized design.

Min 6; Max 14

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Mondays

Dates: 6/30-7/21

Time: 7:15-8:15PM

Fee: \$20



Lunchtime Concerts



Ages 22+

Enjoy lunch outdoors this summer! Each week, bring your own lunch and join us for a relaxing picnic in the park, accompanied by live music from a local band. Be sure to wear sunscreen and dress appropriately for the weather. Since seating is limited, participants should bring their own lawn chair.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Drop off/Pick up at Withers Park

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: 6/4-6/25

Time: 11:00AM-1:00PM

Fee: \$10



COOKING

Picnic Perfect



Ages 14+

Let's soak up the summer vibes and get ready for picnics! Join us for a fun, hands-on program where you'll chop, mix, and prepare a delicious spread to enjoy outdoors. Come hungry, roll up your sleeves, and get ready for some creative cooking fun in the spirit of sunny days!

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Day: Thursdays

Dates: 6/12-7/24 (NOT 7/3)

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Fee: \$36



Lunch Bunch



Ages 22+

Come cook a yummy lunch with our friends at the Adult Center. In this program, we will chop, dice, slice and mix our way to a delicious lunch. Everyone will help prepare the meal and work together to clean up. Come hungry because a full meal will be prepared.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Day: Mondays

Dates: 8/4-8/25

Time: 11:30AM-1:00PM

Fee: \$26



VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Bookmarks



New tab



New tab



Search

Register early! Classes fill up quickly!

Virtual Social Hour



Ages 15+

Get together with friends to chat, dance and socialize virtually. We'll meet via Zoom once a month. Join us to hang out with friends each month. Zoom link will be sent out to those who register the morning of the program date listed.

Min 6; Max 20

Location: Zoom

Day: Fridays

Dates: 6/27, 7/25, and 8/15

Time: 5:00-6:00PM

Fee: FREE

Virtual Game Night



Ages 15+

Get together with friends for a fun game night! We'll play some classic games like Scattergories, Guess Who, Bingo and more. SOAR will provide supplies, as needed to you the week of the program. Zoom link will be provided the morning of the program date listed. Bring your game face!

Min 6; Max 20

Location: Zoom

Day: Fridays

Dates: 6/27, 7/25, and 8/15

Time: 6:30-7:30PM

Fee: FREE

YOUTH PROGRAMS

SOAR for Starters



Ages 4-7

This program is designed specifically for young children who are not yet old enough for most other SOAR programs. It offers a fun and engaging mix of activities, including games, music, dance, fitness, crafts, and social opportunities. With a 1:2 staff-to-participant ratio, your child will receive plenty of support as they develop fundamental motor skills and improve eye-hand coordination. Please dress your child in activewear and tennis shoes and be sure they wear clothes that can get messy—we'll be diving into creative activities like painting and more!

Min 4; Max 8

Location: Hike Haven

Day: Mondays

Dates: 6/9-7/14

Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Fee: \$25

Make Some Music!



Ages 8-21

Participants will engage in music making through movement, song writing, interactive instrument and ensemble play, relaxation strategies, and more, that focus on everyone's strengths while offering support for their needs. Experiences and activities will include opportunities for communication, attention to task, building relationships and peer interaction, all while participants have fun, laugh, play, and make music.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Tuesdays

Dates: 6/10-7/15

Time: 3:00-4:00PM

Fee: \$52



Make Some Art!



Ages 8-21

Join us for engaging hands-on activities and creative crafts inspired by nature! Enjoy a mix of indoor and outdoor fun as we explore ways to bring the beauty of the outdoors inside. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Tuesdays

Dates: 6/10-7/15

Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Fee: \$36

Explore Outdoors



Ages 8-21

Get outside and join us each week for hikes, outdoor games, and even fishing at local parks in Bloomington and Normal. Water and a light snack will be provided.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Various Parks Each Week

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: 6/11-7/16

Time: 2:00-4:00PM

Fee: \$36



Out & About



Ages 16-35

This program offers a great opportunity to enjoy time with friends while exploring exciting community activities. Each week, you'll have the chance to participate in activities such as swimming, bowling, hiking in local parks, and more. Participants are responsible for bringing their own lunch or purchasing it.

Min 5; Max 10

Location: Various Locations Each Week

Day: Thursdays

Dates: 6/12-7/24 (NOT 7/3)

Time: 11:00AM-3:00PM

Fee: \$85

Sensory Explorers

Ages 8-21

Join us for a fun sensory exploration program where you'll engage all five senses through interactive activities. From sensory games and art projects to nature walks and food tastings, you'll discover new ways to experience the world around you. Perfect for those looking to enhance their sensory awareness in a relaxed, creative environment.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Thursdays

Dates: 6/12-7/24 (NOT 7/3)

Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Fee: \$36



ZOO EDUCATION

ZOOper Fridays

Ages 22+

Calling all animal lovers! Each month, we'll meet at the zoo to learn about a specific animal. A zoo education session will also include time to visit the animal's habitat inside the zoo. Wear your walking shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. This program includes 3 classroom dates and admission to the zoo each program date.

