



SUMMER



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inspiring educational adventures

Marine Conservation & Reef Monitoring Field Program

JOIN US ON A TWO WEEK MARINE
CONSERVATION & SCUBA DIVING
EXPEDITION IN HAWAII.

www.pacificdiscovery.org

Overview

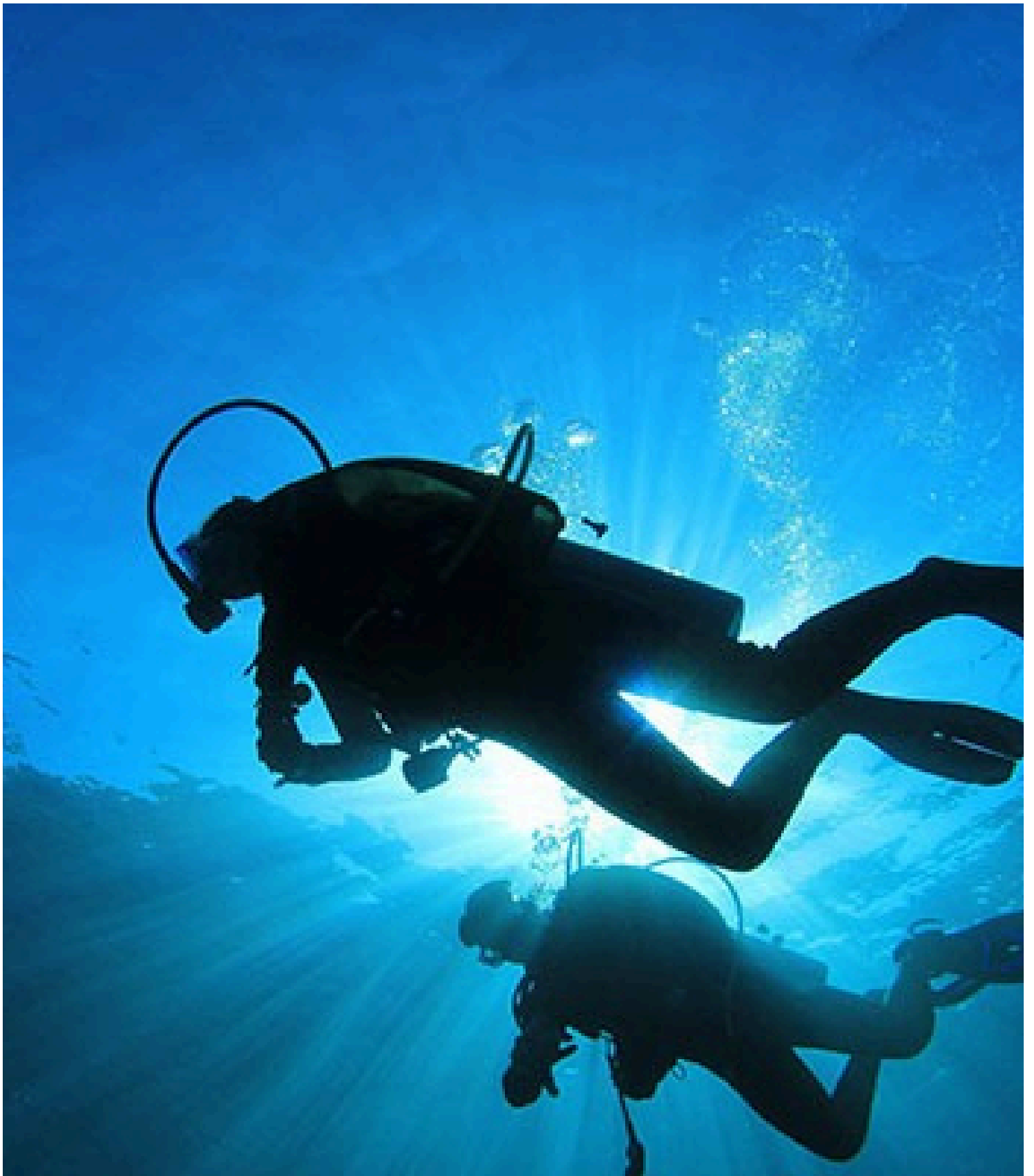
Earn Two Globally Recognized Certifications While Exploring Oahu's Stunning Marine Ecosystem Over Two Weeks.

Are you ready for the ultimate summer adventure? Join us in Oahu, Hawaii, for an immersive two-week travel experience designed for students who want to upskill, explore, and make an impact. Whether you're passionate about marine conservation, adventure sports, or simply looking to challenge yourself in paradise, this program is your gateway to hands-on learning, skill-building, and ocean exploration.

Over the course of 14 unforgettable days, you'll dive deep into Hawaii's vibrant marine ecosystem. You'll start by earning your PADI Open Water Diver Certification, gaining the essential skills to explore the underwater world with confidence. Next, you'll take your diving to the next level with the Conservation Diver Ecological Monitoring Program, where you'll learn to assess reef health, identify marine species, and contribute to vital conservation efforts. Beyond diving, you'll immerse yourself in Hawaii's adventure culture with surf lessons on the iconic North Shore, snorkeling in the famous Shark's Cove, and hands-on service projects that help protect the island's delicate environment.

