

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release.

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Image available upon request.

‘Ding’ Darling continues free summer family programs

As part of its ongoing mission to reconnect families with the great outdoors, the J. N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge, with support from the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS), is offering two free education programs during summer vacation, one in partnership with the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum.

- ◆ This summer, **Reading at the Refuge** adds a short hike along Indigo Trail to the reading and crafts agenda. Attendees will also receive a free Nature Journal (one to each child) in which to record their impressions of their field trip and future nature encounters. The program takes place every Thursday morning June through July from 11 a.m. to noon.
- ◆ **Family Beach Walk** meets at Sanibel’s Gulfside Park for a one-hour exploration of the refuge’s gulf-front Perry Tract at 9 a.m. every Tuesday June through July. A shell expert from Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum will accompany refuge interpreters on the walk. Note: Parking fees at Gulfside Park apply.

For more information on the refuge summer programs, call 239-472-1100.

The refuge summer family programs are made possible through funding from DDWS, a non-profit, friends-of-the-refuge organization that supports the Education Center, “Ding” Darling Days, and other educational programs at the refuge.

To join DDWS and become a friend to the refuge, stop in at the Refuge Education Center or visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org.

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