Min 4; Max 10

Location: Drop off/pick up at front entrance of Miller Park Zoo

Day: Fridays

Dates: 6/6, 7/11 & 8/8

Time: 1:30-3:00PM

Fee: \$36



Jeepers, Keepers!

Ages 15-25

We'll learn how the Zookeepers do all their jobs, and how they take care of all the animals.

Min 4; Max 8

Location: Miller Park Zoo

Day: W/TH

Dates: 6/4-6/5

Time: 1:00-4:00PM

Fee: \$40



**MILLER PARK
ZOO**

EST. 1891

SPECIAL EVENTS

Pizza & Games with Dad

Any age participant with their father/grandfather/uncle

Celebrate Father's Day with great food and quality time together. Enjoy delicious pizza, fun games, and meaningful moments with Dad. Register both participants and guests to join the celebration!
Min 6 couples; Max 25 couples

Location: Hike Haven, Forrest Park
Date: Tuesday, June 10
Time: 6:00-8:00PM
Fee: \$8 per person



Friday Night Fishing

Ages 14+

Join your friends for some summertime fishing. Let's enjoy the outdoors, learn a new skill and a thing or two about fishing. Fishing poles, bait and all necessary equipment will be provided. Dress to be outdoors for the duration of the program.
Min 6; Max 20

Location: Union Park, Bloomington
Date: Friday, July 18
Time: 5:30-7:00PM
Fee: \$8



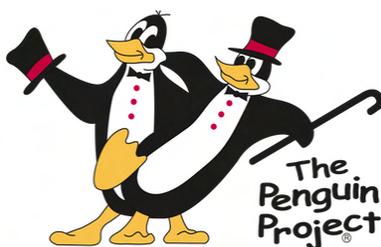
The Penguin Project Show

Ages 10+

The Penguin Project of McLean County presents "Newsies Jr." The Penguin Project is unique, in that, all of the roles are filled by children and young adults with disabilities to put on a production of a modified version of a popular musical. Come and enjoy a performance by some of our very own SOAR friends at University High School.

Min 6; Max 16

Location: Drop off/pick up at University High School, Normal, IL (Gregory St. entrance)
Date: Friday, June 6
Time: 6:30-9:00PM
Fee: \$15



FREE Popsicles in the Park

All Ages

July is National Parks & Recreation Month! This month recognizes community, parks, and recreation opportunities. Drop by for some yard games, popsicles, temp tattoos, music, and more!

Unlimited Spots Available.

Location: White Oak Park
Date: Sunday, July 20
Time: 1:00-3:00PM
Fee: FREE



Pool Party

Ages 12+

Cool off this summer with a splash at a different pool each month! Enjoy an evening of fun in the sun with friends, followed by a picnic dinner provided for all participants. Don't forget to bring your towel and sunscreen for the ultimate pool party experience.
Min 10; Max 30

Ages	Location	Day	Time	Date	Fee
12+	O'Neil Aquatics Center	F	6:00-8:00PM	June 13	\$12
12+	Holiday Pool	SU	6:00-8:00PM	July 13	\$12

Bingo & Banana Splits

All Ages

July is National Ice Cream Month. Let's celebrate with two of everyone's favorite pastimes in one day —Banana Splits and BINGO! This family-friendly event will be even more special with our friends from the Adult Center joining us.

Min 10; Max 25

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level

Date: Tuesday, July 22

Time: 5:30-7:30PM

Fee: \$15



Bowling & Dinner

Ages 14+

Enjoy a night out on the town! The group will meet at Pheasant Lanes to enjoy an hour of bowling and then enjoy dinner.

Participants will need to pay for their own meal costs.

Min 6; Max 16

Location: Pheasant Lanes

Ages	Day	Time	Date	Fee
14-28	T	5:30-7:30PM	July 29	\$16
29+	TH	5:30-7:30PM	July 31	\$16

Mini Golf & Picnic

Join us for mini golf at Miller Park! We will play a round of mini golf then hang out in the park with a picnic dinner. It will be a fun night to wind down the summer. Drop-off/pick-up at the front entrance of Miller Park Zoo.