This is an opportunity to gain real-world skills, make lifelong connections, and have a positive, measurable impact on the environment.





Sample Itinerary

***This is a guide to what you can expect to do on program.
The order in which the activities occur might vary***

WEEK 1 | SCUBA DIVING & ECOLOGICAL CERTIFICATIONS

After orientation, you'll kick off your adventure by earning your PADI Open Water Scuba Diving Certification, spending three days mastering essential diving skills in Hawaii's crystal-clear waters.

From there, you'll begin a four-day Ecological Monitoring Program in O'ahu, combining theoretical learning with hands-on diving experience to develop the skills needed for marine conservation. Mornings will focus on classroom sessions covering coral reef ecology, invertebrate population management, fish and chordate diversity, and substrate composition.

Afternoons will take you beneath the surface for immersive dives, where you'll conduct underwater ecological surveys, practice buoyancy control, and refine navigation techniques. You'll gain hands-on experience assessing reef health, identifying marine species, and using photogrammetry to create 3D models of reef structures. By the end of the program, you'll earn the Conservation Diver Ecological Monitoring Program Certification, equipping you with the knowledge and skills to make a real impact in marine conservation worldwide.

WEEK 2 | COMMUNITY, ADVENTURE, & ECOLOGICAL

In the second week, you'll experience a meaningful blend of service learning, adventure, and ecological exploration, contributing to local conservation efforts while immersing yourself in Hawaii's stunning natural landscapes.

Community Service & Conservation Projects

For two days, you'll work alongside local organizations dedicated to environmental restoration and sustainability:

- Help restore and protect Maunalua Bay by removing invasive algae and supporting native marine life.
- Take part in reforestation efforts, planting native trees and learning about the importance of watershed protection in Hawaii's delicate ecosystems.
- Engage in traditional Hawaiian land stewardship, participating in native plant cultivation and stream restoration, gaining insight into the islands' rich cultural and environmental heritage.

Surfing & Snorkeling Adventures

After your service work, it's time to hit the waves! Spend two days learning to surf with Hawaii Waves Surf School, where certified instructors will teach you how to ride O'ahu's legendary waves, improving your ocean confidence in a safe and supportive setting.

The program wraps up with an unforgettable snorkeling excursion at Shark's Cove, a marine sanctuary on O'ahu's North Shore. Swim among vibrant coral formations and encounter a variety of marine species, taking in one last breathtaking underwater adventure before your journey comes to an end.

**There may be opportunities to scuba dive at an additional cost.

Why Choose This Program?

- **Earn Certifications That Matter** – Gain two globally recognized certifications that enhance your resume, expand future dive and conservation opportunities, and deepen your connection to the ocean.
 - **PADI Open Water Diver Certification** – Become a certified scuba diver in the stunning waters of O’ahu! Over three days, you’ll master essential dive skills, complete open-water dives, and earn a certification that allows you to dive anywhere in the world.
 - FAQ: Can I join if i already have my dive certification? Answer: Yes, if you already have your dive certification, you can upskill on this program.
 - **Ecological Monitoring Program Certification** – Over four days of research diving, you’ll develop advanced underwater surveying techniques, assess coral reef health, and learn marine conservation strategies—an asset for careers in marine biology, conservation, and eco-tourism.
- **Diving & Adventure in Hawaii** – Explore O’ahu’s world-class dive sites, surf iconic waves, and snorkel alongside tropical fish, sea turtles, and reef sharks in one of the most biodiverse marine environments on the planet.
- **Make a Real Impact** – Develop hands-on conservation skills while actively contributing to Hawaii’s marine protection efforts, working alongside local environmental organizations.
- **Designed for Passionate Travelers** – Perfect for gap year students, adventure seekers, and aspiring marine conservationists looking for a meaningful and immersive travel experience.





COUNTRY INFORMATION

Hawaiian culture is deeply rooted in tradition, history, and environmental stewardship. More than just a destination, Hawaii embodies the value of aloha 'āina—a profound respect for the land. Throughout this program, you'll experience this firsthand by working alongside local conservation organizations dedicated to protecting Hawai'i's unique ecosystems.

From pristine beaches to lush rainforests, O'ahu's landscapes tell the story of ancient volcanic formations, rich biodiversity, and a deep cultural connection to nature. As you explore, you'll gain insight into the significance of these environments and immerse yourself in the island's way of life.

CLIMATE

Hawaii enjoys warm, sunny weather year-round, with average temperatures ranging from 72°F to 88°F. With minimal rainfall, conditions are ideal for exploring coastlines, hiking volcanic landscapes, and diving into crystal-clear waters.

TRANSPORT

We travel in a private van with dedicated luggage space, ensuring a comfortable and efficient way to explore the island.

