



SFSCA Education Programs & Camp Protocols: COVID-19

SFSCA Education and Camp Program Safety Plan

With safety as our top priority, the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium (SFSCA) is following the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and American Camp Association (ACA) guidelines for COVID-19 and will implement the following safety measures for SFSCA Education Programs including Summer Science Camp. We will continue to monitor the government, CDC, and ACA guidelines and make adjustments as needed. These protocols are subject to change at anytime.

Staff Protocols

All camp staff will attend mandatory Safety Training that will include health information about proper hygiene such as washing hands, avoiding touching one's face, and practicing proper social distancing within a classroom environment.

All staff will be required to wear a face mask at all times while at the Science Center. We are asking everyone - staff and visitors - to commit to the hygiene standards recommended by the World Health Organization and to stay home if they do not feel well.

Cleaning Procedures

The health and well-being of our community is one of the top priorities. SFSCA has a very high standard of cleanliness practices, including disinfecting of all 'contact' surfaces (i.e., anything touched) multiple times throughout the day. SFSCA utilizes cleaning products and protocols which meet CDC guidelines and are approved for use and effective against viruses and bacteria.

Additionally, in response to COVID-19, we have implemented these protocols for cleanliness that prevent the spread of most infectious diseases, including:

- Increased the use of specialty cleaners ensuring all classrooms and exhibits are thoroughly disinfected throughout the day.

- More than doubled the number of hand sanitizing stations throughout the science center and classrooms.
- The frequency of cleaning and sanitizing has been increased in the Science Camp Area and restrooms.
- Shared equipment will be sanitized before and after each use.
- Tables, phones, hard surfaces, handles, play equipment, and frequently touched surfaces will be sanitized at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end of the camp day.

Science Camp Procedures

Camp capacity will be limited to allow for social distancing in the classrooms with adherence to CDC Guidelines.

The SFSCA holds the right to send home any camper displaying symptoms of illness including runny nose, cough, excessive sneezing, etc.

Campers will have a window of time for drop-off and pick-up. Parents will not be required to leave their cars during drop-off. Parents will not be allowed in the camp classrooms.

Campers will be required to wear a face mask to be admitted into camp each day and must keep the mask on at all times except when eating during designated snack and lunchtimes or outside.

All food must be brought from home, and no sharing will be allowed. This includes snacks and beverages. Each room will have a designated water cooler that will be monitored by the staff. Access to public water fountains may be limited or prohibited.

Lunch will occur within the camp classroom. Sanitization of the tables will occur directly before and after the lunch period.

Exhibit exploration may be severely limited to reduce exposure to contact with the general public. Frequent hand washing will be incorporated into the daily routine of each camper.

Each camper will receive materials for sciences and crafts that have been properly sanitized.

Campers and staff will be advised to practice physical distancing by standing at least three feet away from others. Signage will be posted reminding employees, parents, and campers of distancing guidelines. These may include signs, floor stickers, posters, tape lines, etc.

Hand Sanitizer dispensers will be placed throughout SFSCA Science Camp classrooms and will be utilized frequently.

Pick-up procedures will be modified to adhere to safe social distancing practices while maintaining a priority on camper safety during dismissal. Photo identification will still be required on the first day of the camp session to collect the Camper Pick-up Verification Document. This document will be shown in lieu of an ID. Parents will not be required to exit their vehicles for pick-up. Campers WILL NOT be dismissed without proper identification.

Our camp staff will maintain ongoing communication with camp parents to ensure proper PPE and sanitation procedures are being followed. Upon updates to these procedures, camp parents will be notified electronically.

If you are uncomfortable sending your child to camp this season, consider keeping them at home. We take your child's safety seriously and have instituted the steps above to mitigate risk, but there is never a guarantee.