Min 4; Max 12

Location: Miller Park

Ages	Day	Time	Date	Fee
14-28	M	5:30-7:30 PM	8/4	\$12
29+	M	5:30-7:30 PM	8/11	\$12



Dinner & a Movie

Do you love movies? This group will have dinner at a local restaurant and then enjoy a movie at a local theater. All movies will be rated G to PG-13 and will be comedies, animations, or dramas. Each person will need to pay for their own meal and movie ticket. An email will be sent to those who register regarding the restaurant and movie.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: TBD

Ages	Day	Time	Date	Fee
14-28	W	5:30PM-End of Movie	8/6	\$6
29+	W	5:30PM-End of Movie	8/13	\$6

Illinois State Fair

Ages 14+

Summer marks the season of local fairs and carnivals. Enjoy rides, exhibits, entertainment, and delicious food at the Illinois State Fair.

This trip requires a lot of walking because the group will have the opportunity to see the entire fair. Registration covers admission and parking. Participants should bring money for carnival rides, tickets, and food.

Min 6; Max 20

Location: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center

Date: Tuesday, August 12

Time: 11:00 AM-7:00 PM

Fee: \$20



Open Mic Night

Ages 12+

Take your talent to center stage! Any form of art you want to showcase, music, comedy, or dance, spend the evening with us performing or just hanging out with us.

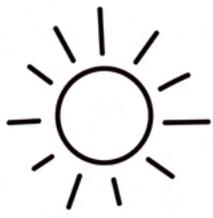
Min 6; Max 15

Location: Normal Community Activity Center

Date: Monday, August 18

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Fee: \$10



**FEEL FREE TO COLOR
THIS PAGE!**



SOMETIMES



THE GREATEST



GIFT YOU CAN



GIVE ANOTHER



PERSON IS TO



SIMPLY INCLUDE

THEM.



SUMMER WITH SOAR!

WORD SEARCH



1. MILLER PARK ZOO
2. PADDLEBOATS
3. POPSICLES
4. SOFTBALL
5. KARAOKE
6. PICNIC
7. SUMMER GAMES
8. PICKLEBALL
9. MINI GOLF
10. SWIMMING
11. COOKOUT
12. BOCCE
13. HOLIDAY POOL
14. STATE FAIR
15. HIKE HAVEN
16. FISHING
17. CRAFTS
18. BINGO

MEMORY LANE!





**We can't wait
to make even
more memories
this summer!**

JUNE 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SO Tennis Qualifier 29	SO Bowling SOAR for Starters Cardio Fitness Creative Candle Making Hand Painted Ceramic Mugs 30					
1	SO Tennis 2	SO Golf 3	Jeepers, Keepers! Lunchtime Concerts SO Softball 4	Jeepers, Keepers! 5	ZOOper Fridays The Penguin Project Show 6	7
8	SO Bowling SOAR for Starters SO Tennis Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Colorful Canvas Creation Crafts in Nature 9	Make Some Art Make Some Music Pizza & Games W/ Dad Seat to SOAR SO Golf 10	Lunchtime Concerts Explore Outdoors SO Softball 11	Out & About Sensory Explorers Open Pickleball Picnic Perfect 12	Pool Party 13	14
15	SO Bowling SOAR for Starters SO Tennis Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Colorful Canvas Creation Crafts In Nature 16	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR SO Golf 17	Lunchtime Concerts Explore Outdoors SO Softball 18	Out & About Sensory Explorers Open Pickleball Picnic Perfect 19	Summer Games 20	Summer Games 21
Summer Games 22	SO Bowling SOAR for Starters SO Tennis Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Colorful Canvas Creation Crafts in Nature 23	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR SO Golf 24	Lunchtime Concerts Explore Outdoors SO Softball 25	Out & About Sensory Explorers Open Pickleball Picnic Perfect 26	Virtual Social Hour Virtual Game Night 27	28

JULY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR SO Golf 1	Explore Outdoors SO Softball 2	NO PROGRAMS 3	NO PROGRAMS 4	5
6	SO Bowling SOAR for Starters Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Creative Candle Making Hand-Painted Ceramic Mugs 7	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR SO Golf 8	Explore Outdoors SO Softball 9	Out & About Sensory Explorers Open Pickleball Picnic Perfect 10	ZOOper Fridays SO Cookout Celebration 11	12
Pool Party 13	SO Bowling SOAR for Starters Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Creative Candle Making Hand-Painted Ceramic Mugs 14	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR SO Golf 15	Explore Outdoors SO Softball 16	Out & About Sensory Explorers Open Pickleball Picnic Perfect 17	Friday Night Fishing 18	19
Popsicles in the Park 20	SO Bowling Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Creative Candle Making Hand-Painted Ceramic Mugs 21	Bingo & Banana Splits Seat to SOAR SO Golf 22	SO Softball 23	Out & About Sensory Explorers Picnic Perfect SO Volleyball Assessment 24	Virtual Social Hour Virtual Game Night 25	SO Region Softball Tournament 26
27	SO Bowling 28	Bowling & Dinner SO Golf SO Volleyball 29	30	Bowling & Dinner SO Volleyball 31		