MEALS

While Hawaii is famous for fresh tropical fruits, seafood, and vibrant island flavors, it's important to note that food availability can be different from what you're used to. Because the Big Island is remote and much of its food is shipped from the mainland via O'ahu, long-life, tinned, and dried foods are more common, while imported fresh produce can be expensive.

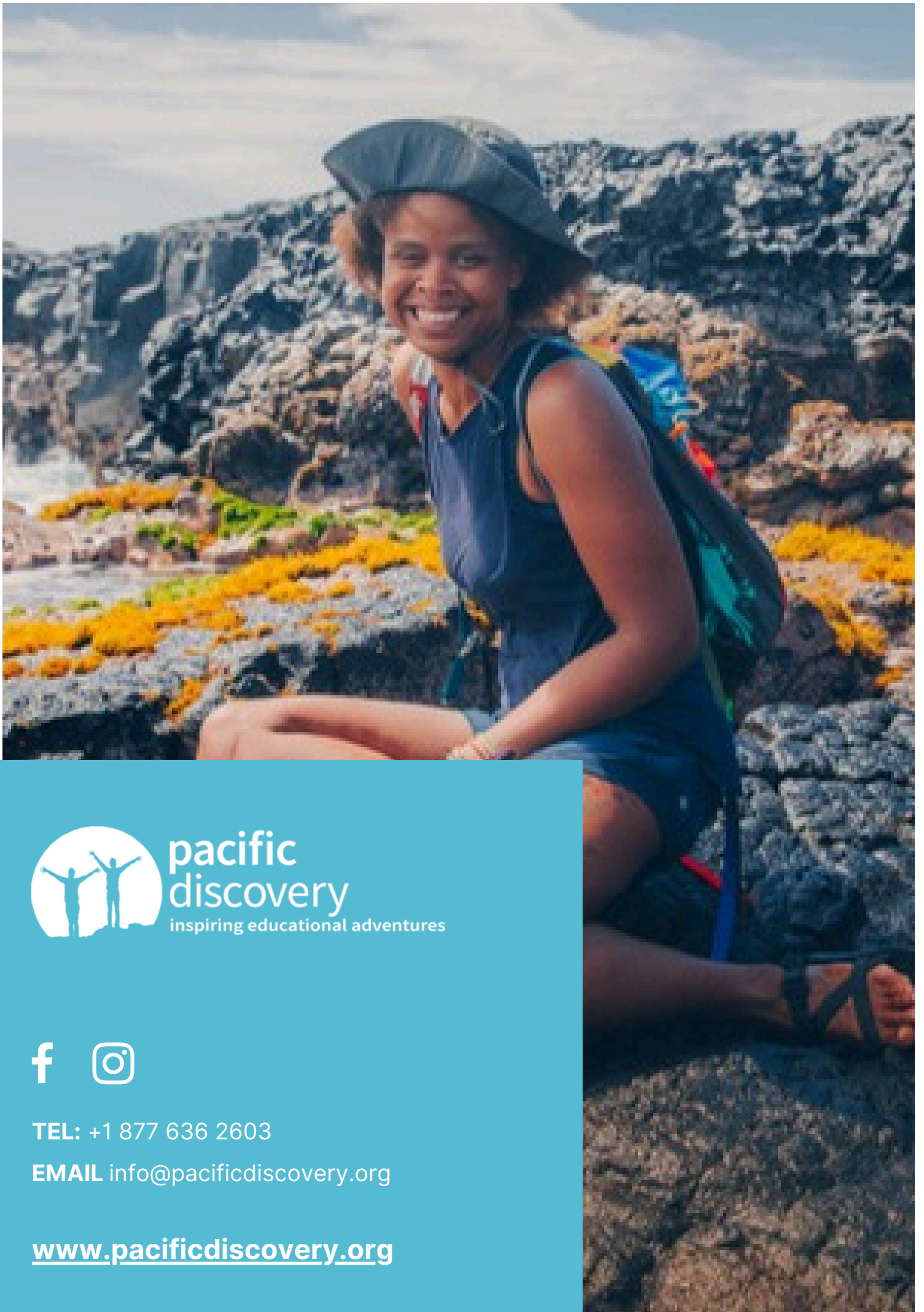
To make meals both practical and engaging, this program features student-led cooking. In small groups, participants will plan, budget, and prepare meals, learning valuable cooking and financial management skills. Instructors will guide and support the process, encouraging the use of local, budget-friendly ingredients while promoting creativity in the kitchen.

We recommend budgeting around \$15 per day for additional snacks.

Typical Meals:

- **Breakfast:** Self-prepared options such as cereal, milk, oatmeal, pancake mix, bread, peanut butter, local fruits, cinnamon rolls, granola bars, and eggs.
- **Lunch:** Sandwiches or wraps (PB&J, turkey, hummus, veggies), salads, leftovers from dinner, fruit, mac and cheese, rice poke bowls.
- **Dinner:** Hot dogs, veggie burgers, salad, chili, cornbread, roasted potatoes, corn and bean salad, rice, curry, poke bowls.





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