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					SO Golf Qualifier 1	2
3	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch Bags in the Park Mini Golf & Picnic 4	SO Volleyball 5	Dinner & a Movie 6	SO Volleyball 7	ZOOper Fridays 8	9
10	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch Bags in the Park Mini Golf & Picnic 11	Illinois State Fair SO Volleyball 12	Dinner & a Movie 13	SO Volleyball 14	Virtual Social Hour Virtual Game Night 15	SO State Tennis 16
SO State Tennis 17	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch Bags in the Park Open Mic Night 18	SO Volleyball 19	Bocce 20	SO Volleyball 21	22	23
24	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch Bags in the Park 25	SO Volleyball 26	Bocce 27	SO Volleyball 28	29	SO Region Bowling Tournament 30

PROGRAM POLICIES

Americans with Disabilities Act

Special Opportunities Available in Recreation (SOAR) will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination in the provision of services, programs, or facilities to individuals with disabilities. SOAR will make reasonable accommodations in recreation programs to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements for that program. The ADA requires that recreation programs offered by SOAR be available in the most integrated setting appropriate for each individual. Call (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions about the SOAR policy regarding the ADA or believe you have been unfairly discriminated against by SOAR.

Code of Conduct

Participants, staff, volunteers, and parents are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. The following guidelines have been developed to make SOAR programs safe and enjoyable for everyone. Additional rules may be developed for particular programs and events as deemed necessary by the staff.

- Show respect to all participants, staff, and public.
- Show respect to equipment, supplies, and facilities.
- Listen to and comply with staff direction and program rules.
- Refrain from using foul language.
- Refrain from causing bodily harm or aggressive physical contact.
- Arrive to programs displaying proper hygiene and body odor.
- Wear appropriate attire for program participation.

Equal Access

No participant shall on the basis of race, gender, creed, national origin, or disability be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage or opportunity.

Discipline

SOAR applies a caring, positive approach to discipline. When Code of Conduct expectations are not met, staff will attempt reasonable accommodations to minimize future risks and help the participant to meet behavior expectations. However, when accommodations are attempted and are unsuccessful, or when unsafe or otherwise inappropriate behavior occurs, SOAR reserves the right to dismiss a participant whose behavior continues to be unsafe or otherwise inappropriate or whose behavior endangers the safety of themselves or others.

Toileting

Participants are expected to handle their toileting needs independently and without assistance from SOAR staff.

Insurance

Individual accident and medical insurance for program participants is not provided by SOAR, Bloomington or Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

Staff Ratio

SOAR currently staffs most programs with one staff to every four participants. If a participant needs more assistance or is unable to participate with this structure, please let staff know at registration so appropriate staffing may be secured (if possible).

Photo/Video Policy

SOAR staff takes photos and video of participants enrolled in our programs, classes, or at events. These photos or videos may be used in our brochures, social media, advertising, or other publications. If you do not wish to have your photo taken or be in a video, please contact a SOAR program manager.

Medication Dispensing

SOAR staff may dispense medication to participants during extended programs and trips. In order for SOAR staff to do this, a parent/guardian will need to complete a medication dispensing form and complete a dispensing procedure each time medication is needed. SOAR staff may not perform an injection or any other medical or physically invasive procedure. Please call the SOAR office at (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions.

Parent/Caretaker Observation

We greatly value parents and guardians, and with your loved ones' best interests in mind, we kindly ask that you refrain from staying during the programs. Our staff is always happy to discuss your loved ones' progress with you at any time outside of program hours. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Participation

Participants should be willing to participate in the scheduled activities voluntarily. SOAR staff encourage and aid, but do not force participation.

Participant Supervision

If a participant has not been picked up at the scheduled program end time, the parent/guardian/group home staff will be contacted. After a fifteen-minute wait period, emergency contacts will be called. Please be mindful of end times, many times SOAR staff have additional work and responsibilities after the program and sometimes have another program to lead.

Program Cancellations

A program may be canceled if the program minimum enrollment is not met. Programs may be canceled due to inclement weather or other emergencies. SOAR will either reschedule the program or issue a prorated credit to the participant's account. If a participant cannot attend a program, they cannot send a substitute in their place. **SOAR Hotline: (309) 434-2386.**



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An illustration of a hand holding a megaphone, with a yellow and orange wavy line extending from the megaphone's horn across the page.

SAVE THE DATE!

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER 2025 OPENS ON MAY 1!

The Penguin Project of McLean County presents:

Newsies Jr.

University High School - Normal
JUNE 6 AND 7 AT 7:00PM • JUNE 8 AT 2:00PM

